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 – Overlooking Deepest Pond on Cape Cod

Cape Cod has nearly a 1,000 lakes and ponds. They typically formed from depressions left in the land surface after the glaciers retreated north 12,000 years ago. The glaciers left large chunks of ice surrounded and covered by sand. As the chunks of ice melted, the glacial deposits above them collapsed, forming large depressions called “kettle holes”. Mashpee and Wakeby Ponds are two connected kettle hole ponds, forming one large body of water covering 729 acres. The ponds are fed by groundwater and drain to the Mashpee River. With a maximum depth of 87 feet, Mashpee Pond is the deepest pond on Cape Cod. Conaumet Neck separates the two ponds and there are three undeveloped islands (Jefferson, Keith, and Cleveland Islands) in Wakeby Pond. This land is important habitat and while walking the trails you may encounter a rare eastern box turtle or see a bald eagle overhead. Wakeby and Mashpee Ponds have been designated Living Waters Core Habitat for three rare freshwater mussel species by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.