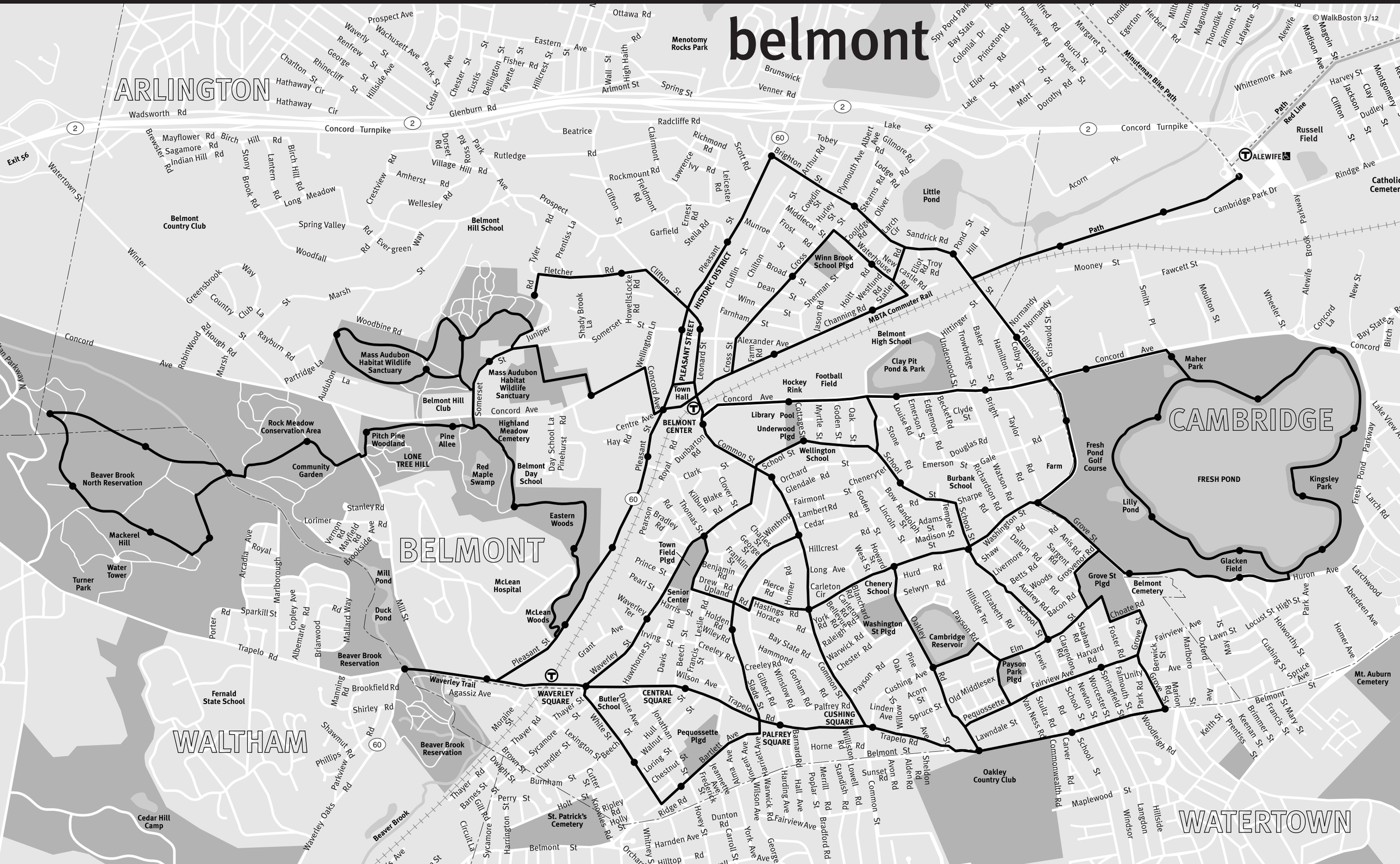
belmont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ARLINGTON
BELMONT
WALTHAM
CAMBRIDGE
WATERTOWN
Belmont Country Club
Belmont Hill School
Mass Audubon Habitat Wildlife Sanctuary
Belmont Hill Club
Rock Meadow Conservation Area
Pitch Pine Woodland
LONE TREE HILL
Pine Allee
Red Maple Swamp
Belmont Day School
Community Garden
Beaver Brook North Reservation
Mackerel Hill
Water Tower
Turner Park
Eastern Woods
Mill Pond
Duck Pond
McLean Hospital
McLean Woods
Beaver Brook Reservation
Fernald State School
Cedar Hill Camp
Beaver Brook
St. Patrick's Cemetery
Waverley Trail
Agassiz Ave
WAVERLEY SQUARE
Butler School
CENTRAL SQUARE
Pequossette Plgd
PALFREY SQUARE
CUSHING SQUARE
Senior Center
Town Field Plgd
Town Hall
BELMONT CENTER
HISTORIC DISTRICT
PLEASANT STREET
Winn Brook School Plgd
Little Pond
Belmont High School
Clay Pit Pond & Park
Hockey Rink
Football Field
Library
Pool
Underwood Plgd
Wellington School
Burbank School
Chenery School
Washington St Plgd
Cambridge Reservoir
Payson Park Plgd
Oakley Country Club
Grove St Plgd
Belmont Cemetery
Mt. Auburn Cemetery
Maher Park
FRESH POND
Fresh Pond Golf Course
Lilly Pond
Glacken Field
Kingsley Park
Russell Field
Catholic Cemeter
ALEWIFE
Minuteman Bike Path
Path
Red Line
MBTA Commuter Rail
Menotomy Rocks Park
Exit 56
Watertown St
Concord Turnpike
Concord Ave
Belmont St
Trapelo Rd
Pleasant St
Cambridge Park Dr
Mass Audubon Habitat Wildlife Sanctuary

