



# Explore Cape Cod National Seashore

## VISITOR CENTERS

CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE HAS TWO VISITOR CENTERS: SALT POND IN Eastham and Province Lands in Provincetown. Both centers have staff to assist visitors with orientation and trip planning, and stores featuring books, maps, puzzles, games, and other interpretive items provided by the park's education partner, Eastern National.

**Salt Pond Visitor Center: open daily from 9 AM to 4:30 PM (later during the summer).** This visitor center offers magnificent views of Salt Pond, Nauset Marsh, and the Atlantic beyond; an outstanding museum; regularly-scheduled films are shown in the theater. Restrooms are located below the visitor center in front of the amphitheater. The Nauset Marsh and Buttonbush trails, and the Nauset Bicycle Trail are located nearby. Location: off Route 6, Eastham. Telephone: 508-255-3421. ♿

**Province Lands Visitor Center: open daily from 9 AM to 5 PM, May through October.** Just two miles from the tip of the Cape in Provincetown, this center offers a small exhibit and regular showings of park orientation films. The observation deck offers 360-degree views of the Province Lands dunes, the Outer Beach, and the Atlantic. Restrooms are available in the parking area year round. Access to the Province Lands Bicycle Trail is nearby. Location: off Race Point Road, Provincetown. Telephone: 508-487-1256. ♿

## WALKING AND HIKING SELF-GUIDING TRAILS

THERE ARE ELEVEN SELF-GUIDING TRAILS AT THE SEASHORE THAT ARE open year round: *in Eastham* - the Fort Hill, Red Maple Swamp, Buttonbush, Nauset Marsh, and Doane trails; *in Wellfleet* - the Atlantic White Cedar Swamp and Great Island trails; *in Truro* - Pamet Area Bearberry Hill Overlook, Small's Swamp, and Pilgrim Spring trails; and *in Provincetown* - the Beech Forest Trail. Interpretive folders with information on natural and historic features are available at some trailheads. Trailside plant identification markers are referenced in the *Common Trailside Plants* guidebook on sale at visitor center bookstores.



Ranger-guided programs offer opportunities to explore and enjoy park resources in a variety of settings with knowledgeable staff, enhancing your park experience.

## Superintendent's Message

### THE CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE

Yellowstone was the first national park in 1872, but it was not until 1916 that a national park system with a National Park Service (NPS) to operate the system was established. Recognizing the upcoming hundred-year anniversary, the President, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director of the NPS have initiated the Centennial Challenge. The Challenge takes a number of forms including an impressive financial goal of one billion federal dollars over ten years, to be matched by a similar amount of non-federal dollars. The objective is to strengthen park operation and programs, build up parks to be prepared to meet the centennial year in the best possible shape, and ensure resource protection and visitor services into the future.

Cape Cod National Seashore is the beneficiary of this program with significant financial increases to support staff and projects. We have received over \$800,000 to support additional staff for the Interpretation, Maintenance, and Law Enforcement divisions. The additional staff will provide increased programming, janitorial coverage, and resource protection. Funding will also cover our lifeguard program which will enable us to utilize our fee collection funds to support backlog maintenance needs.

We also have received \$489,000 to restore the historic Old Harbor Life-Saving Station located in Provincetown, and \$125,000 for heathland restoration efforts in the Marconi area of the park. These projects will enable visitors to experience significant historic resources of the park. The important lifesaving story with its tales of heroism during the age of

*continued page 2*

# What's Inside:

## 2 & 3 The Basics

- ◆ Visitor Services
- ◆ Beach Activities and Fees
- ◆ General Regulations
- ◆ Visitor Safety
- ◆ Park and Area Map with Lighthouse Locations

Look to these pages for general park orientation, brief descriptions of park features, and other useful information to enhance your visit to Cape Cod National Seashore.

## 9 Cultural Resources

"I Don't Understand. It Doesn't Look Old to Me." by Park Historian William Burke

## 10 Natural Resources

*The Great Beach - Wild Place*  
by Cape Cod National Seashore Natural Resources Management staff members

## 11 Nature Guide

*Snakes of Cape Cod National Seashore*  
by Park Wildlife Ecologist Dr. Robert P. Cook

## PLUS 2008 July and August Calendar of Events

Ranger-guided programs are listed for July and August of 2008. Ask at visitor centers for seasonal schedules at other times of year.



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

### Cape Cod National Seashore

99 Marconi Site Road  
Wellfleet, MA 02667

### Superintendent

George E. Price, Jr.

### E-mail

Superintendent\_CACO@nps.gov

### Park Headquarters

508-349-3785

### Fax Number

508-349-9052

### Salt Pond Visitor Center

508-255-3421

### Province Lands Visitor Center

508-487-1256

### Race Point Ranger Station

508-487-2100

### Oversand Information Line at Race Point Ranger Station

508-487-3698 or

508-487-2100 ext. 110

(March 15 through November 1)

### Nauset Ranger Station

508-255-2112

### North Atlantic Coastal Lab

508-487-3262

### Web Site

www.nps.gov/caco

### Emergencies

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# Visitor Services

CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE'S 40 MILES OF PRISTINE OCEAN BEACH COVERING 44,000 ACRES makes it a premier destination for exploring natural and cultural features, and enjoying recreational activities.

### BIKING

THERE ARE THREE BICYCLE TRAILS UNDER THE care and maintenance of Cape Cod National Seashore: Nauset Trail in Eastham (1.6 miles), Head of the Meadow Trail in Truro (2 miles), and the Province Lands Trail in Provincetown (loop trail 5.45 miles). Massachusetts state law requires children 16 and younger to wear protective helmets when operating a bicycle or riding as a passenger. It is advisable that all riders, regardless of age, wear protective headgear to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.

### CAMPFIRE PERMITS

A LIMITED NUMBER OF CAMPFIRE PERMITS per day, per seashore beach, may be reserved up to three days in advance in person, or by phone reservation. Locations are: Salt Pond Visitor Center for Coast Guard, Nauset Light and Marconi beaches, or Province Lands Visitor Center for Head of the Meadow, Race Point and Herring Cove beaches. Fire permits for the Oversand Route are issued through the Oversand Station at Race Point. Permits are free, and must be picked up at the reserving visitor center prior to 3:30 PM the day of the fire. Demand often exceeds the number of permits available.

### ACCESSIBILITY

PARK TRAILS AT DOANE ROCK IN EASTHAM AND the Marconi Station Site in Wellfleet have been surfaced to accommodate wheelchairs. Large print versions of official park publications and the Buttonbush Trail are available for people with impaired vision. Park films have captions and audio descriptions. Coast Guard and Herring Cove beaches provide accessible parking, restrooms, changing facilities, and beach wheelchairs. Herring Cove Beach features showers that accommodate wheelchairs.

### PETS

CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE REQUIRES THAT pets be controlled by a leash at all times. Specific areas where pets are prohibited such as ponds, shorebird nesting areas, and lifeguard-protected beaches are posted. Ask at seashore visitor centers or ranger stations about restrictions.

### CAMPING

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DOES NOT OPERATE a campground at Cape Cod National Seashore. Camping is available at private and state-operated facilities (see page 12). Overnight camping and parking within Cape Cod National Seashore are prohibited.

### Superintendent's Message *continued*

sail will be better told. The land restoration will allow visitors to view the heathlands common to the Cape when the park was established, while enhancing wildlife habitat.

In addition to financial challenges to our national parks, development pressures continue to stress park resources. Many parks face commercial pressures or resource threats. This year you may read about the issue of oversized homes being built within the boundaries in town Seashore Districts. The enabling legislation for the national seashore allows for private property to be managed by town zoning. Despite NPS and community objections, current zoning bylaw language has allowed for this size crisis to occur. Concerned citizens and NPS staff are working with town committees to strengthen bylaw language to stem this tide. Large structures change the nature of the Cape. They can increase pressure on resources such as water, and dominate significant inspirational views.

The lesson is that even long-established national park areas such as the Cape Cod National Seashore require all of our support and vigilance to ensure these special places are protected. So the Centennial Challenge reminds us that financial resources are necessary, and we are grateful for the national program, but we are also challenged to ensure national parks exist in the future for all of us and our children to enjoy!

Enjoy your visit.

George E. Price, Jr.  
Superintendent

On the cover: "White Crest Beach, Wellfleet" photograph by Jon Vaughan, award-winning photographer featured in *Coastal Living* magazine, WCVB's *Chronicle*, the *Boston Globe*, and author of *Coastal Effects*, a *Photographic Tribute to Cape Cod*, available at Eastern National bookstores at both visitor centers.

### How to Reserve a Fire Permit:

Reserve on:	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
For a fire on:	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues

## Junior Ranger Program

Calling all children ages 5 to 12! Become a Cape Cod National Seashore Junior Ranger! Have fun exploring the seashore and investigating its special resources. Stop by Salt Pond or Province Lands Visitor Center to pick up free program materials. After completing the activities you will receive a Junior Ranger award. It usually takes about two days to complete the program.

For more Junior Ranger fun when you return home, check out "WebRangers" at [www.nps.gov/webangers](http://www.nps.gov/webangers). And remember to check out the Junior Ranger Program at other national parks you may visit in the future!



## Beach Activities and Fees

CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE MANAGES SIX OCEAN BEACHES IN FOUR TOWNS: EASTHAM (COAST GUARD AND NAUSET LIGHT BEACHES), WELLFLEET (MARCONI BEACH), TRURO (HEAD OF THE MEADOW Beach), and Provincetown (Race Point and Herring Cove beaches). All national seashore beaches include the following facilities and services: showers, paved parking, restrooms, changing rooms, drinking water, water quality testing, and lifeguards (late June through Labor Day). Two beaches, Coast Guard in Eastham and Herring Cove in Provincetown, are accessible to persons with disabilities and have wheelchairs capable of traveling over sand.

### Beach entrance fees are charged. Rates for the 2008 season are:

Daily Vehicle	\$15.00
Cape Cod National Seashore Season Pass	\$45.00
Interagency Pass (accepted at any National Park area, and other Department of Interior Sites) *	\$80.00
Interagency Senior Pass (allows entry for those age 62 or older, U.S. citizen, permanent resident) *	\$10.00
Interagency Access Pass (allows entry for those legally blind or permanently disabled) *	FREE

\* Photo ID required for pass usage.

Fees are collected daily from late June through Labor Day at all six seashore beaches. Fees are also collected on weekends and holidays from Memorial Day to late June, and after Labor Day through the end of September at Herring Cove, Race Point, Nauset Light, and Coast Guard beaches.

### BEACH PARKING LOT CAPACITIES AND TRENDS:

**Coast Guard Beach/Little Creek Shuttle, Eastham:** Shuttle parking area rarely fills, with moderate turnover. Beach access via Little Creek Shuttle and parking area, a half-mile away. Drop off and pick up of passengers and belongings at the beach is *PROHIBITED*. Limited handicapped parking (state-issued plate or placard required) at the Coast Guard Station parking area.

**Nauset Light Beach, Eastham:** Public parking area fills by 10 AM daily during the summer, with minimal turnover. Drop off and pick up of passengers and belongings at the beach is *PROHIBITED*.

