

## Polpis Harbor, Holly Farm



**Walking time:** 15 to 60+ minutes

**Parking:** 4–6 spaces

**Ideal for:** children, dog walkers, and bird watchers

You might think you've taken a wrong turn as you drive along the rutted dirt road that leads to this property. You'll pass several driveways leading to private, expensive vacation homes along the way. Happily, when you reach the parking area, you can enjoy the million-dollar views for free. The pathway to the property from the parking area runs parallel to the harbor. You can take this route, or walk to the dirt boat ramp and then along the harbor's banks at low tide. Watch your step, as it can be slippery. You'll make your way to a wide-open field next to a reedy salt marsh which extends well into the property. Here, you'll find several raised boardwalks that will elevate you over the swamper terrain. Once past the first curved wooden bridge to your south, facing a stand of holly trees in neat rows (the remnants of Holly Farm) you have the option of turning right and walking over another boardwalk to a wide-open meadow which will bring you back to the harbor's edge. Or you can turn left through an opening in the holly grove to a grassy trail through black berry brambles and wild grapes (The scent of grapes in the Fall is practically intoxicating). This trail leads to the dirt access road and loops back to the parking area.

*Directions:* Drive east on the Polpis Road to the Wauwinet turn-off, and just before the turn-off, take a hard left onto Polpis Harbor Road. Just before the water, take a left into the large parking area.

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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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