

# Wolfe's Neck Woods State Park

Freeport, Maine

**Coordinates:** N43° 49.246 W070° 04.905

**Geocaching.com code:** GC4B1YO

**Type of Cache:** Traditional\*



Wolfe's Neck Woods State Park is approx. 4.5 mi (7.2 km) from U.S. Route 1 and Freeport's bustling shopping district. The park bears its name from Henry and Rachel Wolfe, who were the first Europeans to permanently settle here in 1733. Most of the peninsula was cleared for farms, but over time this part returned to forest. In 1969, more than 200 acres (81 hectares) was given to the State by Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence M.C. Smith of Freeport.

The Park contains varied ecosystems, including white pine and hemlock forests, a salt marsh estuary, and the rocky shorelines on Casco Bays and the Harraseeket River. The Park's signature residents are the ospreys who nest on nearby Googins Island. These birds summer on the island and make their annual trek to South America each fall. The Park's Casco Bay Trail includes a number of interpretative panels that enable visitors to learn about the importance of the area.

Nearby, you can visit **Wolfe's Neck Farm**, a non-profit oceanfront farm on the shores of Casco Bay. The 626 acres (253 hectares), which include organic demonstration gardens, barnyard animals and nature trails, are open daily. The farm's educational programs include a summer day camp, school field trips and Teen Ag Program - teaching sustainable farming methods while growing produce for food pantries. The farm also hosts a series of annual events including farm-to-table dinners, barn dances, farm festivals and pumpkin hayrides.

### Learn more about this area:

[www.maine.gov/wolfesneckwoods](http://www.maine.gov/wolfesneckwoods)

**Thank you to:** Maine State Parks (cache owner), Gary Best (Maine State Parks), Christine Tilburg (EcoSystem Indicator Partnership), and the Tilburg Family



### Passport Question:

- In May, what might you see happening with the ospreys? (Hint: read the interpretive panel located approx. 10-12 feet from the geocache along the trail to the look-out point)



This site is part of the Gulf of Maine Council's **EcoSystem Indicator Partnership's (ESIP) ICUC** project. It is a citizen science project to document, through photographs, the status and changes in the environment at select sites over time. To submit a photo to the ICUC project, please put your camera directly above the osprey picture on the left of the sign. Direct your camera so that the "keep off" sign on the adjacent island is in the middle of your frame. To confirm photo orientation, see the photo above. Submit your photo (with the date and time it was taken) to: [ESIPmail@gulfofmaine.org](mailto:ESIPmail@gulfofmaine.org)

**\*Please note:** This geocache is part of the Maine State Parks GeoTour. Why not take part! For more information on this GeoTour visit: [www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/discover\\_history\\_explore\\_nature/activities/geocaching.shtml](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/discover_history_explore_nature/activities/geocaching.shtml)

**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](http://www.gulfofmaine.org)

