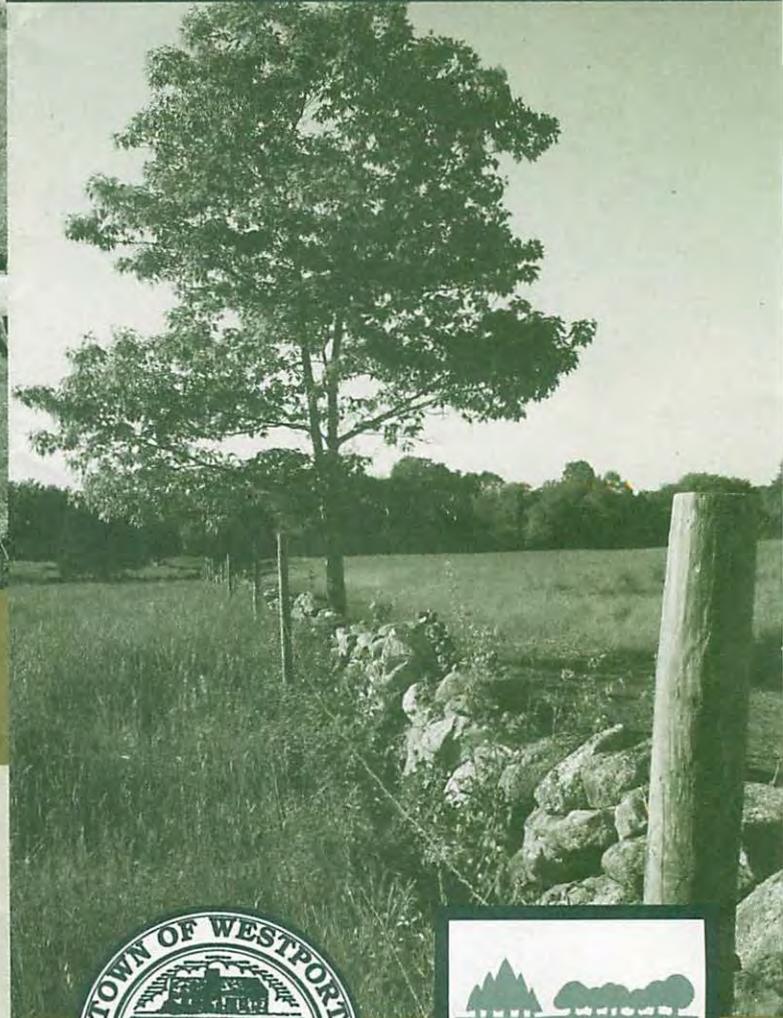


WESTPORT TOWN FARM

Westport, Massachusetts

A PROPERTY MANAGED BY THE TRUSTEES
OF RESERVATIONS AND OWNED
BY THE TOWN OF WESTPORT



OUR PLACE IN YOUR WORLD

With more than 100 properties across Massachusetts –
offering endless activities and opportunities to get involved
– we invite you to find your place.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Westport Field Office

1100 Main Road ■ Westport, MA 02790

email islands@ttor.org ■ tel 508.636.4693

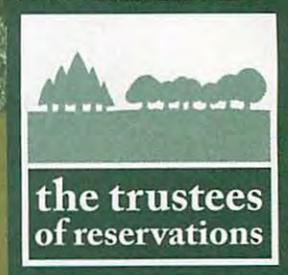
www.thetrustees.org



Recycled

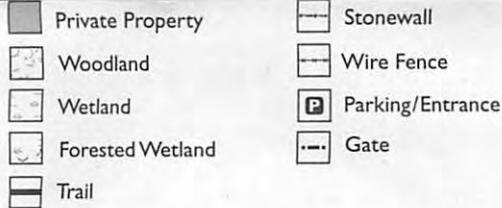
Supporting responsible
use of forest resources

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www.fsc.org
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TRAIL MAP & GUIDE



Westport's dual legacies of nurturing those in need, and raising vegetables and livestock, weave together at this remarkable coastal farm, where time is still measured by the ebb and flow of a tidal river.

LAND AND SEA

This unique coastscape offers visitors the chance to enjoy several environments, both natural and the result of human activity. The colonial-era farmstead includes a main house, barn, and a cluster of outbuildings. Extensive stone walls, which testify to the rocky nature of the soil and to the lifelong labors of farmers, roll from the building complex down through pastures and fields. Walls long covered by brush and vines have been uncovered and restored.

