

Sandy Neck's Great Marsh

Barnstable, Massachusetts

Coordinates: N41° 43.913 W070° 21.147

Geocaching.com code: GC1058Q

Type of Cache: Traditional



Do not venture into the dunes. Also be careful on the beach during nesting season and watch for Piping Plover

Sandy Neck saltmarsh is characterized by sand dunes and coastal thickets. The beach provides important nesting and feeding habitat for migrating shorebirds and the federally threatened piping plover. Diamondback terrapin turtles also nest and feed in the dunes and saltmarsh. Sandy Neck is managed by the Town of Barnstable.

Barnstable Great Marsh is an integral part of the ecologically significant 3,800 acre (1500 hectare) Sandy Neck salt marsh and barrier beach system. Along with the expansive salt marsh views, the sanctuary features two open ponds, shady oak woodlands, and numerous wildlife. Three species of owls commonly inhabit the sanctuary in winter, and five species of turtles nest there in summer.

Learn more about this area:

www.townofbarnstable.us/Conservation/TraillGuides/HikersGuides/Sandy%20Neck%20Brochure4client.pdf



Thank you to:

Jeepingino, Nuttman and Buddy the Pug (cache owner), Prassede Vella (MA Office of Coastal Zone Management)

Passport Question:

- What is the animal depicted in the lower left hand corner of the interpretive sign about Sandy Neck's Great Marsh? (Hint: see the first sign on the right on the Main Trail)

The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment's (GOMC) 2012-2017 Action Plan identifies goals for three broad issues that benefit significantly from regional collaboration:

1. Restore and conserve habitat
2. Environmental and human health
3. Sustainable communities

More information on the GOMC, its partners and its activities can be found at www.gulfofmaine.org



Did You Know: In 2003, the Gulf of Maine Council's Habitat Restoration Program awarded grants to the **Town of Barnstable** and the **Barnstable County Resource Development Office** for restoration projects at Bridge Creek Salt Marsh and Sesuit Creek.