

ISLANDS AND SHORELINE OF SOUTHWESTERN MAHONE BAY



PUBLICLY OWNED ISLANDS

MICA has worked to bring a number of islands into public ownership and help conserve them for all to enjoy. In partnership with the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources we have secured Andrews, Backmans, Coveys, Long, Dry, Centre, Sacrifice and Snipe Islands as Crown land.

A second partnership with the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg has resulted in the acquisition of 8 acres on Mason Island. The challenge we now face is to protect the unique environment of these islands while providing recreational access.

OUR MISSION

To protect and conserve the natural environment of the islands and shoreline of Mahone Bay and the traditional, social and recreational opportunities valued by its various communities.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT MICA ...

1. Become a member and encourage others to join.
2. Participate in our organised events.
3. Help protect the islands and shoreline by practicing sound stewardship.

A FEW FACTS

- The inner islands of Mahone Bay are glacial drumlins deposited 10,000 to 15,000 years ago.
- The outer islands are slate outcroppings that help protect the inner islands from storms.
- There are approximately 85 islands in Mahone Bay.
- The first nations peoples came to Mahone Bay over 8,000 years ago and they established numerous summer camp sites along the shore line.
- The Acadians called the area 'La Baie des Toutes Isles'.
- The European settlers found Mahone Bay an ideal area for farming, fishing, logging and ship building. Many of these families settled on the larger islands.
- Almost every island has a sand beach and local residents have been using them for hundreds of years as landing places for foraging, hunting, fishing, logging and recreation.
- The islands have also been a haven for privateers and rum runners during the Prohibition. There are many stories about ghost ships and buried treasure.

All islands and shoreline coloured light green are privately owned lands. With a few exceptions access to these areas is permitted to the Mean High Water Mark.

Recreational Access to lands owned by the Crown and the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg is permitted, but certain guidelines must be followed. Please refer to the "Conserve the Islands" section of this guide.

KEY

- Crown land purchased through DNR/MICA partnership
- Crown Islands-donation facilitated by MICA
- Other Crown Islands
- Municipality of the District of Lunenburg
- Tern Nesting Area - Keep Clear
- Popular Island Beaches
- Aquaculture Site (Mussels)
- Private Land
- Claimed by Provincial Crown Lands
- Please keep clear of sea bird nesting sites.

Public wharf and Boat ramp

Town of Mahone Bay

Map is for illustration only.



The Rackets