

Falmouth Ponds Profile

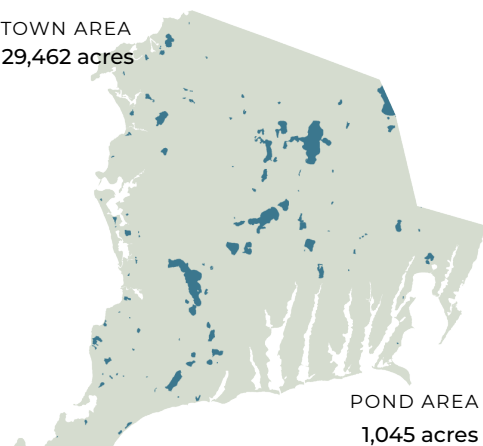
A RESOURCE OF THE CAPE COD FRESHWATER INITIATIVE



Water quality is critical to the vitality of the region's pond ecosystems and coastal embayments. Yet pollutants found in stormwater runoff, and in groundwater by which ponds are recharged, threaten the region's freshwater quality. Understanding the broad issues that impact Cape Cod's freshwater ponds, characteristics of the region's ponds, and actions at the local level all help set a baseline for understanding and action.

Falmouth

TOWN AREA
29,462 acres



POND AREA
1,045 acres

4% of total town area is comprised of freshwater ponds and lakes

123
PONDS

24
10+ Acre
Ponds

48
Named
Ponds

8 ACRES
Average
Pond Size

28 FEET
Average
Pond Depth

4 Fish Stocked Ponds

14 Ponds Adjacent to Cranberry Bogs

3 Ponds that Cross Town Boundaries

6 Ponds with Public Access

23 State Listed Great Ponds

17% Impervious Surfaces in Pond 300ft Buffer

5 Ponds with Coastal Plain Pondshores

40 Ponds with Rare Species Habitat

Top 5 Largest Ponds

POND	AREA
1. Ashumet Pond	220.2 acres
2. Coonamessett Pond	169.4 acres
3. Long Pond	150.5 acres
4. Jenkins Pond	88.3 acres
5. Siders Pond	36.5 acres

Top 5 Deepest Ponds

POND	DEPTH
1. Ashumet Pond	84 ft.
2. Jenkins Pond	51 ft.
3. Crooked Pond	42 ft.
4. Grews Pond	42 ft.
5. Flax Pond	30 ft.

Pond Monitoring

Of the town's 123 ponds, 0 have three consecutive years of recent monitoring data and only 10% of all the ponds have available monitoring data. The data record for this monitoring spans 9 years with an average of 0.3 sampling events at each monitored pond per year.

12 Ponds Monitored

0 Ponds with 3 Consecutive Years of Recent Data (2016-2021)

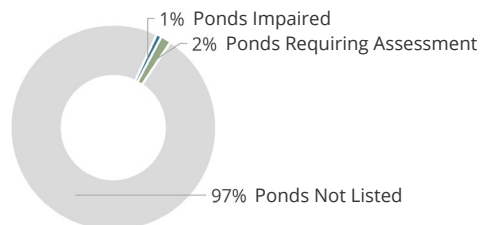
Water Quality Impairments

A lack of consistent and available monitoring data for all ponds means that we may be underestimating threats to waterbody health.

6 Harmful Algal Bloom Advisories Issued by EPA Since 2017

3 Ponds listed on MassDEP's Draft 2022 Integrated List of Waters

2 Freshwater Bathing Beaches with Sampling Failures for Fecal Coliform in 2022

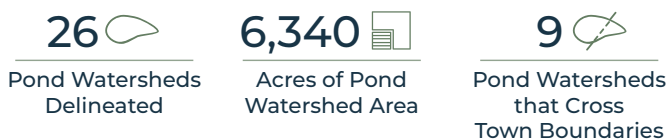


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Pond Watersheds

The land area that contributes to freshwater ponds and lakes is referred to as a pond watershed. Relatively few pond watersheds have been delineated across the Cape. Land area within pond watersheds is much larger than the water bodies themselves. In Falmouth, **22%** of the town's total land area is within a delineated pond watershed.

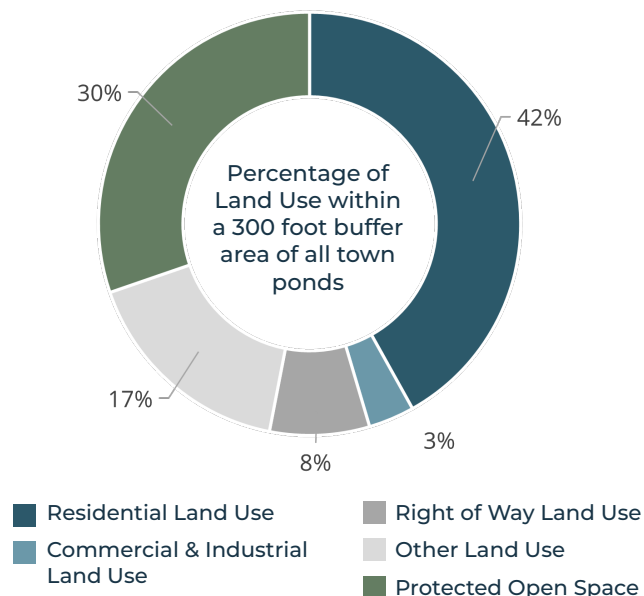


- Freshwater Ponds
- Pond Watershed Area

Some contributing pond watershed areas also extend beyond town boundaries and include additional acreage in neighboring towns.

Land Use in Pond Buffer Area

Understanding the way that land is used around our freshwater ponds contributes to a better understanding of potential pond impacts, stressors, and viable strategies to protect or restore pond health. **2,340** acres (or **8%**) of the town's total land area is within 300 feet of a freshwater pond.



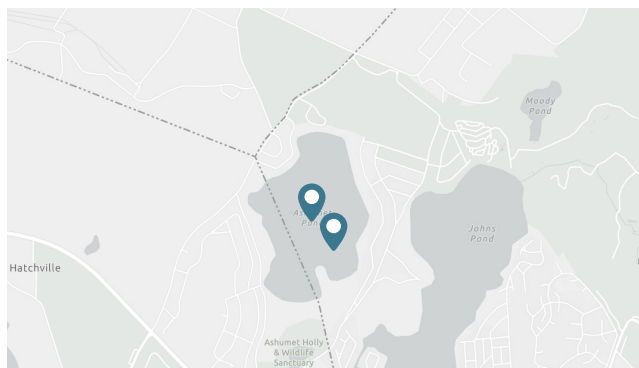
Documented Town Reports and Actions

There are **0** town or pond specific freshwater reports in the regional dataset.

Local Pond Organizations



Independent groups, organizing around a single or multiple ponds, voluntarily conduct educational and advocacy efforts and collect water quality monitoring data, which is not always available or sufficient for regional analysis.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Deep Pond Preservation Project | Oyster Ponds Environmental Trust |
| Cedar Lake Group | Water by Estates Homeowners Association |
| Coonamessett Pond Association | Pinecrest Beach Improvement Association- Jenkins Pond |
| Falmouth Pond Coalition | Friends of Ashumet Pond |
| Falmouth Pond Watchers | Save Mashpee Wakeby Pond Alliance |
| Falmouth Water Stewards | |
| Friends of Cedar Lake | |



Pond Strategies Implemented

Updates and additional projects will be added as information becomes available. Review project details at: cccom.link/pond-restoration-projects

-  Ashumet Pond, Alum Treatment
-  Ashumet Pond, PRB