

About this Preserve

The Crooked Farm Preserve was established in 2002 as a result of a community partnership among the Crook family, the Carpenter's Boat Shop, the Pemaquid Watershed Association (PWA), and the Damariscotta River Association (DRA), along with the financial support of the local community and funding from the Land for Maine's Future Program in collaboration with the Maine Department of Conservation. The preserve is owned by the PWA and is held in conservation easement by and co-managed with the DRA.

Crooked Farm Preserve is open to the public for walking, boating, hunting and fishing with nearly 130 acres of forest, wetlands, and open fields, complete with high knolls and ravines. Its gravel streambeds are spawning habitat for game fish, and its wetlands provide edge habitat favored by moose, white-tailed deer, mink, raccoon, fisher, fox, and otter.

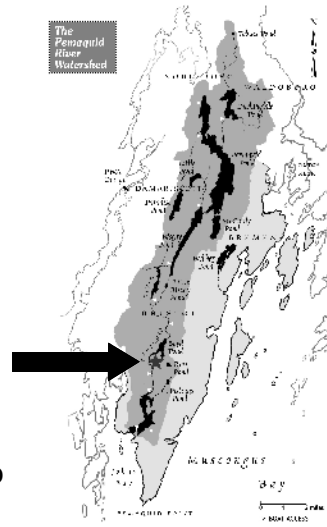
In addition to its wildlife and open space values, Crooked Farm Preserve features about 1.25 miles of Pemaquid River shorefront.



Photo by Paula Roberts

Directions

From Damariscotta, take the Bristol Road (State Route 130) 9.9 miles to Old County Road at the Bristol Library. Turn left on Old County Road and travel 0.8 miles; then take a left into the preserve parking area.



The Pemaquid Watershed Association is dedicated to conserving the natural resources of the Pemaquid Peninsula of Maine through land and water stewardship and education.

The Damariscotta River Association is dedicated to preserving and promoting the natural, cultural and historic heritage of the Damariscotta River, its watershed and adjacent areas for the benefit of all.
(207) 563-1393 dra@draclt.org www.draclt.org

Both PWA and DRA are membership-supported 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organizations.



Pemaquid Watershed Association

P.O. Box 552
15 Courtyard Street
Damariscotta, ME 04543
Phone: (207) 563-2196
Fax: (207) 563-2192

Email: info@pemaquidwatershed.org
Web Site: www.pemaquidwatershed.org

CROOKED FARM NATURE PRESERVE

Bristol, Maine



Photo by Michael Richards



Pemaquid Watershed Association

Conserving the natural resources of the Pemaquid Peninsula of Maine.
Est. 1966

Enjoy Your Visit!

- ✓ Visitors are welcome to enjoy this preserve during daylight hours for hiking, skiing, hunting, and other low-impact uses.
- ✓ Please sign in at the kiosk.
- ✓ Well behaved dogs on leash are permitted.
- ✓ Motorized vehicles are prohibited.
- ✓ Please stay on preserve property — Do not go beyond preserve boundary markers.
- ✓ **Leave No Trace:** carry out what you bring in.
- ✓ Return this brochure to the kiosk so someone else can use it.
- ✓ Pick up a PWA and DRA brochure at the kiosk and join us!

Please note that the Crooked Farm Preserve is open for hunting in season — Hikers are encouraged to be aware of hunting seasons and wear blaze orange or other brightly colored clothing for safety.

The Trails

The trail system at this preserve is designed to afford the maximum amount of appreciation of the natural, forever-wild setting with the least possible damage to the environment.

For those walking the entire loop of the Crook Trail, the recommended route, after crossing the field, is to enter the pine woods to the upland section, where one will find a wide variety of natural habitat, including moss and lichen sections where deer browse.

The descent to the river brings one to the junction of the Boyd Pond Trail, a 10-minute walk to the pond. A clearing and flat rocks provide an expansive view and resting point. The Crook Trail continues along the river, skirting the marshes that, at the start, reach inland for nearly 100 yards. Rich mosses and a variety of ferns attest to the constant dampness of this area. Bridging crosses the wettest sections, protecting both the walker and the fragile terrain. A grove of ferns and birches is particularly noteworthy. As the trail nears the river, one may spot ducks, great blue herons, eagles, and beavers.

After recrossing the field, hikers may wish to descend again to the river via the Canoe Launch Trail, or take the Pine Loop Trail to a grove of large white pines. The trails frequently cross old stone walls that attest to the preserve's former life as a farm with open fields.

