



# MassWildlife Lands User Guide

## Bennett Meadows Wildlife Management Area

**Town:** Northfield

**Acreage:** 201

**Wildlife Management Zone:** 4N

### Description of property:

Bennett Meadows WMA is owned by Northeast Utilities and cooperatively managed with the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife. It abuts the west side of the Connecticut River and consists of open fields used for agricultural crops including hay and corn. Along the west side of the property Bennett Brook, a small stream, flows through beaver-created shrub swamps where it eventually empties into the Connecticut River. On the western slopes is a ridge of upland forest containing oak and hickories with lower slopes near the river consisting of floodplain forest trees like basswood and silver maple.

### Location/Access/Parking:

There is an unmaintained dirt parking lot off of Route 10 west of Northfield Center with room for 10 vehicles. You can access the WMA from Route 10 or by boat from the Connecticut River.

### Habitat Management:

This property is managed by growing specific agricultural crops that provide food and cover for wildlife throughout the year.

### Hunting Opportunities:

This area is stocked with ring-necked pheasant throughout the pheasant season. Waterfowl can be found in the beaver impoundments. Other opportunities exist to hunt crow, American woodcock, cottontail rabbit, gray squirrel, aquatic furbearers and raccoon.

### Fishing Opportunities:

The Connecticut River offers warmwater fishing opportunities and seasonal fishing for anadromous fish such as American shad. River access is limited to foot traffic and the steep banks make getting there a challenge. Bennett Brook offers fishing opportunities for native brook trout.

### Wildlife Viewing and Other Features:

The mixture of open fields, wetlands, and forest make this WMA popular during spring migration for both songbirds and waterfowl.

### Special WMA Regulations:

During the pheasant season, a "hunter orange" hat is required for all hunters except while night hunting raccoons or opossums or while hunting waterfowl from within a blind or boat. No person shall hunt before sunrise or after sunset during the open season on pheasant, except for the hunting of raccoons or opossums between 9 p.m. and 3 a.m.

### Useful Links

[WMA Regulations](#)

[Habitat Program](#)

[Hunting & Fishing](#)

### Fishing/Hunting Licenses

[Mass.gov/MassFishHunt](https://www.mass.gov/MassFishHunt)

### Learn more

[Mass.gov/MassWildlife](https://www.mass.gov/MassWildlife)

### Connect with us

[Facebook.com/MassWildlife](https://www.facebook.com/MassWildlife)

### Get Your Orange On!

All outdoor users are encouraged to wear blaze orange during hunting seasons.

### Your local

#### MassWildlife office

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