

# Sanctuaries

*Open to the Public*



Founded in 1959, Sheriff's Meadow Foundation is the local land trust for the island of Martha's Vineyard. Our mission is to conserve the natural, beautiful, rural landscape and character of Martha's Vineyard for present and future generations. The Foundation was created by Henry Beetle Hough and Elizabeth Bowie Hough to save a small, Edgartown property known as the "Sheriff's Meadow." Since our founding, Sheriff's Meadow Foundation has grown considerably.

We now own 2,390 acres of conservation land and protect an additional 830 acres with conservation restrictions. Sheriff's Meadow is a nonprofit, charitable organization supported by contributions.

We are your local land trust, and we invite you to enjoy visiting the sanctuaries described in this guide and to become involved. To find property-specific trail maps and to learn more about Sheriff's Meadow Foundation, please visit our website, found at [www.sheriffsmeadow.org](http://www.sheriffsmeadow.org).

Download TrailMV, the free app developed by Sheriff's Meadow Foundation. TrailsMV was made possible by the financial support and vision of generous donors, volunteer photographers, the collaboration of all the island conservation organizations, the Martha's Vineyard Commission and many of the island town.

Conserving the natural, beautiful, rural landscape and character of Martha's Vineyard for present and future generations.

*Please send me information on the following:*

### Ways to Get Involved

- Volunteer Opportunities, in the Field and in the Office
- Guided Walks and Outings

### Ways to Give

- Donating Land or Conservation Restrictions
- Making an Endowment Gift
- Planned Giving and Bequests

*Enclosed please find my gift of:*

\$25 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



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Founded by Henry Beetle Hough and Elizabeth Bowie Hough in 1959.

Cover photo: Kate Feiffer | Property: Phillips Preserve

# Sanctuary Guide



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**1 Bittersweet Hill**  
Bittersweet Hill is a 2.5-acre property that commands a view of Edgartown Harbor, Katama Bay, and all of Water Street in Edgartown. Trails connect to nearby Town and Land Bank conservation lands.

No parking available onsite. Access from the ferry or the Land Bank's Chappy Point Beach parking and walk over via the Gardener property.

**2 Brightwood Park**  
The 8.5-acre Brightwood Park directly abuts the Land Bank's Ramble Trail Preserve. Cloven by a steep ravine, these neighboring properties are linked together by a trail.

From State Road in Vineyard Haven, take the Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road .4 miles to Winyah Lane. Turn right after .6 miles onto Weaver Lane. The trailhead is on the right at the end of Weaver Lane.

**3 Brookside Ridge Preserve**  
The 50-acre Brookside Ridge Preserve offers a path through a magnificent grove of American beeches. The Preserve's main trail is dedicated to Steve Crampton, President of Sheriff's Meadow Foundation from 2006 to 2008.

*Middle Road:* Park at the Land Bank trailhead for Tiasquam Valley Reservation off Middle Road. Walk up-island on Middle Road to Sarah Brown Lane, on the left, and follow trail signs to the Preserve.

*South Road:* Park at MVLB Tiasquam Valley Reservation trailhead off South Road. The trail leads directly to the Brookside Ridge Preserve.

**4 Caroline Tuthill Preserve**  
With 150 acres of woods, salt marsh, meadows and kettlehole ponds, Caroline Tuthill Preserve is one of Sheriff's Meadow Foundation's largest sanctuaries.

From the Triangle in Edgartown, travel .5 miles west on the Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road to the trailhead located on the right.

**5 Cedar Tree Neck Sanctuary**  
Enjoy rugged trails crossing 400 acres of forests, bluffs, beaches and bogs on this spectacular picturesque property.

*Daggett Trailhead:* From State Road follow Indian Hill Road 1.75 miles. Turn right onto Obed Daggett Road (near the hilltop) and follow the "Sanctuary" signs for 1 mile to the trailhead.

*Taylor Gate Trailhead:* Follow Indian Hill Road for 2 miles to the end at Norton Circle. Parking is directly ahead.

*Irvin Trailhead:* Follow Indian Hill Road for 1.7 miles. Parking is on your right just before Obed Daggett Road.

**6 Eastman and Knapp Preserves**  
The 18-acre Eastman and Knapp Preserves offer a lovely trail that descends to the shore of Menemsha Pond, with breathtaking views of Menemsha Pond and Prospect Hill along the way.

From State Road in Aquinnah, turn onto East Pasture Road. Follow signs to parking.

**7 Goethals Family Trail**  
Some 9.5 acres of sand dunes, coastal heath, streams and woodlands are protected by a conservation restriction on land that is owned by the Town of West Tisbury. In the off-season months, the public is invited to enjoy the Goethals Family Trail.

Follow the Lambert's Cove Road to the parking lot for Lambert's Cove Beach. Public parking is available in the off-season months.

**8 Little Beach**  
Little Beach consists of 10 acres of sandy beach along Nantucket Sound and the marshes surrounding much of Eel Pond. Rare birds breed here, including terns and piping plovers.

Little Beach may be reached via Fuller Street Beach.

