Wayside Watershed Inventory

Grist Mill Pond

Grist Mill Pond is a large Pond in the southeast corner of Sudbury, with a very small portion extending west into Marlborough. It was created by damming Hop Brook at the Grist Mill. Public trails abut the southern side of the pond through Hop Brook property and also abut the eastern side of the pond on Wayside Inn property. With the exception of a narrow strip of SVT land off of Wayside Inn Road, the northern side of the pond abuts private property. This pond suffers from severe eutrophication from the Marlborough Easterly Waste Water Treatment Plant's phosphorous-laden effluent flowing through Hop Brook. In warm weather, much of the pond is covered with a thick layer of decaying and odiferous algae.





Summer 2003 view of Grist Mill Pond covered with hydrodictyon (algae)

Carding Mill Pond

Carding Mill Pond, the second largest pond in Sudbury, abuts the Wayside Inn property to the south and is accessible by public trails running through the Wayside Inn grounds. Private homes encircle most of the remaining perimeter of the pond, with a Town-owned small field of conservation land to the west, accessible to the public along Dutton Road. The Town also owns a small strip of land surrounding most of the northern and eastern banks of the pond, through which there is a dirt trail network that extends onto private property along the pond's eastern boundary; access to these trails, however, is limited to immediate abutters. [Confirm this – R.O.W. only to Carding

Mill Realty Trust? | Similar to Grist Mill



Pond, Carding Mill Pond also suffers from severe eutrophication as a result of its nutrient-rich Hop Brook headwaters. During the warm months, the pond becomes choked with the invasive aquatic weed water chestnut, algae and duckweed. An island in the middle of the pond serves as an annual breeding ground for great blue heron, snapping turtles and the invasive mute swan. The pond is formed by a dam at its northern end that was built by Henry Ford in the 1930s. This dam, the largest on Hop Brook, is next to the historic town-owned Carding Mill House.



Summer 2003 view of Carding Mill Pond. What appears to be a field is actually water chestnut, an invasive plant that completely covers the surface

French Road Pond

French Road Pond is located on the northeast corner of French and Dutton Roads, is entirely on private property. Hop Brook flows through it. It is visible from Dutton Road. Many waterfowl can be seen here, including Hooded Mergansers from time to time. The pond was created when a dam and gristmill were constructed in the early 1800s. At this location there once was a store that sold west India goods. Algae grows heavily on this pond during the warmer months.



Stearns Mill Pond

Stearns Mill Pond along Dutton Road was formed in the 1600s when a dam was constructed along Hop Brook for power for a saw mill. This pond is almost entirely surrounded by private property, with the exception of a 2¾ acre parcel of Town-owned Park and Recreation Land on the southern boarder. Wetlands flank the pond's southwestern banks. Eutrophication continues to be a problem at this pond. At the October site visit, a thick mat of algae and duckweed covered most of the pond. There is public access to this pond along Dutton Road.



Crystal Lake

Crystal Lake is a small naturally-formed glacial pond surrounded by densely populated houses on Crystal Lake Road to the east and by vast wetlands that are part of the DEM-managed Sudbury State Forest to the west and the north. There is no public access. The lake's waters appear to be connected to Willis Pond via the wetland between the two water bodies. Crystal Lake is a popular local ice skating spot. At the October site visit, this pond was pristine. According to abutters, it does not suffer from aquatic invasive plants or from eutrophication.



Willis Pond

Willis Pond is the largest of Sudbury's glacial ponds and is the only "Great Pond" in Sudbury¹. It is about 10 feet at the deepest points. It is nearly surrounded by protected forests and wetlands. To its west is the Sudbury State Forest, to the northwest is the Assabet National Wildlife Refuge, and to the north is the 55-acre newly acquired Cutting Farm Conservation Land, owned by the Town. Private properties abut the southern and eastern shores of the pond. Run Brook's headwaters are on the eastern side of Willis Pond, from which the stream runs south until it flows into Hop Brook. Willis Pond is popular with boaters and fishermen. A Town-owned boat ramp and dock may be accessed from Lake Shore Drive on the southern shore.

In striking contrast with the man-made ponds created historically by damming Hop Brook, Willis Pond probably owes its origin to large masses of ice formed there during the glacial age. Later, as these masses of ice melted, they left the hollows which now hold the ponds.



¹ "Great Pond" is defined under Massachusetts regulations as a pond containing in its natural state more than ten acres of land. Great ponds are required to have some public access.