Why walk?

You can go anywhere on foot. Many destinations in Belmont are no more than a 10-minute walk away – and many are closer than that. You'll be surprised how short the walks are – from homes, schools, bus stops and major thoroughfares to all parts of town. A walk can be a social event with friends. It can be contemplative and thoughtful. It can be long or short, spontaneous or planned in advance. This map makes it an easy and fun exercise. We've labeled the town in 5-minute walking segments.

Walking is a part of all trips. It is a central component of our transportation system and part of virtually every trip – alone or combined with public transit, driving or cycling. Pedestrian activity makes residential areas more neighborly and commercial areas more vibrant. It builds stronger communities.

Walking 30 minutes a day is great medicine for your heart.

Safety & walkability

Residents and merchants can help make our town safer and more walkable every day. For maximum walkability:

- Keep sidewalks unobstructed. Place garbage receptacles/ recycle bins awaiting pickup in areas between the sidewalk and the street.
- Maintain smooth surfaces on sidewalks. People who are elderly or riding in wheelchairs will cheer because the surfaces become easier and safer to traverse.
- Shovel sidewalks and crosswalks of snow and ice. Shovel as soon as possible after a storm.
- Maintain sightlines. Keep snow banks shoveled and trim hedges at a height that allows vehicles and pedestrians to see one another.
- Do not block sidewalks or pathways. Do not park vehicles in a way that blocks or impedes walking.

Getting started

Determine how active you want to be. Find a buddy. Ask your spouse, child, friend or co-worker to be your walking partner. It's more fun and you can encourage one another!

