

Stephen Doherty
617.654.5982
C: 617.529.8751

stephen.n.doherty@usps.gov
usps.com/news



Writer, Philosopher and Naturalist Henry David Thoreau to be Commemorated on a Forever Stamp

- WHAT:** First-Day-of-Issue dedication ceremony for the Henry David Thoreau Commemorative Forever stamp. The event is free and open to the public.
- WHO:** Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary [Matthew Beaton](#)
Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner [Leo Roy](#)
U.S. Postal Service General Counsel and Executive Vice President [Thomas J. Marshall](#)
Select Board Town of Concord Chair [Michael Lawson](#)
[Walden Woods Project](#) Board Member/Environmentalist/Actor [Ed Begley Jr.](#)
- WHEN:** Tue., May 23 @ 11 a.m.
- WHERE:** [Walden Pond State Reservation Visitors Center](#)
915 Walden St.
Concord, MA 01742

The public may RSVP online at usps.com/thoreau. Followers of the U.S. Postal Service's Facebook page can view live streaming video of the event at facebook.com/USPS. The media is asked to share the news on Twitter and Instagram using the hashtag **#ThoreauStamps**.

- BACKGROUND:** The U.S. Postal Service celebrates writer, philosopher, and naturalist Henry David Thoreau (July 12, 1817 – May 6, 1862) on the bicentennial year of his birth. The stamp art is an oil-on-panel painting of Thoreau's face based on a famous 1856 daguerreotype by Benjamin Maxham. On the right side of the stamp is Thoreau's signature of his last name. Below the signature is a branch of sumac leaves.

With Thoreau's personal example of simple living, his criticism of materialism, and the timeless questions he raises about the place of the individual in society and humanity's role in the natural world, he continues to inspire new generations to assert their independence, reinterpret his legacy, and ask challenging questions of their own. [Sam Weber](#) of Brooklyn, NY, was the stamp artist. Art director [Greg Breeding](#) of Charlottesville, VA, designed the stamp.

#