**9 Huckleberry Barrens**  
Huckleberry Barrens is a 17-acre swath of the Katama Plain. A loop trail explores barrens of huckleberry, thickets of scrub oak and groves of cedars and bayberries.

Head south on the Katama Road and turn left onto Edgartown Bay Road. Trailhead is located on the right.

**10 Middle Road Sanctuary**  
Traverse a forest of black, white and scarlet oaks on the rugged glacial moraine of Chilmark. Trails loop across the 100-acre Middle Road Sanctuary, and connect to multiple conservation lands via King's Highway and other trails.

Heading up-island, take Middle Road past Meetinghouse Road and find the trailhead .4 miles ahead on the left. Heading down-island from Beetlebung Corner, pass Tabor House Road and find trailhead .2 miles up on the right.

**11 Nat's Farm**  
Along Old County Road in West Tisbury lies Nat's Farm, a 56-acre expanse of field, meadow, woods and pasture. Trails run the perimeter of the land and offer connections to the State Forest.

Located off Old County Road, approximately .5 miles north of Scotchman's Bridge Lane and .5 miles south of the West Tisbury School.

**12 Ox Pond Meadow**  
Open meadow, blueberries and a bit of woods make up the 4-acre Ox Pond Meadow. A path crosses the meadow and offers a lovely view of Nantucket Sound.

No parking is available onsite. Access Ox Pond Meadow via Braley's Way and Orr Lane.

**13 Packard Preserve**  
The 7-acre Packard Preserve trail leads from Pocha Road to a grand, scenic overlook atop Katama Bay.

Parking is available across Pocha Road from the Packard Preserve, at the Land Bank's old Poucha Pond Reservation trailhead, 3.8 miles from the ferry landing.

**14 Phillips Preserve**  
The Phillips Preserve is a 65-acre oak and pine forest on the west side of Lake Tashmoo. The Margaret Lindsay Memorial Trail offers a loop walk leading to Aunt Rhoda's Pond.

From the entrance to Lambert's Cove Road at the lower end, follow Lambert's Cove Road to Northern Pines Road. Take a right onto Northern Pines Road and follow for .5 miles. Parking is on the left.

**15 Quansoo Farm**  
On the outwash plain of Chilmark, 146-acre Quansoo Farm is a mix of fields, meadows and forests of sculpted oaks that stretch to the shores of Black Point Pond and Tisbury Great Pond. The Land Bank trail easement runs the perimeter of the property.

From the Chilmark/West Tisbury town line, take South Road up-island .5 miles to the unmarked Quansoo Road. Turn left onto Quansoo Road, and follow Quansoo Road 1.4 miles to trailhead, bearing left at the Quenames fork and the Black Point Road fork.

**16 Sheriff's Meadow Sanctuary**  
The Foundation's namesake property, 18-acre Sheriff's Meadow Sanctuary was the first property given to Sheriff's Meadow Foundation. The *Ruth and Ed Brooks Trail* offers a loop walk and views of John Butler's Mudhole, Eel Pond and Nantucket Sound.

Approaching downtown Edgartown on Main Street, turn left onto Pease's Point Way. Continue straight onto Plantingfield Way. Proceed .2 miles to the kiosk on the right.

**17 Slater Preserve**  
Enjoy meandering through oak woodlands, pockets of scrub oak and a beach grove on this 14-acre preserve located off Chappaquiddick Road.

Access by walking along Chappaquiddick Road from the Ferry or Chappy Community Center. No parking available onsite.

**18 Hal & Olive Tilghman Preserve**  
The trails on the 2-acre Hal & Olive Tilghman Preserve travels beneath stately hickories and connects to the Landing Place Road leading to the beach on Edgartown Harbor.

The trail is located on Chappaquiddick Road approximately 1.4 miles from the ferry landing. The nearest available parking is at the Chappy Community Center.

**19 Vineyard Golf Club Trail**  
View the frostbottom and connect to Dr. Fisher Road and many ancient ways along this trail on the western edge of the Vineyard Golf Club conservation area.

Access the trail via the Edgartown-West Tisbury Road, just east of Metcalf Drive, or via the Dr. Fisher Road Ancient Way. No parking available onsite.

**20 Wallen, Preston & Shands Preserve**  
Atop the Gay Head Cliffs and high above Moshup Beach, these 5.6 rolling acres offer panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean and Nomans Land. The loop trail connects to the Aquinnah Cultural Center and Moshup Beach.

Near the circle by the Gay Head Cliffs, park at the Land Bank trailhead or in the Town of Aquinnah parking lot.

**21 West Chop Woods**  
The 80 forested acres of West Chop Woods are found less than 1.5 miles from downtown Vineyard Haven. The old Lighthouse Road and other trails offer loops of varying lengths.

Parking is located off Franklin Street and a walk-on entrance is located off Main Street.

**22 Woodger Trail**  
This beautiful path skirts the edge of the Chappy Golf Course and connects to the Cove Meadow conservation area.

Hike or bike to the trail from North Neck Road. Parking is available at Land Bank's North Neck Highlands Preserve.