

STORY OF THE LAND

WHAT YOU MIGHT SEE



The Geele Farm trail system weaves through several privately owned properties. Most of this land is part of the original Geele Farm which was purchased by Charles Geele in 1886 for \$1,000.

Historically, a county road traversed the northern end of the trail system, and part of the trail follows this old road. The stone remains of an old bridge can still be seen at the head of the marsh. Thanks to the landowners' foresight and generosity in donating conservation easements and trail access across their properties, the Geele Farm will retain its rural character and will remain protected in perpetuity. The farm will continue to be used as productive farm and forest land, while locals and visitors will be able to walk the trails on this beautiful land forever.

The Geeles raised chickens and cows, and grew vegetables to feed their own family and to sell. Remains of old homesteads, including a brick cistern, foundations and an apple orchard are found throughout the farm.

Please respect private property, and carry out what you carry in. Feel free to walk along the shore front, but within the field please do not wander beyond the marked boundaries of the trail.

The Geele Farm has two main trails, with several scenic side trails. On the east side of the road, the relatively easy Fields Trail meanders through fields and along the shore of the Eastern Branch of Broad Cove, on the Medomak River. On the west side of the road, the more difficult Saltmarsh Woods Trail weaves through second growth softwood forest and along the edge of an exemplary saltwater marsh on the Western Branch of Broad Cove, passing by several wetlands and vernal pools.

Salt marshes and mudflats line the shore, providing homes to many species of animals and plants. Rich in birdlife, some species live here year round while others, such as the **great blue heron**, visit seasonally. The property contains numerous vernal pools and wetlands, which make way to streams flowing from freshwater marshes into the saltwater.

Common tree species include **red spruce, balsam fir, white pine, hemlock, birch, beech, and big-tooth aspen**. The forest is mostly regenerated second-growth, and a dense understory of herbs, ferns, and wildflowers is present along the trail.



DURING YOUR VISIT

- Carry out what you carry in
- Keep dogs under control
- Please clean up after your pets
- No camping or fires
- Wear blaze orange during hunting season
- Hunting by permission
- No ATVs or bicycles



HOW TO GET THERE

From Waldoboro:

Take Route 32 south from Rt. 1 in Waldoboro for 2.7 miles, turn left onto Dutch Neck Road, then right in 1/3 mile onto Gross Neck Road. Parking and the trailhead are on the right, at a green gate, in approximately 1.5 miles.

GET INVOLVED

Support from members and volunteers makes this preserve possible.

Join Today

Keep Midcoast Maine a beautiful place for all

Special events for Members

Free professional advice on controlling erosion on your property

Member discounts on courses, workshops, events, cabins, and campsites

Biannual newsletter & bimonthly e-news

Volunteer

You can help maintain trails and buildings, staff recreational events, lead guided walks, and more. You too can make a difference in your community!

Midcoast Conservancy
207-389-5150
midcoastconservancy.org

Geele Farm Trails

Waldoboro, Maine



**MIDCOAST
CONSERVANCY**

WE ARE ALL ON THE SAME TRAIL

Geele Farm Preserve

Enjoy a gently sloping walk down to the salt marshes of the Eastern Branch of Broad Cove of the Medomak River, or loop around the woods trail to enjoy the quiet views of the humble Western Branch of Broad Cove.

Total Acres: 80

Total Trail Length: 1.85 miles



Map Key



- - - - **Fields Trail**
 Trail Length: 0.6 Miles
 Difficulty: Easy
 Highlights: Hay Fields, Medomak River views
- - - - **Saltmarsh Woods**
 Trail Length: 1 Mile
 Difficulty: Easy
 Highlights: Wildlife tracks on mud flats
- - - - **Marsh Spur**
 Trail Length: 0.25 Mile
 Difficulty: Easy
 Highlights: Wetland views

- Midcoast Conservancy Property**
- Private Property**
- ~ **10-foot contour line**