

## 5 Island Recreation and Entertainment

The island offers many opportunities for people who are interested in exercising or joining other islanders for fun and recreation. Tennis and golf are always available at no charge. Both are managed by the Cottagers' Association of Bustins Island (CABI), and are funded by donations to the CABI as well as by the Bustins Island Village Corporation (BIVC). In addition, there are many places to swim and sunbathe, walk and explore. On weekends there are usually planned events in the afternoons or evenings that are fun for all ages.

### Tennis Courts

Bustins has two clay tennis courts, located in the middle of the island behind the Fire Barn. They are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The courts are maintained by a small committee of interested islanders. Players are expected to sweep the courts after play, not play on wet courts, and are asked to be considerate of neighboring cottages by not starting play before 8:00 am.

### Golf Course/Sports Field

The golf course/sports field is located at the easterly end of the island, near the Transfer Station. The golf course is a par three, six hole rough course that plays back and forth across the field. Tees are marked, and flags mark the greens. A golf tournament is usually held once a summer and all are invited to compete. The Kirkland family has for many years voluntarily maintained the course.



The golf course doubles as a playing field for softball, Frisbee, flashlight tag, and other similar activities. Once a summer, field day takes place here. To schedule an activity at the field, contact the CABI chair.

è Golfers and sports players are expected to be flexible and considerate in sharing the field.

### Swings/Volleyball

Swings are located next to the Store and are for the use of all islanders, young and old. In addition, a volleyball court is set up to one side of the swings.

Sooner or later every child on Bustins discovers the rope swing. The swing hangs from a tree, and at high tide (only) children use it to swing out over the ocean and drop into the waves. The rope swing is neither sanctioned nor maintained by Bustins officials; it can be dangerous. We suggest that when your child first discovers it, you accompany him or her to view it and make your own determination about whether you want your child to use it. Use only the nearby right-of-way for access to the shore and avoid crossing over private property.

## Pidges Cove

Pidges Cove is located to the right of the path to the Public Dock, by Turtle Rock. It is as close to a sandy beach as exists on Bustins, and many people swim there. Pidges Cove is also the location of the annual Polar Bear Swim. Stairs lead from the public road down to the rocks by the beach area.

## Sunset Rock

Sunset Rock is located on the westerly side of the island. Easily accessed from the road, it is a quiet and lovely location for observing summer sunsets or for lying in the sun.

## Turtle Rock

A landmark of the island, Turtle Rock is located by Pidges Cove near the path to the Public Dock. At high tide when viewed from the correct angle, the rock resembles a large turtle and is a place where children of all ages love to climb.

## Shore Reserve

The Shore Reserve is BIVC-owned and -protected land along most of the east shore that is accessible to everyone. The Shore Reserve passes in front of many cottages, so please be considerate when walking along it. See the map in Appendix A for the location of the Shore Reserve.

## Roads, Pathways, and Trails

The island is crossed by public roads, paths, and trails. The main public road (Bustins Island Road) circles the island (about 1.5 miles), with branches that bisect the island vertically and horizontally.



Roads go by all island buildings and are maintained by the Superintendent. Roads are shown on the map in Appendix A.

Paths are subtler versions of roads, strictly for foot traffic, and are occasionally maintained by the Landscape Committee.

The island has many trails that provide shortcuts from one road to another or from one part of the island to another. Exploration is the best way to discover trails. Note that some paths and trails may cross private property. Please be courteous.



By state law, you may not drink or have open containers of alcohol on any public road or public path. Smoking on public ways is discouraged for safety reasons.

## Public Outhouses

Three public outhouses on Bustins are maintained by the Cottagers' Association of Bustins Island (CABI). One is located near the Store, one near the Brewer Cottage, and one near the Community House. Please leave them at least as neat as you find them.

