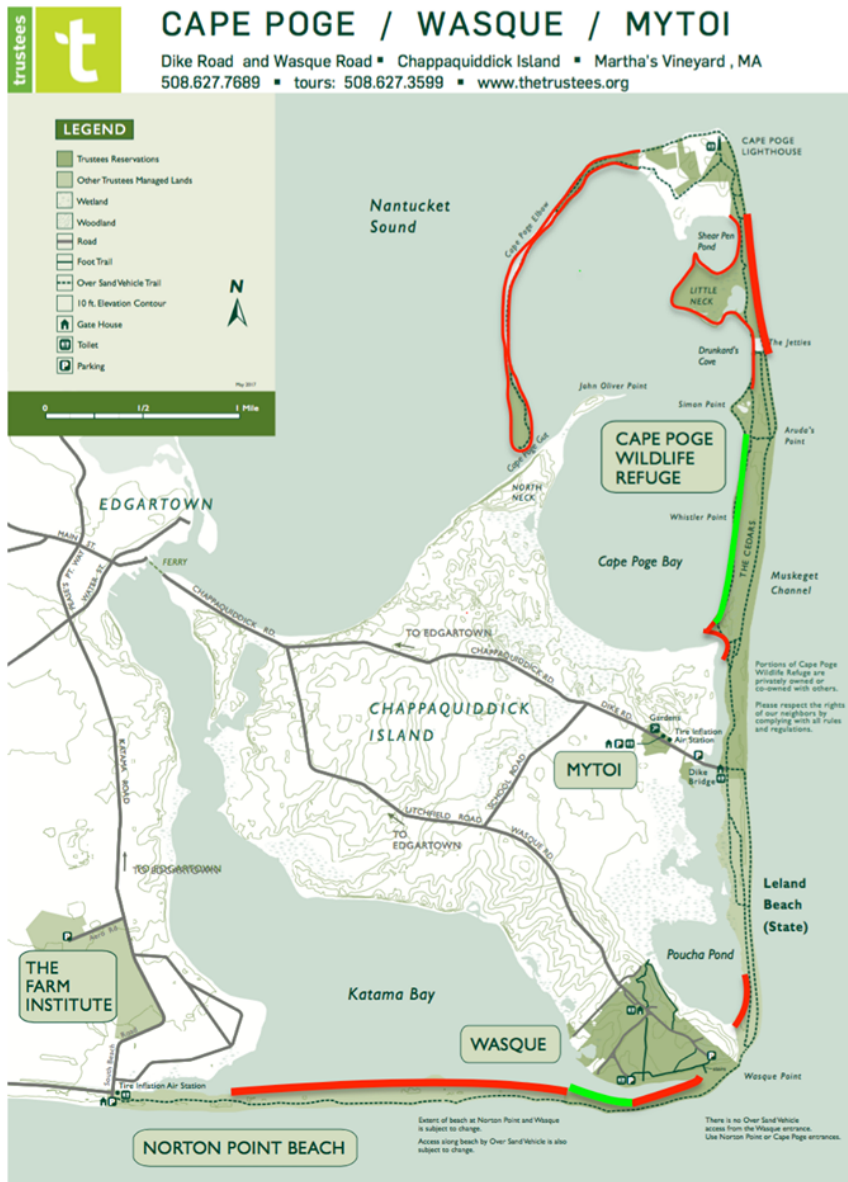




Martha's Vineyard Mariner Access Alert

Attention All Mariners traveling to and on Cape Poge land, Chappaquiddick Island.

All boaters, motorized, non-motorized and wind powered should be aware of new temporary landing and entry restrictions at the Cape Poge Gut to the Cape Poge elbow on both the pond and ocean sides of the Trustees of Reservations property.



Protected bird species such as common terns, least terns, roseate terns, black skimmers, American oystercatchers and piping plovers are now nesting and rearing chicks in this area. These birds now number in the hundreds with the last count of chicks in one of the colonies at over 250 with more than 80 unhatched nests to follow.

As a result of the physical size and scope of these colonies, access to Trustees Cape Poge property is being limited to avoid any harm to single birds or the colonies. If disturbed excessively, the adult birds will abandon eggs and chicks and then reneest again in the same area. Experts assess these areas daily and make property access decisions as needed.

Please understand our need to temporarily limit human activities on our property in this area to perform our legal responsibility to protect these listed shorebirds. This property has been closed to Trustee member access by oversand vehicles for several weeks. The Trustees understand that these additional temporary access restrictions will affect your destination plans for what might be several more upcoming weeks. The mission of the Trustees is preserve, for public use and enjoyment properties of exceptional scenic, historic, and ecological value in Massachusetts.

All landings and entry and visitor activities on the Trustees property shorelines and dunes indicated in red is temporarily prohibited for the protection of the current shorebird colonies.

Regulations prohibit Kite Boarding activities within 200 meters of the indicated shorelines. No kite board launching from shore side is allowed. Sail boats should minimize luffing sails when near these areas.

The landing and entry restrictions on the area called Little Neck continue to be in effect due to the ongoing WW II munitions clearing project.

Trustees property rangers and other agencies will enforce these temporary closures.

These restrictions will change with conditions in the colonies and will appear on this Facebook page.

Thank you for your patience and understanding and being a member of the Trustees family.

NOTE* This information is not for over sand vehicles! For current OSV closures please see our other most up to date posts.