**Marconi Beach, Wellfleet:** Parking area rarely fills during late June and July. Parking area fills occasionally in August, with moderate turnover.

**Head of the Meadow, Truro:** Parking area rarely fills.

**Race Point, Provincetown:** Parking area rarely fills during June and July. When the parking area does fill, it is usually one to two hours after Herring Cove fills. Access is also available on *The Shuttle*.

**Herring Cove, Provincetown:** Parking area rarely fills during June and July. Parking area fills occasionally in August, with moderate turnover after 1 PM. Access is also available on *The Shuttle*. Seasonal snack bar.

### GENERAL REGULATIONS:

- Do not disturb natural or cultural features; all are protected by federal law.
- Glass containers, flotation devices (rafts, rubber tubes), snorkels, and masks are prohibited on lifeguard-protected beaches.
- Pets must be controlled by a leash at all times. Leashes may not exceed six feet. Pets are not permitted in public buildings, picnic areas, on lifeguard-protected beaches, or on designated nature trails.
- Public nudity is prohibited.
- No license is required for saltwater fishing. A state license is required for freshwater fishing.
- Town licenses for shellfishing are required. Regulations and fees vary by town.
- Surfing and windsurfing are permitted in waters outside lifeguard-protected areas.
- Possession or use of metal detectors is prohibited.

- Permits are required for all beach fires. They may be obtained on a first come, first served basis at Salt Pond Visitor Center in Eastham, the Province Lands Visitor Center in Provincetown, and the Oversand Station at Race Point. Do not bury coals.
- Sand collapses easily. Climbing steep slopes or digging deep holes above knee level is hazardous and prohibited.

### OVERSAND PERMITS

PERMITS FOR DRIVING ON SEASHORE OVERSAND ROUTES ARE REQUIRED AND AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE at Race Point in Provincetown. Bird nesting activity may require some route closures during the spring and summer. Call 508-487-2100 for general information (ext. 110, March 15 through November 1). Call 508-487-3698 for route closure information.

# Park and Local Area Map

## Rules of the Road

### MOTORIST WARNING

Wear your seat belt. It's the LAW. Massachusetts state law provides pedestrians the right of way in a cross walk. Be aware of pedestrians, bicyclists, and other park users, and share the road.

## Visitor Safety

### BE SAFE! OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS:

#### ◆ Bicycle Safety

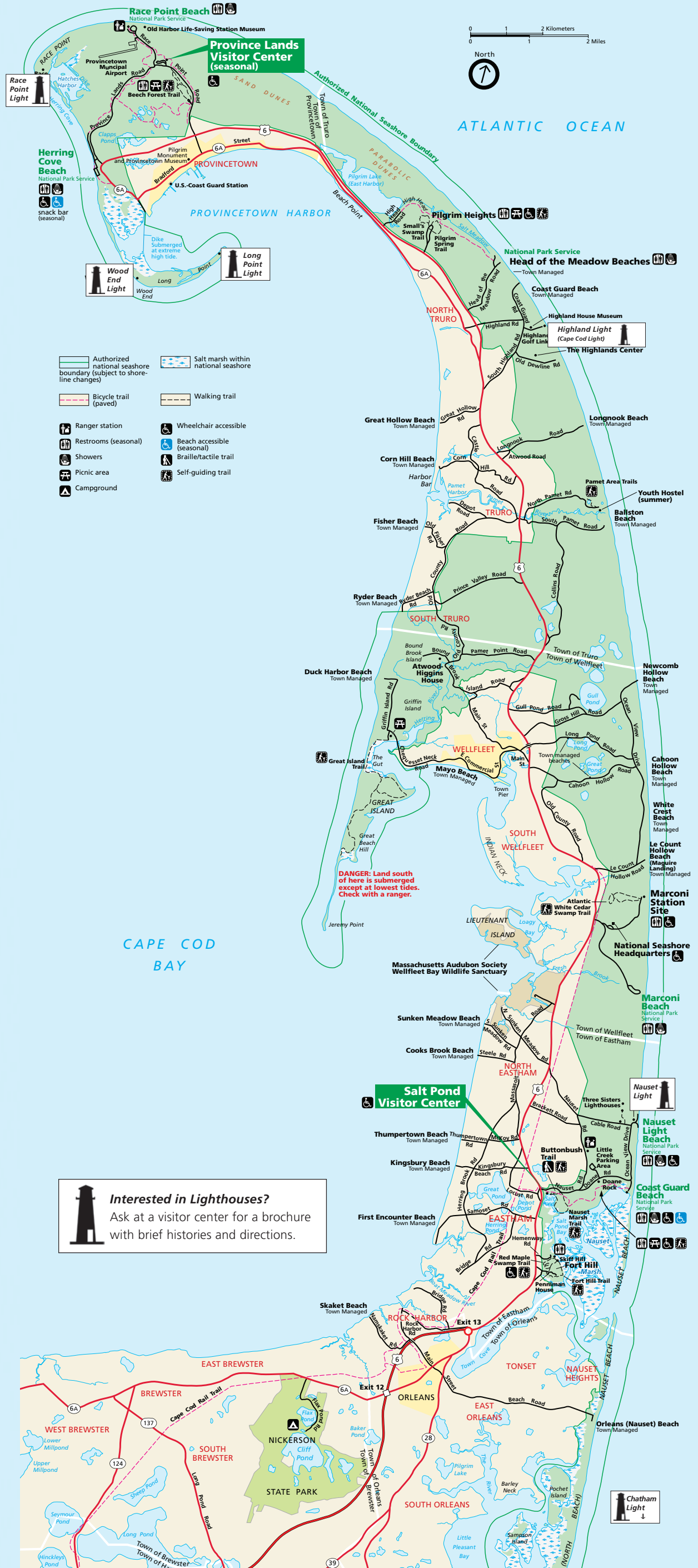
- Bicycle accidents injure more people each year at the seashore than all other activities combined. Please stay alert and ride safely.
- **BIKE SAFETY STARTS WITH HELMETS.** Regardless of age, all riders are urged to wear protective headgear. Massachusetts state law requires children 16 and younger to wear protective helmets when on a bicycle, even if only a passenger.
  - Take time to fit your helmet properly – snug and level on your head.
  - Test ride your bike to check brakes, seat and handlebar settings.
  - Trail conditions vary. Stay alert for sharp curves, steep hills, and sand-covered sections.
  - Keep an eye out for rangers on bike patrols this summer and show us you care about safety and are a safe rider.
  - Ask at visitor centers for other ways to stay safe biking while visiting Cape Cod National Seashore.

#### ◆ Beach Safety

- Rip currents and undertow are common, dangerous conditions along ocean beaches. Stay safe by swimming in lifeguard-protected areas, and closely supervise your children at all times.

#### ◆ General Safety

- Use sunscreen to avoid sunburn. Use a waterproof sunscreen if you intend to go swimming.
- Take precautions to avoid contact with insects. Deer ticks may carry Lyme disease. Mosquitos may carry encephalitis or the West Nile virus. Browntail moth "tents" cause skin irritation. Stay on trails, out of tall grasses, and inspect clothes and skin. Use repellent and wear proper clothing.
- Poison ivy is prolific in many locations. The rash it produces can cause severe discomfort. "Leaves of three, let it be."
- In summer, be alert for heavy traffic, bicycles, and pedestrians on roadways.
- Hunting is permitted from September through February at many locations in the seashore. Check the park's website at [www.nps.gov/caco](http://www.nps.gov/caco), or ask at visitor centers or ranger stations for current information.




# RANGER-LED ACTIVITIES, JULY AND AUGUST 2008

 Denotes activities that are accessible with minor assistance. Contact park staff if you have questions about accessibility.

 Denotes activities especially suited for families with children.

✓ Long pants (shorts for canoe trips), appropriate footwear, hats, sunscreen, insect repellent, and water are recommended for outdoor activities.

 Denotes National Park Service Ocean Park Stewardship programs aimed at improving awareness and protection of marine resources.

## SPECIAL PROGRAM AND RESERVATION POLICY












**FEE PROGRAMS:** • Canoe trips cost \$20 per adult, \$12 per child 16 and under. • Salt Pond Paddle trips cost \$15 per adult, \$12 per child 16 and under. • Canoe lessons cost \$10 per person. • Surfcasting lessons cost \$15 per person.

• Tickets are non-refundable, available in advance, and must be purchased either in person at visitor centers, or by phone with a credit card, prior to 4:30 PM daily. • Canoe trips may be reserved and paid for no more than seven days in advance. • Canoe experience is MANDATORY for all but Salt Pond Paddle trips and lessons, due to currents and winds. • The canoe lessons meet the experience requirement for other park-sponsored canoe trips. • Minimum age is 6 for canoe trips and 12 for canoe lessons and surfcasting. • All equipment is provided unless otherwise noted. • You may have to wade and assist with moving equipment during canoe programs. • Wear shoes (required) that can get wet.















