

**WEIDER
PARK**

**Quarry
Trail**

**PINE
ROCK**

**Pine Rock
Trail**

**Meadow
Trail**

**SHERRIN
STREET**

**AUSTIN
NORTH**

**AUSTIN -
WINDHAM**

**AUSTIN -
MARSTON**



**A Cooperative Project for
Outdoor Recreation between**

**The City of Boston
The National Park Service
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

This natural area is managed by the City of Boston for conservation and passive recreation. You can help protect the ecology and beauty of Sherrin Woods by following these rules:

Sherrin Woods is closed from dusk to dawn.

Keep dogs leashed at all times.

Clean up after your pet.

No dumping. Help control the spread of invasive plants.

No trash. Carry out all trash and pet waste.

Stay on trails. Help protect wildlife and plants.

No biking. Help prevent soil compaction and erosion.

No campfires. Help prevent forest fires.

THANK YOU FOR PROTECTING SHERRIN WOODS

**For Non-Emergencies: Call 311 or use the 311 app
To volunteer, donate, or ask questions,
Call 617.635.4505 or email parks@boston.gov**

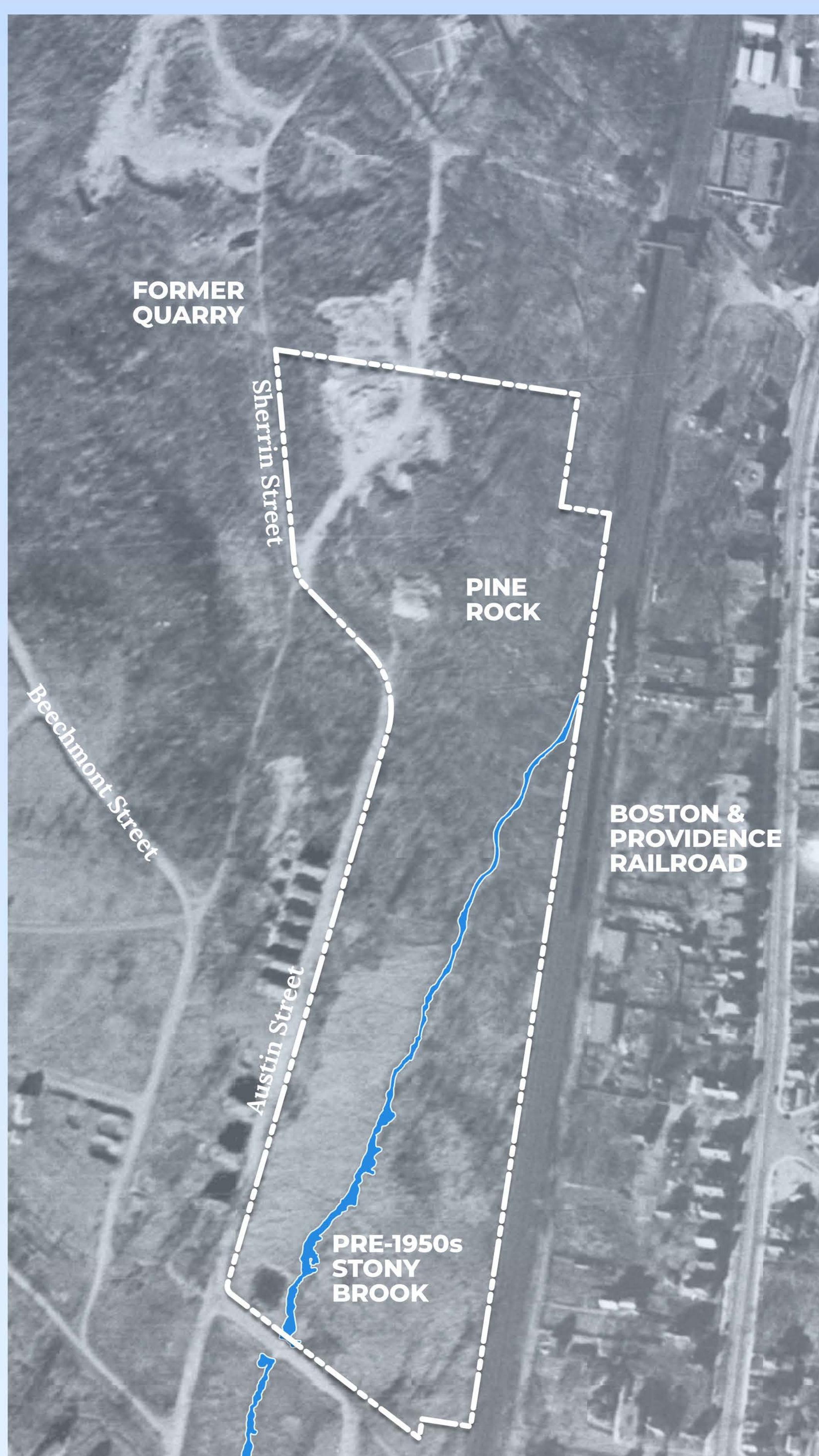
FOR EMERGENCIES, CALL 911



RULES
SHERRIN WOODS URBAN WILD

Disappearing Act: Stony Brook

Stony Brook, which has its source in Stony Brook Reservation, flows along a north-south fault in Roxbury conglomerate. The stream was a tributary to the Charles River, its outlet near the Muddy River delta. Since colonial times, the stream valley provided the primary travel route to Boston from the southwest. The first railroad from Boston to Providence was built along this site in the 1830s. The brook now flows through a Boston Water and Sewer Commission conduit built during the 1950s along the east side of Sherrin Woods Urban Wild.



