



Save Senge



Sengekontacket Pond is part of a spectacular barrier beach system that includes Joseph A. Sylvia State Beach and Nantucket Sound.

It is a 740 acre shallow coastal pond that includes Trapps Pond and spans the Towns of Edgartown and Oak Bluffs.

In 2007 the pond was closed to summer shellfishing indefinitely due to poor water quality.

Ground and surface water in the entire Sengekontacket Pond watershed flows into the pond (see map). This runoff contains many pollutants:

- Fertilizers and pesticides
- Pet waste
- Waterfowl waste
- Nitrogen from septic systems
- Heavy metals, oil and bacteria

Sengekontacket Pond ... it's not just beautiful, it's our heritage.

Together we can improve the pond's water quality
to allow MA Division of Marine Fisheries to re-open the pond to shellfishing.

Joint Committee on Sengekontacket

www.sengekontacket.org

www.edgartown-ma.us

www.oak-bluffs.ma.us

It's not too late to **Save Senge**
--- and you can help.

Joint Committee on Sengekontacket Pond

What We Are Doing:

- Testing water to confirm pollution sources
- Surveying the pond shore to identify pollutants
- Dredging the pond to improve water circulation
- Restoring eel grass to improve shellfish habitat
- Installing pet waste stations
- Looking to implement recommendations from the Massachusetts Estuaries Project

The joint committee is made up of representatives from: Boards of Selectmen in Edgartown and Oak Bluffs; the town Shellfish Constables, Conservation Agents and Commissioners; Friends of Sengekontacket Inc.; Martha's Vineyard Commission; Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group; Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary (Mass Audubon); and Culbert Ecological Consulting & Birding Tours.

For more information call the Oak Bluffs
Conservation Commission at
(508) 693-3554 x 118

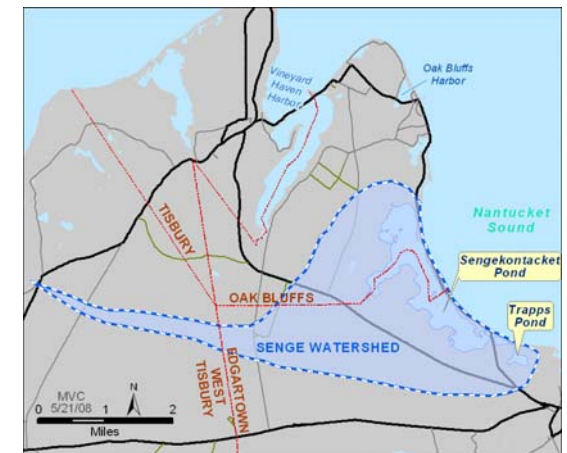
You Can Help

Things you can do to help reduce
your impact on Sengekontacket Pond:

- ✓ Limit fertilizer use and only use slow release organic fertilizer (rather than water soluble chemical fertilizer)
- ✓ Plant native species that require less maintenance and water, especially at the shoreline
- ✓ Reduce lawn size
- ✓ If you live on the pond create a ten-foot buffer strip. Don't mow, let it grow! Grasses and native plants at the shoreline filter run-off and remove nutrients from the groundwater
- ✓ Pave less space—pervious surfaces cause less run-off
- ✓ Have your septic system inspected to be sure it is functioning properly

You Can Help

- ✓ Add a nitrogen reduction component to your septic system
- ✓ Clean with fewer chemicals
- ✓ Use gutters and catch basins to control roof run-off
- ✓ Pick up after your pet
- ✓ Don't feed waterfowl
- ✓ Make a tax deductible donation to "Save Senge" through the *Friends of Sengekontacket Inc.*, PO Box 740, EDG, MA 02539



Sengekontacket Pond Watershed