**Salt Pond Visitor Center, Nauset Road, off Route 6, Eastham 508-255-3421**

**Province Lands Visitor Center, Race Point Road, off Route 6, Provincetown 508-487-1256**




















## EASTHAM AND WELLFLEET PROGRAMS









		SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>CANOING: SALT POND PADDLE</b> Sundays and Tuesdays at 9 and 11 AM. Mondays at 2 and 4 PM. Wednesdays and Fridays at 4 PM. 1½ hours, 1½ miles. Fee required.</p> 	Take a leisurely paddle in the protected waters of Salt Pond and nearby area of Nauset Marsh in Eastham to explore the beauty and significance of this awe-inspiring place. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, 508-255-3421 TO REGISTER. SEE SPECIAL PROGRAM AND RESERVATION POLICY ABOVE.</b>	•	•	•	•		•	
<p><b>CANOE TRIP: CANOE ADVENTURE</b> Tuesdays at 5 PM. Thursdays and Saturdays at 9:30 AM. Up to 3 hours, 3 miles. Fee required.</p> 	These trips may explore Nauset Marsh, kettle ponds or a bay, or may focus on a specialized topic. Locations and topics vary. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, 508-255-3421 FOR A LIST OF PROGRAM TOPICS, DETAILS, AND TO REGISTER. SEE SPECIAL PROGRAM AND RESERVATION POLICY ABOVE.</b>			•		•		•
<p><b>FAMILY PROGRAM: SHELLFISHING DEMONSTRATION</b> Times vary. 1 hour. Free.</p>  	Learn about local shellfish and the tradition of shellfishing. Suitable for children 6 years of age and up. Adults must stay with children. Wear shoes that can get wet. Meet at Salt Pond Visitor Center, Eastham. <b>July 6 - 10:30 AM; July 13 - 4:30 PM; July 20 - 10 AM; July 27 - 3:30 PM; August 3 - 10 AM; August 10 - 3 PM; August 17 - 9 AM; August 24 - 2:30 PM; August 31 - 9 AM</b>	•						
<p><b>WALK: TIDAL FLATS FORAY</b> Times vary. 1½ hours, 1 mile. Free.</p>  	Explore the Cape Cod Bay tidal flats, and examine life found there. Wear shoes that can get wet while wading. Meet at the Great Island parking area, Wellfleet. <b>Tuesdays: July 1 - 3 PM; July 8 - 9 AM; July 15 - 3 PM; July 22 - 8 AM; July 29 - 1:30 PM; August 5 - 8 AM; August 12 - 12:30 PM; August 19 - no program; August 26 - 12:30 PM.</b> <b>Fridays: July 4 - no program; July 11 - 11:30 AM; July 18 - 5 PM; July 25 - 9:30 AM; August 1 - 4:30 PM; August 8 - 9:30 AM; August 15 - 4 PM; August 22 - 8:30 AM; August 29 - 3:30 PM.</b>			•			•	
<p><b>BEGINNING SURFCASTING LESSON</b> 7:30 AM 1½ hours. Fee required.</p>  	Learn the basics of saltwater fishing and practice the skill, but don't expect to bring home supper! Meet at the Coast Guard Station, Coast Guard Beach, Eastham. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, 508-255-3421 TO REGISTER. SEE SPECIAL PROGRAM AND RESERVATION POLICY ABOVE. * Accessible with assistance. Please notify Salt Pond Visitor Center in advance.</b>				•			
<p><b>YOGA ON THE BEACH</b> 7:30 AM 1¼ hours. Free.</p>	Stretch the body and the spirit in the serene settings. Join a ranger and certified yoga instructor for an all-level, interdisciplinary-style class held in the cool morning air at beautiful Coast Guard Beach. Meet in the parking area at Coast Guard Beach, Eastham. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, 508-255-3421 TO REGISTER.</b>							•
<p><b>WALK: SEARCHING FOR BIRDS</b> 7:30 AM 2 hours, distance varies. Free.</p>	Join a skilled birdwatcher at various sites in the park for bird identification and observation. Bring binoculars if you have them. Meet at Salt Pond Visitor Center, Eastham, to caravan to selected sites.			•				
<p><b>CANOE TRIP: GULL POND</b> 8 AM 2½ hours, 1 to 2 miles. Fee required.</p>	Enjoy the early morning calm of a kettle pond while exploring its diverse plant and animal life. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL PROVINCE LANDS VISITOR CENTER, 508-487-1256 TO REGISTER. SEE SPECIAL PROGRAM AND RESERVATION POLICY ABOVE. No program July 11.</b>							•
<p><b>HIKE: EXPLORE YOUR PARK</b> 9 AM 3 to 3½ hours, 3 to 4 miles. Free.</p>	Join an experienced ranger and explore the beauty and variety of park destinations, resources, or stories. Participants must be good walkers. Bring water, sunscreen, and bug spray. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, 508-255-3421 FOR PROGRAM DETAILS, AND TO REGISTER.</b>			•				
<p><b>FAMILY PROGRAM: FISH, SNAILS, AND HORSESHOE CRAB TALES</b> Meeting time and location varies. 1 hour, ½ mile. Free.</p>  	Use seine nets to explore the undersea world of the seashore. Learn about the interesting plants and animals that live here. Wading is encouraged, and shoes are required. Check in 15 minutes early to confirm reservation. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, 508-255-3421 TO REGISTER. Saturday and Sunday programs at 10:30 AM, meet at the Great Island parking area, Wellfleet. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 1:30 PM, meet on the terrace at Salt Pond Visitor Center, Eastham.</b>	•	•		•		•	•
<p><b>DEMONSTRATION: SURF RESCUE</b> 10:30 AM ½ hour. Free.</p> 	Join a lifeguard for a surf rescue demonstration on the beach, and learn how to stay safe while swimming in the ocean. Meet at the head lifeguard stand at Marconi Beach, Wellfleet. <b>BEACH FEES APPLY.</b>		•					
<p><b>WALK: WALKING WITH AUTHORS</b> 10:30 AM 1 hour, 1 mile. Free.</p>	Join local author Dana Eldridge, and stroll the edge of Nauset Marsh while viewing Cape Cod through the eyes of some of the area's most beloved authors. Meet on the terrace at Salt Pond Visitor Center, Eastham.				•			
<p><b>WALK: WEATHERING EXTREMES</b> 10:30 AM Up to 1 hour, 1 mile. Free.</p>	Explore the moors (heathlands) of Cape Cod, which thrive along the coastal banks high above the ocean and the bay. See how plants are adapted to this habitat and discover why these plants are globally rare. Meet at the far end of the Marconi Station Site parking area, off Route 6, Wellfleet.			•				

# EASTHAM AND WELFLEET PROGRAMS

		SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>WALK: CHRONICLES FROM A CAPE CODDER</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> 1 hour, 1 mile. Free.	Join ranger Dana Eldridge as he examines a changing Cape Cod that has managed to retain its identity. Meet on the terrace at Salt Pond Visitor Center, Eastham, for a talk and walk along the edge of Salt Pond. <i>No program July 5.</i>							●
<b>FAMILY PROGRAM: SEASHORE SERENDIPITY</b> <b>11 AM and 1 PM</b>   ½ hour. Free.	Meet on the terrace at Salt Pond Visitor Center in Eastham for a ranger's choice activity or demonstration. Explore any one of the interesting topics associated with Cape Cod National Seashore critters and history. Check at the information desk for program details.		●		●		●	
<b>CAPTAIN PENNIMAN HOUSE: A WHALING FAMILY'S STORY</b> <b>T = Tour, 11 AM, 1 hour.</b> <b>OH = Open House, 1 to 4 PM.</b> Free.	Learn about the Penniman family through a tour of their home and stories of their travels. Examine some of the hardships, adventures, and lifestyle of a whaling family. <b>TOUR, BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, 508-255-3421 TO REGISTER. OPEN HOUSE,</b> browse through. Meet at the Penniman House at Fort Hill, Eastham. Limited parking.		T	OH	OH	OH		T
<b>ATWOOD-HIGGINS HOUSE</b> <b>T = Tour, 11 AM, 1 hour.</b>  <b>OH = Open House, 1 to 4 PM.</b> Free.	Learn about early 18th-century Cape Cod architecture and one of the Outer Cape's early colonial settlement sites. <b>TOUR, BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, 508-255-3421 TO REGISTER. OPEN HOUSE,</b> browse through. <i>Directions:</i> Take Route 6. Turn onto Pamet Point Road in Wellfleet, at the Truro town line, follow signs.				T	OH		
<b>CANOE LESSON</b> <b>12:30 PM</b> 1 to 1½ hours, 1 mile. Fee required.	Learn basic paddling technique, and how to control a canoe, while exploring the waters of Salt Pond. Meets the mandatory experience requirement for park-sponsored trips. Meet at Salt Pond Visitor Center, Eastham. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, 508-255-3421 TO REGISTER. SEE SPECIAL PROGRAM AND RESERVATION POLICY ON PAGE 4.</b>		●					
<b>SNORKEL ADVENTURE: THE KETTLE PONDS</b> <b>1 PM</b> 2 hours. Free.	Step into the crystal-clear, freshwater Wellfleet kettle pond environment during this ranger-guided, underwater exploration. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL PROVINCE LANDS VISITOR CENTER, 508-487-1256 FOR DETAILS, AND TO REGISTER. ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED. MINIMUM AGE 10. EXPERIENCED SWIMMERS ONLY.</b>	●						
<b>FAMILY PROGRAM: STORY TIME</b> <b>2 PM</b> ¾ hour. Free.  	Parents, bring your young children to Salt Pond Visitor Center in Eastham for this story time that introduces them to some of the critters of the land and sea. Meet in the classroom.		●		●		●	
<b>FAMILY PROGRAM: BEACH PATROL</b> <b>2:30 PM</b> ½ hour. Free.  	Join a ranger on the beach to look for exciting discoveries nearby. Look for birds, marine life, or learn about shipwrecks and the origins of the U.S. Coast Guard. <i>Thursday program: Meet at Coast Guard Beach, Eastham near the head lifeguard stand. Park at Little Creek and ride the shuttle. Saturday program: Meet at Nauset Light Beach, Eastham near the head lifeguard stand. BEACH FEES APPLY.</i>					●	●	
<b>WALK: PIECES OF THE PAST</b> <b>2:30 PM</b> 1½ hours, 1½ miles. Free.  *	Discover some of the stories that archeology helps uncover. Learn about the history of the various people who inhabited the lands at Fort Hill and around Nauset Marsh in past centuries. Meet at Hemenway Town Landing (one road north of Ft. Hill off Route 6), Eastham. * <i>Accessible with assistance. Please notify Salt Pond Visitor Center in advance.</i>	●						
<b>WALK: LORE OF NAUSET MARSH</b> <b>3 PM</b> 1 hour, 1 mile. Free.	Learn about the rich natural and human history around Nauset Marsh. Learn how each has affected the other through time. Meet on the terrace at Salt Pond Visitor Center, Eastham.					●	●	
<b>WALK: CAMP WELFLEET GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN</b> <b>3:30 PM</b> 1½ hours, 1 mile. Free.  *	Walk around the grounds where Camp Wellfleet once stood and discuss the history and some stories associated with this WWII-era military base. Meet in front of the Cape Cod National Seashore headquarters building, Wellfleet. <i>Directions:</i> Follow the signs from the Marconi Area turnoff on Route 6, in South Wellfleet. * <i>Accessible with assistance. Please notify Salt Pond Visitor Center in advance.</i>				●			
<b>WALK: SHORELINE STROLL</b> <b>4 PM</b> 1 hour, 1 mile. Free.	Walk through diverse habitats and explore the natural processes of the Great Island land bridge known as "the Gut." Discover how plants and animals have adapted to this area. Meet at the Great Island parking area, Wellfleet.	●						
<b>ACTIVITY: JUNIOR EXPLORER</b> <b>4 PM</b> 1 hour. Free. 	Calling all future rangers, ages 8 to 13! Develop skills for adventures in the great outdoors, by attending any or all of the fun activities planned including orienteering, shellfishing, and "Nature Fear Factor." Meet at Salt Pond Visitor Center, Eastham. Parents must remain with children. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, 508-255-3421 TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE SO YOU DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN!</b>			●			●	
<b>INTERMEDIATE SURFCASTING LESSON</b> <b>5 PM</b> 3 hours, up to 3 miles. Fee required. 	Join us for a classroom session at the Salt Pond Visitor Center in Eastham to discuss surfcasting equipment, lures, use of tackle, species of fish, and best surfcasting locations. After a short BYO brown-bag dinner break, we'll reconvene at the Coast Guard Beach parking area to put lessons into practice. Participants must provide their own rod, reel, and tackle. This is a catch and release program. (This program is not for beginners. Prior surfcasting experience required.) <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, 508-255-3421 TO REGISTER AND FOR MORE INFORMATION. SEE SPECIAL PROGRAM AND RESERVATION POLICY ON PAGE 4. Offered on July 13, 27, August 10 and 24 only.</b>	●						
<b>TOUR: THREE SISTERS LIGHTHOUSES</b> <b>5 PM</b> 1 hour, ½ mile. Free. 	These 19th-century lighthouses once provided a beacon for sailors off the shore of Nauset Light Beach. Learn of their history and importance. Meet at the northeast corner of Nauset Light Beach parking area, Eastham.	●		●				
<b>CAMPFIRE: NAUSET LIGHT BEACH</b> <b>7:30 PM in July, 7 PM in August</b> 1½ hours, ½ mile. Free. 	Join us for an evening of fun as we gather around the campfire. Learn about the special natural and historical resources of Cape Cod. Meet at Nauset Light Beach, Eastham.		●		●			
<b>WALK: NIGHT WALK AT THE SHORE</b> <b>8:30 PM in July, 8 PM in August</b> up to 1½ hours, 1 mile. Free. 	Experience the changing world of the seashore from dusk to dark, while taking in the sights, signs, and sounds of the beach. Meet at the bathhouse at Coast Guard Beach, Eastham. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, 508-255-3421 TO REGISTER.</b>					●		

