

Title: Tuesday at Quabbin Gate 40 to Dana Center – relaxed pace

Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 **Time:** 10 AM **End Time:** about 12:30 PM

Description: This is a flat walk on mostly paved roads within the Quabbin Reservoir. We will pass by stone walls and many house foundations. In Dana Center, there are photos in front of many of the foundations which will let us know what the town common looked like before the town was disincorporated, as part of the development of the Quabbin Reservoir.

***Please refer to <https://www.wilbraham-ma.gov/304/Wilbraham-Hiking-Club> for things to keep in mind on all hikes. Remember that no dogs, except service dogs on leash, are allowed on town-sponsored hikes.

Length: 3.75 miles. **Pace/Duration:** relaxed

Terrain: paved road **Cumulative Elevation:** primarily flat

Difficulty: 4 – easy as calculated at <http://www.nwhiker.com/HikeEval.html>

Gear: sneakers are fine for this walk; boots and microspikes are needed if conditions are icy.

Leader/Contact: Sue Burk smburk43@gmail.com 413-530-3434

Where to meet: at the trailhead for Gate 40 off of route 32A in Petersham

- **Directions from Palmer, MA**

Take Route 32 North from Palmer past Ware. Route 32 joins Route 9 for a bit in Ware and then turns left at a well-marked sign towards Gilbertville

- Just past the Gilbertville “main drag”, go straight on Route 32A (do not turn right to continue on Route 32)
- Take Route 32A North past the town of Hardwick into Petersham. Gate 40 is on the left, a bit less than 9.5 miles from where Route 32A branched from route 32 . If you get as far as the junction with Route 122, you have passed by the Gate. It’s easy to miss; we will have folks standing near the turn-off until 10:00 AM.
- **Directions from north of Petersham:**
Follow Route 32A south from its junction with 122. The turn-off to Gate 40 is on the right, about 3 miles south of the junction. If you enter Hardwick, you have passed the gate.

Weblinks:

Info about the town of Dana

<https://www.nps.gov/places/dana-common.htm>

Map of paved/wide trails in and around Dana – we will be going as far as the center of Dana as shown on this map, not the entire 7.2 mile route shown here

<https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/us/massachusetts/dana-commons>