



Oak Grove to Tufts Boathouse

 Malden River Route


Feeder Routes

 Bell Rock


 Edgeworth

 Northern Strand Connector to the Malden River

 O'Connell Park Route

 MBTA Station

 City Hall

 School

 Library

Points of Interest

- 1** Oak Grove MBTA Station
- 2** Oak Grove Community Building
- 3** Cox-Haven House
- 4** Coytemore Lea Park
- 5** The Malden River Mural and Manhole
- 6** YWCA Malden
- 7** The Malden River Resurfaces
- 8** The Malden River Walk
- 9** Northern Strand Community Trail
- 10** Robinson Cuticura Apartments
- 11** Bell Rock Park
- 12** Bell Rock Cemetery
- 13** Devir Park
- 14** Mystic Valley Charter School
- 15** O'Connell Park
- 16** Former site of Converse Rubber

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The **City of Malden** for the leadership shown by **Mayor Gary Christenson**.

The City of Malden's **Mass in Motion** program, an initiative sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, is called **Malden is Moving!** The program aims to promote wellness with a particular focus on the importance of healthy eating and active living. Malden is Moving! Is under the jurisdiction of the **City of Malden Public Health Department** (Chris Webb, Director) in conjunction with its partners at the YWCA Malden. Chris Murphy of the YWCA Malden is the Mass in Motion Coordinator for the City of Malden.

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Cover photo by **PL Tandon**. Photo credits: Metropolitan Area Planning Council, City of Malden, Bike to the Sea, Flickr.



September 2013



The City of Malden

Welcome to the Malden River River Route



Connecting the Community to the Malden River



Follow these signs to stay on the route

THE MALDEN RIVER IS A TRIBUTARY TO THE MYSTIC RIVER. LIKE THE MYSTIC RIVER, THE MALDEN River is an urban river with a long history of industrial uses. Although it has been neglected for a long time, many residents and organizations in the watershed are joining forces to improve water quality and recreational opportunities along the river. Malden has been an active participant in this effort. In 2012 Malden began the development of the Malden River Route. This 1.9 mile walking route is marked by large signs with the river route logo. The route begins in Oak Grove and connects points of interest such as parks, historical sites and community institutions. As with other urban rivers, the Malden River was put into an underground culvert for much of its length. The route follows the underground path of the Malden River which is supported by the Spot Pond Brook. The above ground portion of the Malden River emerges at Canal Street in the southwest corner of Malden.

In addition there are four secondary routes that connect neighborhoods with the main route. These are the O'Connell Park route, the Edgeworth route, the Bell Rock route and the Northern Strand Community Trail. These secondary routes are signed with the same Malden River Route sign.

Please note: This route uses local streets and sidewalks. Portions of the sidewalks are rough and uneven and may be difficult to navigate in a wheelchair or for people with other mobility difficulties. Please be careful when walking and remember to cross the streets using crosswalks. This route cannot be driven in its entirety because it uses one-way streets and paths through a park.

We hope that you will enjoy exploring the historic path of the Malden River, the surrounding neighborhoods and the emergence of the Malden River as it flows into the Mystic.



1. Oak Grove T Station – The Oak Grove T station provides subway and bus access to the Malden River Route.

2. Oak Grove Community Building – The Oak Grove Community Building history dates back to as far as 1926 and is a city owned building. This building is the meeting place for many Malden based non-profit groups.



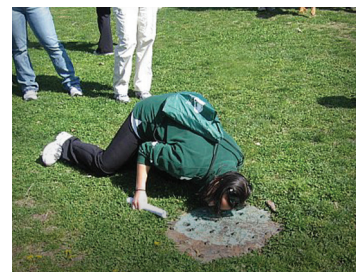
3. Cox-Haven House – This house was built in 1790. Captain Unite Cox who drew oak from North Malden for building the U.S.S Constitution, lived here. The home was also the birthplace of Gilbert Haven Jr. (1821-1880), the great social reformer and bishop of the Methodist Church. Fugitive slaves on the Underground Railroad were hidden here.



4. Coytemore Lea Park – This small neighborhood park was refurbished in 2006 with a tot lot, soccer field, small parking area, a Tai Chi garden and a paved circular pad for the practice of Tai Chi in recognition of the large Asian community in Malden.



5. The Malden River Mural and Manhole – This mural was painted by local youth and leads to a manhole cover. The Spot Pond Brook can be heard at this venue as it flows underneath the park into the Malden River.