# TRURO AND PROVINCETOWN PROGRAMS

		SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>CANOE ADVENTURE: RANGER'S CHOICE</b> Time varies. Program duration and mileage varies. Fee required.					●			
<b>WALK: TIDAL FLATS FORAY</b> Times vary. 1½ hours, ½ mile. Free.	 			●				●
<b>BEGINNING SURFCASTING LESSON</b> 7:30 AM 1½ hours. Fee Required.		●						
<b>WALK: BIRDS OF HIGH HEAD</b> 7:30 AM 1 hour, ½ to 1½ miles. Free.				●				
<b>FITNESS HIKE: "MORE WALKING, LESS TALKING"</b> 8 AM 2 hours, 3 to 5 miles, strenuous. Free.								●
<b>WALK: TOUR OF THE TOWN</b> 9 AM 2 hours, 3 miles. \$5 per person.				●				
<b>SCAVENGER HUNT: THE AMAZING RACE - PROVINCETOWN</b> 9 AM 1 to 1½ hours, 2 miles. Fee required*					●			
<b>WALK: PROVINCE LANDS DUNES AND BOGS</b> 10 AM 1 hour, 1 mile in soft sand. Free.		●	●					
<b>FAMILY PROGRAM: JUNIOR ACTORS</b> 10 AM 1 hour. Free.		●						
<b>FAMILY PROGRAM: TRACKING</b> 10 AM 1 hour, 1 mile in soft sand. Free.					●			
<b>FAMILY PROGRAM: JUNIOR LIFESAVERS</b> 10 AM 1 hour. Free.	 		●					
<b>FAMILY PROGRAM: LIFEGUARD DEMONSTRATION</b> 10 AM ½ hour. Free.						●		
<b>WALK: TRURO HIGHLANDS HISTORIC DISTRICT</b> 10 AM ½ hour, ½ mile. Free.			●					
<b>FAMILY PROGRAM: JUNIOR ARTIST</b> 2 PM ¾ hour. Free.	 				●			
<b>WALK: TRURO'S COLD WAR PAST</b> 2 PM 1½ hours, ¾ mile. Free.						●		
<b>MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION: THE HIDDEN LIFE OF CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE</b> 2 PM ¾ hour. Free.			●					
<b>FAMILY PROGRAM: HANDS-ON SQUID</b> 2:30 PM 1½ hours. Free.	  							●

TRURO AND PROVINCETOWN PROGRAMS		SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>OPEN HOUSE: OLD HARBOR LIFE-SAVING STATION</b> <b>2:30 to 5 PM</b> Free. 	Browse through this 1898 life-saving station where teams of skilled rescuers battled the elements to save shipwreck victims from the "Graveyard of the Atlantic." Exhibits, rescue equipment, and stories bring this station to life. Park at Race Point Beach, Provincetown and take the short walk to Old Harbor. <b>BEACH FEES APPLY.</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
<b>ACTIVITY: JUNIOR EXPLORER</b> <b>Times vary.</b> 1 hour. Free 	Calling all future rangers, ages 8 to 13! Develop skills for adventures in the great outdoors, by attending any or all of the fun activities planned including orienteering, shellfishing, and "Nature Fear Factor." Parents must remain with children. Programs occur in Truro or Provincetown. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL PROVINCE LANDS VISITOR CENTER, 508-487-1256 FOR MEETING LOCATION, AND INFORMATION.</b>				●			
<b>HIKE: ART IN THE DUNES</b> <b>4 PM</b> 3 hours, 2½ to 3 miles in loose sand. Free.	On this long hike into the Province Lands dunes, view first-hand the quality of light, natural environment, and isolation that have long attracted artists and writers to Provincetown. Meet an artist-in-residence at a dune shack. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL PROVINCE LANDS VISITOR CENTER, 508-487-1256 FOR MEETING LOCATION, AND TO REGISTER. SPACE IS LIMITED. No program August 27.</b>			●				
<b>HIKE: IF THESE HILLS COULD TALK</b> <b>4:45 PM</b> 2 hours, 4 miles. Free.	Bearberry Hill and the surrounding highlands offer breathtaking views of a unique landscape with a colorful history. Along the way, discover the remnants of a commercial cranberry bog, the old stage coach road, a United States Life-Saving Station, and an unusual beachside resort. Park at the Ballston Beach parking area at the end of South Pamet Road, Truro. <i>No program August 1, 22, and 29.</i>					●		
<b>PHOTOGRAPHY LESSON: CAPTURING THE CAPE THROUGH A LENS</b> <b>5 PM</b> ½ hour, ¼ mile. Free. 	Join a park ranger and semi-professional photographer for introductory photography instruction in capturing the best of Cape Cod. Lesson will include tips on location, technique, and use of light. All levels and formats welcome. Cameras recommended but not necessary. Meet at the Beech Forest parking area off Race Point Road, Provincetown. <i>No program July 13 and August 17.</i>	●						
<b>HISTORICAL REENACTMENT: BEACH APPARATUS DRILL</b> <b>6 PM</b> 1 hour. Fee required.  	Listen for the keeper's command, "Open the boat room doors!" and return to the days of shipwrecks and lifesaving along Cape Cod shores. Watch uniformed surfmen fire a line from a cannon to a ship in distress, and labor to haul the victim to shore. This is our 29 <sup>th</sup> year reenacting this 1902 rescue drill. Takes place at Old Harbor Life-Saving Station, Race Point Beach, Provincetown. \$5 for adults; \$2 for seniors over 62 and children 7 to 17; children 6 and under are free.				●			
<b>PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP: LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS, TAKE ONLY PICTURES</b> <b>6:30 PM in July, 6 PM in August.</b> 2 hours, up to 2½ miles. Free.	Join a ranger and semi-professional photographer for a sunset hike and photography workshop. Instruction and advice provided for capturing unique perspectives of the seashore. All levels and formats (digital or film) are welcome. Tripods recommended, but not necessary. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL PROVINCE LANDS VISITOR CENTER, 508-487-1256 FOR MEETING LOCATION, AND TO REGISTER. No program July 30.</b>			●				
<b>HIKE: SUNSET VISTAS</b> <b>7:30 PM in July, 7 PM in August.</b> 1½ hours, 2½ miles. Free.	With water in both directions, the special quality of light in the Province Lands in Provincetown is known to produce spectacular sunsets. The ocean, salt marsh, and lighthouse vistas provide the perfect backdrop! Don't forget to bring your camera. <b>BY RESERVATION ONLY. CALL PROVINCE LANDS VISITOR CENTER, 508-487-1256 FOR MEETING LOCATION, AND TO REGISTER. No program July 5, August 2 and 9.</b>						●	
<b>CAMPFIRE: HERRING COVE BEACH</b> <b>7:30 PM in July, 7 PM in August</b> 1 hour. Free.  	Enjoy sunset on the beach and an evening of folklore and games around the campfire. Bring a beach chair or towel to sit on. Meet the rangers at the end of the right-hand parking area, Herring Cove Beach, Provincetown. * <i>Accessible with assistance. Please notify Province Lands Visitor Center in advance.</i>		●					
<b>CAMPFIRE: BALLSTON BEACH</b> <b>7:30 PM in July, 7 PM in August</b> 1 hour, short walk in soft sand. Free. 	Join us for an evening of old fashioned fun and games around a beach campfire. As dusk settles in and the stories get started, watch out for things that go bump in the night. Bring a beach chair or blanket to sit on, and a flashlight. Meet at the Ballston Beach parking area, at the end of South Pamet Road, Truro.					●		
<b>STARGAZING: NIGHTTIME DISCOVERY</b> <b>9 PM in July, 8:45 PM in August</b> 1 hour. Free.	Open your senses and experience the beach at nighttime. On clear nights, lie back and learn basic astronomy and lore about the constellations as they emerge. Meet at the national seashore Head of the Meadow Beach parking area (not the town lot) in Truro. Bring a flashlight, blanket, bug spray, and binoculars if you have them. (If rain is forecasted, call Province Lands Visitor Center, 508-487-1256 for alternate program location.) <i>No program July 8, 22, and August 26.</i>		●					

## In the Field with a Park Specialist

Research and monitoring are key to providing the information needed for sound stewardship of the park's natural and cultural resources. Come join a park professional in the field to learn about some of our ongoing research projects, see how data are collected, and hear how the data are used to preserve and protect the Cape's heritage.

Programs are free and involve walking. Participants should wear hats, bring water, sunscreen, and insect repellent. Programs will be cancelled in heavy rain.

### An Hour in the Life of Two Researchers

Park Plant Ecologist Stephen Smith, Park Historian Bill Burke

**Wednesday, July 16, 9 AM (rain date July 17)** Duration: 1 to 2 hours. Conditions: Wear light clothes but long pants to protect against poison ivy and ticks. Meeting location: lower parking area at Fort Hill, off Route 6, Eastham. **Reservations required:** Call 508-487-3262, X104, or email [stephen\\_m\\_smith@nps.gov](mailto:stephen_m_smith@nps.gov).



The spectacular landscape at Fort Hill requires more human manipulation than you might think. Explore the Fort Hill area on foot and discuss past, present, and future efforts to restore native plant communities. Topics will include key invasive plant taxa and their control, the implementation of fire and mowing to maintain vegetation structure, the seashore's vision for the Fort Hill landscape, and other invasive plant management projects within the park. Examine the condition of the vistas, open fields, trails and other features to find out how well the landscape measures up to guidelines developed in the recently-released *Condition Report for Fort Hill Rural Historic District*.

### Atwood-Higgins House Archeology

Park Archeologist Frederica Dimmick

**Tuesday, July 22, 9 AM (rain date July 23)** Duration: 2 hours. Conditions: short walk. Meeting location:



Atwood-Higgins House, Wellfleet. No reservations required.

Discover what the findings of archeological investigations at the 1730 Atwood-Higgins House and its environs have taught us about early life on Bound Brook Island. Learn how to lay out a grid for your own future excavations at home, and observe the art of note taking, field drawings, and plans.

## THE SEASHORE NEVER SLEEPS



Coast Guard Station, Eastham (photo, Brenda R. Jones, Jones Photography)

Explore the seashore on its own time and enjoy some of its most stunning moments that occur between sunset and sunrise. Canoe trips are 3 hours, hikes are 2 to 3 hours and cover, 2 to 4 miles. **FEE REQUIRED FOR CANOE TRIPS. BY RESERVATION ONLY. SEE SPECIAL PROGRAM AND RESERVATION POLICY ON PAGE 4. CALL PROVINCE LANDS VISITOR CENTER, 508-487-1256 FOR MEETING LOCATION, AND TO REGISTER.**

**SUNSET HIKE: GRIFFIN ISLAND – Saturday, July 12 at 7 PM.** Hike around the edge of Griffin Island in Wellfleet and out to the tall bluffs overlooking Cape Cod Bay to watch the sunset.

