



Sound Waves

A Monthly Newsletter from Save Our Sound

MAY 2024

Alliance News & Notes



As we gather momentum in our efforts to preserve and protect Nantucket Sound, I am pleased to provide you with an update on our latest strides towards achieving this vital goal.

At the heart of our mission lies a deep commitment to recognizing and honoring the tribal history of the Wampanoag people, whose connection to Nantucket Sound spans millennia. As we actively pursue administrative and legislative pathways, it is essential to ground ourselves in the profound significance of this heritage.

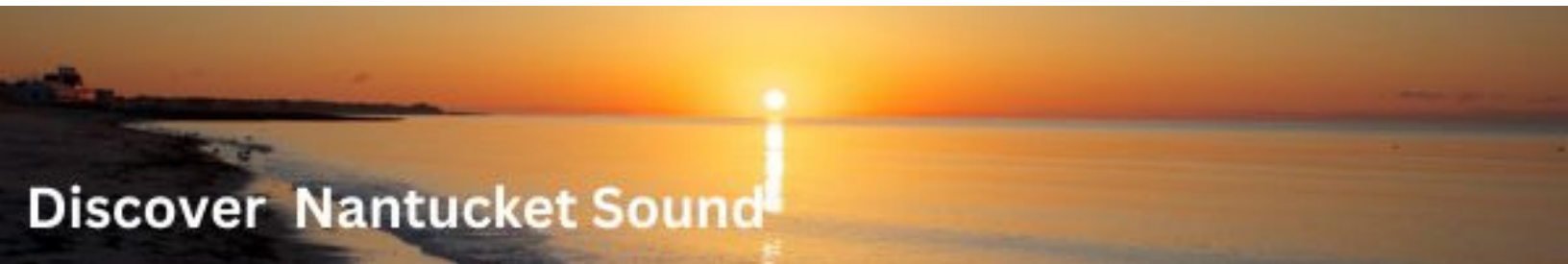
Nantucket Sound holds a unique place in history as the first and only ocean-based Traditional Cultural Property recognized by the Keeper of the National Register because of its cultural significance to the Wampanoag people. This designation underscores the need for permanent preservation of this sacred site.

The Sound was once exposed land where the Wampanoag people traversed, fished, cultivated, and interred their ancestors. It is a source of crucial information about Native American Indian exploration and settlement of Cape Cod and the Islands. Nantucket Sound illustrates an ongoing way of life and culture for Wampanoag history, traditions, religion, practices, and was home to an existing human population beginning approximately 13,000 years ago.

Our current focus centers on the designation of Nantucket Sound as a National Historic Landmark (NHL), the highest level of historic protection. Last year, we submitted a Letter of Inquiry to the National Park Service to begin the administrative process for NHL designation while we continue to also pursue federal legislation to accomplish this goal. The Park Service is now conducting government to government consultation with the tribes to dig deeper into the national tribal significance of Nantucket Sound and to ensure that the voices and perspectives of the Wampanoag and other tribal communities are heard.

Together, let us continue to champion the preservation of Nantucket Sound's tribal history, and ensure that this national treasure is protected for generations to come.

With gratitude and determination - ***Audra Parker, President***



Dowses Beach in Osterville

Memorial Day is not far away, which means it is getting closer to days spent at the beach on the Cape and Islands! **Dowses Beach** on Nantucket Sound features warm, quiet waters and white sand. On the East Bay, it is a very easy walk from downtown Osterville. It is also a great place to take pictures of sunsets at dusk and to fish off the jetties or the fishing dock. Overall,

Dowses Beach provides a quiet resting place to open that new summer read, collect seashells, and take in the beautiful scenic views. It is not a large beach, but certainly one of the Cape's best.

If you are looking for something to do or sites to see in and around Nantucket Sound, you can always visit the [Discover page](#) on our website, which provides you with information on beaches, parks, historic sites, and more - a great resource to create your very own Nantucket Sound Bucket List!



This month, we put a spotlight on Sandy Taylor, our very own Executive Assistant at the Alliance. Sandy is a Cape resident of over 45 years. Before joining the Alliance full-time in 2004, she worked almost 30 years in the banking industry. Her family arrived here in 1620 and she loves to sail on the waters of Nantucket Sound. Sandy grew up in Pennsylvania and has her undergraduate degree in biology from the University of North Carolina.

1. What does Nantucket Sound mean to you?

Nantucket Sound has been part of my whole life. As a child, my family would spend our summer vacations at my grandmother's in Hyannis and go to Kalmus Beach. We also spent many summers on Lake Tashmoo over on the Vineyard, and have many fond memories that include the Sound. Today, we sail on Nantucket Sound and still enjoy walking and cleaning the beaches.

2. How long have you worked for the Alliance? What do you most enjoy about your work here?

I just celebrated my 20th year with the Alliance this past April. Working here has given me the opportunity to make a difference in how we perceive the need to protect the Sound for future generations through awareness and education.

3. What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I enjoy going on walks. This year I will walk my 21st Jimmy Fund Boston Marathon walk. I also enjoy knitting, gardening, and reading in my spare time



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