Join a Walking School Bus. Help children walk to school safely. Walking to and from school with children is a terrific way to add exercise for your children [the habit of walking lasts a lifetime] and steps to your day. Walking can reinforce a healthy lifestyle for the whole family.

walkBoston™

MAKING MASSACHUSETTS MORE WALKABLE

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Walks in Belmont

Belmont is an ideal community for walking, with its varied neighborhoods, hilly terrain and vibrant commercial areas. The town was once known for farms and market gardens growing fruits, vegetables and flowers. Historic houses, barns and carriage houses still exist here. Our trails through wooded open space connecting to regional trails offer a choice of wonderful walks. Our town is compact and our commercial areas, with a variety of shopping and dining streets, are easy to walk to and explore.

All these walks are about 50-60 min. unless otherwise noted.

EXPLORE THE NEIGHBORHOODS

Winn Brook Neighborhood
From Winn Brook School [corner of Waterhouse Rd. and Cross St.] follow a loop through the neighborhood and Belmont Town Center. Stroll to see the historic and architecturally interesting buildings that form the Pleasant St. Historic District. Include a look at the Thaddeus Frost House, 291 Brighton St.

Burbank/Wellington Neighborhood
From the Burbank School [corner of Sharpe Rd. and School St.] follow a loop that includes the Wellington School and the impressive education and recreation facilities that line Concord Ave. – the library and high school, the hockey rink and pool and the football field. Return via Blanchard Rd. where the town's last remaining active farm is a major landmark.

Oakley Neighborhood
From Cushing Square, follow a loop through Belmont's hilliest neighborhood that includes the historic John Chenery House at 52 Washington St. and the spectacular hilltop view from the Cambridge Reservoir. Circle the reservoir and continue downhill to the Grove Street Playground. Return by Fairview Ave. and the long hill from the town line at Cambridge back to the Square.

Butler/Waverley Neighborhood
From the Butler School [corner of White St. and Sycamore St.] follow White St. and Bartlett Ave. to the Pequossette Playground. Cross Trapelo Rd. to Slade St. and follow Upland Rd. to the Senior Center and the Town Field Playground. Return on Waverley St. to intersect Trapelo Rd. and look for the kiosk marking the beginning of the Waverley Trail in front of the former Fire Station. Follow the trail to the Beaver Brook and Waverley Oaks Reservations.

Belmont Hill Neighborhood
From Belmont Center follow a loop up Clifton St. to Fletcher Rd., leading to the Mass Audubon's Habitat and its many trails, returning down the long hill of Concord Ave.

ENJOY OUR CONSERVATION LANDS

Lone Tree Hill
Enjoy the woods, the meadow, the Pine Allee and the many opportunities to follow interconnected paths through the Belmont conservation land. Start at the entrance to Lone Tree Hill Conservation land across Pleasant St. from the Shaw's supermarket entrance or at the western end of the paths near Rock Meadow.

Text: Bob Sloane Editing: Ken Krause Design: ninagarfinkle.com

Mass Audubon's Habitat walk: 75 minutes
Start at the Habitat parking lot. Walk past the greenhouse and take a L on the Red Maple Trail. At Somerset St., cross Concord Ave. and enter the Lone Tree Hill Conservation Land. Follow the Pine Allee to Mill St. Cross to enter Rock Meadow. Follow the trail in a loop and return to Mill St. Cross and take another trail through the Lone Tree Hill land, crossing Concord Ave. and reentering Habitat.

Rock Meadow/Waltham
Start at the Rock Meadow parking lot. Follow the trail west and around to the bridge at the back of the property. Cross and enter Beaver Brook North Reservation. Follow the Western Greenway Trail signs to the Avalon apartments. Retrace your steps or choose a parallel trail that passes an old cemetery and then returns to the bridge at Rock Meadow. The Western Greenway continues to Shady's Pond Conservation Area and the Robert Treat Paine Estate – a 6-mile hike. Tip: leave a car at each end.

CIRCLING THE SQUARES [you can connect these!]

Follow the trolley: 15-25 minutes
From Cushing Square with its variety of restaurants and shops, walk west along Trapelo Rd. through Palfrey and Central Squares, two minor business districts containing a movie theater and several smaller shops and restaurants, to Waverley Square.