**FULL MOON CANOE TRIP: EAST HARBOR – Friday, July 18 at 10 PM.** Paddle under the light of the full moon as we explore East Harbor in North Truro and the sweeping parabolic dunes.

**SUNRISE CANOE TRIP: EAST HARBOR – Wednesdays, July 23 and August 6 at 5 AM.** Enjoy dawn at East Harbor in North Truro as we paddle our way to the parabolic dunes to watch the sunrise.

**PERSEID HIKE: HATCHES HARBOR – Wednesday, August 13 at 10 PM.** Trek through the dunes to Hatches Harbor in Provincetown under the light of a meteor shower.

**FULL MOON HIKE: PARABOLIC DUNES – Saturday, August 16 at 10 PM.** Venture into the parabolic dunes of the Province Lands until we reach the ocean under the light of the full moon.

**SUNRISE CANOE TRIP: PAMET RIVER – Wednesday, August 27 at 6 AM.** Paddle through the rustling salt marsh grass up the scenic Pamet River in Truro at dawn.

## TUESDAY NIGHTS AT SALT POND VISITOR CENTER

All programs are at 7 PM, last about 1 hour, and are free to the public. *Sponsored by Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore.* ♿

**Celtic Music – July 1.** Stomp your feet to this performance by the talented duo of Billy Hardy and Beth Sweeney, well known for their traditional Celtic music.

**The Wreck of the Sparrow-Hawk: Capitalism vs Calvinism – July 8.** If only these old bones could speak! Mark Wilkins, director of the Cape Cod Maritime Museum in Hyannis, explores the nature of the *Sparrow-Hawk* voyage, her passengers, and what the ship may have looked like.

**A National Treasure Offshore – July 15.** Anne Smrcina, education coordinator for the Gerry E. Studds Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, offers a look at this nationally-significant ocean area. This program will begin shortly after a brief annual membership meeting of Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore.

**Have A Curiosity for Horseshoe Crabs? – July 22.** In this multimedia presentation, Dr. Dan Gibson discusses these mythic, mystical, and misunderstood throwbacks to the earliest sea creatures.

**Sharing the Shore: Grey Seals and Harbor Seals on Cape Cod – July 29.** Learn how these marine animals negotiate life in and out of the water. Join Lisa Sette, naturalist and biologist with the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies, for this multimedia presentation.

**Herring: The Pillars of Our Fishing Industry – August 5.** Join Laura Slifka from the Herring Alliance, to learn of the alliance's efforts to reform herring fisheries, and improve the commercial and recreational fisheries around Cape Cod.

**Shipwrecks and the Stories They Tell – August 12.**

Shipwreck remains reveal more than meets the eye. Victor Mastone, Director and Chief Archeologist for the Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources, will describe some of the science behind shipwreck investigation.



Shipwreck, Newcomb Hollow Beach, winter 2008 (National Park Service photo)

**Basking Sharks: Gentle Giants – August 19.** As the largest shark in New England waters, basking sharks grow to 39 feet and leave an impression on those who have seen them. Carol (Krill) Carson has researched these rare animals and will share her insights.

**Lost Sentinels: Lightships of Nantucket Sound – August 26.** Lightships once marked the many treacherous shoals around Nantucket Sound and other locations around the country. Harwich Harbormaster, Tom Leach, will present the history and some of the dramatic tales of these often ill-fated ships and the men who worked them.

## THE LIVES AND TIMES OF CAPE COD FAMILIES

From pre-contact to pilgrims, piracy, and pickled babies, Cape Cod history as experienced by Cape Cod families

This family-oriented series at the Province Lands Visitor Center ♿ explores the stories of Cape Cod children, women and men. Sundays, at 7 PM in July and August, 1 hour. FREE. Juice and cookies provided. *Sponsored by Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore.*

**PILGRIM ROLEPLAYER: VISIT WITH A MAYFLOWER PASSENGER – July 6.** A costumed roleplayer from 1620 will share her family's adventure on the Mayflower crossing.

**SHOW AND TELL: MY PROVINCETOWN: MEMORIES OF A CAPE COD CHILDHOOD – July 13.** Local author, Amy Whorf McGuigan will share tales and treasures collected from childhood summers in and around Provincetown during the late 1960s. Bring your own Cape Cod treasure to the show and tell. A book signing will follow.

**TALK: WHALE PORT – July 20.** Mark Foster and his father Gerald Foster, the author and illustrator of the book, *Whale Port*, will take us on a tour of the fascinating inner workings of the fictional whaling town of Tuckanucket. A book signing will follow.

**SLIDE LECTURE: JIM COOGAN "SAIL AWAY LADIES" – July 27.** During the great age of sail, hundreds of women sailed with their seafaring husbands on voyages that took them around the globe. Jim Coogan presents the tales of twelve Cape Cod women as told through their journals and letters. A book signing will follow.

**STORYTELLER: EVERYDAY LIFE IN TRURO: FROM THE INDIANS TO THE VICTORIANS – August 3.** Historian and author Richard Whalen will describe *Everyday Life in Truro: From the Indians to the Victorians* – what homes were like, how children were raised, and how families made a living. A book signing will follow.

**STORYTELLING AND SINGING: THE BOY WHO WAS GENEROUS WITH SALT – August 10.** Author Corinne Demas will read from her picture book, *The Boy Who Was Generous With Salt*, and Matt Roehrig will sing original sea chanteys inspired by Corinne's stories. A book signing will follow.

**MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION: PLENTY OF WORK FOR A WOMAN – August 17.** Mary Sparrow was the wife of United States Life-Saving Service Keeper, William Sparrow, who served part of his career at Provincetown's Wood End Station. Victoria Stevens of the Hull Lifesaving Museum will present the life of this extraordinary woman and the tales she told.

**TALK: A CHILD'S LIFE IN WAMPANOAG COUNTRY – August 24.** Learn about traditional Wampanoag family life and the arrival of the English from the perspective of the Wampanoag people who have lived on Cape Cod for hundreds of generations. An educator from Plymouth Plantation's Wampanoag Education Program will share artifacts, stories, and images.

**MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION: CAPE COD'S PIRATE SHIP: THE WHYDAH – August 31.** For 25 years, underwater explorer Barry Clifford and his project team have been recovering and researching treasure from the world's only verified pirate ship, the *Whydah*. Clifford is the author of *The Real Pirates Children's Book*. He will bring real pirate's treasure and artifacts.



Race Point Light, Provincetown (National Park Service photo)

## ADDITIONAL SPECIAL PROGRAMS

**BLUES/COUNTRY/FOLK-ROCK CONCERT: THE SHORE THING – Saturday, July 5 and Saturday, August 2 at 7 PM.** Free. Enjoy all-original music celebrating the diversity of life, love and nature, by local singer/songwriter, Vicky McKee, accompanied by Jack Pearson. Free. Province Lands Visitor Center amphitheater (or indoor auditorium in case of rain), Provincetown. ♿

**MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION: THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE SCENERY – Thursdays, July 10 and 17 at 2 PM, at Province Lands Visitor Center, Provincetown; Tuesdays, July 1 and 8 at 2 PM, at Salt Pond Visitor Center, Eastham.** Free. You've enjoyed Cape Cod National Seashore's natural beauty, but have you ever wondered what kind of research is going on in the park? Learn about the questions scientists are asking, and about the exciting discoveries that are being made. ♿

**MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION: CAPTURING THE CHARACTER OF CAPE COD – Saturday, August 9 at 7 PM.** Free. Francie Randolph, who uses technology in her work, and Tom Watson, a traditional oil painter, married and left city life for Truro ten years ago. Enjoy Cape Cod through the differing perspectives of these two internationally-recognized artists. Province Lands Visitor Center, Provincetown. ♿

## PARTNER PROGRAMS

### Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore

*The Friends* is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to enhance people's enjoyment of the seashore through financial and volunteer support. [WWW.FCCNS.ORG](http://WWW.FCCNS.ORG)

### Old-Fashioned Patriotic Band

**Concerts – THURSDAY, JULY 3 at 7 PM, at SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, EASTHAM; TUESDAY, JULY 8 at 7 PM, at PROVINCE LANDS VISITOR CENTER, PROVINCETOWN.** FREE concerts by the Lower Cape Concert Band performing a variety of music from show tunes to marches. ♿

### Family Sunset Campfires and Sing Alongs

**– THURSDAY, JULY 17 at 8 PM, at RACE POINT BEACH, PROVINCETOWN; AND THURSDAY, AUGUST 14 at 7:30 PM, at NAUSET LIGHT BEACH, EASTHAM.** FREE. Enjoy an evening campfire on the beach with songs led by Cape Cod musicians Denya LeVine and Tim Dickey.

### Outer Cape Chorale Chamber Singers

**– MONDAY, AUGUST 4 at 7 PM, at SALT POND VISITOR CENTER, EASTHAM.** FREE. Enjoy an evening of "Songs of the Sea" with this popular local group. ♿

## Experience the Wonders of Wind!

Saturday, July 12, join us for **Highlands Fest: The Wonders of Wind** at the Highlands Center at Cape Cod National Seashore in Truro. Celebrate the Highlands Center's mission to foster the cultural and natural heritage of Cape Cod through an environment in which scientific research, artistic creation, and educational programs can flourish.

### Free activities 9 AM to 1 PM:

❖ Unveiling of twenty-foot tall kinetic wind sculptures with their creator sculptor, Donald Gerola. ❖ Learn about wind as a clean source of renewable energy. ❖ Watch "Portrait of a Coast," a documentary film about the Cape's changing shoreline. ❖ Make kites to fly and take home! ❖ Bring a bag lunch to our picnic grove and learn about progress that has been made on the site.

### Evening events:

Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, including a shortened version for children, "Kiddieshakes" at 5 PM, and a full-length production at 8 PM. Call the Payomet Box Office for ticket information and reservations at 508-487-5400. ♿

*Directions:* Take Route 6 to the Highland Light exit in North Truro. Go east on Highland Road. At the end, take a right onto South Highland Road. After approximately .6 miles, take a left onto Old Dewline Road. The Highlands Center is at the end of the road.

**The Wonders of Wind**, is made possible by the Highlands Center Partners Collaborative including the Cape Cod National Seashore, Highlands Center Inc., Payomet Performing Arts Center in Truro, Barnstable County AmeriCorps Cape Cod, Truro Center for the Arts at Castle Hill, the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, and the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies.

## Payomet Performing Arts Center

Payomet's ambitious 10th-anniversary season offers the caliber and variety of programming audiences of all ages have come to expect from this eclectic performing arts group. ♿ [WWW.PAYOMET.ORG](http://WWW.PAYOMET.ORG)

### Cape Cod Storyteller Project -

**SATURDAYS IN JULY AND AUGUST, 11 AM, ½ HOUR.** FREE. **Storyteller Moriah Vecchia** presents stories, poetry, and music featuring the culture, history, people, sailors, and fishermen of Cape Cod's past and present. Fun for the whole family! Meet at the Payomet Tent at the Highlands Center, North Truro. See directions above under the **Highlands Fest** listing. Call 508-487-5400.



