

B - 2 Makepeace Wildlife Sanctuary
– Bricks and Kings

Once used as a woodlot to fuel the furnaces at the West Barnstable Brick Company, much of this 86 acre property was donated to the Orenda Wildlife Land Trust by the heirs of A.D. Makepeace. Known as “The Cranberry King” he was the founder of the world’s largest cranberry growing operation. The area is a prime example of a pitch pine and oak forest. Other tree species include: red maple, American holly, black cherry, American beech, pignut hickory, bigtooth aspen, and sassafras. Understory vegetation includes: hawthorn, hazelnut, northern arrow-wood, withered, lowbush blueberry, inkberry, and pink lady slippers.

B - 3 Johns Pond Conservation Area
– Restoring Nature’s Bounty

Like many streams on Cape Cod, the upper reaches of the Quashnet River, which flows out of Johns Pond, have been greatly impacted by cranberry farming. The dams and bogs slowed the river’s flow, which allowed vegetation to grow, further slowing the pace of the river. The wide shallow water makes fish easy targets for predators, limiting their chances for survival. Sunlight on a slow-moving river also warms the water, further threatening fish. The Town of Mashpee is pursuing a project with interest and assistance from state, federal, and local authorities to restore the former Quashnet River back into a healthy cold-water fishery. The hope is to bring back the river, the surrounding wetlands, and woodlands to their former glory.

