



### Visitor Information

Established: 1976  
Size: 14 acres  
Hours: Open daily, year-round, sunrise to sunset  
Admission: Free for Members. Nonmembers, \$5 adults and free children under 12. Donations welcome!  
Facilities: Water fountain (seasonal), restrooms, picnic tables, bike rack  
Hiking: Easy walking trails

### Do's and Don'ts

- Stay on the marked paths within the garden.
- Keep your voice low to help maintain a tranquil environment for all visitors.
- Carry out all trash.
- Plants and animals are at home here; please leave them be.
- Refrain from biking or dog walking within the garden.

### Volunteers Wanted!

Learn new gardening skills, refine your pruning or make new friends. Volunteers are greatly appreciated in Mytoi Garden. Inquire at the gatehouse for more information. You can also visit [thetrustees.org](http://thetrustees.org) for information about volunteering at any of our properties.

### Special Events

Special events for the public take place periodically between Memorial Day and Columbus Day. Please call the Mytoi Gatehouse at 508.627.3599 or check our website [thetrustees.org](http://thetrustees.org) to learn more.

### How to Get Here

From Edgartown-Chappaquiddick ferry, take Chappaquiddick Road 2.5 mi. At a sharp right curve, continue straight onto Dike Road (dirt road) and follow for 0.3 mi. to entrance and parking area (15 cars) on left.

### Exploration

Join us for a guided tour of Mytoi! Register at [thetrustees.org/events/](http://thetrustees.org/events/) or call 508.627.7689. Free for members! \$10 adult non-members and \$5 child non-members.



Make a day out of Chappy-there is plenty to do! Bring a picnic to the beach, join an education and ecology tour, go birding, explore Poucha Pond by kayak or paddleboard with a self-guided tour, or hike to the lighthouse.

Call our Gatehouse at 508.627.3599 to find out more.

Who makes this inspired place possible? You.  
Join as a member today.

The Trustees is Massachusetts' largest conservation and preservation organization and the nation's first land trust. We are a nonprofit supported by members, friends, and donors. With your support as a member, we can continue to keep amazing places like Mytoi open to the public, forever. We need your help in inspiring the next generation of people who care about keeping open space open.

If you're a member already: Thank you!  
Not a member yet? Membership gets you:

- **FREE** or reduced admission to **ALL** reservations.
- A guidebook to explore our more than 100 reservations.
- A subscription to *Special Places*, our quarterly member magazine.
- Discounted (or FREE) admission to hundreds of nifty events and programs.
- Discounts at the Inn at Castle Hill on the Crane Estate in Ipswich, the Guest House at Field Farm in Williamstown, Tully Lake Campground in Royalston, and Dunes' Edge Campground in Provincetown.
- A warm, fuzzy feeling knowing you are helping keep open space open in Massachusetts.

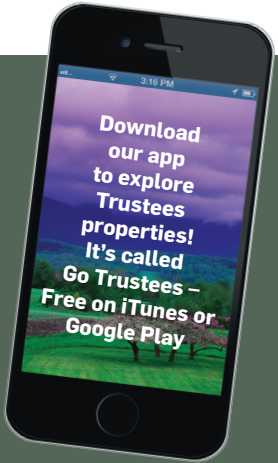
### For More Information

860 State Road  
Vineyard Haven, MA  
508.693.7662

[thetrustees.org](http://thetrustees.org)



Join online today:  
[thetrustees.org/membership](http://thetrustees.org/membership)



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# Mytoi

Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts

trustees



## garden guide



# Mytoi Garden History

On November 28th 1958, an Edgartown resident and former Japanese civilian architect named Hugh Jones acquired three acres of land on Chappaquiddick from local conservationist Mary Wakeman. Hugh Jones was inspired to create a garden on this acreage which would eventually become Mytoi. Influenced by his love of Japanese art and culture, Jones passionately began planning, designing, and landscaping the area by himself. He titled the garden “my toy” since he spent so much time in it, and this lead to its current name “M-Y-T-O-I”.

After his death in 1965, his family placed Mytoi Garden back into the hands of Mary Wakeman, who encouraged free access for visitors. The vision of Hugh Jones and Mary Wakeman continues through the efforts of The Trustees, who received the garden and other generous support as a donation from Mrs. Wakeman in 1976.

In August of 1991, Hurricane Bob destroyed much of the fragile environment of Mytoi, but with the help of renowned landscape designer Julie Moir Messervy and countless hours of assistance from volunteers, Mytoi was restored and rejuvenated. A beauty to behold in all seasons. We hope you enjoy your visit to Mytoi Garden.



# Self-guided Tour

## Entrance Gate

The entry gate to Mytoi is similar to the Torii found at the entrance of Japanese Buddhist temples, symbolic of the transition from impure to sacred. The structure is made of black locust trees and walking through the gate marks the beginning of a journey away from wild nature and into a contemplative, peaceful environment.

## Tsukubai (Plumb Water Feature)

Past the entrance to the garden, a stone basin is continuously filled with water by a bamboo conduit. In the Shinto religion, traditional cleansing of the hands and mouth is essential before entering a garden. Tsukubai translates to “a place one has to bend down”.

## Moss Garden

Before passing through the inner gate, you will see a Japanese feature of stones to the right of the path. They are arranged in a predictable but varying checkerboard pattern, and set across from the Japanese lantern structure.

