

9 Milestone Trail



Trail Guide

Walking time: 30 to 90 minutes

Parking: 5–6 spaces

Ideal for: hikers, joggers, mountain bikers, bird watchers, dog walkers, and children.

An important part of the Land Bank's goal to create a green-belt area between town and country districts on the island, the Milestone Trail is an excellent example of an ecosystem in transition. At one time cleared as farm land, this part of the island has been infiltrated by dense scrub oak and pine that is a favorite habitat of white tailed deer and many species of songbirds. Milestone Trail can be walked in a loop which features a wide-open grass pasture, a narrow bike trail that serves as an excellent pathway to the middle moors and wide, meandering trails through the dappled sunlight of the thick scrub oak forest. Several different trails crisscross this area, affording an excellent opportunity to explore new vistas and experience a different side of Nantucket.

Directions: From the Rotary, follow the Milestone Road past the Polpis Road turn-off, and look for the Land Bank marker after ¼ mile on the left. The parking area is to the left, as you exit Milestone Road.

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Enjoying Nantucket Safely

The Nantucket Land Bank accepts no liability due to injury resulting from use of this map or its properties. In other words, you use these trails and recreational areas at your own risk. Follow these tips in order to ensure your use of Land Bank properties is safe and enjoyable:

Dress Appropriately

On trails, wear hiking shoes or boots. In the summer, employ light clothing that provides protection from the sun. In the winter, multiple layers that wick moisture will keep you warm and dry.

Check for Ticks

Nantucket has one of the highest rates of tick-borne diseases in the world. So follow these simple tips. Stay on the trail and avoid tall grasses, shrubs and hanging branches. Wear boots with socks and long pants when possible (tucking your pants into your socks may look geeky, but it will keep ticks from reaching your skin.) Check your family for ticks daily. Be advised that a deer tick nymph is often only the size of a crumb.

Avoid Poison Ivy

Learn to identify and avoid the three shiny leaves and white berries associated with poison ivy. It is one of the most pervasive plants on Nantucket, found near beaches, on wooded trails, near wetlands and moors.

Use Sunscreen

Wear sunscreen and protective clothing to keep from being burned by the powerful summer sun. Some Land Bank trails are rather long and provide little shade, so plan accordingly.

Hydrate Properly

It's often surprising how quickly one can become dehydrated when walking in the moors or on the beach. So bring water with you and drink often.

Hunting Season

Most Land Bank properties are open to hunting in season. Hikers are encouraged to wear bright clothing and keep pets on a leash. The best time to enjoy Land Bank properties during hunting season is on Sundays when hunting is not allowed. Hikers are asked to report any hunting remains that are not properly disposed of to the Land Bank office.

Vehicle Access

Please note that not all of the dirt roads and passable trails are maintained on a regular basis and some may only be traversable with four-wheel drive vehicles. Even with four-wheel drive, you may need to reduce tire pressure on particularly sandy patches. A sticker is required for driving on beaches.

Cell Phones

Bring a cell phone in case you get lost.

Pack In, Pack Out

In most cases, there are no trash receptacles provided at these properties, so please help keep our beaches clean by taking everything that you brought to the beach with you when you leave.

Pet Owners

Keeping our properties and beaches clean by cleaning up after your pet is greatly appreciated.

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