

Merrymeeting Bay

A Self-Guided Nature Tour of Merrymeeting Bay

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A Natural History Introduction to Merrymeeting Bay
With Walks in Five Preserves that Touch the Bay

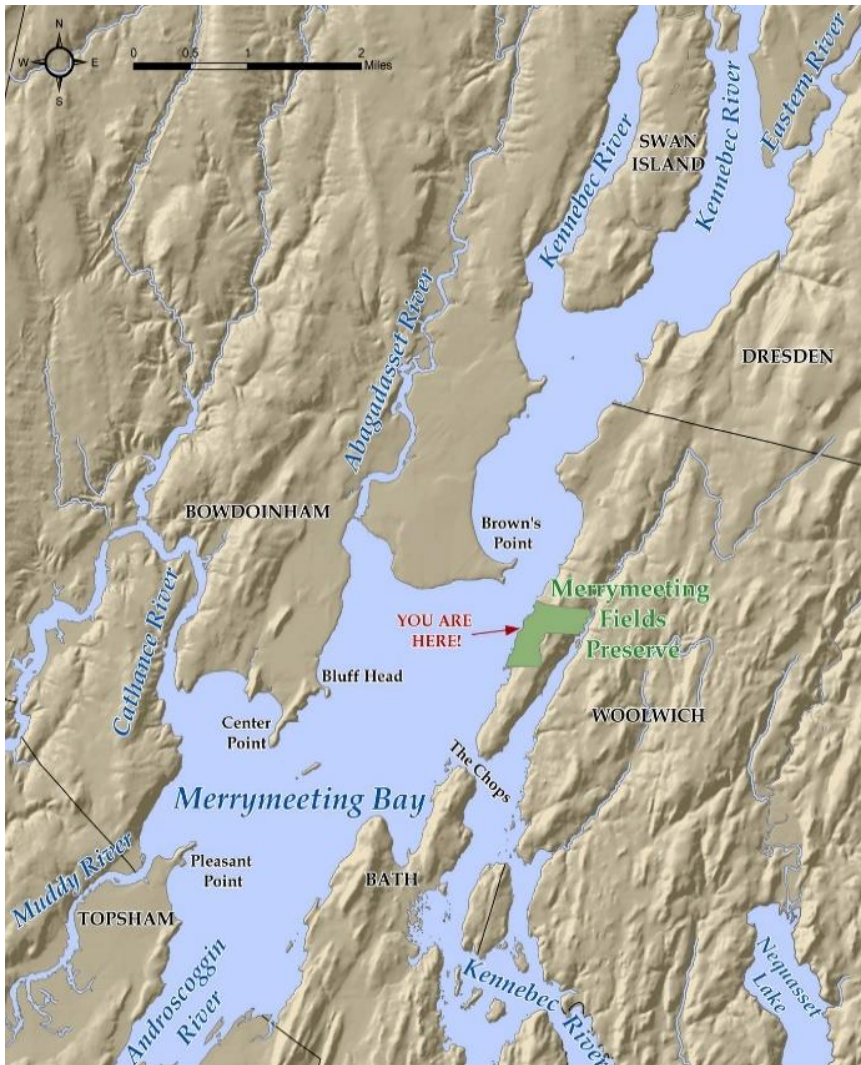


Merrymeeting Fields Preserve, Woolwich

