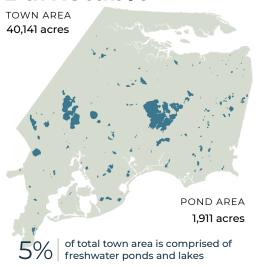
# Barnstable Ponds Profile

### 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.

# Barnstable



### **Top 5 Largest Ponds**

POND	AREA
1. Wequaquet Lake	673.1 acres
2. Mystic Lake	151.3 acres
3. Hamblin Pond	118.6 acres
4. Middle Pond	110.1 acres
5. Shallow Pond	81.0 acres

## **Top 5 Deepest Ponds**

POND	DEPTH
1. Hamblin Pond	62 ft.
2. Shubael Pond	41 ft.
3. Micah Pond	41 ft.
4. Mystic Lake	40 ft.
5. Lovells Pond	37 ft.

162

26 10+ Acre

Ponds

64 Named **Ponds** 

12 ACRES Average

Average Pond Depth

Pond Size

4

Fish Stocked **Ponds** 

12 🚭 State Listed **Great Ponds**  18 😹

Ponds Adjacent to Cranberry Bogs

15%

Impervious Surfaces in Pond 300ft Buffer

Ponds that Cross **Town Boundaries** 

Ponds with Coastal

Plain Pondshores

Ponds with **Public Access** 

24 🗇

46 ⋄

Ponds with Rare Species Habitat

## **Pond Monitoring**

Of the town's 162 ponds, 31 have three consecutive years of recent monitoring data and only 24% of all the ponds have available monitoring data. The data record for this monitoring spans 20 years with an average of 0.5 sampling events at each monitored pond per year.

**39** 🖟

Ponds Monitored

**31** C/D

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 Algal Bloom Advisories Since 2017 (DPH Reported)

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

6% Ponds Impaired 3% Ponds Requiring Assessment

91% Ponds Not Listed

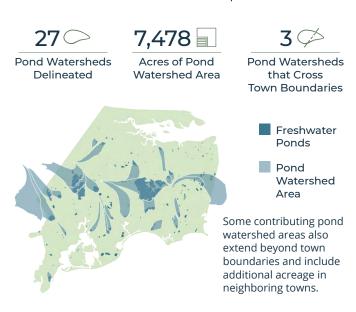
Freshwater Bathing Beaches with Sampling Failures for Fecal Coliform in 2022

# **Barnstable Ponds Profile**

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

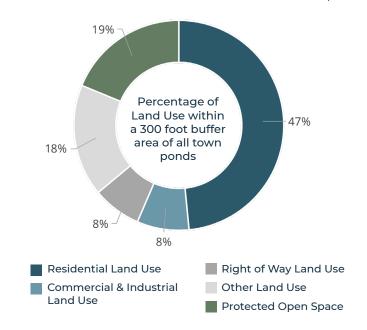
### **Pond Watersheds**

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 Barnstable, 19% 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. **3,386** acres (or **8%**) of the town's total land area is within 300 feet of a freshwater pond.



## **Documented Town Reports and Actions**

4



Town Specific Freshwater Reports 3

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.

Red Lily Pond Project Association

Association for the Preservation of Long Pond Barnstable Clean Water Friends of Long Pond Marstons Mills

Garretts Pond Watchers

Indian Ponds Association

Wequaquet Lake Protective Association



## 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>

- Lovells Pond, Alum Treatment
- **♀** Lovells Pond, Aeration
- Schoolhouse Pond, Circulators
- Shallow Pond, Herbicide Treatment
- Mystic Lake, Vegetation Harvesting
- Mystic Lake, Alum Treatment
- Mystic Lake, Herbicide Treatment
- ♥ Long Pond, Herbicide Treatment
- **♀** Hamblin Pond, Alum Treatment
- Wequaquet Lake, Vegetation
- Middle Pond, Herbicide Treatment
- Shubael Pond, I/A Septic System Installation
- Three Bays Watershed, Hamblin Bogs Wetland Restoration