

Santuit Pond Preserve



Trail Length: 3.0 miles

Parking: 117 Main Street (Route 130)

This 287-acre property straddling Mashpee-Barnstable was purchased in 2002 with funds from the Mashpee Land Bank, Barnstable Land Bank and the State Environmental Bond. The land provides protected habitat for fish and wildlife conservation and passive public recreation on three miles of walking trails. Habitats include pine-oak forest, beech-holly forest, maple swamps, wet meadows and vernal pools. Rare animals include the Eastern box turtle, spotted turtle, spotted salamander and worm-eating warbler. Santuit Pond is the headwaters of the Santuit River flowing to Popponessett Bay. River herring, alewives, brook trout and American eel run up the stream to the pond via the fish ladder rebuilt with federal wildlife funds in 2013. Most of the wetlands served as cranberry bogs into the 1990s when they were abandoned. The sand pits, access roads, dikes, and flumes are all remnants of that commercial use. Americorps-Cape Cod and our volunteer Land Stewards created and maintain the trail network.

