

THE DENNIS
CONSERVATION
LAND TRUST



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Dennis Conservation Land Trust's (DCLT) Nature Newsletter



What is the DCLT?

Conservation is protecting our soil, water, plants, and wildlife from pollution and habitat destruction. The Dennis Conservation Land Trust, or the DCLT, is a group who work hard to conserve wild lands in Dennis so that you can explore all of the natural wonders of our town! The DCLT started in 1988, and now owns about 394 acres of different land types, including forests and wetlands, open for everyone to explore.

The DCLT also has special agreements that protect another 217 acres of land. Want to learn more about the DCLT? Sit down with a parent or guardian and visit dennisconservationlandtrust.org for more information.



FUN FACT:

**394 acres equals the length of
almost 375 football fields!**



Connecting with Creatures

Local wildlife organizations like Massachusetts Audubon and Wild Care often see a wide variety of marine and land animals who make their homes in Dennis. You may find some of them in or along the shorelines of Cape Cod Bay or Nantucket Sound, like shellfish, dolphins, and whales, and birds like Great Blue Herons and Snowy Owls. Dennis also has forested land that is shelter for animals like foxes, raccoons, opossums and rabbits. There are so many creatures to see here in Dennis. All you have to do is get out and explore!

FUN FACT:
Fisher Cats are not actually cats.
They are mammals in the weasel family!

CREATURES OF DENNIS WORD SEARCH



Words:

Dolphin
Fox
Heron
Opossum
Rabbit
Raccoon
Shellfish
Whale

S	R	O	P	O	S	S	U	M	K
P	H	R	L	R	A	B	B	I	T
H	L	E	A	W	B	A	H	T	X
E	H	A	L	C	H	L	P	P	Z
R	G	Q	X	L	C	A	P	L	S
O	V	O	W	S	F	O	L	K	C
N	F	P	Z	Y	K	I	O	E	P
V	F	D	O	L	P	H	S	N	Y
B	O	V	C	X	F	X	S	H	R

BUT REMEMBER:

When watching wildlife, it's always important to stay quiet and give the animals lots of space so you don't scare or harm them.



wildlife in the winter



It's winter time here on Cape Cod and you know what that means: cold temperatures, icy winds and snow....brrr! While you may spend your time staying warm inside, many wild animals are still outside in the wintry weather. How can they do that? Wildlife on the Cape have adapted to the cold in different ways. Some animals have a thick fur coat to stay warm. Others avoid the cold by hibernating or sleeping until spring.

Fattening up before winter is also a common way that animals survive the winter on Cape Cod. Before the cold sets in, wildlife will eat extra-large amounts of food that will give them energy they can use throughout the winter. Make sure to keep your eyes open for signs of wildlife in the winter! Animal tracks, scat and dens are all signs that wildlife are surviving the winter in your own backyard.

FUN FACT:

"Scat" is the scientific term for animal poop.



IMPORTANT:

Ticks can survive during the winter, too. It's important to check for ticks EVERY TIME you explore outdoors. You can protect yourself from ticks by staying on trails, wearing light-colored long sleeves, pants and tucking your pants into your socks.

How YOU Can Help

We need YOU! Now that you know about the conservation land and wildlife of Dennis, it's your turn to help spread the word. As a Dennis Explorer, you can help protect the natural beauty of Dennis for years to come.

How? You can help out by picking up trash along nature trails, encouraging your friends and family to attend clean-up events like the annual Dennis Conservation Celebration held each April, and by staying safe and being respectful as you explore the natural world in Dennis and across Cape Cod!

NOTE: When exploring all of the natural wonders in Dennis, it's important to be prepared. Below you will find a Dennis Explorers' Survival Kit, everything an Explorer needs! Always remember to explore with a buddy or a parent/guardian to stay safe.

Dennis Explorers' Survival Kit:

Backpack
Water /Snacks
Bright clothing to alert hunters
Trail Guide/Map
Notebook to write or draw what you see
Compass
First Aid Kit
Flashlight



SAVE THE DATE

Dennis Conservation Celebration

Saturday, April 27, 2019

9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Johnny Kelley Park

COME JOIN US!

Visit

dennisconservationlandtrust.org

for more info!