The pastures and former croplands extend to a quarter mile of frontage on the Westport River, which nourishes one of the largest brackish tidal marshes in the state. Look for ospreys and gulls wafting above the river, and wading birds stalking crabs and small fish in the marsh.

HISTORY LESSON

After the farm ceased to operate in the 1950s, dedicated volunteers and generous citizens worked for three decades to save the property from both deterioration and development. Today, working with the Town of Westport, The Trustees are managing this historic landscape as a cultural and environmental resource for the public.



WESTPORT TOWN FARM (40 ACRES)



BIRD WATCHING



CANOEING / KAYAKING



PICNICKING



CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING / SNOWSHOEING



WALKING



LEGEND

Westport Town Farm

Building/Structure



WALKING / HIKING
(EASY)



HISTORIC HOUSE
OR STRUCTURE



MOUNTAIN BIKING
PROHIBITED



HORSEBACK RIDING
PROHIBITED



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET



Snell Creek

PRIVATE PROPERTY

East Branch V

What makes Westport Town Farm a special place?

We think it's the pair of traditions – a working farm and, later, a home for the indigent and infirm – that has imprinted this coastal landscape since the first European settlers arrived in the 1600s. Owned by the Town of Westport and managed by The Trustees of Reservations, the farm is being restored as a community amenity and public open space.

RICH IN SPIRIT

By the end of the Revolutionary War, Westport was already caring for its neediest citizens. The establishment in 1824 of an almshouse or "poor farm" on this site was by far the community's strongest manifestation of this commitment to the less fortunate. Over the next 15 years, the farm was expanded; a new barn was built and livestock herds grew. The Town Farm, as it came to be called, continued to shelter the aged and infirm, orphans and vagabonds, for more than a century. A deaf and blind woman, Lurana Manchester, was 39 when she arrived. She remained on the farm until her death in 1894, at age 92. The farm operated well into the 20th century, but by the time of President Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal, federal and state human services programs were expanding. Known in final years as the "town infirmary," it closed in 1956.

ONE OF A KIND

The property may be the last "poor farm" in the Commonwealth that remains both owned by a municipality and utilized for agricultural purposes. This makes it scenic, historically and ecologically significant – and unique.





The farmhouse sheltered the needy and indigent for more than a century.

NEARBY PLACES

Westport Town Farm is one of many properties managed by The Trustees in the area. Please visit us at:

SLOCUM'S RIVER RESERVE

Horseneck Road, Dartmouth

A partnership of The Trustees and Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust, the former Island View Farm is a 47-acre coastal gem situated on the Slocum's River. Recall Dartmouth's rural past as you amble through fields and restored woodlands.

COPICUT WOODS (BIORESERVE)

Indian Town Road, Fall River

Copicut serves as the southern gateway to the Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve. This 516-acre landscape, which spreads across an undeveloped area of Fall River, includes trails through woods and wetlands. Look for an abandoned farm settlement.