## Stone Bridge

The pathway across the stream is made from a single large, flat stone. The blue iris at the stream’s edge as well as the forest scenery provide an intimate moment with nature influenced by Japanese culture.

## Mytoi Pond

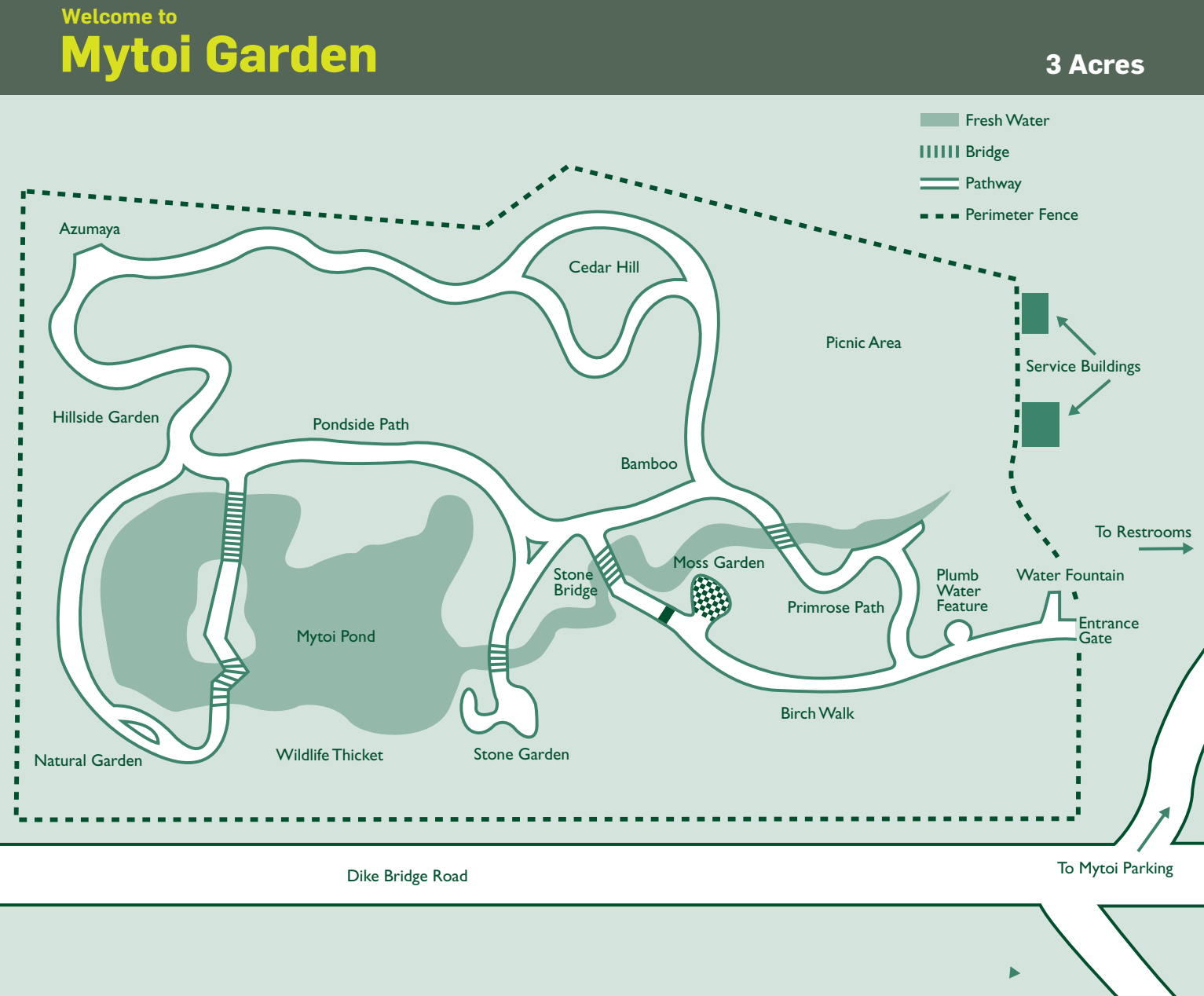
Home to a variety of wildlife, you can see this pond best by walking across the long bridge through its center. The bridge is designed in an Asian motif with a zigzag pattern that crosses over the island in the center of the pond. The wildlife thicket on the south side of the pond contains several plant species (including blueberry and clethra) that enclose the path and contribute to the tranquility of the garden. Be sure to look out for snapping turtles and painted turtles that live in the pond!

## Stone Garden

The stones placed on the hill in this corner of the garden are meant to represent a lighthouse surrounded by a village, with two large ships in the harbor. These structures demonstrate the melding of a Japanese concept with local history, with the scene reminiscent of a ship returning home after a long voyage or, perhaps, beginning a new journey.

## Azumaya

The Japanese tea ceremony is a ritual based on Taoism and influenced by Zen Buddhism in which powdered green tea (matcha) is prepared by a skilled practitioner and served to guests in a peaceful setting.



## Cedar Hill

This hill provides a breathtaking view of the pond and paths that weave through Mytoi garden. The bench placed in front of the cedars gives a feeling of privacy and security, as well as a place to contemplate the tranquil scenery.

If you are wondering why we don't have plant labels, it's because we are staying true to the creation of Mytoi as a traditional Japanese “stroll garden” where the visitor (you!) follows a path around the garden to see carefully composed lanscapes. If you have specific flora or fauna questions, we invite you to chat with our horticulturist, or ask at The Gatehouse.