

SPRING SCAVENGER HUNT

Dexter (Tub) Mill Preserve

Location: Head west on Route 6 toward Fairhaven. The Park will be on your right. Take immediate right onto Mendell road. The parking lot is across from Mattapoissett Highway Department Barn.



A visit to the Dexter/Tub Mill property is not only a chance to experience the beauty of this natural park-like setting, but also a step back in time. Listening to the waterfall and flowing waters of Tub Mill Brook allows one to imagine the presence of a water-powered sawmill operated by the original property owner, Elisha Dexter. In the 19th and 20th century, the mill produced wooden staves for tubs and barrels. During a thunderstorm in 1911, the mill building burned down. Today only the earthen dam and millrace still exist. The historic stonework of the millrace offers a look back to the early days of the industrial revolution when rushing water from rivers and streams provided power to small village factories, such as the one that was found at this site. Mattapoissett Land Trust acquired this property in 1999.

Please be aware of ticks when visiting properties and check yourself after visit. Be cautious when standing near the stream and dam.

Here are a few things to look for while you are at Dexter / “Tub Mill”

- ~ Check off ☒ as many as you can find!
- ~ Take a picture of those items that you find interesting and send to photos@landtrust.org

OBSERVE...



- _____ A fallen tree
- _____ Daffodils growing at the base of a tree - *How many are there? Count them!*
- _____ A stonewall
- _____ A red bird flying
- _____ A platform supported by a stand of 3 trees

- _____ A "Gall" on the branch of a Cedar Tree
- _____ 2 Cedar trees growing from one trunk
- _____ A small and /or a large bird's nest
- _____ Some red berries in a bush (do not eat!)
- _____ 2 large square Granite blocks within the stonewall at the base of the waterfall
- _____ 1 large rectangular block within the stonewall at the base of the waterfall
- _____ Find the triangular stones in the wall
- _____ Find any green or yellow lichen on the stones

LISTEN TO...



- _____ The sound of the water flowing over the waterfall
- _____ The call of a bird
- _____ The wind in the trees
- _____ The rustle of leaves as you walk in the wooded area

DO...



- _____ Count the number of Cedar Trees in the stand.
- _____ Discover where the Mill building once stood. Look for the three-sided stone foundation next to the stream
- _____ What was the source of power for the Mill?
- _____ Find the stone with a circle in it on the west side of the stream where it flows under Route 6
- _____ Find the water turbine and take a picture of you standing by it
- _____ Walk along the grass to the top of the dam
- _____ Look behind the dam. Do you observe the large depression where the old millpond was located?
- _____ Locate Skunk Cabbage growing by the stream behind the dam.
- _____ Notice the flowing algae growing on the rocks in the stream.
- _____ Sit on the one of the benches and take a selfie with your family