

# CAPE COD



"So come to the pond,  
or the river of your imagination,  
or the harbor of your longing,  
and put your lips to the world.  
And live your life."  
—Mary Oliver

## PRESERVING OUR PONDS

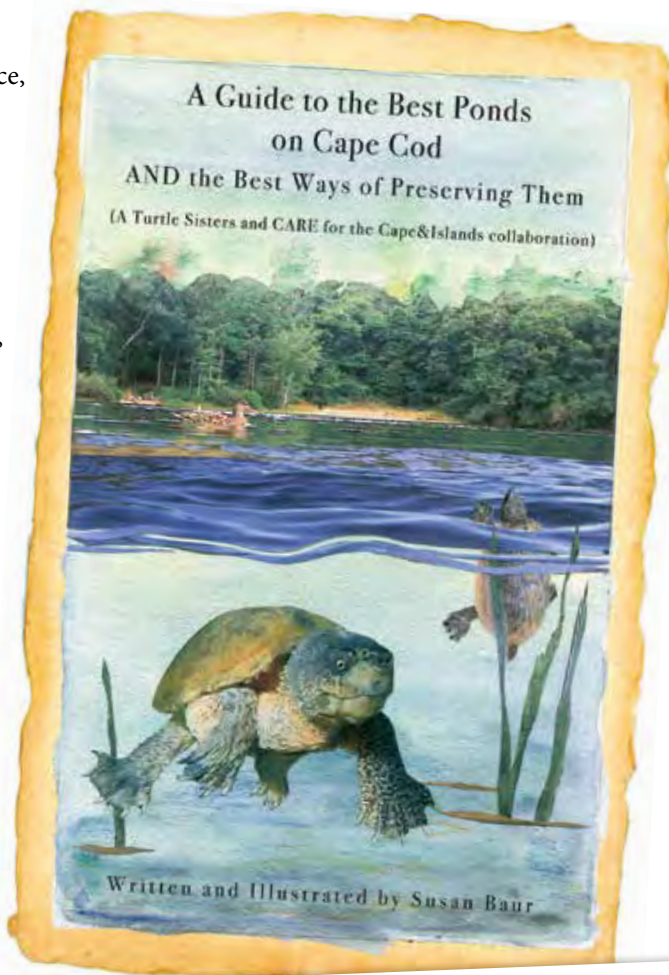
By Michelle Haynes

The stray lily pad, the passing swan, the tangle of reeds poking above the surface, ponds stir up a variety of emotions, especially now as Mother Nature dons her autumnal blanket of color. Protecting and preserving ponds is a major priority of a group known as CARE and although they are based in Cape Cod, their efforts can be duplicated in ponds across the Cape Air universe.

"Our ponds are in trouble," says Jill Talladay, founder and CEO of CARE for the Cape & Islands. "The litter left pondside that finds its way into the water, the well-meaning folks who feed the wildlife, and the waste left by the family are just a few of the reasons our ponds are in jeopardy." Believing that education is the key Talladay and CARE collaborated with psychologist, author, illustrator and pond lover, Susan Baur on her latest book, *A Guide to the Best Ponds on Cape Cod AND the Best Ways of Preserving Them*.

Stunning art work and the exact locations of many of Cape Cod's most pristine ponds make this little gem a winner. "I am taking one heck of a gamble by telling you about the best ponds on Cape Cod in hopes you'll help me preserve them," says Baur whose five books all center around ponds and what lives both above and beneath the surface. "It is a life-long fascination somewhat rooted in fear. I have always loved what hides in the deep that you cannot see. I am a psychologist by day and always look for what hides in the dark in people for what happens in your childhood really does carry on in unexpected ways." The care and protection of Cape Cod's ponds is her mission and her gentle nudges are aimed at protecting Cape Cod's waterways.

"I was tempted to put this analogy in one of my books. It is like you decide to fly over Boston's Logan Airport, choose a runway and just land. That is what folks coming to a pond can be like. People do not understand what a complicated system exists beneath the surface of the water and how much damage they can do." Find the book at [careforthecapeandislands.org/shop](http://careforthecapeandislands.org/shop).



Cape Cod lakes stays warm enough for an early fall dip.



# CAPE COD, MASSACHUSETTS

