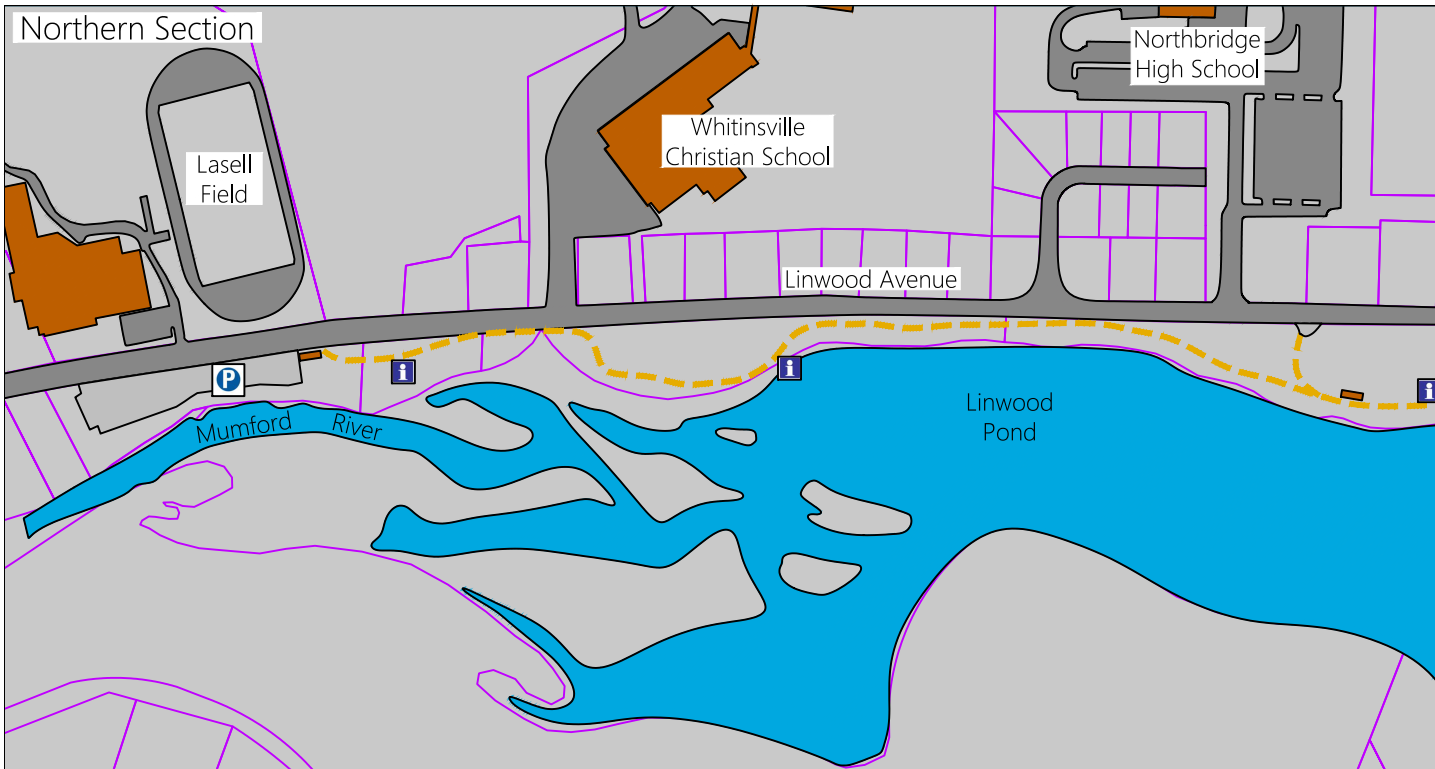