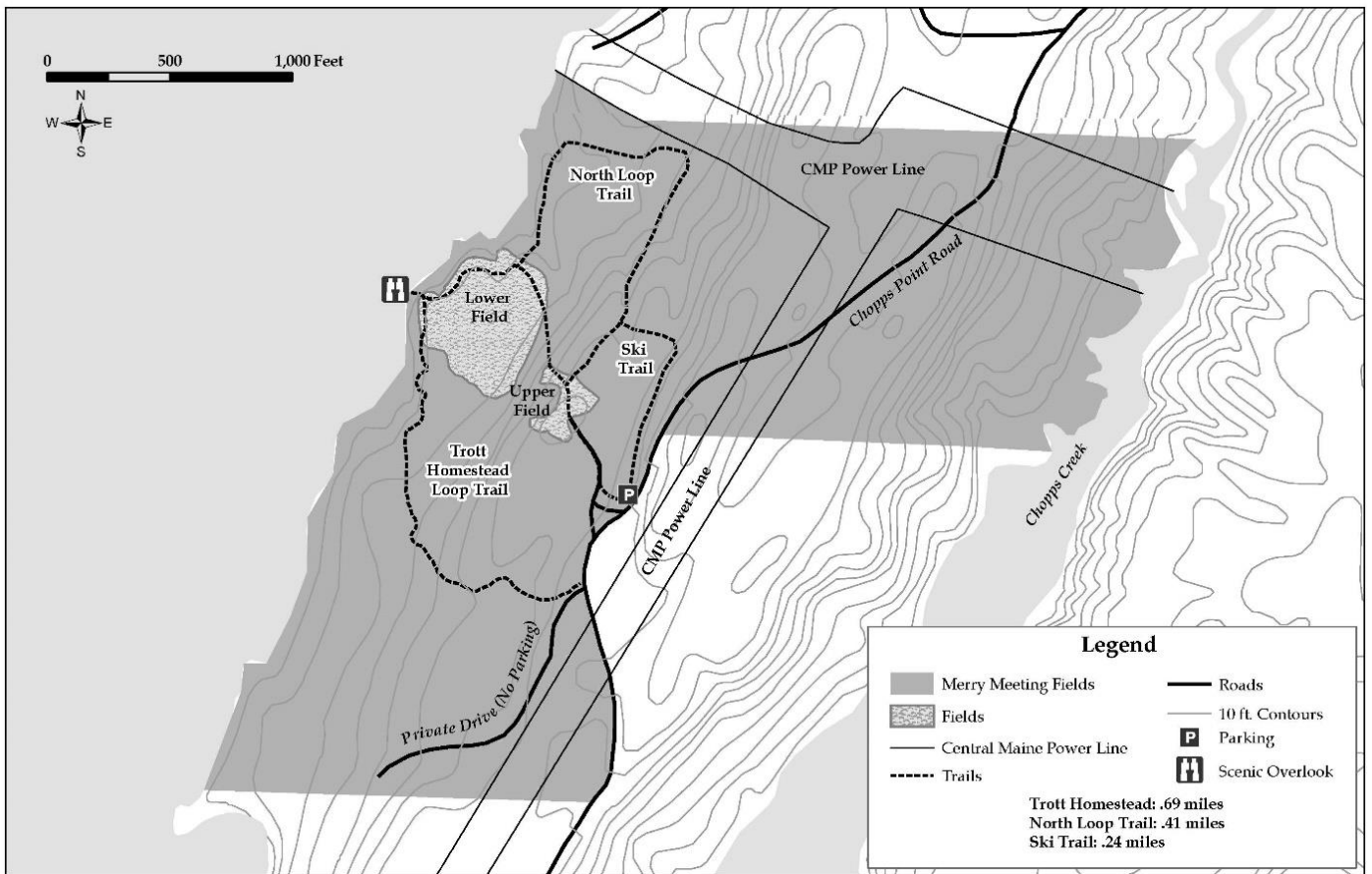


Merrymeeting Fields Directions

Take Route 1 North to Route 127 (just across Bath bridge on the left). Take North on 127 to Route 128 and turn left. Follow about 6 miles to Chopps Point Road, turn left. Follow 0.9 miles to parking lot and kiosk on right. [View Website](#).



