



**Constitution Beach** is East Boston's only swimming beach—a great place to catch some sun and enjoy a marina view or snack from the concession stand. A playground, ballfields, and ice rink are also on site.



**Piers Park** is a popular spot in the summer for festivals, outdoor concerts and picnics. A sailing center, playground, and spray fountain make it family-friendly.



**The East Boston Greenway** offers 1.5 miles of pathway for use by bikers, runners and walkers alike. Be sure to enjoy the many colorful painted murals along its walls.

# EAST BOSTON

## OPEN SPACE MAP AND GUIDE



### Creating Parks and Open Space: A Community Effort

In East Boston, the movement for new open space has been growing since the 1960s, when a half-century of concentrated transportation and industrial development resulted in the destruction of 45-acre Wood Island Park. Razing this Olmsted-designed park provided the airport with room to expand, but left the East Boston community with limited local open space. Since then, East Boston citizens have lobbied for the creation of Belle Isle Marsh Reservation and Piers Park, respectively, transforming an abandoned drive-in and unused waterfront property into first-rate recreation areas. Citizens continued to press for creation of 1.5 miles of the East Boston Greenway, the Harborwalk, Navy Fuel Pier, and Bremen Street Park, which in June 2007 was the biggest park to open in East Boston in a decade. Additional citizen-led park creation efforts are ongoing in East Boston, including airport edge buffers, Piers Park II, and the continuation of the Greenway – all of which will help implement the community's vision for open space.



### Welcome to East Boston

This new map of East Boston showcases all of its wonderful green spaces, from small neighborhood community gardens and pocket parks, to bike paths and larger signature parks. One of the most notable things about East Boston is the explosion of new open space and parkland in recent years.

Whether you're a lifelong East Boston resident or just visiting, East Boston green space has something to offer everyone. As a community surrounded by water on 3 sides, the water views provided by East Boston Parks are second to none, and "Eastie" also boasts the most stunning view of the Boston skyline.

So enjoy! Take a walk, go on a bike ride, pass time on a bench with a harbor view, or kick around a soccer ball – it's all here in East Boston.



## EAST BOSTON *A Brief History*

The land that comprises East Boston was originally five distinct Boston Harbor Islands. Members of the Algonquin Nation once inhabited the ecologically rich salt marsh and estuary environment of the islands. In 1637, Noddle Island became the first neighborhood to be annexed by the City of Boston. During the 17th and 18th centuries, European settlers used the islands for farming, grazing, and military fortifications. Gradually, the islands were intentionally merged by leveling and filling. The two largest islands, Noddle and Breed (Hog Island) form what are today the residential and commercial sections of East Boston. Governor's, Apple and Bird Islands, along with Wood Island Park, were incorporated into Logan Airport.

Historic map reproduction courtesy of the Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library



**Bremen Street Park**, Eastie's newest showcase park, is complete with a community garden, spray fountain, playgrounds and much more for families to enjoy all year.



**HarborWalk** winds around many of East Boston's historic piers and presents awe-inspiring vistas of the water, ships and the downtown skyline.



**Belle Isle Marsh** is a beautiful salt marsh, where many visitors come for world-class birding, an afternoon by canoe, or just a peaceful stroll.

### How to Get Here

#### By Public Transportation

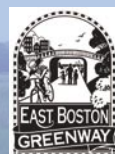
East Boston is easily accessible by the MBTA Blue Line. Many bus routes also serve areas of the neighborhood.

#### By Car

East Boston is located near many major highways, such as US Route 1, MA Route 1A, I-90, and Boston's Logan Airport. The Ted Williams, Callahan, and Sumner Tunnels make it convenient to get to and from East Boston from downtown Boston.

#### Important Phone Numbers

In Case of Emergency: Dial 911  
Boston Police, East Boston District A-7: 617.343.4220  
Massachusetts State Police: 617.567.2233



Boston Natural Areas Network  
and Friends of the East Boston Greenway  
62 Summer Street—Boston MA 02110  
617.542.7696 [www.bostonnatural.org](http://www.bostonnatural.org)  
Map available online at [www.bostonnatural.org](http://www.bostonnatural.org)

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**Playgrounds** are in every neighborhood of East Boston. There are tot lots designed for smaller kids, and swings and monkey bars for more adventurous ones!



Six unique **Community Gardens** are enjoyed by East Boston gardeners. These gardens conserve open space while allowing cultivation of vegetables and flowers.



**Condor Street Urban Wild** is a great example of a community-led effort to create a park from reclaimed land. The wild provides a winding path, benches, water views and public art.