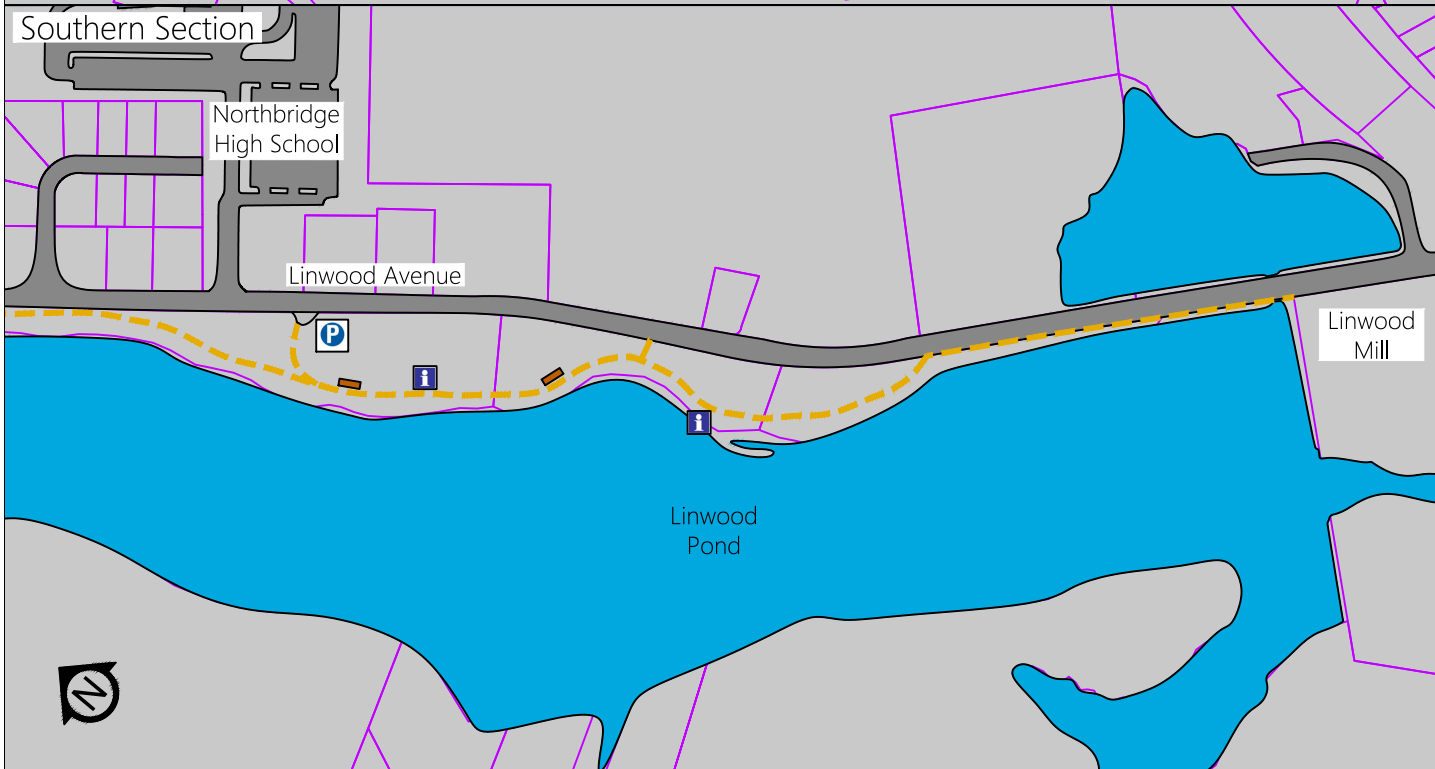


