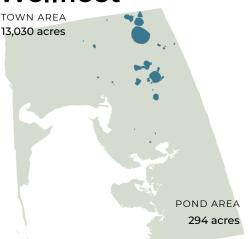
# Wellfleet Ponds Profile

### 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.

# Wellfleet



of total town area is comprised of freshwater ponds and lakes

## **Top 5 Largest Ponds**

POND	AREA
1. Gull Pond	108.1 acres
2. Great Pond	44.0 acres
3. Long Pond	36.9 acres
4. Higgins Pond	26.7 acres
5. Herring Pond	18.9 acres

## **Top 5 Deepest Ponds**

POND	DEPTH
1. Gull Pond	64 ft.
2. Great Pond	56 ft.
3. Duck Pond	55 ft.
4. Long Pond	50 ft.
5. Dyer Pond	36 ft.



10+ Acre Ponds

18 Named **Ponds** 

 $12_{ACRES}$ Average

Average

Pond Size

Pond Depth

EL DO Fish Stocked **Ponds** 

State Listed

**Great Ponds** 

Ponds Adjacent to Cranberry Bogs

Impervious Surfaces

in Pond 300ft Buffer

Ponds with Coastal Plain Pondshores

Ponds that Cross

**Town Boundaries** 

Ponds with **Public Access** 

Ponds with Rare Species Habitat

# **Pond Monitoring**

Of the town's 25 ponds, 0 have three consecutive years of recent monitoring data and 60% of all the ponds have available monitoring data. The data record for this monitoring spans 11 years with an average of 0.3 sampling events at each monitored pond per year.

15 B

Ponds Monitored

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

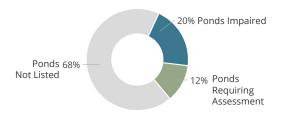
## **Water Quality Impairments**

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

Harmful Agal Bloom Advisories Issued by EPA Since 2017

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

Freshwater Bathing Beaches with Sampling Failures for Fecal Coliform in 2022

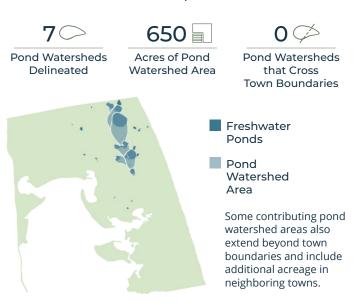


# Wellfleet Ponds Profile

#### A RESOURCE OF THE CAPE COD FRESHWATER INITIATIVE

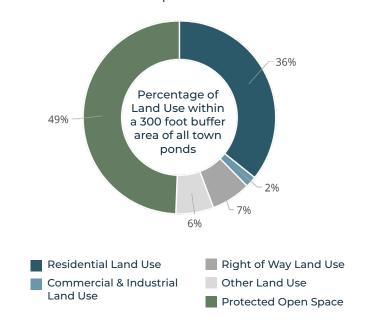
#### **Pond Watersheds**

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 Wellfleet, 5% of the town's total land area is within a delineated pond watershed.



### 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. **451** acres (or **3**%) of the town's total land area is within 300 feet of a freshwater pond.



## **Documented Town Reports and Actions**



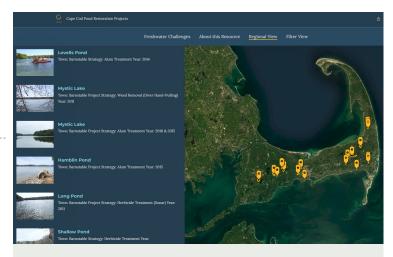
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Pond Specific Freshwater Reports

## **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.

Gull Pond Area Conservation Association Friends of Herring River



## **Pond Strategies Implemented**

Updates and additional projects will be added as information becomes available. Review project details at: <a href="mailto:cccom.link/pond-restoration-projects">cccom.link/pond-restoration-projects</a>

There are 0 implemented pond strategies in the regional dataset.