# “I Don’t Understand It, It Doesn’t Look Old to Me.”

By William Burke, Park Historian

*“Well-meaning people may think that the old Cape Cod character should be kept frozen, believing that new buildings should be shrouded in an historical shell from the past. The Cape Cod shore is not a museum; it lives, it grows, it changes . . . Architecture must move on, or die.”*

Walter Gropius, *On the Desirable Character of Design for the Cape Cod National Seashore*, submitted to the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission in 1963

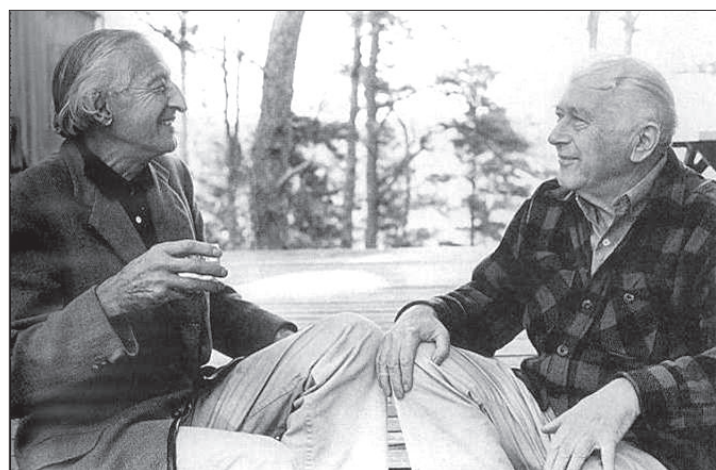
Walter Gropius, founder of the influential German Bauhaus school of design, explored the managers of the brand new Cape Cod National Seashore to design facilities, such as visitor centers and bathhouses, with an innovative approach. Rustic cabin design found in Western national parks wouldn’t work here, but Modern design featuring modest scale and a light footprint on the land would. The seashore, after all, was a new type of park never tried before, created within the confines of six towns,

grow in importance in our minds, but it’s usually the stuff created further back in time that tends to get revered and ultimately saved.

So, how can Modern houses from the 1950s and 1960s, or for that matter, our own Salt Pond Visitor Center be historic? The official list of what’s historic in our nation, known as the National Register of Historic Places, has a 50 year rule that is meant to allow a few generations to pass so people can develop historical perspective on what is really important to a community’s memory. After all, we don’t want things preserved that are, in the National Register’s words, of “passing contemporary interest.”

Like most rules, however, there are exceptions. Things less than 50 years old can be listed on the register if they pass a

more stringent set of criteria that includes extensive scholarly documentation that finds the thing in question to be “exceptionally important.”

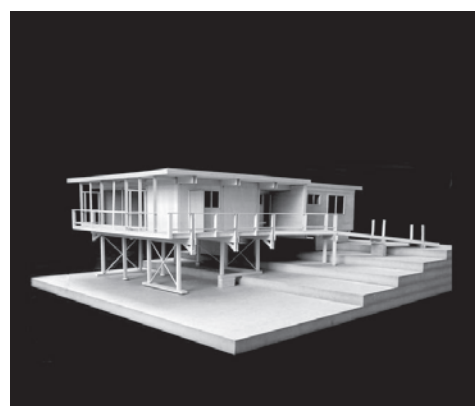


Old friends and Modern architects Serge Chermayeff and Marcel Breuer, originally from Russia and Hungary respectively, enjoy a moment together near their vacation cottages in Wellfleet in 1972. Both designed a number of houses in the ponds area of Wellfleet beginning in the late 1940s. (Photo courtesy of Smithsonian Institution, Marcel Breuer Papers Collection)

and needing an architectural identity. In a sense, Gropius was simply promoting a continuation of a movement that had taken firm hold here earlier. Since World War II, Modern architects like Breuer, Chermayeff, and Hammarstrom had been quietly inserting into the scented pine forests of Wellfleet architectural gems to be enjoyed by their clients or themselves. Free from the turmoil of their native Europe, these architects had found a paradise to work and vacation in, and other local architects and designers took inspiration from them.

Today, there are over 50 significant Modern houses from this lineage on the Outer Cape, and the seashore and local preservation groups are spearheading an effort to preserve some of them for future generations to appreciate, understand, and enjoy. Of those Modern-era houses owned by the seashore, five homes and one visitor center have been deemed historic thus far.

Every day, in every village, town, and city throughout the world, people sort out things from their community’s past that are worth saving. Usually, it’s the village’s oldest dwelling, a town’s first church, a city’s oldest library, or an ancient battlefield in an abandoned field. We tend to connect significance with the age, relative scarcity, or one-of-a-kind nature of a building. This thinking may cause us to skip over the “past of the living,” a past we ourselves experienced that holds little comfort afforded by time and distance. Unfortunately, this mentality makes recent things more vulnerable to demolition. Objects and places of our parent’s or grandparent’s generation may



The 1953 Weidlinger House was designed by prominent structural engineer Paul Weidlinger for his family’s vacation home on Higgins Pond in Wellfleet. It illustrates the all-embracing attitude toward Modern design, taking into account the topography and environment and treading lightly on the land. (Model by Ben Straco. Photo by Mark Walker. Photo courtesy of Peter McMahon, Cape Cod Modern House Trust)



The Hatch House (1960) is nestled into a hillside on Bound Brook Island with sweeping views of Cape Cod Bay. Lightweight panels on the west wall shown here open up to the view with a simple pull of the ropes. (National Park Service photo)

## Lease Anticipated with the Cape Cod Modern House Trust to Preserve Historic Kugel-Gips House

The Kugel-Gips House is an historic Modern house owned by Cape Cod National Seashore. The park is actively working with a new, local, non-profit group, the Cape Cod Modern House Trust, to develop a lease agreement for long-term preservation and use of the house. The agreement would enable scholars-in-residence and others interested in Modern architecture in Wellfleet to enjoy first-hand the experience of living and working in a Modern house. Stay tuned for formal announcement of this exciting opportunity!



Reminiscent of Wright’s *Falling Waters*, the Kugel-Gips House exhibits classic Modern house characteristics: flat roof, open floor plan, expansive windows, and intimate connection with the outdoors. (National Park Service photo)

For example, most could agree that structures, objects and places associated with the U.S. Space Program, Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam War, assassination of President Kennedy, and Elvis Presley’s Graceland could be “historic.”

In addition, things on the register don’t have to be considered nationally significant; they could be significant at the local or state level. The Modern houses of Wellfleet are significant at the local level because they are associated with the larger Modern architectural phenomenon transforming post-war America, and they represent unaltered

survivors of this vintage and style on the Outer Cape.

So where does one draw the line between past and present? There is no clear line of demarcation, but we now know that excluding much of the 20th century from the past was a mistake. A strong continuum between the past and the present makes the past seem more relevant to our own lives. What we preserve for future generations is as much about what’s saved as it is about how we value the built environment in our own backyards.



The modernistic Salt Pond Visitor Center (1965) was a clear departure from the traditional rustic architecture of parks. It has features typical of “Mission 66” visitor centers like views of the landscape through glass, separate wings for museums and theaters, and use of concrete, glass, and steel throughout. The building was found eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 2000. (National Park Service photo)

*“A man builds a house for himself and his family on Cape Cod in the woods by a lake near the sea, and everything in his house seems to be made of natural fiber, of wood, skin, hemp, fur; and the wind carries clean air and every sound is muted. No war seems to have been – only airplanes with their trails of sound and vapor remind you of the bustling trivia outside this sanctuary.”*

from Memorial to Gyorgy Kepes, January 4, 2002. Hungarian-born designer Kepes was a summer resident of Wellfleet and close associate of many Modern architects. He was the founder of the Center for Advanced Visual Studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

### For further subject matter information:

*Mission 66: Modernism and the National Park Dilemma*, Ethan Carr. UMASS Press, 2007

**Websites of interest:** [www.recentpast.org](http://www.recentpast.org)  
[www.historicnewengland.org](http://www.historicnewengland.org)  
[www.docomomo-us.org](http://www.docomomo-us.org)  
[www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/recentpast](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/recentpast)  
[www.nthp.org](http://www.nthp.org) - National Trust for Historic Preservation  
[www.modernsandiego.com](http://www.modernsandiego.com), click on “Modern Cape Cod”

# The Great Beach - Wild Place

by Cape Cod National Seashore Natural Resources Management staff members

"A first glimpse of the great outer beach of Cape Cod is one of the most memorable experiences in all America. As one looks from the height of the earth-cliff, which there confronts and halts the North Atlantic, it is the immense and empty plain of ocean which first seizes on the imagination, ...ever reflecting the mood of the season and the day.... To know the earth-cliff itself, one must do as Thoreau did and walk the long miles at its base between the ridged erosions of clay and sand and the outcry of the waves which follows one along.... From below, one can see the grass rim... of the lower Cape, and watch the cumuli of August trying to leave the land and float eastward and out above the alien meadows of the sea."

Henry Beston  
*The Outermost House*



The Great Beach from Chatham and Orleans to Nauset Inlet (National Park Service photo)

In 1961, Congress and President Kennedy, recognizing that the 40-mile undisturbed "Great Beach" of the Outer Cape that could still be experienced as the Pilgrims, Henry David Thoreau, and Henry Beston saw it, created Cape Cod National Seashore. And to this day, approaching the Great Beach anywhere from Chatham to Provincetown, one's senses are overwhelmed by the ocean and the backdrop of cliffs and dunes. Roads, structures and boundaries fade, replaced by a big, wild, and complete set of interdependent natural communities.

Many people understand the beach as a place with a parking lot and a path, strictly confined between buildings and boundaries. The Great Beach forces a different perspective – its unbroken sweep, its massive cliffs and dunes, its bays and marshlands, and its links to freshwater ponds extend to the horizons. Today's satellite imagery clearly shows the Cape as a wrinkle of land within the Gulf of Maine and broader North Atlantic ecosystems.



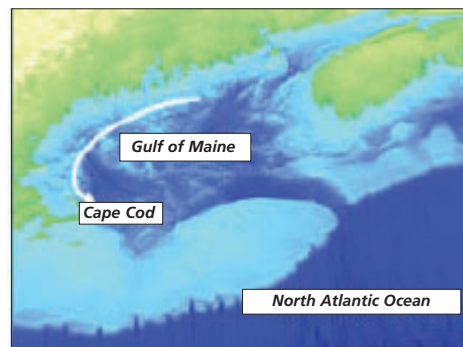
Aerial view from The Great Beach of North Truro which shows East Harbor (Pilgrim Lake) and Provincetown (National Park Service photo)

## Physical Change

Cape Codders and returning visitors understand and marvel at the daily, seasonal, and yearly changes in the beach and bluffs. The quiet weather of summer allows sand to accumulate in a broad and gently-sloping beach, wide enough for beach-nesting birds and beach blankets even at high tide. In the much stormier winter, North Atlantic storm waves pull sand offshore, leaving narrow sand-starved beaches, and carve the base of coastal bluffs. Bluff erosion, inexorable with sea-level rise, averages three feet per year, but much wider chunks of the bluff-top can tumble, especially during extreme high tides and storms.

