
CHATHAM CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

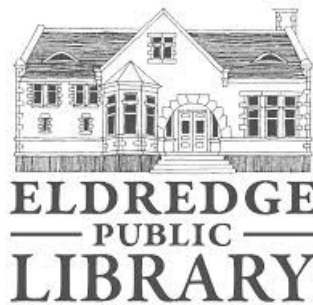
The Chatham Conservation Foundation preserves land for the benefit of the people, plants, animals, and ecosystems of Chatham. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to the purpose of acquiring land, by gift or purchase, to be preserved in its natural state in perpetuity.



Chatham Conservation Foundation, Inc.
104 Crowell Road, Chatham, MA 02633
508-945-4084
www.chathamconservationfoundation.org

ELDREDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Eldredge Public Library was a gift to the people of Chatham in 1896 from one of its natives, Marcellus Eldredge. The Library's mission is to enhance the quality of life in Chatham by providing residents and visitors with the library services they need and want: informational and recreational materials and programs, cultural enrichment, intellectual stimulation, academic support, social interaction, and a neutral setting for public discourse.



Eldredge Public Library
564 Main Street, Chatham, MA 02633
508-945-5170
www.eldredgelibrary.org



A WALK WITH WORDS
Promoting literacy, learning
and a deeper appreciation
of and connection with the
natural world.

Historically, man has attempted to describe and define the natural world — its diverse landscapes, its changing seasons, and its remarkable inhabitants — through poetry.

The *Poetry Walk* is a collaboration between the Eldredge Public Library, the Chatham Conservation Foundation, and Monomoy Regional High School.

Valley Farm Trail

The Valley Farm Trail is steeped in history and is home to a variety of flora and fauna. The .75-mile woodland loop with salt marsh views abuts the Harding House/Valley Farm, which dates back to 1849. The farmhouse and adjacent land, known as Valley Farm, were originally owned by the Harding family whose members were among the earliest Chatham settlers. The house and barn are still surrounded by meadow and open field, providing a glimpse of early Chatham farm life.

To access the trail, take Barn Hill Road (off Route 28 at the new traffic circle) and then turn left onto Valley Farm Road. Parking is available at the trailhead.



*Those who contemplate the
beauty of the earth find
reserves of strength that will
endure as long as life lasts.
~ Rachel Carson*

The Poems

Each poem on the *Poetry Walk* has been selected to highlight the site. We hope you enjoy your time on the Valley Farm Trail!

~11~

By Emily Dickinson

Mysteries

By Joyce Sidman

Afternoon on a Hill

By Edna St. Vincent Millay

The Best Paths

By Kristine O'Connell George

Blackberries for Amelia

By Richard Wilbur

Berries

By Lillian Moore

The Holly

By Walter de la Mare

Give Me Holly

By Christina Rossetti

“Hope” is a thing with Feathers

By Emily Dickinson

If You Find a Little Feather

By Beatrice Schenk de Regniers

Itch

By Sean Rackley

Warning

By Amy Ludwig VanDerwater

Marshlands

By Emily Pauline Johnson

Song of the Seashore

By Daphne Lister

Mountain Laurel

By Louisa May Alcott

Annie's Garden

By Eliza Lee Follen

The Pasture

By Robert Frost

The Giving Farm

By Vicki Witcher

Petit, the Poet

By Edgar Lee Masters

How to Build a Poem

By Charles Ghigna

A Summer Morning

By Rachel Field

Summer

By Walter Dean Myers

Trees

By Joyce Kilmer

There is a Tree

By Karla Kuskin

