

Plymouth Pine Hills Wildlife Conservation Easement

*Plymouth
188 Acres*

Latitude: 41.8727 N Longitude: 70.5767 W



The Plymouth Pine Hills Wildlife Conservation Easement (WCE) consists of 188 acres of primarily mixed upland forest with a few isolated wetlands on Old Sandwich Road in the Town of Plymouth. The property was acquired in 2005 by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife in cooperation with the Town of Plymouth, which holds the underlying fee. The area is managed for fisheries and wildlife habitat, open space and associated passive outdoor recreation. Common vegetation on the property includes pitch pine, white pine, white oak, scrub oak, lowbush blueberry and huckleberry.

Access

Access to the WCE is somewhat limited due to a lack of roadside parking along the frontage on Old Sandwich Road. There is no designated parking area for the property. There are several unmarked trails and old roadways within the property and a powerline easement running along the northern boundary which facilitate access. The Division is working with the Town to potentially develop a small parking area along Old Sandwich Road.

History

The Plymouth Pine Hills WCE property was previously owned by the Digital Equipment Corporation, which owned several thousand acres in the Town of Plymouth that were originally planned to be part of a large corporate campus. The Town made an effort to purchase the majority of the Digital Corporation's land holdings via what is commonly referred to as the "Plymouth Challenge" (50% of funding to come from the State); however the Town's portion of the funding fell through when it was not approved at Town Meeting. Much of that land became what is now the Pine Hills development. The Division assisted with this purchase to expand our conservation efforts in Plymouth and to satisfy perceived obligations under the Plymouth Challenge. As a result, the Department of Conservation and Recreation was to obtain a conservation restriction on roughly 760 acres across Old Sandwich Road and the Division received a conservation restriction on 300 acres of the Town Forest that abuts existing Division lands surrounding Cooks Pond.

Outdoor Recreation

Please note the access limitations listed above. The WCE contains primarily pitch pine – scrub oak habitat typical of the area and provide excellent hunting opportunities for white-tailed deer, wild turkey, coyote and other common game species. Ruffed grouse can also be found on the property. Hiking, walking and wildlife viewing opportunities are also good along the few trails that exist.

For More Information, contact: *Southeast Wildlife District, MassWildlife, 195 Bournedale Road, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532 (508) 759 – 3406* *MassWildlife Website: www.mass.gov/masswildlife*