



For Immediate Release

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Nantucket Conservation Foundation reveals plans for a new Research & Education Center and employee housing.

The Nantucket Conservation Foundation (NCF) announced plans today to build The Milestone Center—a project that advances its mission of conservation, scientific research, and community engagement while also providing housing for its staff.

Located within the NCF’s Milestone Cranberry Bog property, the Milestone Center will serve as “a hub for research, environmental education, and community engagement, supporting our broadened scope of conservation work,” said Cormac Collier, President & CEO of the 62-year-old conservation organization. “NCF is proud to invest in facilities that will significantly benefit the community. The new Center will provide dedicated lab space and educational facilities for NCF staff, visiting research fellows, and island partners.”

Given the island’s shortage of affordable housing, NCF is also building employee housing for its year-round staff and visiting research partners. Increasing housing capacity will help to alleviate the island’s housing pressures and guarantee reliable, affordable living options for NCF personnel now and in the years to come.

The Milestone Center will be located off Milestone Road, adjacent to our actively farmed cranberry bogs. NCF has engaged SMP Architects and Viridian Landscape Studio and anticipates an 18-month construction period. The Research & Education Center’s main level floor area will be 10,000 square feet, and the building is carefully designed to optimize functional space by incorporating below-grade and external programming features. Additionally, the building will feature LEED certification, solar energy, an innovative wastewater treatment system, and native landscaping, all contributing to its sustainability and environmental responsibility.

The housing plans are focused in the Milestone area, as well as at existing NCF residences. Both the Center and the housing will be fully donor funded.



Exterior rendering of Research & Education Center

NCF looks forward to engaging with the Nantucket community throughout the planning process and will share more details as the project progresses. Stakeholder engagement sessions are scheduled to take place over the coming months.

“Since 1963, the Foundation has been at the forefront of stewarding and protecting Nantucket’s ecosystems to be a resource for all Nantucket residents and visitors,” said Collier. “The Milestone Center is a natural evolution of our work, providing stable and secure housing options for our employees, creating space to enhance our research capabilities and educational outreach, and remaining steadfast in our mission of land stewardship.

As stewards of over 9,000 acres of land, 17 miles of coastal shoreline, and 100 miles of trails, NCF is committed to ensuring that any infrastructure aligns with the organization’s conservation values. The Milestone Center is thoughtfully designed to harmonize with its surroundings while minimizing environmental and visual impact,” said Collier.

For more information on the Milestone Center, please visit:

<https://www.nantucketconservation.org/milestonecenter/>

or contact Cormac Collier at ccollier@nantucketconservation.org.

About the Nantucket Conservation Foundation: *Founded in 1963, the Nantucket Conservation Foundation owns, protects, and stewards over 9,000 acres of land and coastal shoreline, conserves Nantucket’s rare and significant natural resources, and engages in impactful ecological research to inform resource management and further our knowledge of Nantucket’s unique ecosystems and species. We share our environmental expertise with the wider community and provide educational and recreational opportunities to encourage respectful enjoyment and appreciation of our properties. For more information, visit www.nantucketconservation.org.*