## Drifters from the Gulf of Maine

The flotsam that arrives on our Atlantic-side beaches clearly shows the Cape's placement in a much larger coastal system. Unlike currents right along the shore that are predominantly northward, driven by shoaling southeast ocean swells, offshore currents are mostly southward, carrying both water, debris and marine organisms from the Gulf of Maine.



In winter, among the stranded lobster pots, it's common to come upon logs of spruce and sticks chewed by beavers, both delivered by currents from northern rivers discharging into the Gulf. Meanwhile, waves generated by northeast gales frequently purge the winter beach, carrying huge volumes of sand seaward.

In summer, the southward Gulf currents continue, evidenced by the arrival of drift seaweed, probably ripped by waves from the rocky shores of northern New England,

to be deposited as a nuisance on seashore beaches. The complex system of bars and shoals of the great beach are a natural trap for all kinds of debris as it drifts south and east around the Cape's tip.

## Animals of the Great Beach

The inhabitants of the wild beach are linked by their intimate relationship with the ocean's waves and tides. Tiny but abundant marine worms and crustaceans live amongst sand grains of the lower intertidal zone, negotiating the constantly shifting sand, and eating plankton delivered by ocean waters. Sand-dwelling organisms in mid- and upper-tidal areas resist drying out (desiccation) within a tough outer shell or carapace, or avoid exposure by burrowing into wet sand until the tide returns.

Animals that live above the tidal zone can't tolerate flooding, but still depend on

marine waters. Amphipods and fly larvae shredded washed up seaweed and plants ("wrack"), and piping plovers dart along the wrack line feeding on these invertebrates. Like the surf-casters that reel in stripers, all these Cape Codders get their energy from the ocean.

Many migratory birds depend on the Cape's wild beaches for survival. In late summer and fall, thousands of shorebirds such as sanderlings and dunlin can be seen along the wild beach, probing the sand for invertebrates – fuel that carries some of these small birds from the Arctic to South America.

Beyond the parking lots, beach fires and volleyball nets, Thoreau's wild and ever-changing "Great Beach" remains a stunning reminder of our connection to the larger forces of our planet – a place to witness and study the local effects of global processes.

## Old Harbor Life-Saving Station Campaign

A Project of Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore



Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore is raising funds to enhance the visitor experience at Old Harbor Life-Saving Station at Race Point Beach in Provincetown through the acquisition of exhibits and furnishings. The goal is to introduce visitors to Cape Cod's rich maritime history, and the exciting chapter represented by Old Harbor Life-Saving Station.

**Friends Annual Meeting, Tuesday, July 15, 2008,  
7 PM, Salt Pond Visitor Center, Eastham**

Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore is a vibrant, thriving organization committed to the support and promotion of the historical, scientific, educational, and recreational projects of the seashore for which there are no federal funds available. Among its many activities are: assisting with the maintenance of public hiking trails, coordinating conservation projects, funding the preservation of historic structures, making seashore facilities and programs more accessible to persons with disabilities, and administering special funds for research projects.

**JOIN MORE THAN 1,000 OTHER TERRIFIC  
PEOPLE WHO ENJOY A VERY SPECIAL  
AND CARING RELATIONSHIP WITH  
CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE.  
WWW.FCCNS.ORG**



# Snakes of Cape Cod National Seashore

by Dr. Robert P. Cook, Wildlife Ecologist

Cape Cod National Seashore's 46,000 acres play a critical role in supporting the Cape's abundant and diverse wildlife. While the species found along our beaches may be familiar to visitors, the majority of those found in the seashore are not. Most reside in uplands and freshwater wetlands, and although these habitats comprise most of the park, they are less visited. Also, most wildlife species, such as snakes, are small or secretive. Largely unnoticed, they are still important ecologically and are a significant part of the natural heritage preserved by the National Park Service.

Snakes are unique and immediately recognizable. They have long been the subjects of mythology and objects of fear, which appears to be an evolutionary holdover of humans. Because snakes preyed on small, early primates, the ability to detect snakes and recognize them as a threat had survival advantages, and even for larger, more recent primates, such as early humans, this was true. Thus, although the actual threat to humans posed by snakes in the United States is extremely minor, we are genetically predisposed to recognize them and we readily learn to fear them. Unfortunately, this now prevents many people from appreciating their beauty, adaptations, and behaviors, and can result in persecution.

Snakes are reptiles, the first vertebrates fully adapted to life on land. Unlike amphibians, reptiles hatch into miniatures of their parents and although neither is able to maintain constant body temperature, they differ in temperature preferences. Reptiles prefer higher temperatures and, because they are more resistant to drying, are more inclined to bask in direct sun to warm up. Snakes are noteworthy in being legless (although some lizards are, too), having upper and lower jaws that separate so they can swallow large prey whole, and using a forked tongue for taste and smell (not for stinging).

Although 10 species of snakes occur on Cape Cod, only seven occur in Cape Cod National Seashore. Based on observations and recent surveys, we have a good idea of distribution and a general sense of abundance. There are no venomous snakes on Cape Cod. As with most snakes, those found at the seashore perceive humans as predators, and avoid us by hiding or fleeing. If unable to flee, they use defensive displays to make themselves appear larger and more ferocious, and some species mimic rattlesnakes by shaking their tails. Watching these bluffs is a highlight of snake watching, but unfortunately many people misinterpret them as aggressive rather than defensive. As a result, behaviors that have helped snakes deal with predators for millennia now result in their death at the hands of people unfamiliar with them. Please remember that the snakes found here are harmless. Most do not bite, even when handled, but they are wild animals and the larger species may bite in self-defense. As with all wildlife at the national seashore, it is illegal to harm or harass snakes. If you are fortunate enough to encounter a snake, enjoy it from a respectful distance.

The **RING-NECKED SNAKE** is widespread and probably our most abundant snake. In recent surveys, they comprised 73% of all snakes captured under boards laid on the ground. Few people see ring-necked snakes because they are small (usually 10 to 15 inches long), secretive, and mostly nocturnal. They are mostly found in woodlands, where they feed on another secretive woodland animal, the red-backed salamander. Despite spending most of their time hiding, ring-necked snakes are eaten by larger snakes, birds, and small mammals. Through them, energy from forest invertebrates and small salamanders flows up the food chain. Young ring-necked snakes hatch in late summer and often crawl into buildings via the small space under the door.



ring-necked snake

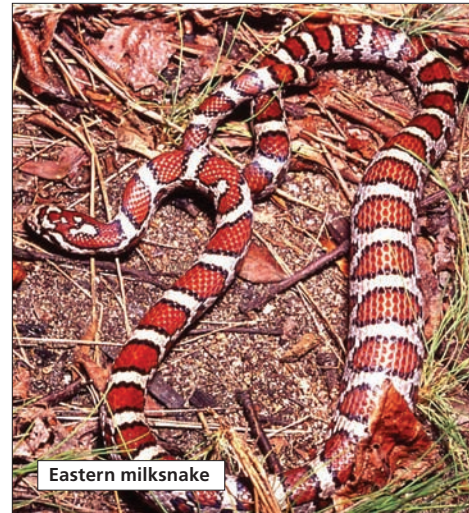
The size of the **BLACK RACER** (usually 3 to 5 feet) and speed enables it to flee most threats. These large, fast-moving snakes are active in daytime (diurnal). They are often seen in and around open, grassy habitats and edges. Although they are probably not the most numerous snake here, black racers are probably the species most frequently seen by visitors. Racers accounted for 19% of snakes in our survey, but because they are less inclined to hide under boards than some species this may be an underestimate. Racers occur park-wide, primarily in open habitats where they feed on a variety of small mammals, birds, and other snakes. Although black racers typically flee danger, when cornered, they coil up, raise their heads to confront the threat, and vibrate their tails. Black racers lay their eggs under old boards and logs, and in underground burrows of small mammals. Their hatchlings, generally about 10 inches long, have mottled markings and bear little resemblance to their parents, except for their "nervous" behavior.



black racer

A reddish-brown snake with bands of black and creamy white, the **EASTERN MILKSNAKE** is our most colorful snake. Unfortunately, these colors lead some people to think they are venomous and kill them. In fact, these harmless, gentle snakes feed predominantly on small mammals, and help regulate their populations. The milksnake is a moderate-sized species, usually 2 to 3 feet. Lacking speed to flee danger, milksnakes tend to be secretive and nocturnal, spending most of their time

under cover. The name derives from an old belief that, because they were often found around barns, they milked cows. In reality, they were there because of the mice. Milksnakes appear to be locally common, and comprised 4% of the animals recorded in our survey. They have been found recently in Wellfleet, Truro, and Provincetown, but not Eastham.



Eastern milksnake

The **EASTERN HOG-NOSED SNAKE** is perhaps the ultimate Cape Cod snake, a species specialized for the sandy habitats that typify the national seashore. Its upturned snout is used for burrowing into sand, where it hides or searches for its primary food, Fowler's and spadefoot toads. Although toads produce toxins to protect themselves from predators, hog-nosed snakes evolved a tolerance to these toxins, and became specialized predators. Highlighting this specialization, and the strategy/counter-strategy nature of predator/prey relations, is a pair of enlarged teeth in the rear of the hognose snake's mouth. A common defense of toads is to inflate themselves, to appear larger and prevent themselves from being swallowed. Hognose snakes use their rear teeth to counter the inflated toad, by puncturing and deflating them.

Stocky and slow moving, the hog-nosed snake reacts to potential predators by performing a multi-act defensive display. First, it hisses loudly and uses a series of bluffs, flattening out its head and neck into a "hood," similar to a cobra, to appear large and ferocious. It may twist and turn, and strike, without actually opening its mouth or biting. If acting tough does not work, it rolls over and plays dead, going limp, with mouth agape and tongue hanging out. Coupled with foul-smelling secretions from musk glands, this second strategy aims to convince the predator it is too dead to be palatable. Hog-nosed snakes are so persistent in feigning death that if you place them right side up, they will continue to roll over and "play" dead. Because many people are unfamiliar with these harmless behaviors, hog-nosed snakes have been killed. Road kill is also a widespread problem and every year we record a few road-killed hog-nosed snakes in the seashore. Although we record them each year from Wellfleet, Truro, and Provincetown, little is known of their actual numbers.