The principal trees surrounding Willis
Pond include white pine, oak, maple,
white and gray birch and hemlock. The
old-growth trees were logged by the
English settlers, and as the forests grew
back, so did berry bushes including
whortleberry and blueberry and high
blueberry bushes or billberries. Up on the
plains grew blackberries and raspberries.
The lake is graced with many waterlillies,
and around the perimeter can be found
bulrush and arrowhead plants.

Small Ponds

Pond W1

Pond W1 is a very small pond located entirely on Town of Sudbury
Conservation land between Bigelow Drive and Brimstone Lane. The pond was created when Henry Ford constructed a sizable dam intended to store large quantities of water for the Wayside Inn.
The stream designated as Wa flows through the pond. The dam, which immediately failed, was later named "Ford's Folly." A path runs across the top of the dam and is accessible via a public trail network with parking available at a trailhead on Brimstone Lane.



Pond W2

Pond W2 is a very small pond straddling the Framingham line south of the cul-desac at the end of Bigelow Drive. Only a small portion is in Sudbury and is on private land. The pond has no outlet.

Pond W3

Pond W3 is a small pond located between Bowditch Road and the cul-de-sac at the end of Bigelow Drive and is entirely on private property, but the northern tip abuts Town-owned open space. The pond has no outlet.

Pond W4

Pond W4 is within a landlocked Townowned open space parcel of 4.21 acres. It

flows into the stream designated as Wb, a tributary of Hop Brook.

Pond W5 (aka Josephine Pond)

Pond W5 is also known as Josephine Pond and is located on Wayside Inn property just to the east of the inn.

Named after Henry Ford's only grand-daughter, in the 1930's, it served the Inn with ice cut from the pond. The ice cut here and stored in the ice house in the winter would last well into September. Josephine Pond also made news in December 1955 when the Wayside Inn burned down and water from the pond was pumped to put out the blaze.

In Fall 2005, with the help of the Conservation Commission, Josephine Pond, formerly a four-foot pond behind the Wayside Inn was dredged and excavated to a depth of 20 feet. It has since been stocked with rainbow, brown and speckled trout, offering catch and release barbless hook fly fishing to the public. The stream designated as Wb, a tributary of Hop Brook, flows through the pond. At the October site visit, this pond was very clear.



Pond W6

Pond W6 is a small pond with no outlet located entirely on private property just to the south of and visible from Rt. 20 and to the west of Bigelow Drive. At the October site visit, this pond was mostly dry.



Pond W7 is a small pond located mostly on the Wayside Inn property, with the easternmost end on adjacent private property. The pond, which is just to the south of Carding Mill Pond, has no outlet. At the October site visit, this pond was covered with aquatic invasive plants.



Pond W8

Pond W8, to the north of Garrison House Lane and to the east of Carding Mill Pond, has no outlet. It is on private property.



Pond W9

Pond W9 is a small pond with no outlet, is immediately adjacent to Carding Mill Pond (W9 is to the northeast), and is in far better ecological health than Carding Mill Pond. W9 is entirely on Town of Sudbury Conservation Land. A trail runs to the west of the pond from Henry's Mill Land [ROW to Carding Mill Realty Trust] Many birds and frogs are frequently seen at this pond.



Pond W10

Pond W10 is a tiny pond, with no outlet except to the adjacent wetland. It is located to the north of The Wayside Inn Road and to the west of Pride's Crossing and is entirely on private property.

Pond W11 is a tiny pond at the terminus of stream Wg. It is to the north of The Wayside Inn Road and to the east of Pride's Crossing. It is located entirely on private property. At the October site visit, this pond was clear but was very dry.



Pond W12

Pond W12 is a very small pond with no outlet to the south of and visible from Pride's Crossing just on the Marlborough line. It is located entirely on private property. At the October site visit, this pond was mostly dry but was obviously severely eutrophied.



Pond W13

Pond W13 is a small pond on private property just off of Dutton Road and immediately across the street from French Road Pond. Hop Brook runs through W13. At the October site visit, a considerable amount of duckweed was visible.



Pond W14

Pond W14 is a small pond with no outlet on private land to the west of Dutton Road abutting the southern border of SVT's Memorial Forest.

Pond W15 is a small pond with no outlet within the Marlborough-Sudbury State Forest. [Open to the public? Accessible by trails?]

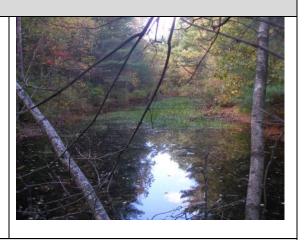


Pond W16

Pond W16 is a very small pond with no outlet within the Assabet National Wildlife Refuge. It is not publicly accessible.

Pond W17

Pond W17 is a small pond with no outlet within the Assabet National Wildlife Refuge. It is not publicly accessible. At the October site visit, this pond was pristine.



