



The Minuteman Commuter Bikeway

Points of Interest Along the Bikeway

- 1. **Alewife Station** Public transit station on the Arlington/Cambridge line offers bus and subway access and free bike parking.
- 2. **Spy Pond Park and Field** Children's play space, boat ramp, picnic tables and ice skating when the pond freezes.
- 3. **Arlington Center** The Town of Arlington is only 5.5 square miles, so nothing is far from the Bikeway. Bikeway users are encouraged to visit eateries/businesses along the Mass Ave corridor and enjoy respite in parks scattered throughout the community. Details on reverse.
- 4. **Cooke's Hollow** Early mill site, now a green space along Mill Brook.
- 5. **Old Schwamb Mill** Oldest still functioning (since 1864) mill in the US. Renowned for oval high-quality wooden frames.
- 6. **Arlington Reservoir** Nature path around the reservoir; sandy beach, Habitat Garden, swans.
- 7. **Arlington's Great Meadows** Hiking trails through natural habitat.
- 8. **Tower Park** A shady picnic area alongside the Bikeway; site of a battle between British forces and the Colonial militia.
- 9. **National Heritage Museum** Exhibitions, programs, collections based on American history, heritage, culture and traditions.
- 10. **Munroe Tavern and British History Museum** Revolutionary War site that played a prominent role in the Battle of Lexington and Concord. Now preserved and operated as a museum with exhibits highlighting the role and perspective of the British soldiers during the outbreak of the war.
- 11. **Lexington Center** Settled in 1642 and incorporated in 1713. Lexington is best known as the "Birthplace of American Liberty" for its role in the American Revolution. A variety of shops and restaurants as well as historic sites are just steps from the Bikeway. Details on reverse.
- 12. **Hancock Clarke House** The destination of Paul Revere and William Dawes on the eve of the American Revolution to warn Samuel Adams and John Hancock of the coming British troops. Built in about 1698, the house contains period furnishings and portraits.
- 13. **Parker Meadow** 17.5 acres of woods and meadows with paths and boardwalks.
- 14. **Depot Park** Bedford terminus of the Bikeway where three rail trails converge. The historic freight house is now an information center with railroad memorabilia.
- 15. **Rail Diesel Car 6211** The vintage passenger car, which formerly ran on the Boston-Bedford rail line, has been restored and is open to the public.
- 16. **Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge** 250-acre wetlands on the Concord River, a popular destination for bird watchers, walkers and families.

Legend

Entry Point		Parking	
Mile Marker		Bike Shop	
Points of Interest		Visitors Center	
Fire Station		Water	
Police Station		Ice Cream/Yogurt	
Restrooms		Amenities	
Grocery Store		Unpaved Trail	
Eateries			



MINUTEMAN COMMUTER BIKEWAY MAP
America's Revolutionary Rail-Trail

The Minuteman Commuter Bikeway, built in 1992-93 by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on an inactive railroad corridor, passes through the area where the American Revolution began in April 1775. Connecting to the Alewife "T" Station in Cambridge, the Bikeway provides an easy way for bicyclists and pedestrians to travel to subway and bus lines.

Today, the paved 10 mile Bikeway, collectively managed and maintained by the towns of Bedford, Lexington, Arlington, and Cambridge, is one of the most popular and successful rail-trails in the United States, enjoyed by many year-round for both healthy recreation and transportation. In 2008, the national Rails-to-Trails Conservancy inducted the Minuteman Commuter Bikeway into its Rail-Trail Hall of Fame.

Credits
Map designed by Russ Brami, SnowyOwlMaps.com, working with the Bicycle Advisory Committees in Arlington, Bedford and Lexington. Funded by a grant from the Department of Conservation and Recreation, administered by the Town of Lexington, and generous donations from Vistaprint and Friends of Lexington Bikeways. Special thanks to the Lexington MIS/IT Department and the Lexington Department of Public Works.

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- A. **Depot Park, 1874**
The depot freight house is now an information center and gift shop. View railroad history, tour the restored passenger rail car. A great location to begin rides on three paved and unpaved rail trails.
- B. **Narrow Gauge Rail Trail, 1877**
Site of the first commercial narrow gauge railroad in the U.S. Springs Brook Park, 1.4 miles, Fawn Lake, 2 miles.
- C. **Town Campus**
The Library displays the Bedford Flag (1704), the nation's oldest Militia flag. Carried to Concord by the Bedford Minutemen, April 19th, 1775.
- D. **Town Common, 1729**
Field in the center of Bedford Center where 18th and 19th century townsmen grazed their animals. **Second Meeting House**-now First Parish Church, and **Old Town Hall**, 1856 built.
- E. **Old Burying Ground, 1729**
Town's first cemetery. Many of Bedford's Revolutionary War soldiers are buried here.
- F. **Sights West**
• Petting Farm (1 mile)
• Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge (2 miles)
• Concord Center, North Bridge (4.5 miles)

