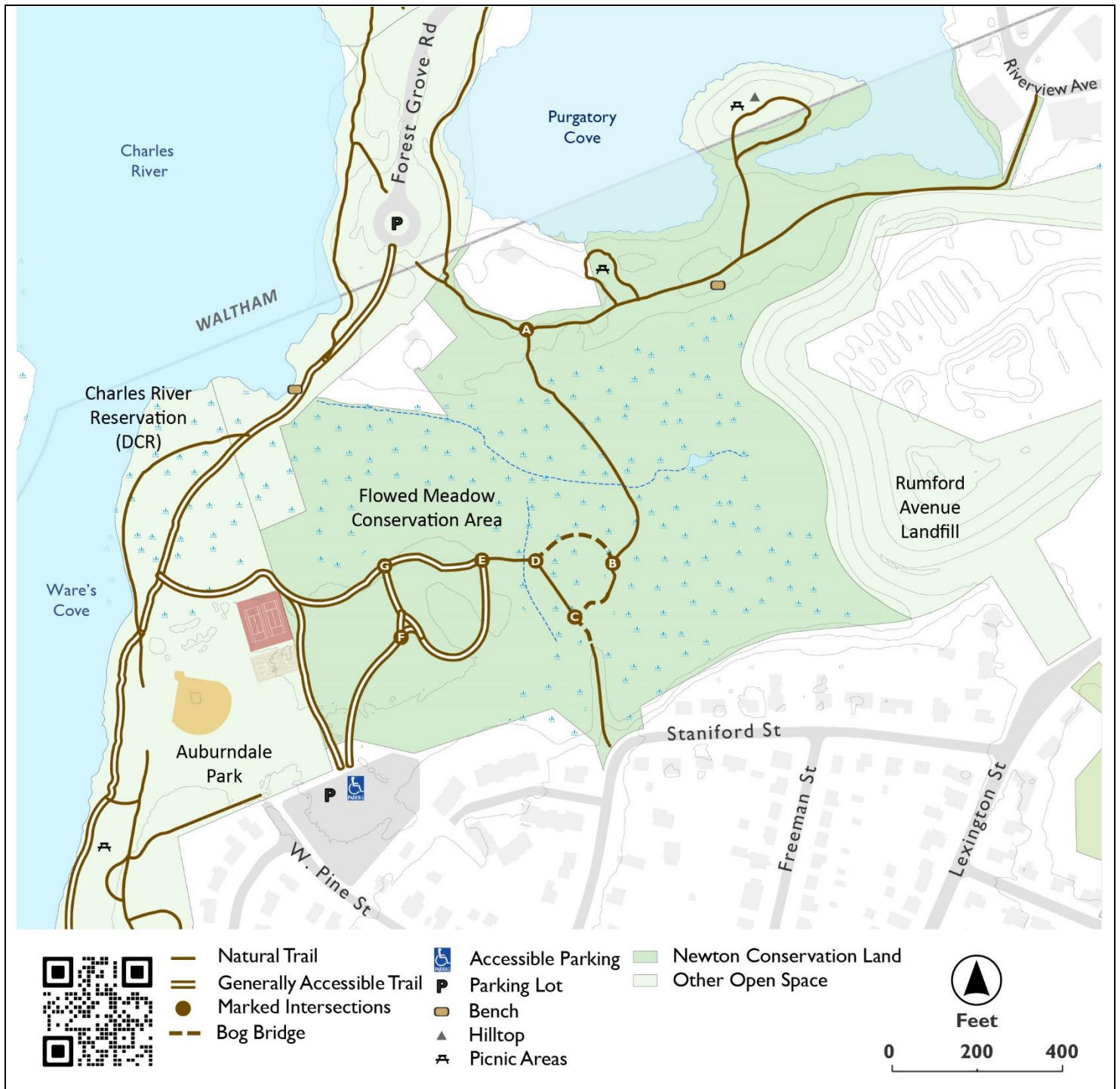


# Flowed Meadow Conservation Area

City of Newton Conservation Area



To accommodate other users and to protect wildlife, vegetation, and trails:



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## Flowed Meadow Access

Located in Auburndale, there is easy access from the large parking lot at the end of West Pine Street. Additional points of access include: near 225 Rumford Ave, near 79 Staniford Street, the end of Forest Grove Road in Waltham, and through the adjacent Auburndale Park trails.

## Flowed Meadow History and Features

Flowed Meadow Conservation Area, like all of Newton, was once occupied and cared for by the Massachusetts tribe, descendants of whom still live and make new history in the area.

Once farmland, Flowed Meadow is part of the so-called "Lakes District" of the Charles River. This 33-acre parcel contains a glacial kettle hole, small stream, an inland marsh, gently graded wooded trails, and a wealth of beautiful vistas. When the water level of the interior wetland rises high enough, it is pumped under a "causeway trail" into the Charles River.

The Newton Conservation Commission acquired an initial 7 acres of Flowed Meadow in 1983 and an additional 19 "surplus" acres from the DPW in 2000. Considerable efforts were made by Eagle Scouts, boy scouts, and volunteers to build bog bridges and bridges, clear trails, and provide signage throughout the previously less-passable areas.

Flowed Meadow's aquatic ecosystems are a uniquely diverse among the City's conservation lands. The wetlands provide great habitat for a wide diversity of birds and the varied upland terrain is home to many terrestrial animals.

## Flowed Meadow Trail Characteristics

Flowed Meadow has one area of **\*Generally Accessible Trails** accessed from the West Pine Street parking lot. Most trails are **\*Natural Trails** with more challenging conditions.



**Trail Surface:** Mostly firm soil. In places: rocky, muddy, and steep



**Trail width:** Generally 3 feet; bog bridges are 1.5 feet wide



**Trail length:** 6,120 feet or 1.2 miles



**Cross slope:** Generally level.



**Obstructions:** In places: steep trail, rocky footbeds, elevated bridges, and bog bridges.

**\*Newton's Generally Accessible Trails** are relatively flat, they have a firm, level footbed, and are mostly free of tripping hazards. They are wide enough to accommodate many mobility devices.

**Newton's Natural Trails** are unimproved and may have steep, uneven, or rocky/rooty footbeds; elevated plank "bog bridges", or other obstacles that make the trails challenging to negotiate.