Pond W18

Pond W18 is a shallow but large manmade pond created by damming a tributary to Hop Brook. The pond was formerly used by the Sudbury Rod and Gun Club until it was purchased by the Town in 1967. The pond, which is surrounded by marsh and forest, is located entirely within the Town's Hop Brook Marsh Reservation and is accessible to the public via a trail network accessed from a small dirt parking lot on Dutton Road. A variety of bird life, including great blue heron, cormorant, osprey and marshhawk, can be seen here, as well as numerous



turtles, frogs, salamanders and snakes. Boating and fishing are permissible, although there is no vehicle access for a boat launch. This pond generally appears to be in good ecological health, with some limited problems with duckweed and algae.



Pond W19

Pond W19 is a tiny pond along the portion of Hop Brook designated as Wj. It is entirely within the Town-owned Hop Brook Marsh Reservation and is accessible by a public trail at the end of Surrey Lane.



Pond W20

Pond W20 is a small pond in the Assabet National Wildlife Refuge with an outlet into the stream designated as Wl. Although it can readily be seen from a public trail, it is not publicly accessible. At the October site visit, this pond was pristine.



Pond W21

Pond W21 is a small privately-owned pond on private property along Moore Road

Pond W22 is a small pond with no outlet along Dutton Road. It is entirely on private property and contains a dock. At the October site visit, this pond appeared be in very good ecological health.



Pond W23

Pond W23 is a small pond with no outlet to the northwest of Willis Pond. It is in State-owned property in a vast area of wetlands within the Sudbury Town Forest.

Pond W24

Pond W24 is a small pond with no outlet to the north of a large wetland abutting Willis Pond and to the southeast of Cutting Pond. It is on private land. At the October site visit, this pond was mostly dry.



Ponds W25 and W26

Ponds W25 and W26 are two small adjacent ponds, neither of which has an outlet, on privately-owned land in the southeast corner of Fairbank and Maynard Roads. Neither has an outlet. At the October site visit, pond W26, which was the only one of the two that could be located, was very dry and exhibited a duckweed problem.



Pond W26

Pond 27

Pond 27 is a tiny pond with no outlet on private land. It is in the southwestern corner of the intersection of Maynard Road and Ward Road. At the October site visit, this pond was very dry.



Pond W28

Pond W28 is a tiny at the end of a small Run Brook tributary. It is on private property on Camperdown Lane. At the October site visit, this pond was very dry and exhibited a duckweed problem.



Pond W29

Pond W29 is a fairly small pond in the northeast corner of Country Village and Stubtoe Lanes. It is entirely on private property.



Pond W30

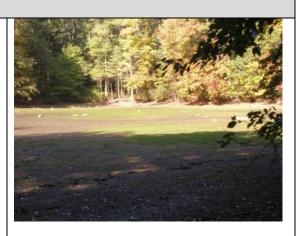
W30 is a small pond with no outlet on private property to the west of Goodnow Road.

Pond W31 is a small farm pond that appears to drain to a wetland to the south of Hudson Road. It is on privately-owned land adjacent to Goodnow Road. At the October site visit, this pond was very dry.



Pond W32

Pond W32 is a fairly small pond visible on the north side of Hudson Road adjacent to Teakettle Lane. It is on private property and has no outlet. At the October site visit, this pond was almost entirely dry.



Pond W33

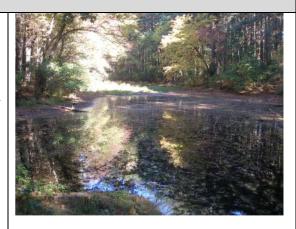
Pond W33 is a very tiny privately-owned pond just to the south of Maynard Road and to the east of Crescent Lane. It has no outlet.



Pond W34

Pond W34 is a small pond with no outlet to the north of Hudson Road and to the east of Twillingate Lane. It is on private land, and it has no outlet.

Pond W35 is a small pond along a Hop Brook tributary. It is on Town-owned land and is publicly-accessible by trails running through the Town's Hop Brook Marsh Conservation Area, accessible from a small parking lot off of Peakham Road and from another at the intersection of Peakham and Hudson Roads.



Pond W36

Pond W36 is a small pond without an outlet on privately-owned land in the northeast corner of Old Lancaster and Peakham Roads.

Streams

Stream Wa	
Stream Wb	
Stream Wc	
Stream Wd	
Stream We	
Stream Wf	
Stream Wg	
Stream Wh	
Stream Wi	
Stream Wj	
Stream Wk	
Stream Wl	

Stream Wm	
Stream Wn	