

Pickerel Cove Wildlife Conservation Easement

Mashpee
78.3 Acres

Latitude: 41.6676 N Longitude: 70.5054 W



The Pickerel Cove Wildlife Conservation Easement (WCE) consists of 78.3 acres of primarily mixed upland forest with small isolated wetlands and approximately 700 feet of frontage on Pickerel Cove, part of Mashpee-Wakeby Pond in the Town of Mashpee. The property was acquired in 2008 by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife in cooperation with the Town of Mashpee, which holds the underlying fee. The property abuts the Division's Wakeby Pond Access. 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 and red oak, American holly, lowbush blueberry, huckleberry and common greenbrier, with scattered patches of early-growth white pine and a small open field. The WCE is within the boundaries of the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge.

Access

The WCE is currently accessible via a small parking area adjacent to a gate off Route 130. There is an old, partially paved roadway that extends from the parking area through the approximate center of the property, providing foot access down close to the pond shore. Several unmarked foot paths extend from the center roadway and provide access to the majority of the WCE. Shoreline access to Pickerel Cove can be gained at several points on the WCE near the end of the center roadway.

History

The Pickerel Cove WCE property was previously owned by the Saint Vincent's Home Corporation/Archdiocese of Fall River. The Archdiocese owned and operated a summer camp on the property for many years, which included a mess hall, activity buildings, small bunk houses, a small recreational field and a boat launch/swimming dock area. The camp was abandoned sometime in the early 1990's, however some derelict buildings remain and a portion of the small recreational field still exists.

Outdoor Recreation

Mashpee – Wakeby Pond is an excellent warmwater fishery containing abundant largemouth and smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, yellow perch and other common warmwater species. Good shoreline fishing access is limited on the WCE, but is available. This access point is particularly good for winter ice fishing. Uplands on the property provide excellent wildlife watching and outdoor hiking opportunities due to the center road and numerous trails. Hunting opportunities are fair for deer, coyote, rabbit and other upland game species. The Town of Mashpee has some plans for future uses including a seasonal day camp recreational activities and a limited car-top boating access.

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