



Sound Waves

A Monthly Newsletter from Save Our Sound

APRIL 2025

Alliance News & Notes



As we welcome the spring season on the Cape and Islands, we remain steadfast in our mission to achieve permanent protection for Nantucket Sound through its designation as a National Historic Landmark (NHL). This designation will provide long-overdue recognition of the Sound's cultural, historical, and environmental significance while ensuring its protection for future generations.

To achieve this, we continue to work with our federal delegation to advance the Nantucket Sound National Historic Landmark Act, which would secure this critical designation. The process of passing this legislation, as you can imagine,

requires time, patience, and persistence—but we remain committed to seeing it through. Additionally, we are actively engaging with state agencies and local officials to build strong, bipartisan support for this effort. Your voices—alongside those of community leaders, environmental advocates, and tribal representatives—are essential in making this a reality.

Just last week, we were grateful to get together with some of you at our Spring Gathering at the Osterville Anglers Club. It was a wonderful opportunity to connect, provide updates on our progress, and express our appreciation for your continued support. We would like to thank the Osterville Anglers Club for their generosity, especially Bruce Cunningham (President) and Bill Ferretti (Club Manager).



As we move into the busy spring and summer months, we look forward to expanding our outreach across Cape Cod and the Islands, engaging with more members of our community, and growing the coalition dedicated to protecting the Sound.

We remain deeply grateful for your support and commitment to this cause. Together, we will ensure that Nantucket Sound is permanently protected and recognized for its unparalleled significance.

Warm regards,
Audra Parker, President



Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge



With spring in full bloom, there's no better time to explore **Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge** in Chatham—a stunning natural haven along Nantucket Sound. Spanning thousands of acres of salt marshes, dunes, and barrier islands, Monomoy is a paradise for birdwatchers, nature lovers, and those seeking a peaceful coastal escape.

Designated as a wilderness area, Monomoy is home to a rich diversity of wildlife, including migratory

shorebirds, seals, and even rare species like the piping plover and roseate tern. It's also one of the most serene and unspoiled stretches of coastline in the region, offering breathtaking views and plenty of opportunities to reconnect with nature.

Things To Do in Springtime:

- **Birdwatching:** Spring is an ideal time to see a variety of shorebirds returning to the refuge. Don't forget your binoculars.
- **Hiking & Exploring:** Enjoy scenic trails that wind through maritime forests, dunes, and salt marshes, with unparalleled views of the Sound.
- **Seal Spotting:** Harbor and gray seals can often be seen lounging along the shore.
- **Kayaking & Boating:** The waters around Monomoy are a paddler's dream, with pristine shorelines and hidden inlets to explore.

Accessible from **Morris Island** in Chatham, the refuge offers a visitor center where you can learn more about the area's unique ecosystem. Whether you're looking for a tranquil nature walk or an adventurous day on the water, **Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge** is a must-visit destination along Nantucket Sound this spring.

So, pack a picnic, bring your camera, and experience the natural beauty of Monomoy as the warmer days arrive! Check out their website and click on their "Visit Us" page for more information.

For more places to discover in and around Nantucket Sound, please visit our website at www.saveoursound.org/explore.



*This month, we put a spotlight on our very own **Kelsey Rebhan**. Originally from Vermont, Kelsey has lived on Cape Cod since 2021. She has a Bachelor's degree in Integrated Marketing Communications from Ithaca College. Kelsey began her tenure at the Alliance as a Summer Events Intern in the summer of 2021. After that first summer, she stayed on at the Alliance and started her role as the Community Engagement Coordinator. In the fall of 2024, Kelsey was promoted to the role of **Development Manager**.*

1. What does Nantucket Sound mean to you?

The Sound means nostalgia and solace for me. It provides fond memories of my childhood summers spent here. When I walk to my nearby beach, no matter what season, time and other life stressors slip away, and it's just me and that impressive expanse of water.

2. What are your favorite spots to visit around Nantucket Sound?

My favorite spot around the Sound is called "Grandma's Beach." It's the beach closest to my grandparents' house, and it was the beach we would go to every day when I would visit for a week each summer growing up. The declaration of our grandmother theoretically owning a beach started when we were young and became so commonplace in our family that the term stuck. The beach obviously does have an official/ town sanctioned name, but we have called it "Grandma's Beach" for so long that it has become the unofficial name in my family. The beach harbors so many great memories, and it is still the beach I walk to almost daily.

3. Explain to us what you do at the Alliance as Development Manager. What do you most enjoy about your work here?

Previously, in my role as Community Engagement Coordinator, I spent most of my time planning or assisting with community events. My new role as Development Manager is a role that not only focuses internally on data analysis, but also externally by interacting with existing donors and reaching out to new prospects.

4. What is one piece of advice you'd give to someone who wants to be more involved in protecting Nantucket Sound?

"Little by little is better than nothing at all" is one of my favorite quotes regarding progress.

Sometimes people forget how strong even one voice can be. It's so important to advocate for what you believe in. Advocating in whatever capacity you are able to is better than none at all.

My advice for someone who would like to get more involved in protecting Nantucket Sound is sharing and outreach. Calling your reps, attending local meetings, sharing information through social media are all ways we can make an impact. It takes tenacity and time for change to be seen.

I also think that word-of-mouth conversation is an overlooked, but impactful method of activism. Some ways to get involved could be as simple as initiating conversations or passing along information regarding Nantucket Sound and its federal vs. state waters layout. Providing others in your community with actionable steps that they can implement to get more informed and involved about protecting Nantucket Sound.

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

In my spare time I can be found either reading or crafting. I tend to hobby hop, so one week the hobby will be knitting, the next week it might be printmaking, painting, wood carving, pottery, etc.

Help us preserve Nantucket Sound

**Visit our website and sign the petition supporting the
Nantucket Sound Historic Landmark Act**

PETITION. PRESERVE. PROTECT.

www.saveoursound.org/petition



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