## CABI Calendar

Every year the CABI prepares a summer calendar of highly-anticipated events that are both new and traditional. Every islander, young and old, is encouraged to participate and to suggest new events. The calendar includes events such as Saturday night square dances, bake sales, Bingo, bean suppers, the Fourth of July Parade, Polar Bear Swim, and Field Day. Newer events include karaoke, guest speakers, musicians, boat excursions, and Ultimate Frisbee. Most events are free or charge a nominal fee that covers the cost of expenses such as necessary supplies, prizes, and/or ribbons.

Each spring islanders receive a mailing from CABI that includes the coming season's events. The current calendar is also posted on the CABI website, which is accessible as a link from the BIVC website ([www.bivc.net](http://www.bivc.net)) or directly at [cabustinsisland.wordpress.com/](http://cabustinsisland.wordpress.com/).

## Children and Teen Entertainment

There are many things that children and teens can see and do to stay busy on Bustins Island. Many parents realize how valuable the experience of growing up on Bustins Island during the summer was for them when they were younger, despite the lack of TV, electronic devices, and many other things young folks take for granted on the mainland or at home. The battle cry of "I'm bored" affords parents and their children of any age an opportunity to be creative, and Bustins Island is the perfect venue to get creative.

### *Organized Events*

As previously mentioned, the CABI organizes summer events and publishes a calendar so that all can make their plans accordingly. Some events are geared especially for children and teens. For example, there are square dances and karaoke planned just for young people. The *Lilly B.* arranges ice-cream runs during the summer. A very popular event is the Polar Bear Swim on Memorial Day weekend. In past years, parents have arranged such activities as scavenger hunts and races for the island's young people. For those who think such events are "square," we suggest you encourage your children to try them once and we believe they will be hooked.



### *Spontaneity*

In addition to events organized and advertised by the CABI, we encourage everyone to get creative. Go on a picnic. Organize a scavenger hunt. Find all of the well-worn paths. Play board games. Organize outdoor games like hide-and-seek, flashlight tag, and Red-Light. (There are usually groups of teens playing flashlight tag and throwing Frisbees on the golf course most every evening.) Put a sign on the Store porch wall to encourage others to join you.

Children and teens in the past have also gotten creative by thinking of ways to supplement their weekly allowance. Your son or daughter can use the Store porch wall to post their ad or distribute flyers to advertise their money-making talent, such as house cleaning, baby sitting, pet sitting, pet walking, selling home-made lemonade at a stand, errand running, assisting with small household chores, lawn mowing, and/or spring yard clean-up, to name just a few. The possibilities are endless.

### ***A Word to the Wise***

Idle young people can get into mischief as easily on Bustins Island as they can at home. Be vigilant about teaching your children common courtesy, such as letting walkers know if they are being approached from behind on a bicycle. Be aware of where you store your alcohol, tobacco, and prescription drugs, and how much you have. Don't make it easy for your teenager or their friends to help themselves.

Teach your children all of the Bustins Island safety and fire prevention tactics. Conduct a family fire drill, or during a rainy day play a Q&A game using the safety information provided by the Public Safety Committee as the subject.

We have been fortunate on Bustins Island to be able to keep enforcement of basic rules informal and at a family level.

## **Opportunities to Plan or Volunteer for Events**

Volunteers are the life blood of events. To suggest, schedule, or plan an event, contact a member of CABI. Committee members are familiar with all of the details that go into planning events on Bustins, at the Community House, or at the golf course. To volunteer to help at an event, contact the person or family responsible for the event.

Anyone may initiate their own event. There are no rules and the CABI does not have a monopoly on planning events on Bustins. If your event is open to the Bustins community and operates within BIVC By-Laws and policies, by all means plan it, coordinate it with the CABI, and use the Store porch wall to post a notice of your event, or go door-to-door with your announcement.



## **A Gentle Reminder**

Whether participating in a sponsored event or making your own fun, remember to be sensitive to the needs of other islanders. The volume of your music, the "friendliness" of your pet, the hours you choose to run your generator, host an activity, or even mow your lawn, should always complement your neighbor's desire for peace and serenity.