

Barnstable Ponds Profile

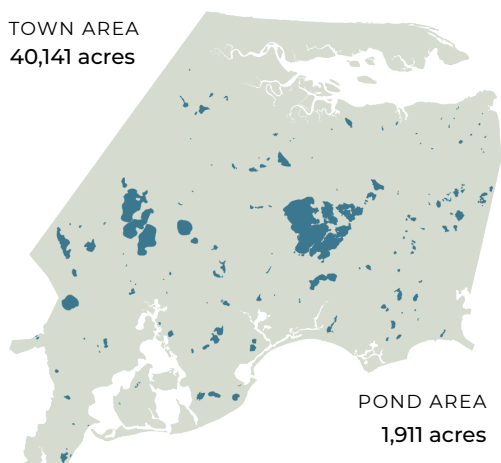
A RESOURCE OF THE CAPE COD FRESHWATER INITIATIVE



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

TOWN AREA
40,141 acres



POND AREA
1,911 acres

5% of total town area is comprised of freshwater ponds and lakes

163
PONDS

27
10+ Acre
Ponds

62
Named
Ponds

12
Average
Pond Size
ACRES

25
Average
Pond Depth
FEET

4
Fish Stocked
Ponds

18
Ponds Adjacent to
Cranberry Bogs

1
Ponds that Cross
Town Boundaries

23
Ponds with
Public Access

12
State Listed
Great Ponds

16%
Impervious Surfaces
in Pond 300ft Buffer

7
Ponds with Coastal
Plain Pondshores

46
Ponds with Rare
Species Habitat

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.

Pond Monitoring

Of the town's 163 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 0.9 sampling events at each monitored pond per year.

39
Ponds Monitored

31
Ponds with 3 Consecutive
Years of Recent Data
(2016-2021)

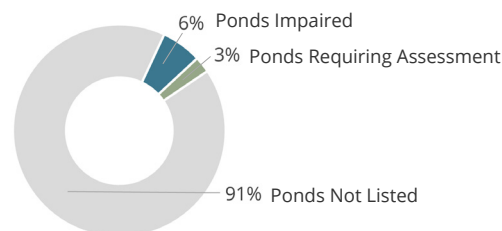
Water Quality Impairments

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

16
Harmful Algal Bloom
Advisories Issued by
EPA Since 2017

14
Ponds listed on MassDEP's Draft
2022 Integrated List of Waters

7
Freshwater Bathing
Beaches with Sampling
Failures for Fecal Coliform
in 2022



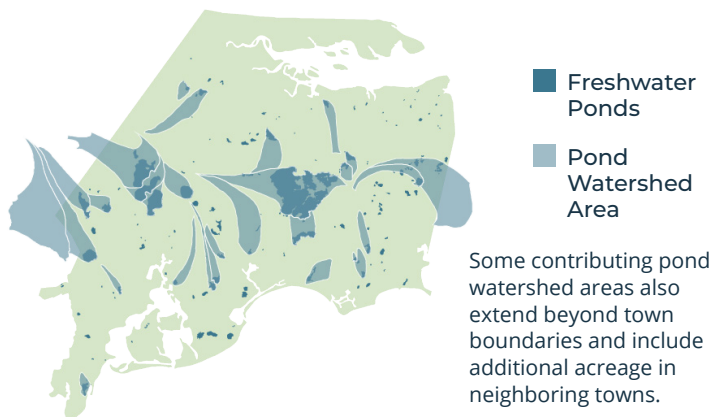
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Pond Watersheds

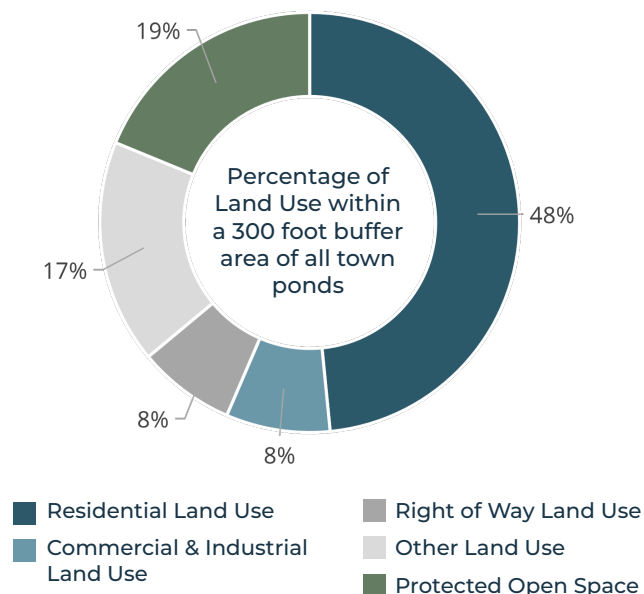
The land area that contributes to freshwater ponds and lakes is referred to as a pond watershed. Relatively few pond watersheds have been delineated across the Cape. Land area within pond watersheds is much larger than the water bodies themselves. In Barnstable, **18%** of the town's total land area is within a delineated pond watershed.

29  Pond Watersheds Delineated	7,311  Acres of Pond Watershed Area	5  Pond Watersheds that Cross Town Boundaries
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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. **3,162 acres** (or **8%**) of the town's total land area is within 300 feet of a freshwater pond.



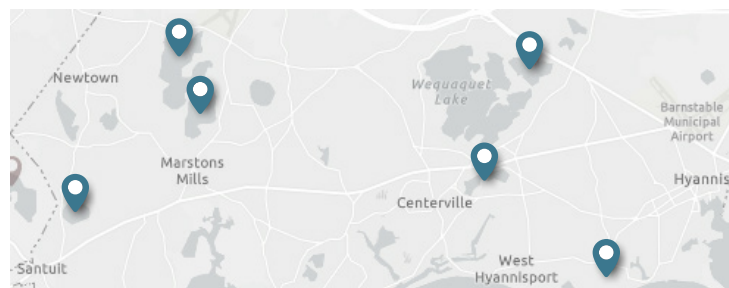
Documented Town Reports and Actions

4  Town Specific Freshwater Reports	13  Pond Specific Freshwater Reports
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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.

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| Red Lily Pond Project Association | Friends of Long Pond Marstons Mills |
| Association for the Preservation of Long Pond | Garretts Pond Watchers |
| Barnstable Clean Water Coalition | 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: ccom.link/pond-restoration-projects

-  Lovells Pond, Alum Treatment
-  Mystic Lake, Weed Removal (Diver Hand-Pulling)
-  Mystic Lake, Alum Treatment
-  Hamblin Pond, Alum Treatment
-  Shallow Pond, Herbicide Treatment
-  Schoolhouse Pond, Circulators