Merrymeeting Fields Trail Map



- Habitats and Communities,
- Ecological Succession,
- Ferns,
- Powerlines

Staghorn Sumac



Wolf Trees



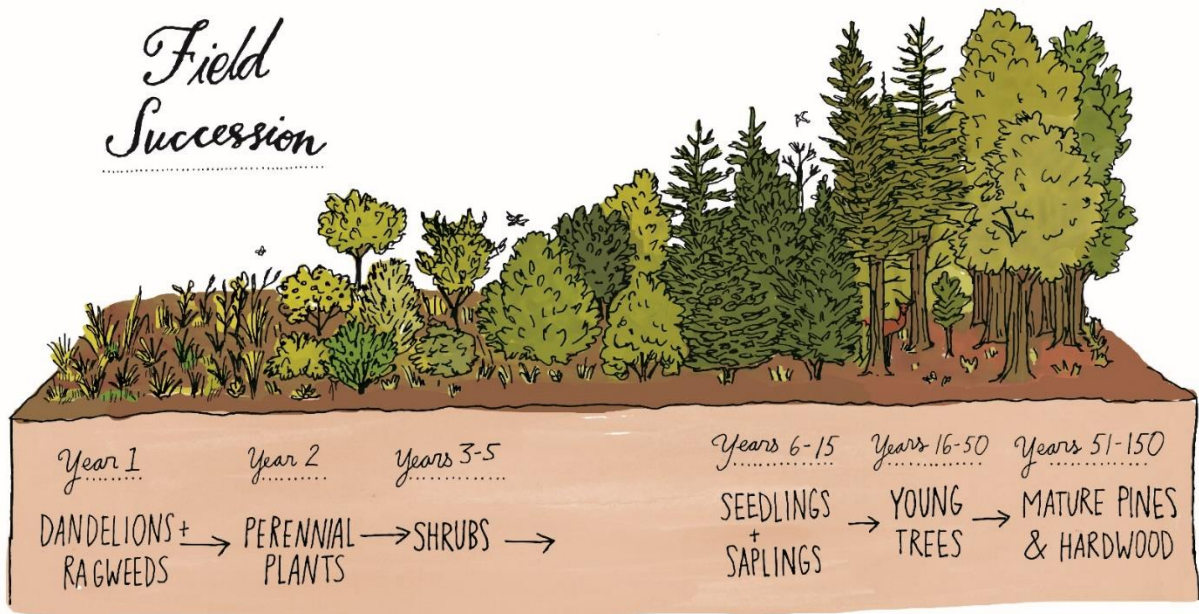
Lower field, Merrymeeting Fields preserve



Ecological Succession

Succession is the pattern of biological community evolution in one place over time:

- Primary succession – beginning in an essentially lifeless area.
- Secondary succession – in areas where a previous community has been disturbed but not eradicated.



Questions:

- Are the life stages of a human being equivalent to succession?
- What would be a good comparison in the human world to ecological succession?

Ecological Succession

What are some disturbances that may result in successional setbacks to Maine forest communities?



Riverside kiosk, Merrymeeting Fields preserve



Merrymeeting Bay

Merrymeeting Bay is one of only four places in the world where two major rivers with entirely opposite characteristics come together and share the same waters. These opposite rivers meet there, they are still known as rivers originating from the same thing (they both flow north through a 200-mile wide watershed) and the only place where Merrymeeting Bay. The water flows through a 200-mile wide watershed and flows on the edge of Maine. The Chesapeake Bay is the largest between Merrymeeting Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. Merrymeeting Bay is one of the most important wetlands in the world.

The Merrymeeting Bay Land Trust conserves, restores, and breeds opportunities of the land and water resources of Merrymeeting Bay. For more information on the land and water resources of Merrymeeting Bay, please visit www.merrymeetingbay.org. Learn more about the land and water resources of Merrymeeting Bay.

Fall and Winter

October and winter are the best time to visit Merrymeeting Bay. The water is calm and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp.

Spring and Summer

Spring and summer are the best time to visit Merrymeeting Bay. The water is calm and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp.

BIRDS

Merrymeeting Bay is a haven for birds. The water is calm and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp.

FISH

Merrymeeting Bay is home to 10 species of anadromous fish. The water is calm and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp.

PLANTS

Merrymeeting Bay is home to many plants. The water is calm and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp.

Notable Species

Merrymeeting Bay is home to many notable species. The water is calm and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp. The water is clear and the air is crisp.

