

As President of Citizens for Access Rights, I would once again like to state our group's support for beach access. As stated in a previous letter to the East Hampton Star, it is our belief that areas between low and high tide are accessible to the public based on the principles set forth in the New York State's Public Trust Doctrine.

Based on the information our group has been able to review to date, we believe that the area known as Cartwright Island falls into this category. The island itself is underwater for some of the year, and when it is not under water it appears that the island is owned by the State of New York. Our group is continuing to look into the history of Cartwright Island, but so far it seems that the Island is not part of Gardiners Island and the foreshore of Cartwright Island should be accessible to the public.

It is our understanding that a resident of East Hampton was recently arrested for trespass on the foreshore of Cartwright Island. As a result of the arrest, CfAR is hoping for some clarification on this issue in the public's favor and for the trespassing charges to be dismissed.

The Board of CfAR will continue to research the deeds and history of the area and will follow the proceedings regarding the trespass charges and keep members informed. We urge the Town and the Trustees to look into this issue also, and to stand up for public access should the facts support it. In the meantime we wish everyone a happy and safe August on the beach.

Best,

Tim Taylor  
President  
Citizens for Access Rights(CfAR)