

Conservation easements in Cape Elizabeth: what the state's database shows

Compiled by the Chris Gorski for Town Council campaign, September 2026, from the Maine Conserved Lands database (Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands; published on the Maine GeoLibrary). The full parcel export used here is posted alongside this summary as maine-conserved-lands_cape-elizabeth_parcel.csv.

How the state rates permanence

Each record carries a "GAP status," the national standard for how securely land is protected. GAP 2, 3 and 39 are the state's "permanently" protected or secured categories. GAP 4 is "Unsecured (temporary easements lands and/or municipal lands that are already developed ...)."

Easement parcels in Cape Elizabeth (22)

Every record in the search area where a conservation easement is the primary or secondary interest, counted as Cape Elizabeth by the record's town field or, where that field is blank, by its mapped location. Acres are the state's GIS acres.

Parcel (state record name)	Owner / easement holder	Year	Acres	State rating
Town Farm	Town of Cape Elizabeth / Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	2000	172.8	Unsecured (GAP 4)
Cross Hill	Town of Cape Elizabeth / Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	2000	99.9	Permanent (GAP 3)
Robinson Woods I	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust / Maine Coast Heritage Trust	2000	82.2	Permanent (GAP 3)
Robinson Woods II	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust / Maine Coast Heritage Trust	2012	63.0	Permanent (GAP 2)
Robinson Woods III	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust / Town of Cape Elizabeth	2019	55.5	Permanent (GAP 2)
Dyer-Hutchinson Farm	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	1994	50.8	Permanent (GAP 39, farmland)
Jordan Farm	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	2004	46.8	Permanent (GAP 39, farmland)
Elizabeth Farms	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	1987	28.9	Permanent (GAP 2)
Zeb's Cove	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	2003	21.5	Permanent (GAP 3)
Tract 618C	Town of Cape Elizabeth / US Fish and Wildlife Service	1981	19.6	Permanent (GAP 3)
Hobstone Woods	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	1997	10.7	Permanent (GAP 3)
Chapel Woods	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	2022	6.2	Permanent (GAP 3)
Lourie	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	2000	3.4	Permanent (GAP 3)
Elizabeth Farms	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	not given	3.2	Permanent (GAP 3)
Harmon / Wells Road / Marsh Trail	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	1988	2.9	Permanent (GAP 3)

Parcel (state record name)	Owner / easement holder	Year	Acres	State rating
Robinson Woods	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust / Maine Coast Heritage Trust	2002	1.5	Permanent (GAP 2)
Spinnaker Heights	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	1988	1.0	Permanent (GAP 2)
Sawyer Marsh	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	2009	0.8	Permanent (GAP 2)
Reef Road	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	1987	0.7	Permanent (GAP 2)
Alewives Brook	Town of Cape Elizabeth / Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	2009	0.6	Permanent (GAP 3)
Elizabeth Farms	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	1987	0.3	Permanent (GAP 3)
Canter Way	Cape Elizabeth Land Trust	2012	0.1	Permanent (GAP 3)

Result: 22 easement parcels; 21 are rated permanent. The Town Farm is the only one rated unsecured, because its easement has a fixed term (fifty years from 2000).

One more easement record in the search area, Maxwell Farm (75.6 acres, held by Cape Elizabeth Land Trust, rated permanent), has no town field and was not counted. Counting it would not change the result: every easement other than the Town Farm's is rated permanent.

How the data was pulled

Maine Conserved Lands feature service, queried Sept 18, 2026 with a bounding box covering all of Cape Elizabeth plus edges of South Portland and Scarborough (longitude -70.27 to -70.16, latitude 43.53 to 43.63). Portal: maine.hub.arcgis.com/maps/ad59f27a21f24f19bb005868a04b65a3.

Questions or corrections: cgorski@chrisgorskitowncouncil.com