Source: Historic Aerials, 1938



HISTORY
SHERRIN WOODS URBAN WILD

Invasive Plants threaten Sherrin Woods

Aggressive invasive species out-compete native plants and eliminate seasonal wildlife food sources and habitat cover. Invasive species cannot provide the (3) seasons of bloom that a diversity of native species can, blooms that provide pollen for insects (which in turn, are a food source) as well fruit for birds and mammals.

In the 1970's Sherrin Woods was privately owned land and the southern half of the site was cleared and used as a dumping ground for construction debris. This land disturbance and filling process caused lasting ecological damage and left the site with poor soils and elevated pH levels, ideal growing conditions for invasive species.

Since 2009, the Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List has made more than 140 species illegal due to the economic and ecological damage they cause. Today, the primary way invasive plants are spread is through yard waste dumping, wind dispersal, and planting/transplanting.

Native Species



White Oak

Quercus alba

The white oak is a large canopy tree that provides shelter for dozens of bird species and a food source for over 500 pollinators as well as many mammals. Other high value habitat native trees include: willows, cherries, and birches.

Sources: Photo: gratefultreesandbees.com
Text: Tallamy, Bringing Nature Home



Spicebush

Lindera benzoin

A deciduous shrub growing 6-9 feet and flowering in early spring. Leaves turn yellow in fall. Crushing leaves will release a pleasant fragrance. Provides excellent cover for animals and acts as an important food supply for butterfly larvae, various birds and small mammals.

Sources: Photo: natureinhumanity.com
Text: National Park Service



White Wood Aster

Eurybia divaricata

A native shade loving 1½-2½ feet tall flower often mistaken for a daisy. Flowers in late summer/early fall, providing vital late-season nectar for bees and butterflies. In the fall, their seeds provide a food source for both migratory and winter-resident birds.

Sources: Photo: gobotany.newenglandwild.org
Text: National Park Service

Invasive Species



Norway Maple

Acer platanoides

Planted extensively as an ornamental, this tree is now found invading natural areas, often outcompeting native deciduous trees. It has a rounded crown of dense foliage which leafs out early (as shown) and remains long into the fall shading out understory native species.

Photo source: naturegate.com



Japanese Knotweed

Fallopia japonica

An herbaceous perennial which forms dense thickets 3-8 feet high. Reproduces via seed and through the soil via stout, aggressive rhizomes. It spreads rapidly and can tolerate a variety of adverse conditions including full shade, high temperatures, high salinity, and drought.

Photo source: gobotany.newenglandwild.org



Garlic Mustard

Alliaria petiolata

A self-fertile biennial herb native to Europe. Very difficult to eradicate once it has become established. Capable of dominating the ground layer in a relatively short period of time. Each plant can produce thousands of seeds that can remain viable for up to 5 years.

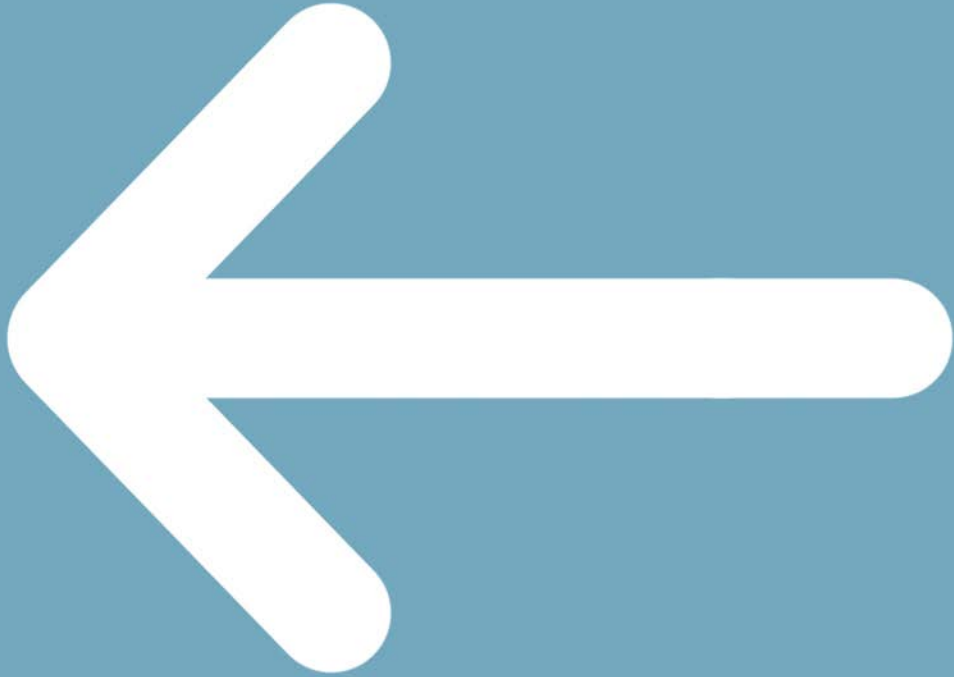
Sources: Photo: gobotany.newenglandwild.org
Text: The Nature Conservancy

PLEASE, DO NOT DUMP.

Please contact Boston Parks and Recreation Department for assistance in selecting locally sourced native plants suitable for your yard.



**NATIVE VS.
INVASIVE**
SHERRIN WOODS URBAN WILD



**QUARRY
TRAIL**

To Weider Park



PINE ROCK TRAIL

**To Meadow Trail
& Austin Street**



PINE ROCK TRAIL

**To Weider Park
& Sherrin Street**