

# Arlington's Great Meadows

PO Box 492 • Arlington, MA 02476 • [info@foagm.org](mailto:info@foagm.org) • [www.foagm.org](http://www.foagm.org)



Arlington's Great Meadows is a 183-acre parcel of natural open space owned by Arlington and located in east Lexington. It is the largest piece of undeveloped land in the Arlington / Lexington region. Once a glacial lake, it is now a wet meadow surrounded by uplands created by glacial outwash. Great Meadows was purchased by Arlington in 1871 to serve as a supplementary water storage area, but was only briefly used for that purpose. Part of the Mystic River watershed, it remains a valuable buffer against neighborhood flooding.

Arlington's Great Meadows has long served as public open space and is a popular recreational spot, particularly since the opening of the Minuteman Bikeway on its southern border. It also provides a home for local wildlife. To date, 56 species of birds have been found nesting in Great Meadows, 12 species of amphibians and reptiles live there, and 251 species of plants grow in the wet meadow and uplands.

## Legend

- Woodcocks
- Vista
- Information kiosk
- Parking
- Entry point
- Vernal pool
- ACROSS Lexington
- Minuteman Bikeway
- Trail
- Street
- Stream
- 10 ft contour
- Wetland
- Great Meadows
- Conservation land
- Other open space