Northern Section



Southern Section







# Mumford Riverwalk

### Property Overview/Highlights:

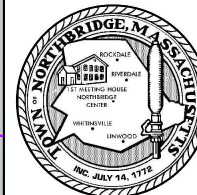
- 44.2 acres
- 0.83 total miles of trails
- Co-managed by the Northbridge Conservation Commission and Northbridge Board of Selectmen
- Parking available across from Lasell Field (paved, 60 spaces) and across from High School (unpaved, 3 to 4 spaces)
- Interpretive signage and benches

### Trails:

-  Mumford Riverwalk  
 0.83 miles from Lasell Field Parking to Linwood Mill  
 Flat lying to gently sloping topography  
 Difficulty - Easy

-  Parking
-  Bench
-  Informational Sign

Scale: 1" = 400'



**NORTHBRIDGE**  
**MASSACHUSETTS**  
 Conservation Commission

508-234-087

[www.northbridgemass.org/conservation-commission](http://www.northbridgemass.org/conservation-commission)

# Mumford Riverwalk

The Mumford Riverwalk parallels Linwood Avenue from Lasell Field/Northbridge Middle School to Linwood Mill. The natural-surfaced trail, which extends along the banks of the Mumford River and Linwood Pond, is situated on several parcels of land that were gifted to the Town of Northbridge by the Whittin Machine Works in 1978. A conceptual layout for the Riverwalk was developed by Barbara Gaudette Landscape Design in 1994 under a contract with the Northbridge Planning Board and Conservation Commission. Upon completion, the Riverwalk was dedicated to Thomas J. Melia, Jr., a veteran and former Chief of Police for the town. The original layout included several amenities (including a boardwalk through a wooded swamp) and spurs that have yet to be constructed. Efforts are currently underway to construct the boardwalk and replace a damaged observation platform (bird blind).



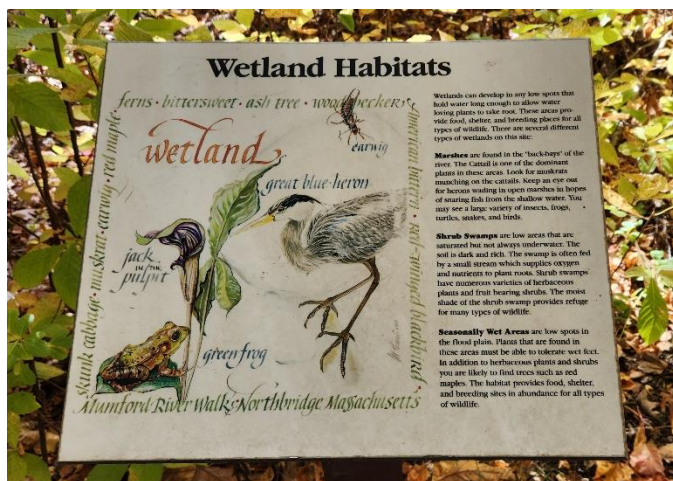
View of Linwood Pond from the Riverwalk

## Ecology

Most of the Riverwalk extends through mixed deciduous/coniferous forest and abuts several different wetland ecological communities including wooded swamp, emergent marsh and aquatic bed. Vegetation present in forested areas includes white pine, red pine, pitch pine, red oak, sugar maple, sweet birch, American chestnut, glossy false buckthorn, huckleberry, lowbush blueberry, teaberry, bracken fern, partridge berry and striped wintergreen. Vegetation within the swamp and marsh communities include red maple, silky dogwood, speckled alder, sweet pepperbush, winterberry, soft rush, upright sedge, cinnamon fern, sensitive fern, skunk cabbage, spotted touch-me-not (*Impatiens capensis*). To the south, the margins of Linwood pond are vegetated with pickerelweed, yellow pond lily and water-chestnut.

## Trail Overview

As shown on the trail map, the Riverwalk is 0.83 miles long (one-way). Most of trail winds through wooded areas and abuts steep slopes that extend down to the shores of the Mumford River and Linwood Pond. Stone benches have been installed at several vista points along the wooded segments of trail. Informational signs designed by a local artist and built/re-installed by an Eagle Scout (Jayce Knapik) provide details on the habitats and wildlife that are encountered along



Informational sign along the Riverwalk

the River. Dense stands of poison ivy border segments of the trail that extend along/near Linwood Avenue. While these areas are routinely trimmed, care should be taken by individuals who are allergic. The trail is generally flat but there are several steep spurs that lead down to the water. These spurs can be extremely slippery during/after rains and when covered by leaves. Users are asked to abide the rules posted at the parking areas and listed below.

- Use only established/marked trails
- Pack in/pack out or use designated waste receptacles
- No alcohol/recreational drug use
- No fires, camping or hunting
- No graffiti or defacing of rock outcrops and vegetation
- No off road/motorized vehicle use

The Commission has developed a Conservation Fund that is used to purchase trail-related materials (signs/markers, trail guides, etc.). Donations to this fund are greatly appreciated. Call the Commission if interested in donating or if you wish to volunteer for trail cleanup/maintenance days.