

Family Fun on Cape Cod & Beyond

Low cost /no cost things to do for kids of all ages



Presented by the Sandwich Partnership for Families

No Cost

Cape Cod Canal Visitor Center 60 Ed Moffitt Drive Sandwich, MA

Visitor Center features include a retired 41-foot US Army Corps of Engineers patrol boat, a 46-seat theater showing continuous DVD presentations on Canal History, Canal Critters, and Canal Wildflowers, real time radar and camera images of the waterway as well as a variety of interactive exhibits for all ages. Children's summer programs are offered starting in July.

Open 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

May 1-Oct. 29

508-833-9678

www.capecodcanal.us

Cape Cod Canal

Service roads, which parallel both sides of the Canal, are available for bicycling, jogging and walking. Each service road is approximately seven-miles long. Benches are placed along the service roads for the enjoyment of our visitors. The Canal provides a unique, close-up view of ocean going ships and tugs underway as they utilize the canal route between Cape Cod Bay and Buzzards Bay.

Plymouth County Sheriff's Farm and Petting Zoo 74 Obery Street, Plymouth, MA

(off exit 5 on route 3)

Kids young and old enjoy visiting the petting zoo. Meet Mary the

cow, Beak the chicken, Franco the tortoise and more.

508-830-6810

Waquoit Bay Estuary Reserve 149 Waquoit Highway, Waquoit, MA

You may access short nature trails from the center. During the summer months, they offer a full schedule of programs for families. *Open 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. seven days a week in July and August*

508-457-0495

www.waquoitbayreserve.org

Spohr Garden 45 Fells Rd. Falmouth, MA

Go for a stroll in five acres of garden gracefully wrapped around Oyster Pond. This place provides a perfect setting for May-June stroll. With more than 50 species of flowers, 75 types of trees and 100 Varieties of shrubs, this lovely locale is in perpetual bloom.

508-548-0623

www.spohgardens.org

Scorton Creek/Talbot Point Conservation Land 518 Route 6A, E. Sandwich, MA

Take a dip in the water of the marsh or go crabbing at low tide. Explore various trails along the marsh or in the woods, some are baby jogger friendly. Cross the bridge to Talbot Point and walk along the cranberry bogs. Map of trails is posted on sign just follow main trail from the lot.

Shining Sea bike Way Falmouth, MA

Curly 11 miles past woodlands, marshes, salt ponds and seascape, the Shining Sea Bikeway is the only bikeway on Cape Cod to skirt the shore. Also called the Shining Sea Bike Path, the paved trail extends from County Route 151 in Falmouth to the Woods Hole Steamship Authority's site in Woods Hole, a historical seaside fishing village and home to an internationally known scientific community.

Boyden Farm Conservation Land Sandwich Conservation Trust

Cotuit Rd south of Farmerville Rd
Come enjoy a walk through woods, by a grassy meadow and you may get glimpse of Cape Cod Wildlife such as deer, wild turkey or a fox.

Sandwich Fish Hatchery 164 Route 6A Sandwich, MA

Learn about and see local fresh water fish. Food to feed the fish can be purchased from coin-operated vending machines. 25 cents.

Hours: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
508-888-0008

Ellisville Harbor State Park Route 3A Plymouth, MA

*(Exit 2 right to Route 3A.
Follow signs. Approx 2 mi.)*
Come visit this unique coastal property, including an 18th century farmstead, beach front salt marsh,

rolling meadows, and red pine forest. It's also one of the most scenic spots on the South Shore coastline, where you can see small fishing boats, a barrier beach, and sphagnum bog, forested upland and open meadows. Recreation activities include, walking, bird watching, beach combing and sightseeing. In fall and winter, harbor seals can be seen just off shore. 508-866-2580

Sandwich Town Band Beale Ave., Sandwich, MA

Concerts start June 29 through August. Come join the music, do the bunny hop and march to the beat! Thursday nights at 7:30 pm at the bandstand located at Wing School field.

Murkwood Conservation Land Route 6A E. Sandwich, MA

(East on Route 6A, parking lot is on left after E. Sandwich fire station)

This short and easy walk explores a beautiful woodland just north of Route 6A and adjacent to Scorton Creek. The creek is bordered by an extensive salt marsh, and views of the marsh are available.

Sandwich Conservation Trust
508-888-7629





Shawme Crowell State Forest
42 Main Street, on Route 130
Sandwich, MA

More than 15 miles of roads and trails provide hiking and equestrian access to over 700 acres of pitch pine and scrub oak landscape. You may also access trails across from main entrance to Heritage Museum and Gardens on Pine Street.