FIND YOUR PLACE

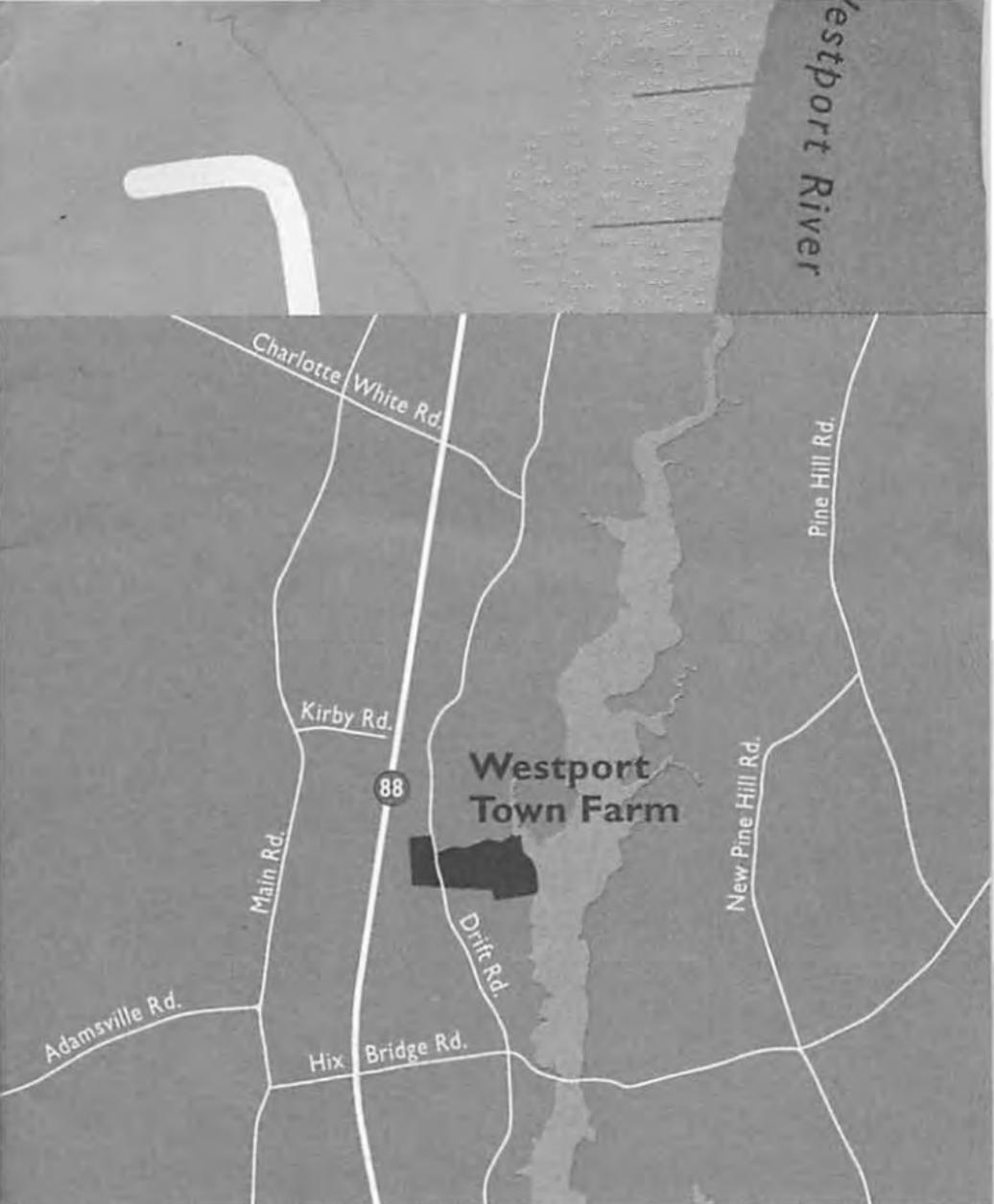
We are more than 100,000 people like you from every corner of Massachusetts. We love the outdoors. We love the distinctive charms of New England. And we believe in celebrating and protecting them – for ourselves, for our children, and for generations to come. With more than 100 special places across the state, we invite you to find your place.

BECOME A TRUSTEE

Your membership will open a world of new experiences, give you access to your favorite activities, and provide rewarding opportunities for involvement – and your membership dues can be designated for use here at Westport Town Farm. As a Trustee, your individual interests become part of a collective effort to secure the places, heritage, and experiences that make life rewarding, fulfilling, and fun. To join, please call 978.921.1944 or email us at membership@ttor.org.

TRUSTEES RECEIVE

- FREE or reduced admission to ALL reservations.
- A spiral-bound guide book to our more than 100 reservations.
- A year's subscription to *Special Places*, our award-winning, quarterly member magazine.
- Discounted admission to hundreds of special events, plus discounts on mountain-bike permits.
- Bed & breakfast discounts at the Inn at Castle Hill on the Crane Estate in Ipswich and at the modernist Guest House at Field Farm in Williamstown.



DIRECTIONS

From I-195, take Exit 10 to Rte. 88 South. Follow for 6.9 miles to 4th light. Take left onto Hix Bridge Road. Go 0.5 mile and take left at stop sign (before bridge) onto Drift Road. Town Farm is 0.6 mile on right. Parking is on the left.

WHEN TO VISIT

Daily, sunrise to sunset.

This map is a product of the Geographic Information System of The Trustees of Reservations. Source data obtained from 1:25,000 scale USGS topographic maps, field surveys, Global Positioning System (GPS), and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, MassGIS. Boundary lines and trail locations are approximate. June 2007.