

PLAYGROUNDS*

in and around the First Connections catchment area

Boundless Playgrounds

*Playgrounds listed here are not located on school grounds (except Carlisle Castle) and should, therefore, be available for use at all times unless noted.

Boundless playgrounds are built to be truly inclusive of all children and adults. Parents or children with limited mobility or other impairments can freely navigate around the structures and play areas. We are lucky to have three boundless playgrounds in our area. Trying out one of these playgrounds can be a learning experience for all children.



WESTFORD: Ronan McElligott Memorial Playground, Williams Avenue at Edwards Beach (55 Williams Avenue)

Directions: From Route 495 North, exit at Boston Road, Westford and go left toward the Center of town. Go right at the Common. Bear left where the road splits near Roudenbush Community Center. After going down the long hill out of the Center, you'll cross railroad tracks and the road will split again. Bear right onto Plain Road. Stay on Plain Road until you reach

Williams Ave. (on left) before reaching Nabnasset Center. The playground is located at Edwards Beach. There is no fee to use the playground! <https://westfordma.gov/facilities/facility/details/Edwards-Beach-21>

SUDBURY: S.M.I.L.E. & Lyons Pride Playgrounds, 40-44 Fairbanks Road

Directions: This playground is located adjacent to the Fairbanks Community Center/Atkinson Pool. You can use the rest rooms in the Community Center when it is open. One area is geared toward ages 5-12, the other is for children 2-5. Unique double-wide slide so friends can slide side-by-side. Fairbanks Road begins at Route 27 and ends at Hudson Road in Sudbury

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/playgroundhunt/sets/72157624398512821/>



ACTON: SMILE Jones Field Accessible Playground, 54 Martin St., South Acton

Play is an essential component in a child's life. Play enhances language development, fosters cognitive and kinetic engagement, promotes physical wellness, builds self esteem/confidence, and encourages strong interpersonal relationships. For many children with disabilities, a playground also offers opportunities for ongoing physical therapy treatment. In Massachusetts, 18.9% of students in public schools are on an Individual Education Plan or 504 Plan. Of those students, 12.2% have severe disabilities. A fully inclusive playground benefits the entire community by allowing 100% of children to play, interact, imagine, experience, create, and communicate with each other in a welcoming, natural environment.

<https://lexington.macaronikid.com/articles/628cf0c1da80b45ec84083c0/playground-guide-jones-field-playground>

ACTON: Goward Playground, behind the Acton Memorial Library, 486 Main Street

Directions: From Rte. 27, take Woodbury Street, then turn right into the parking lots behind the Town Hall and Library. Rest rooms are available inside the library when open.

<https://lexington.macaronikid.com/articles/5d431898181c7c3df96c7992/playground-guide-goward-playground-in-acton>





CONCORD: Playscape at Ripley, 120 Meriam Road, www.ripleyplayscape.org

Directions: From Concord Center, take Route 62 toward Bedford, then go right at Bedford Road, and right again at Meriam Road. The Playscape at Ripley is a unique, integrative project. Play area is located behind the buildings with plenty of parking,

[Traditional Playgrounds](#)

ACTON: Nara Park, 25 Ledge Rock Way, Acton

Directions: From Rte. 27 heading toward Chelmsford, take left onto Ledge Rock Way. Fenced playground area with no shade. Picnic tables available, but can be reserved for 6 or more people, which takes precedence over visitors who just drop in to use them. If you want to enter the beach area there is a fee. During summer there is a camp that takes place at NARA park, so playground might be crowded at times.

ACTON: Gardner Field, 550 Mass. Ave. (Rte. 111 section between Central St & Rte. 27), West Acton

Directions: Park along Mass. Ave and enter through the chain link fence gate. Shady. Across from Villageworks. As of **July 2023** this playground is closed and under renovation.

BEDFORD: Bedford Town Center Playground, 12 Mudge Way (off Rte. 225/4, Great Road)

Directions: Mudge Way is off Great Road between the Fire Station and the intersection of Route 62. There is a fenced Tot Playground, and there are rest rooms within walking distance at the library, police station and Town Center when they are open. Plenty of parking. Shady. [Playground Guide: Bedford Center Playground | Macaroni KID Acton-Concord-Bedford-Lexington](#)



BOXBOROUGH: Flerra Meadows Playground, 398 Stow Road

Directions from Route 111 heading away from West Acton, go left onto Stow Road. When you reach the intersection of Chester Road, you will see the playground entrance on your left. The playground is down a long driveway, at the back of the field. Port-a-Potties are available.

Directions from Route 111 in Boxborough, heading toward Acton, take a right onto Burroughs Road, and bear right onto Chester Road when Burroughs Road bears left. Flerra Meadows is on your left.

[Playground Guide: Flerra Meadows in Boxborough | Macaroni KID Acton-Concord-Bedford-Lexington](#). Some summer mornings there are "Summer Playground" programs here.

CARLISLE: Diment Park Toddler Playground, 160 Church Street (section between Rte. 225 and School Street)

Directions: The rotary in the center of Carlisle intersects roads from many towns, including Bedford, Billerica, Westford and Concord. To reach the playground, go up the School Street hill and then take a left onto Church Street. The playground will be on your right after the tennis courts. Shady. <https://www.carlislema.gov/420/Fields-Facilities>



CARLISLE: Castle Playground, 83 School Street

This playground may be used as an outdoor classroom during school hours so be aware when planning your visit. Newly built as a community project.