Skunknett River Wildlife Sanctuary
Bumps River Road,
Barnstable, MA

Walking the tree-lined trails at Skunknett River, you can witness nature reclaiming former mill sites and explore a fragrant Atlantic White Cedar swamp. The name Skunknett comes from an Algonquin word that means a fishing place for eel; American eels may be seen in the sanctuary's waterways.
www.massaudubon.org
508-362-7475

Cape Cod Potato Chip Factory
100 Breed's Hill Road in Hyannis

Take a self-guided tour through the factory to see how Cape Cod Potato chips are made. The tour is short but you get a free bag of chips

when you are done.
Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Open in July and August
508-4575-3358

Barnstable Great Marsh
Wildlife Sanctuary
West Main St., Route 6A
Barnstable, MA 02630

A short 1.5 mi. walk through the woodlands will bring you to the edge of the salt marsh. Enjoy the ever-changing beauty of one of the most productive ecosystems on earth.
508-362-7475
www.massaudubon.org

Blueberry Bog 92 Spring Hill Rd.
East Sandwich, MA

(Spring Hill Rd. at intersection of Quaker Meeting House Rd. and Route 6A)
You can get your day off to an early start by showing up as early as 7:30 a.m. or anytime up until 3:30 p.m. for pick your own fun. The season is a brief one but from late July throughout the month of August its open season on berry picking.
Call 508-888-1560 to check harvest.
www.berrywerks.com

Dexter's Grist Mill
Water St, Sandwich, MA

The mill is not just a picturesque landscape attraction. It is still a working mill! You can go in and see the wooden mill mechanism at work grinding corn, and you can

buy bags of fresh cornmeal the same day its ground.
Adults \$4, Youth \$3. Ticket includes Hoxie House Tour
Open July - Aug. 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sandwich Recreation Dept
508-888-4361

Pairpoint
851 Sandwich Rd, Sagamore, MA

Come on in and view a glass blowing demonstration. It is a place to watch the magic of glass blowing.
Open Mon-Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
508-888-2344

The Knob

With magnificent views of Buzzards Bay and Quissett Harbor, The Knob is a treasure to locals and the lucky visitors who have discovered it. Cornelia L. Carey left these 12 acres to Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries in the early 1970s in the hopes that the public would enjoy such an accessible and visually striking nature preserve. The Knob is open to the public from dawn to dusk for bird watching, strolling, beach combing, and swimming. There is no lifeguard on duty.
To reach The Knob, follow Woods Hole Road south from Falmouth center for about two miles. At the traffic lights, turn right onto Quissett Harbor Road and follow until its end by the docks. Limited parking is available along the road.

Low Cost/ Donations

**Green Briar Nature Center
& Jam Kitchen**
6 Discovery Hill Rd.
East Sandwich MA

Located on the shores of Smiling Pool and adjacent to the famous Briar Patch of Thornton Burgess's stories, Green Briar offers interpreted nature trails and a spectacular wild flower garden. All trails are free but donations accepted. Drop in for Friday story time and visit with a naturalist and one of the resident animals
Open Mon-Sat, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.
(Members: Free, Non-members: \$2)
www.thorntonburgess.org

**National Marine Life Center
of Buzzards Bay**
120 Main Street
Buzzards Bay, MA

The Discovery Center will amaze, entertain and educate kids (and kids at heart).
Open Memorial Day through Labor Day 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
(Members \$3, Non-members \$5)
508-743-9888
www.NMLC.org



Ocean Science Exhibit Center
15 School Street
Woods Hole, MA

Visitors to WHOI's Ocean Science Exhibit Center will learn about the Institution's ocean science research, vessels and tools developed by WHOI engineers and scientists for use in that research. Visitors can step inside a full-size model of the inner sphere of Alvin and imagine life on the ocean floor while watching vivid footage taken at deep-sea hydrothermal vent sites.

May - October

Mon - Sat, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

November & December

Tues - Fri, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

508-289-2663

www.whoi.edu

Woods Hole Aquarium
166 Water Street Woods Hole, MA

This small public aquarium is the country's oldest aquarium (1875) and operated by NOAA fishery service. It displays about 140 species of marine animals found in Northeast Middle Atlantic U.S. Waters. Seal feedings are at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. most days.

Open: Tues - Sat., 11a.m. - 4p.m.

(Admission: Free/donations welcome.)

