

BROAD COVE PRESERVE WATER ACCESS AND EDUCATION

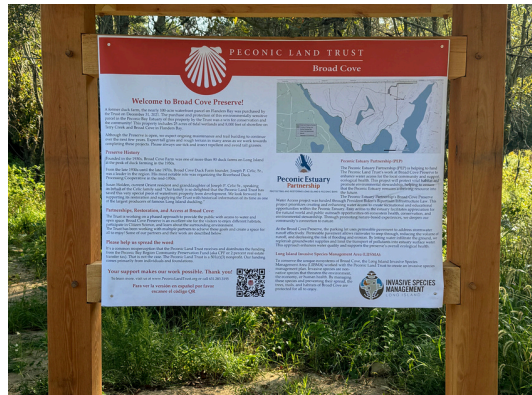


THE PECONIC ESTUARY
PARTNERSHIP

OVERLOOK DRIVE
AQUEBOGUE, NY 11931

BACKGROUND

Broad Cove Preserve is a waterfront property located in Aquebogue, Riverhead. This 100 acre site was formerly a working duck farm and spans 8,000 feet of shoreline on Terry Creek. With proximity to Meetinghouse Creek and waters flushing into Flanders Bay, this is an ecologically sensitive area.



The coastal property was purchased by The Peconic Land Trust on December 31, 2021 to be turned into a nature preserve.

Public access to water is becoming increasingly vital within the Peconic Watershed. This project aims to restore enjoyment for the local community while benefiting the environment.

PARTNERS

- The Peconic Land Trust (PLT)
- The Town of Riverhead
- Long Island Invasive Species Management Area (LIISMA)
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)

CCMP ACTION

Action 8: Conduct outreach events and programs that engage community members in learning about the Peconic Estuary and taking action to support estuary health.

Action 27: Facilitate spatial planning of the Peconic Estuary to help mitigate resource-use conflicts and ensure the protection of critical habitats.



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Broad Cove
Town of Riverhead, NY

INVESTMENTS IN BROAD COVE PRESERVE



THE PECONIC ESTUARY
PARTNERSHIP

THE PECONIC ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP IS USING THE INFRASTRUCTURE, INVESTMENTS, AND JOBS ACT (IIJA) FUNDS TO SUPPORT SITE IMPROVEMENTS AND ENHANCE PUBLIC EDUCATION & ACCESS AT BROAD COVE PRESERVE.

PHASE 1

PEP federal funding launched key site improvements at the Broad Cove Preserve property, including:

- Installation of a permeable parking area
- Creation of accessible trails with permeable surfaces
- New educational signage
- Community outreach events
- Habitat enhancement projects
- Invasive species management in partnership with LIISMA, including: A PLT stewardship staff workshop & development of the site's invasive species management plan.

PHASE 2

Continued PEP federal investment supported on-the-ground improvements and community engagement, including:

- Trail system expansion
- Implementation of priority actions from LIISMA's invasive species management plan
- Emergency vehicle access and additional safety features
- Community gathering for Broad Cove Recreation Day: November 15, 2025

NYS FUNDS

PEP allocated state funding will support community-driven planning for the future end-use of Broad Cove Preserve, including:

- A dedicated facilitator to collect community input for long-term site goals
- Development of a community-informed Master Plan
- Advancement of a feature of the plan based on community priorities
- Plan schematic designs, conceptual layouts, materials, and planting plans

CONSERVATION EASEMENT

In December 2025, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) purchased a conservation easement for the property from the Peconic Land Trust. Through this acquisition, New York State has assured protection and public access to the parcel.

The Trust will retain ownership of the preserve and will co-manage the property with the NYSDEC. This conservation easement ensures that this preserve will be protected for future generations and our natural environment.