6. YWCA Malden – The YWCA is located at 54 Washington St. The YWCA has maintained a strong position in the community for over 85 years; its programs empower girls, women and families to accomplish its



mission of Eliminating Racism, Empowering Women and Girls. They have been a key contributor in establishing walking routes to the river.



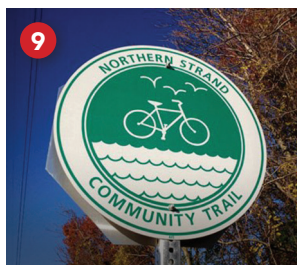
7. The Malden River resurfaces – The Malden River comes out of its underground culvert at Anthony's Restaurant.



8. The Malden River Walk – The trail at 195 Canal Street was built by Combined Properties Inc., the property's developer and owner. The property is now home to the Cambridge Health Alliance's Family Medical Center. This new walkway grew out of a public/private collaboration among Combined Properties, the state Department of Environmental Protection as overseer of the

Chapter 91 waterways licensing program, and the state Department of Conservation and Recreation, which contributed access for a segment of the walkway to be built on their land. Public access to the path is available 24 hours a day. The path is a stone dust trail to the rear of the property along the river.

9. Northern Strand Community Trail – Since 1993 an organization known as Bike to the Sea has been working to create the Northern Strand Trail: a trail free of cars from Everett to the beaches in Revere and Lynn. This trail is a multi-use path and it intersects with the Malden River Route.



10. Robinson Cuticura Apartments – Built in 1892, this building was the former headquarters of Robinson Brothers & Company; later Potter Drug. The company was the manufacturer of Cuticura Soap products. The building is now housing for the elderly.



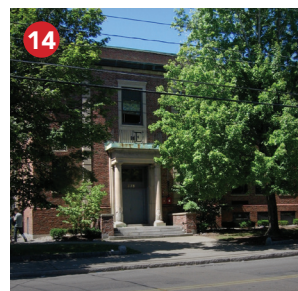
11. Bell Rock Park – This park was established in 1905 and was laid out by noted landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. This site commemorates Malden's veterans atop Bell Rock upon which Malden's first settlers erected a church bell hung in

a frame for 30 years to call colonial worshippers. The park includes "The Flag Defenders" monument by Bela Pratt in tribute to soldiers and sailors of the Civil War. Also found are tablets memorializing Malden veterans of the Revolutionary, Spanish American and First World Wars and an arch dedicated to Veterans of World War II. Bell Rock Memorial Park was named to the National Register of Historic Places in February, 2001.

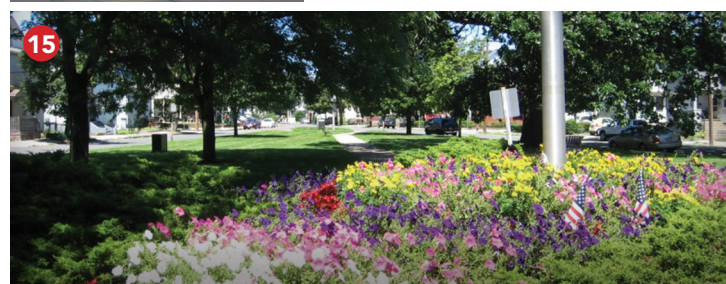
12. Bell Rock Cemetery – This cemetery dates back to 1649 and was first known as "Sandy Bank" which was the landing place of settlers sailing up the Mystic River. Many prominent Malden residents are buried here. It is the burial site of more than 30 Revolutionary War Veterans.



13. Devir Park – Devir Park is the start of the Edgeworth route. The park offers active recreation including soccer, baseball, softball, basketball, tennis and a playground.



14. Mystic Valley Charter School – The MVRCS purchased the former Emerson School and intends to use this facility as an extension of its high school. They have agreed to the continued beautification of the existing World War II memorial in the front of the school and help to improve the neighborhood.



15. O'Connell Park – This small park features beautiful landscaping, a paved path and benches. This park is the starting point for the O'Connell Park route.

16. Former site of Converse Rubber – Marquis M. Converse started the Converse Rubber Shoe Company in Malden, MA in 1908. The company started out making winterized rubber soled footwear. In 1917 they introduced the "All Star" shoe, the first sneaker designed for basketball. By 1918 the company had 2,000 employees and 4 acres of factory space.