508-495-2001

www.aquarium.nelsc.noaa.gov

Long Pasture Wildlife
Sanctuary Mass Audubon Society
45 Bone Hill Road
Barnstable, MA

Visitor center open most days with resident goats, sheep and wildlife. Variety of Trails to hike, kayaking opportunities. Members free nonmembers: \$4 adults \$3 children (3-12) and seniors. They offer a variety of programs for all ages for additional cost.

508-362-7475

www.massaudubon.org

Cape Cod Museum
of Natural History
869 Main St., Brewster, MA

There is two floors of exhibits about the flora and fauna of Cape Cod including exhibits on whales, indigenous birds, and coastal change.

Other displays include several aquariums holding different species of crustaceans, mollusks, fish, frogs, turtles and snakes. There are several interactive displays geared to children and special, temporary exhibits enhance the permanent collection. Three nature trails meander through woodland, salt marsh and the shore of Cape Cod Bay. Guided field walks are offered year round, daily in summer. Cost of visit: adults \$15 senior \$10, ages 3-12 \$6, under 2 free

508-896-3867 ext. 138

www.ccmnh.org



Playgrounds

Sandwich Marina Playground Ed Moffitt Drive, Sandwich MA

This playground is fenced in with a gate to keep little wonders in. It has swings, a climbing structure, slide, a bow of a boat. As well, as stand up and spin for the older kids.

508-833-0808

Adventure Playground 260 Quaker Meeting House Rd. Sandwich MA

Newly Renovated in 2014 with new features and it is now fenced in for safety. There are three play structures two specifically for toddlers and one for older kids. You can keep an eye on all your kids while they climb, slide, and crawl through tunnels and lots more.

Mullen Hall School Playground 130 Katherine Lee Bates Rd. Falmouth, MA

A playground for all ages. It has climbing wall, slides, swings, balance beams, monkey bars plus additional structures for imaginative play; a light house, small rowboats, tug boats and lots more. There is a separate toddler section with many of the same features as the big kids section but better sized for little hands and feet.



Heritage Memorial Park Route 130, Mashpee MA

This Park has two playgrounds one can be seen from road surrounded by a fence. This playground is newly renovated 2014 with some new features, as well as plenty of same climbing and sliding equipment as in years past. If you drive in past soccer and baseball fields, there is another playground with multiple stations for pre-school and school-aged children

Luke's Love Playground 2377 Meetinghouse Way West Barnstable, MA

This is a "boundless" playground. There are varieties of swings, slides, climbing structure with ramps for accessibility. It is located near a field for some open space fun.

Great Finds

Coonamessett Farms 227 Hatchville Road, East Falmouth, MA

Coonamessett Farm is a twenty-acre farming and research enterprise. Visit the farm for a day, pick, purchase fresh vegetables, and visit with the farm animals. Their alpacas, sheep, goats, donkeys, chickens and ducks always welcome company. Call for more info at 508-563- 2560. Day pass cost: \$8 per person (2 and over).

www.coonamessettfarm.com

Cape Cod Children's Museum
577 Great Neck Road
South, Mashpee MA

Nonprofit organization Cape Cod Children's Museum is a place where families can learn and play together. The museum feature many hands on activities, a pirate ship, an in-door planetarium, Puppet Theater, toddler play area and daily programs that come with price of admission. *Members: Free; Non-members: ages 1-59 \$9, Seniors 60+ \$8, Under 1 Free.*
508-539-8788
info@capecodchildrensmuseum.org

Buttonwood Zoo
Hawthorn Rd New Bedford, MA

Come encounter animals from both at home and around the world. Take a journey through our Berkshires to the Sea. Exhibits include black bears, mountain lions, river otters, bald eagles, and seals. Enter the world of Buttonwood Farm, where you will meet rare breeds of farm animals.
Open Apr - Oct. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Cost: Adults \$10, Student/Senior \$8, Ages 3-12 \$6, Under 3 Free
508-991-6871
www.bpzoo.org

Resources

Cape Cod Pathways
interactive map:

<http://www.capecodcommission.org/index.php?id=127&maincatid=27>

Find family events by zip code:

www.Brainbuildinginprogress.org

Fun Family Day Trips:

<http://www.funthingstodoincentralmass.com/2014/05/10-massachusetts-day-trips>

Free Fun Fridays:

highlandstreet.org/freefunfridays.html

The Sandwich Partnership for Families produced this book in honor of Beth Cranston-Dwyer, whose joyful love for children, families, and Sandwich will always be remembered.



*This booklet generously reprinted by our friends at
The Cape Cod Cooperative Bank*