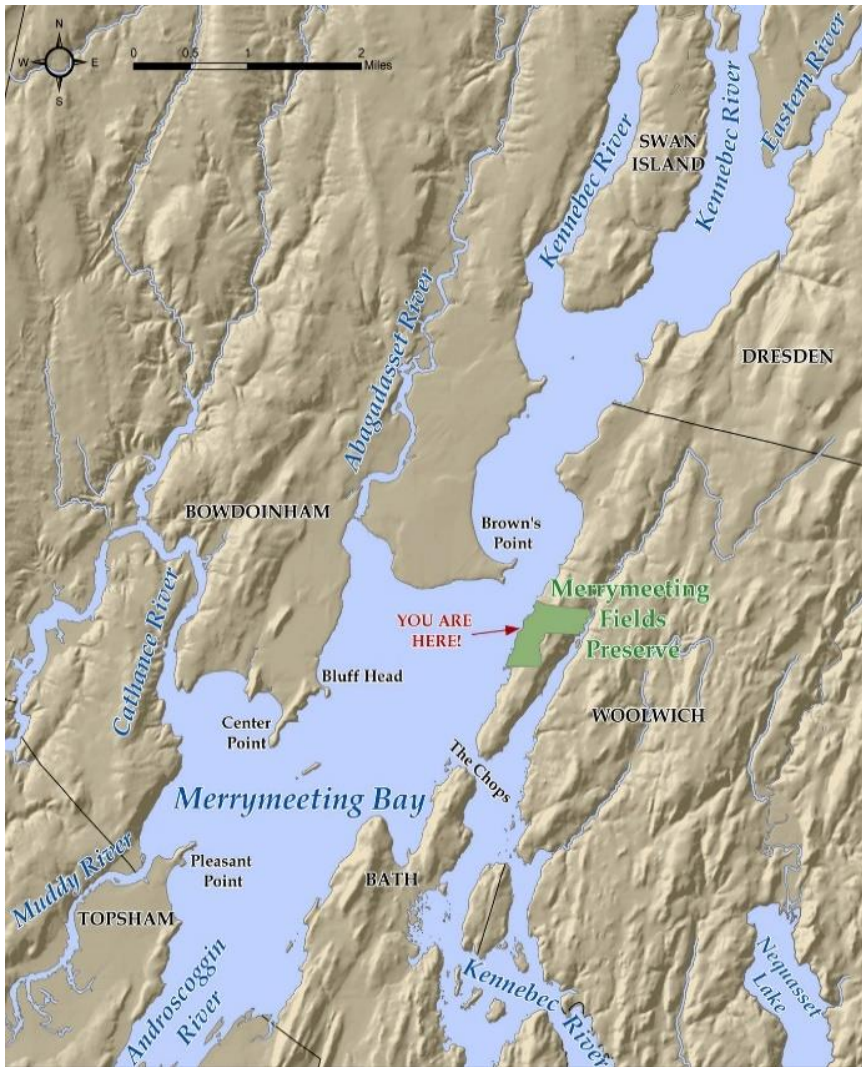
View SW towards the Chops, Riverside kiosk



CMP Powerlines and Merrymeeting Fields



Merrymeeting Fields



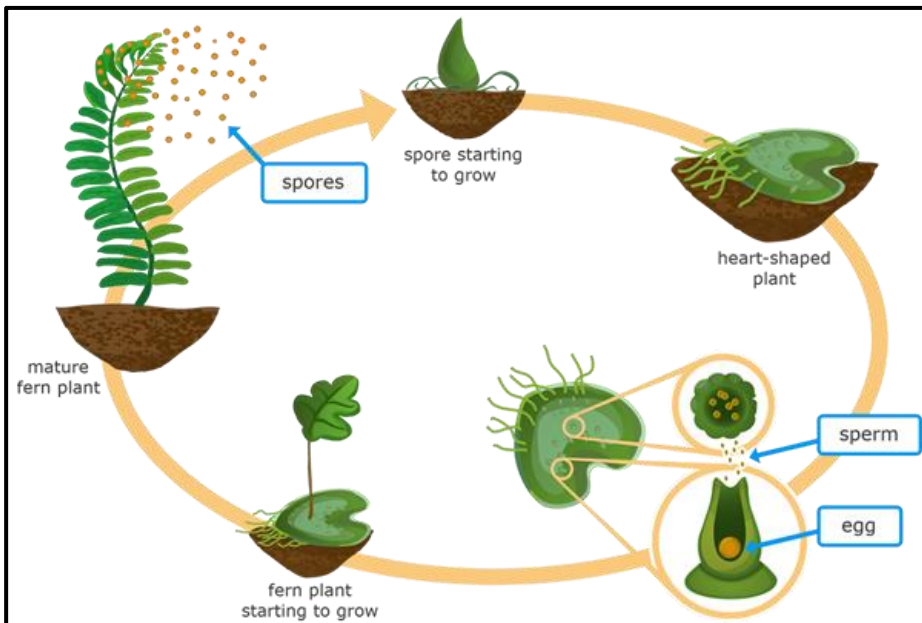
Ferns



Clockwise from above:
Bracken fern,
Christmas fern,
Ostrich fern,
Sensitive fern.



Fern Lifecycle



Fern Lore: Searching the Fern

