Ridge Trail (1.6 mile)
Access all sanctuary trails from the Ridge Trail, which begins at the kiosk in the parking lot. The Ridge Trail winds through most types of habitat in the sanctuary, as well as past an old dam and mill site and the historic mill-master’s house.

Orchard and Deer Run Trails (0.5 mile)
The Orchard Trail branches from the Ridge Trail soon after the Ridge Trail entrance at the parking lot. It leads to the Deer Run Trail, which rejoins the Ridge Trail. These trails pass through orchard, former farm fields, and mixed coniferous forest of pine, hemlock, and fir.

Mill Stream Trail (0.3 mile)
Branching off from the Ridge Trail/service road at the dam site 0.3 miles southeast of the parking lot, the Mill Stream Trail follows the stream through riparian (river) habitat and overlooks the maple swamp before meeting back up with the Ridge Trail.

Estuary Trail (0.4 mile)
Beginning and ending at the Ridge Trail/service road, the Estuary Trail, which is steep in places, takes you through field-grown white pines to the point overlooking the estuary.
Mast Landing Audubon Sanctuary
Freeport, Maine

Only one mile from the bustling downtown of Freeport, Maine, Mast Landing Audubon Sanctuary is 145 acres of diverse habitat rich in human and natural history. It is located along the Harraseeket River estuary, with more than three miles of trails that wind along a stream and tidal marsh and through orchard, fields, and forest.

In 1967, Maine Audubon founded Mast Landing Audubon Sanctuary on land donated by the L.M.C. Smith family. The name “Mast Landing” dates to the early 1700s, when the British navy sought ship masts made from massive white pines. Loggers hauled, to a nearby ship landing, the trees they felled and trimmed on what is now sanctuary land.

The sanctuary’s Mill Stream once powered a saw mill, a textile mill, two grist mills, and a woodworking shop. Destroyed by fire in the early 1860s, the mills and shop were not rebuilt, and their foundations are visible where Mill Stream flows past a historic dam and mill site before flowing into the tidal waters of the Harraseeket River.

Mast Landing Audubon Sanctuary features open fields, apple orchards, alder lowland, and mature white pine and hemlock forest. The sanctuary attracts migrant shorebirds and songbirds. In the springtime, it is a wonderful place to observe the courtship flight displays of American Woodcocks. Resident mammals typical of southern Maine woodlands include American Mink, Snowshoe Hare, North American Porcupine, Northern Raccoon, White-tailed Deer, and Coyote.

Learn more at maineaudubon.org/visit/mast-landing