Eastern hog-nosed snake

The final three species, **EASTERN GARTERSNAKE**, **EASTERN RIBBONSNAKE**, and **NORTHERN WATERSNAKE** are closely related, and differ from the previous four in being "viviparous" or "live-bearing." Their young develop within the mother's body and, similar to mammals, are nourished through a placenta. Although all of these species are associated with wetland habitats, they vary in their aquatic preferences. This enables them to partition the seashore's numerous wetlands between them, which reduces competition. Gartersnakes, so named because their stripes suggest fancy stocking garters, are the least aquatic, found primarily in swamps and wetland edges. They eat a broad variety of invertebrates and small vertebrates, both terrestrial and aquatic, and also tolerate toad toxins. Because the gartersnake ranges into uplands, and does well in some urban and suburban settings, it is the most familiar species of snake in the Northeast. Its name is often twisted into "garden" snake. Ribbonsnakes have color and striping patterns very similar to gartersnakes, but are much more slender. Unlike gartersnakes, ribbonsnakes feed primarily on amphibians, which explains their stronger affinity for wetlands. We often encounter them in vernal ponds in early spring, and they are also common in the shallow, coastal plain ponds of the Province Lands. While both the gartersnake and ribbonsnake are found from Eastham to Provincetown, the northern watersnake is only known from the large kettle ponds of Wellfleet and Truro, and the nearby freshwater wetlands of the upper Herring River. Although our kettle ponds abound with fish and frogs, for reasons unknown, water snakes appear to be the rarest of our snakes.



Eastern gartersnake



Eastern ribbonsnake



Northern watersnake

At a recent conference I attended on snakes, concern was expressed that black racer, hog-nosed snake, and ribbonsnake, are declining in the Northeast, primarily from impacts of development, habitat change, and road kill. Certainly these factors are increasingly at play here. Nonetheless, the landscape of outer Cape Cod, with its relatively high proportion of lands protected within the national seashore and town conservation lands, has enabled many of our native wildlife species to survive here. As habitat continues to be lost elsewhere, Cape Cod National Seashore is becoming increasingly important as one of the last remaining places where species once taken for granted as "widespread and common" can still be experienced. Enjoy our park's wildlife but please treat it with care and respect.

# Historic Buildings at Cape Cod National Seashore

## The Penniman House, Eastham

The Penniman House, completed in 1868, was styled after the French Second-Empire period. It included every known comfort of the day and many innovative ideas. The Captain Edward Penniman family enjoyed this fine home for nearly 100 years. *Off Route 6, approximately one mile north of the Orleans rotary, at Fort Hill in Eastham. Seasonal tours and open houses. Limited parking.*



## Nauset Light, Eastham

Lighthouses have served as guides to mariners off Cape Cod shores since the late 1700s. Nauset Light, moved in 1996, remains a navigational aid. *Nauset Light Preservation Society volunteers conduct tours Sundays and Wednesdays in July and August from 4:30 to 7:30 PM. Donations accepted. www.nausetlight.org. Take Route 6 to the traffic light at Salt Pond Visitor Center at Nauset Road in Eastham.*

*Turn onto Nauset Road and follow signs to Coast Guard and Nauset Light beaches. Park at Nauset Light Beach. (Beach fees may apply.)*

## The Three Sisters lighthouses, Eastham

These 19th-century wooden lighthouses that once provided a beacon for sailors off the shore of Nauset Light Beach are now arranged in their original configuration off Cable Road. *Seasonal tours and open houses. Located 1/4 mile west of Nauset Light on Cable Road. (Beach fees may apply.)* ♿



## Atwood-Higgins House, Wellfleet

The Atwood-Higgins House is a fine example of a properly-framed Cape Cod cottage, which grew from a half-house in the early 1700s to a full-Cape with eight rooms by the 19th century. *Take Route 6. Turn onto Pamet Point Road in Wellfleet, at the Truro town line. Take Pamet Point Road and follow signs to Atwood-Higgins. Seasonal tours and open houses. Limited parking.*

## Highland Light and Highland House, Truro

July and August: Lighthouse tours daily: 10 AM to 5:30 PM, \$4 all ages. Children must be 48" tall. 508-487-1121. Highland House Museum hours: Monday to Saturday, 10 AM to 4:30 PM; Sundays 1 to 4:30 PM. \$4 adults, 12 and under free. Lighthouse/Museum combination admission, \$6 per adult. *Activities conducted by Truro Historical Society. www.trurohistorical.org. Take the Cape Cod Light exit off Route 6 onto Highland Road, and follow signs.*



## Pamet Cranberry Bog House, Truro

Originally constructed around 1830, the Bog House is located among former cranberry bogs in the Pamet Valley, and supported cranberry harvesting that occurred there until the 1960s. Views of the house can be seen from atop Bearberry Hill. *Follow North Pamet Road in Truro, off Route 6, to its end. Limited parking.*

## Old Harbor Life-Saving Station, Provincetown

At Old Harbor, the National Park Service interprets the dramatic story of shipwrecks and the role of the US Life-Saving Service in preventing shipwrecks and performing rescues. During the summer months, reenactments of the historical breeches buoy drill are performed weekly. *Take Route 6 to Race Point Road in Provincetown. Park at Race Point Beach. Seasonal open houses. (Beach fees may apply.)*



# Eastern National

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◆ Year round at Salt Pond Visitor Center, and seasonally at Province Lands Visitor Center

◆ Through phone order at: 508-255-6860, or by mail: Salt Pond Visitor Center, Route 6, Eastham, 02642

◆ CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE CAP - \$15.95

◆ OFFICIAL CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE HANDBOOK - \$12.00

◆ FIELD BAG GRANDE - \$45.00

◆ 32-OUNCE WATER BOTTLE - \$12.95

SOLD EXCLUSIVELY AT EASTERN NATIONAL BOOKSTORES AT CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE



## The Cape Cod Collection

Enrich your Cape Cod National Seashore experience! Visit the Eastern National bookstore in either visitor center to learn more about your favorite seashore place, resource, or story. The bookstore staff offers their "top 10" choices here:

*Last Child in the Woods - National Parks Special Edition*, by Richard Louv  
"The book that changed the way we think about our children's connection with the natural world." "This is a must-read for parents." – *The Boston Globe*

*Real Pirates - The Untold Story of the Whydah*, by Barry Clifford  
This NEW, beautifully-illustrated children's book is written by the local archeological explorer, Barry Clifford, who found the wreck of the Whydah in the waters off Marconi Beach in 1985. *Mr. Clifford will present a talk on August 31 at Province Lands Visitor Center, Provincetown. See page 8 for details.*

*The Outermost House*, by Henry Beston

This vivid chronicle of "A Year of Life on the Great Beach of Cape Cod" is a classic depiction of the natural rhythms of Coast Guard Beach in Eastham.

*The House on Nauset Marsh*, by Wyman Richardson

This philosophical memoir lovingly describes Cape Cod, and reflects on the shifting moods of land and sea, the creatures of the salt marsh and woods, and stories of Cape Cod in gentler times.

*Cape Cod*, by Henry David Thoreau

This classic describes Thoreau's mid 19th-century journeys along the outer coast, where he explored the complex relationship between sea and shore.

*Cod*, by Mark Kurlansky

In this deceptively whimsical biography of a fish, a thousand years of cod fishing is also a tragic tale of environmental failure, liberally embellished with great gastronomic detail.

*The Nature of Cape Cod*, by Beth Schwarzman

This field companion to the natural sites of Cape Cod provides maps and narrative descriptions of 50 sites that invite exploration.

*The Cape Cod Fish and Seafood Cookbook*, by Gillian Drake

Cape Cod is justly famous for its succulent seafood. This collection of recipes from Cape Cod's finest chefs and amateur cooks runs the gamut from simple steamed clams to the great seafood stews of the world.

*Adventure Kayaking*, by David Weintraub

This guide describes 25 beautiful kayaking venues on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard.

*Journey Around Cape Cod & the Islands from A to Z*,

by Martha Day Zschock

Beautiful watercolor illustrations capture the essence of Cape Cod in this children's "alphabet book."

Eastern National is a private, non-profit organization that provides quality educational products and services to park visitors. Proceeds are donated directly to Cape Cod National Seashore to support interpretive and educational programs, including the printing of this publication.



Serving Visitors to America's National Parks and other Public Trusts

## Cape Cod National Seashore is Going Green!

Learn more and "Do Your Part" at [www.nps.gov/climatefriendlyparks](http://www.nps.gov/climatefriendlyparks).

The National Park Service has launched the *Climate Friendly Parks* initiative to assist parks in addressing climate change through management tools and resources, and Cape Cod National Seashore has signed on. We are especially vulnerable to the effects of climate change; sea level rise will impact our shores, and rising temperatures will affect numerous plant and animal species. Stay tuned for more as we strive to achieve our *Climate Friendly Park* certification!

You can help reduce the impact of global warming here on Cape Cod and around the world: Use your bike to get to the beach, the store, even to work. Switch your light bulbs to compact fluorescent bulbs. (They save energy and money.) Unplug electronics and appliances when they aren't in use. Spread the word and be the change!

## Local Area Information

### Chambers of Commerce:

#### Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce:

Website: [www.capecodchamber.org](http://www.capecodchamber.org)  
Email: [info@capecodchamber.org](mailto:info@capecodchamber.org)  
Phone: 1-888-33-capecod or 508-362-3225

#### Chatham:

Website: [www.chathaminfo.com](http://www.chathaminfo.com)  
Email: [chamber@chathaminfo.com](mailto:chamber@chathaminfo.com)  
Phone: 1-800-715-5567  
Info Booth: 508-945-5199

#### Orleans:

Website: [www.capecod-orleans.com](http://www.capecod-orleans.com)  
Email: [info@capecod-orleans.com](mailto:info@capecod-orleans.com)  
Phone: 1-800-865-1386  
Info Booth: 508-255-1386

#### Eastham:

Website: [www.easthamchamber.com](http://www.easthamchamber.com)  
Email: [info@easthamchamber.com](mailto:info@easthamchamber.com)  
Phone: 508-240-7211  
Info Booth: 508-255-3444

#### Wellfleet:

Website: [www.wellfleetchamber.com](http://www.wellfleetchamber.com)  
Email: [info@wellfleetchamber.com](mailto:info@wellfleetchamber.com)  
Phone: 508-349-2510

#### Truro:

Website: [www.trurochamberofcommerce.com](http://www.trurochamberofcommerce.com)  
Email: [info@trurochamberofcommerce.com](mailto:info@trurochamberofcommerce.com)  
Phone: 508-487-1288

#### Provincetown:

Website: [www.ptownchamber.com](http://www.ptownchamber.com)  
Email: [info@ptownchamber.com](mailto:info@ptownchamber.com)  
Phone: 508-487-3424

### Outer Cape Bicycle Rentals:



Arnold's, Provincetown	508-487-0844
Gale Force, Provincetown	508-487-4849
General Store, So. Wellfleet	508-349-2335
Idle Times, Eastham	508-255-8281
Idle Times, Wellfleet	508-349-9161
Little Capistrano, Eastham	508-255-6515
Provincetown Bikes	508-487-8735

### Whale Watching in Provincetown:



Dolphin Fleet	800-826-9300
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### Dune Tours in Provincetown:

Art's Dune Tours	508-487-1950
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### Outer Cape Campgrounds, RV Parks, State Parks:

Atlantic Oaks, Eastham	508-255-1437
Maurice's, So. Wellfleet	508-349-2029
Paine's, So. Wellfleet	508-349-3007
Horton's, No. Truro	508-487-1220
North of Highland, No. Truro	508-487-1191
No. Truro Camping, No. Truro	508-487-1847
Dune's Edge, Provincetown	508-487-9815
Coastal Acres, Provincetown	508-487-1700
Nickerson State Park, Brewster	508-896-3491