- A. **Lexington Visitors' Center**
Provides information and hospitality to visitors. Diorama of the Battle of Lexington, gift shop and restrooms. April-November: 9am-5pm, December-March: 10am-4pm.
- B. **Buckman Tavern, 1710**
Oldest tavern in Lexington. Minutemen gathered here in the early hours of April 19th, 1775 to await the British Regulars.
- C. **The Belfry, 1761 (1910 Reproduction)**
The bell summoned people to worship, warned of danger, tolled on their deaths and sounded the alarm of April 19th, 1775.
- D. **Old Burial Ground, 1690**
Contains the remains of Lexington residents from the Revolutionary period. Legible names, dates and inscriptions, some macabre epitaphs.
- E. **Lexington Battle Green, 1692**
Here on April 19th, 1775, the "first blood was spilt in the dispute with Great Britain" when 77 colonists faced British regulars. Site of yearly Patriot's Day re-enactment in April commemorated with the Minuteman Statue and the Revolutionary War Monument.
- F. **Lexington Depot, 1847**
Active railroad station until 1977, now managed by the Lexington Historical Society.

- A. **Jason Russell House & Smith Museum**
Site of the bloodiest conflict on April 19th, 1775 between British and local Minutemen. Open May through October.
- B. **Whittemore Robbins House**
Historic National Register structure once owned by family who were benefactors of the community. Available for functions.
- C. **Old Burial Ground**
Historic burial ground dates from before the American Revolution.
- D. **Uncle Sam Historic Monument**
Honors merchant Sam Wilson, born in Arlington and supplier of material and victuals to the US Army during the War of 1812 who gave image to the character of "Uncle Sam."
- E. **Dallin Art Museum, Cutter House**
Historic structure housing museum dedicated to Cyrus Dallin, famed sculptor; rotating exhibit area for local artists.

Bikeway Guidelines: Share the Path!

- Look carefully before entering or crossing the Bikeway.
- Pass on the left, only when safe. *Give an audible warning before passing another user.*
- Make a complete stop at all intersections.
- When stopping, move off the pavement to allow other users to pass.
- No unauthorized motorized vehicles; motorized wheelchairs are allowed on the Bikeway.
- Pets must be controlled on a short leash
- Bicycling**
- Helmets are recommended for all bicyclists and required by State law for those under 16.
- Ride at a safe speed.
- Yield to pedestrians.
- Ride single file. Two abreast is safe only during low use periods. Never ride three-or-more abreast.
- Walking/jogging**
- Don't walk or run more than two abreast.
- In-line skating**
- Helmets, kneepads, and wristguards are recommended.
- Skate at a safe speed, single-file, and be prepared to stop.
- Common courtesy**
- Do not litter or trespass on private property.
- Pick up after your dog.
- Respect other users. Share the path!
- After dark**
- Bicyclists are required by State law to have a front facing white light, a rear facing red light or reflector, and reflective gear visible in all directions.
- At night all pedestrians should wear a reflective jacket, vest, or sash. Lights are recommended.

Beyond the Minuteman Bikeway

- **Charles River Bike Paths:** 14-mile paved loop traveling along both banks of the Charles River from Museum of Science in Boston to Watertown Square.
- **Fresh Pond Paths:** Paved 3-mile path around Fresh Pond Reservoir, with dedicated bike path beside Concord Avenue and the Fresh Pond Parkway in Cambridge.
- **Fitchburg Cut-Off Path:** 0.8 mile rail-trail from Alewife Station to Brighton Street in Belmont.
- **Alewife Linear Path/Somerville Community Path:** Paved paths from Alewife Station to Davis Square in Somerville and beyond.
- **Alewife Brook Greenway and Reservation:** 2.5 miles through Somerville, Arlington and Cambridge to connect the Minuteman Bikeway and the Mystic River Reservoir.
- **ACROSS Lexington:** Blue and white markers indicate walking and bicycle routes on public ways. The pilot route includes a section of the Minuteman Bikeway.
- **Narrow Gauge Rail-Trail:** 3-mile stone dust trail from Depot Park in Bedford (at the end of the Bikeway) through woodlands northerly past Fawn Lake to the Billerica town line.
- **Reformatory Branch Rail-Trail (planned Minuteman Extension):** 4-mile dirt trail past woodlands and Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge to the Revolutionary War Old North Bridge in Concord. The start is 0.3 miles west on Railroad Avenue from the Bedford terminus on the Bikeway.
- **Minute Man National Historic Park and Battle Road:** 5-mile soft surface trail through original segments of the Battle Road used on April 19, 1775 and historic sites from the opening battles of the American Revolution.
- **Bay Circuit Trail:** 180 miles of trails in the Boston metro area, including Bedford.
- **Bikes on the MBTA:** Bicycles are allowed on MBTA Commuter Rail and subway trains (Red, Orange and Blue lines) all day on weekends and holidays and during off-peak hours on weekdays as well as on the Harbor Ferry and on all buses provided with racks. Folding bikes are allowed on the T at all times if the bikes are completely folded.