Old Belmont: 20-25 minutes
From Waverley Commuter Rail Station head back to Waverley St. and the renovated historic Waverley Fire Station, now a condominium complex. Turn L onto Waverley St. and walk past the Town Field Playground to Thomas St. Turn L onto Thomas St. and cross over the railroad tracks using the Clark St. Bridge. Turn R on Pleasant St. to the Historic Town Hall and the Pleasant Street Historic District. Turn R on Concord Ave. and enter the Belmont Center Commercial District.

Tree-lined residential streets: 20-25 minutes
From Belmont Center proceed under the old stone railroad bridge going south on Common St. Pass by the Wellington Hill Station and the War Memorial and continue along Common St. to return to Cushing Square.

FIND HISTORY AS YOU WALK

Historic houses and landmarks
Pleasant Street from Stella Rd. to the Town Hall is the town's largest historic district, including 75 structures that are historically protected. Look for • the William Flagg Homer House, 661 Pleasant • the Stephen Frost House, 467 Pleasant • the Town Hall campus with the School Administration Building [the original Town Library] and Homer Building [originally a school]. Under the railroad bridge on Common St., look for Wellington Hill Station and the War Memorial. A map of the Historic District is available on the Historic District Commission's website www.town.belmont.ma.us [search for "Map of the Historic District"]. Other notable historic homes include • Christopher Grant House, 325 Common • Jonathan Stone House, 150-152 Washington • the William Goodrich House, 323 Waverley St • and the John Chenery House, 52 Washington St.

Historic carriage houses and barns
Belmont has a number of historic barns and other accessory buildings from the days of farms and horse-drawn vehicles, many of them built before 1900 and all before 1920. Can you spot them as you walk around town? • 10 Cambridge St. • 35 Cedar Rd. • 23 and 26 Centre Ave. • 45 Common St. • 346 and 504 Concord Ave. • 26 Cushing Ave. • 76 Lexington St. • 55 Orchard Street • 54 Park St. • 68 Payson Rd. • 480, 500, 505, 642 and 710 Pleasant St. • 20, 90, 128 and 156 School St. • 5 and 30 Somerset St. • 17 Sycamore St. • 336 Washington St. • 331 Waverley St. • 122 Waverley St. • 41 Willow St.

JUST OUTSIDE BELMONT

Fresh Pond walk
A beautiful open space with lovely views and no vehicles encompasses a 2.5 mile lakeside walkway that can be reached from Concord Ave. or Huron Ave.

Arlington walk: 90 minutes
Arlington's Pleasant Street is a linear historic district. Follow it between Belmont and Mass Ave., and return either by retracing your steps, or by following the Minuteman Trail to Alewife and the Belmont Bike Path to Brighton St. and back to Pleasant St.

Watertown walk: 60-70 minutes
From School St. cross Belmont St. into Watertown. Follow Shattuck St. to the R to its end. Turn L on Stoneleigh St. to its end, and jog R then L onto Bellevue St. Turn R on Common St. back to Cushing Square. Turn R and you can return to your starting point.

Use the map to make your walks longer or shorter. Create your own walk. For example, explore the neighborhood streets off of Common St., Fairview Ave. and Oakley Rd.

Like to bicycle instead?

Bicycling is a fun, easy and healthy transportation choice. A map of Belmont's bike-friendly routes is available at the town's website, www.town.belmont.ma.us [search for "bike map"] and in hard copy at the Town Clerk's Office in the Town Hall and at the Belmont Memorial Library. Bike racks are located at every school and park and at most of the major commercial centers.

About WalkBoston

WalkBoston makes walking safer and easier in Massachusetts to encourage better health, a cleaner environment and vibrant communities. Our education and advocacy programs give voice to people to make their communities more walkable. Working with government agencies, we influence state and local transportation policies and designs.

Your membership in WalkBoston is a worthwhile investment that or to join today see walkboston.org.

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