CONCORD: Emerson Playground, 261 Thoreau

Street Directions: This playground is located on the grounds of the Hunt Recreation Center. The playground is used for camps 7:00-4:00 during summer. Rest rooms inside the building.





WEST CONCORD: Percy Rideout Playground, 61 Laws Brook Rd

Directions: From the Concord Prison Rotary on Route 2, take Commonwealth Avenue to the stop sign. Go right onto Laws Brook Road. The playground and parking will be on your left. <https://www.bostoncentral.com/activities/nature/p424.php>

HARVARD: Harvard Park at McCurdy Track, 46-63 Lancaster County Road (off Rte. 111)

Directions: Easily accessible from Route 2. Heading West, take exit 38B and go right at the end of the exit onto Ayer Road. Immediately after the Post Office, go left onto Lancaster County Road. The playground will be on your right, at the far end of the new track, after the Atrius medical office building. Walking trails, restroom facilities.

<https://www.harvard.ma.us/parks-recreation-commission/pages/harvard-park-and-mccurdy-track>

LITTLETON: Castle in the Trees/Aidan's Playground, 300 King Street

Aidan's playground is geared toward ages 2-5, Castle in the Trees is geared toward ages 5-12.

Directions from Rte. 495: Take exit 30 and take a right at the end of the exit, whether coming from North or South. Playground will be on your left, set back from the road, to the right of the tennis courts. If you see the Congregational Church on your left, you've gone too far.

Directions from Rte 2A in Acton: come into Littleton Center and go left at the lights on the Common. The playground will be on your right immediately after.

<https://worcestercentralkidsalendar.com/castle-in-the-trees-playground-its-worth-the-trip/>



MAYNARD: Reo Road Tot Lot Playground and Park

Directions: Coming from Rte. 27 in Acton, take a right onto Nason St. as you approach Maynard Center. Take a right onto Summer Street. Take another right onto Durant Avenue, then take your last right onto Reo Road.

MAYNARD: Coolidge Playground and Hill Slide

Directions: Take Elmwood Road off Parker Street (Rte. 27). This will be a left coming from Sudbury and a right coming from Concord or Acton. There is a parking lot on the corner of Elmwood and Bancroft Street. During summer, Boys & Girls Club summer camps meet here 8:30-Noon.



WESTFORD: Parker Village Playground at Jack Walsh Field, Carlisle Road (Rte. 225)

Directions: From the stop light intersection of Rte. 27 (Acton Rd) and 225 (Carlisle Rd) in Westford, continue on Rte. 225 West toward Westford. At the bottom of the hill (look for "Jack Walsh Field" sign) turn right into the parking lot. The playground is on the right side of the lot.

From Littleton: Take Rte. 110 from Littleton Center towards Westford. After the 99 Restaurant, take a right (opposite the post office) onto Concord Road. Go straight through the stop light intersection at Powers Rd. Continue on Rte. 225 until you pass Griffin Rd. on your left, then look for the parking lot entrance to Jack Walsh Field on your left.

WESTFORD: Richard Culver Jr. Playground, Forge Beach Road

Directions: Access is between the RR tracks and Rte. 225 (Pleasant Street) in Forge Village Center.

<https://www.westfordma.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Forge-Pond-Beach-and-Playground-22>

Picnic tables and play equipment appropriate for ages 3-10. Playground is free, but beach access requires \$5 admission for nonresidents during summer.

WESTFORD: Roudenbush Community Center Playground, 65 Main Street

Fenced playground for toddlers, preschoolers and school-age kids. Park in lot behind Roudenbush Community Center

Nearby Spray Parks

BELMONT: Beaver Brook Reservation, 621 Trapelo Rd, Corner of Trapelo Rd & Mill St
Tot Lot Playground, **spray park**, wading pool, and picnic area. Trails to walk, including to a waterfall, ponds, wetlands. <https://www.bostoncentral.com/activities/water/p1102.php>
Directions: Take Route 2 to Winter Street, Belmont, left onto Concord Avenue, 100 yards ahead bear right onto Mill Street, entrance is on the right. (In the vicinity of McLean Hospital)



HUDSON: Cellucci Skate and Spray Park, 37-39 South St.
Playground, **splash pad**, gazebo pavilion and picnic area. Located 500 feet from the Assabet River Rail Trail. Open 9:00-7:00.
<https://hudsonrecreation.recdesk.com/Community/Facility/Detail?facilityId=18>

WALTHAM: Spray Parks in Waltham

<https://www.city.waltham.ma.us/recreation-department/pages/spray-parks-in-waltham>



N. BILLERICA: Manning State Forest Water Park, 39 Chelmsford Road, Billerica
\$5 DCR parking fee, open 9-6:00 with plenty of shade, a picnic area with overhang roof, a storybook trail, rest rooms and walking trails with exercise stations along the way. May need bug spray if you take a walk due to mosquitoes.
<https://www.town.billerica.ma.us/DocumentCenter/View/2127/Warren-Manning-State-Forest?bidId=>



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