The 401.2 acre Woodbury Nature Sanctuary was acquired by the Stanton Bird Club in two separate time frames. The first 160 acre portion of the Sanctuary was the 1929 gift of Louise S. Drew and Clara B. Dana, daughters of Mary Ann Woodbury Davis. It was part of the original family farm on the Monmouth/Litchfield town line. Mary Ann Woodbury was one of the 13 children born to Hugh and Elizabeth Plummer Woodbury who farmed the property in the nineteenth century. The family cemetery is located in the Sanctuary, across Pease Hill Road from the gate. There are approximately 10 acres in Litchfield and 150 acres in Monmouth. At the time the property was deeded to the Club, it had been cut very hard and most of it had been burned.

Club members constructed a rustic cabin on the property in the 1950s and maintained a hiking trail beyond the top of the ridge. The cabin was vandalized and torn down in the late 1980s. New trails were completed from 1999 through 2003, providing nearly four miles of well marked hiking paths.

This portion of the present day Sanctuary rises from an elevation of about 170 feet near Mud Pond and a cedar swamp to its north to about 410 feet at the twin peaks of the ridge, where it drops to about 220 feet at the cemetery.

In 2008 Central Maine Power informed the Stanton Bird Club that the proposed route of their new high voltage power line was going to bisect the Sanctuary in the Pease Hill Road area and connect to the existing line adjacent to Town Farm Road. In 2010 after lengthy negotiation, the Club, in return for granting the requested easement for a right of way, received title to a 241.2 acre wetland mitigation property abutting the existing Sanctuary. This is the southwestern portion of the present Sanctuary, bounded on the west by Jock Stream, the south by Carver Road, and includes the extensive wetland area of Mud Pond.

Within this more recent acquisition are significant vernal pools, acres of high value inland waterfowl and wading bird habitat, and thousands of feet of unspoiled shoreline and stream channel. The current trails are former camp roads and effort will be made to keep the area as pristine as possible.
Woodsbury Nature Sanctuary

Open everyday from sunrise to sunset

We welcome
✓ trail hiking
✓ bird watching
✓ nature walks
✓ jogging
✓ picnics
✓ cross-country skiing
✓ snowshoeing
✓ photography and painting

We prohibit
✗ dogs and other pets
✗ vehicles
✗ bikes
✗ snowmobiles
✗ horseback riding
✗ alcoholic beverages
✗ fishing, trapping, hunting
✗ collection of any kind
✗ camping
✗ geocaching
✗ letterboxing
✗ fires of any kind
✗ weapons of any kind

⇒ Carry out all trash
⇒ Stay on color blazed trails

These rules will ensure that Woodbury Nature Sanctuary will be here for you and for future generations.

In extending this invitation, Stanton Bird Club is mindful of the potential liability it may have in the event a member of the public suffers injury, loss, or damage in its land; consequently, Stanton Bird Club requires that all persons visiting Woodbury Nature Sanctuary do so at their own risk.