

Landscapes

SUMMER 2009

THE NEWSLETTER OF COASTAL MOUNTAINS LAND TRUST

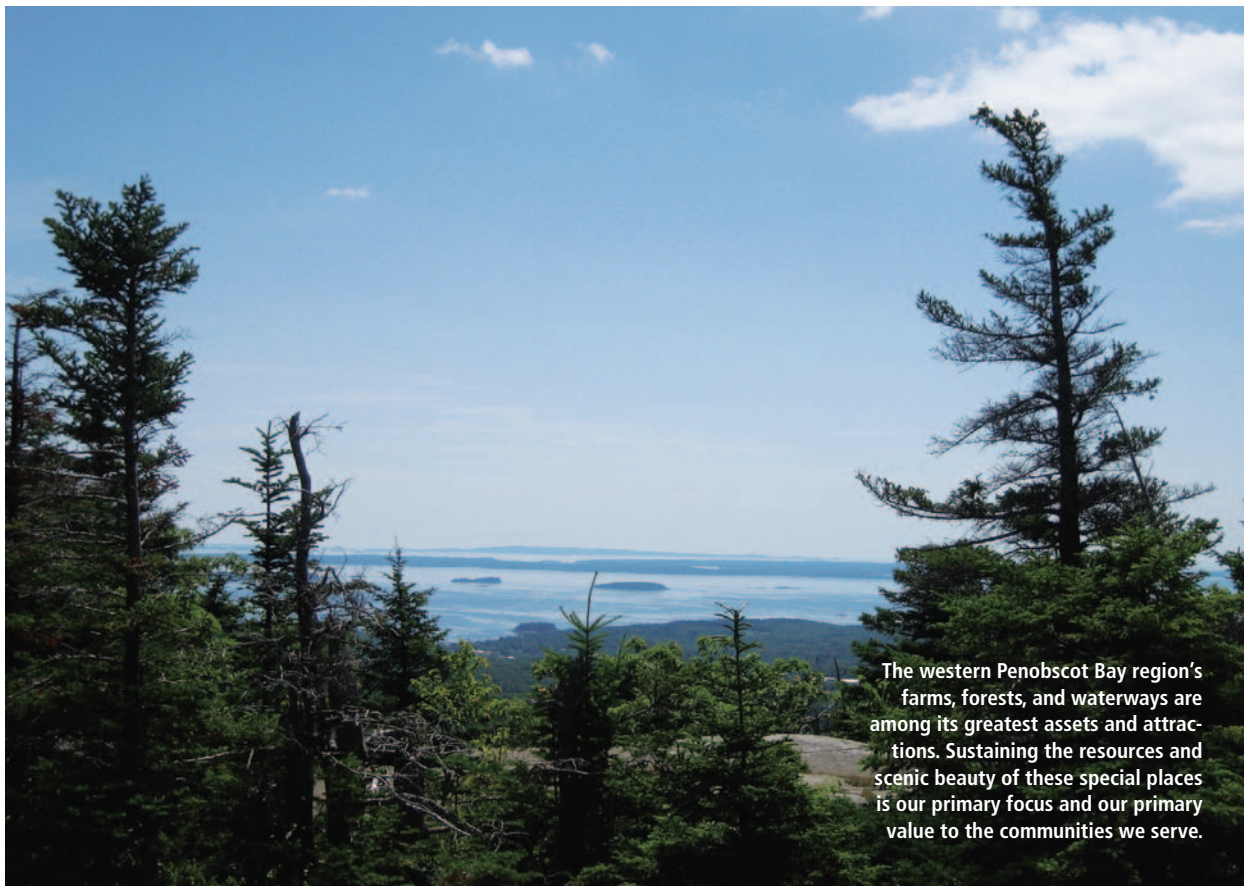
Nonprofit
Organization
U.S.
POSTAGE
PAID
Rockport ME
Permit No. 30



101 Mount Battie Street · Camden, ME 04843 · 207-236-7091

Serving the communities of Rockport, Camden, Hope, Lincolnville, Northport, Belmont, Belfast, Morrill, Waldo, Swanville, Brooks, Knox, Searsport, Stockton Springs, and Prospect.

Permanently conserving land to benefit the natural and human communities of western Penobscot Bay since 1986



The western Penobscot Bay region's farms, forests, and waterways are among its greatest assets and attractions. Sustaining the resources and scenic beauty of these special places is our primary focus and our primary value to the communities we serve.

The Economics of Ecology

What's land conservation really worth?

Most of us would agree on the importance of clean lakes and rivers, flourishing farms, and healthy forests. Many would also agree that nature preserves, parks, and public trails are real community assets. But can these things be quantified with a dollar sign? What's the financial bottom line when we combine economics and ecology?

Property Taxes

A common economic objection to conserved land is that its usual exemption from property taxes negatively impacts town tax revenues. So there's a minus sign right at the start. But this just considers the income side of the town budget. Because conservation land will never be developed, it requires very few town services—no school fees, solid waste processing, snow plowing, or road construction and maintenance—thus permanently saving money on the expense side of the town budget: a big plus sign. In fact, a Maine study conducted in 1997 determined that, in general, towns with the most development have higher rather than lower tax bills, in large part due to the costs of expanding town services beyond the town center.

Studies conducted in Maine by Maine Coast Heritage Trust found that when a town's tax base is reduced by \$500,000 due to property tax exemption of conservation land, a property assessed at \$100,000 averages a short-term annual tax increase of \$1.00 - \$2.00. Locally, we've calculated that when the Stover Preserve was protected in 2004, Belfast tax payers were burdened with a tax increase of a mere \$0.32 each annually—a nominal amount, especially when weighed against the community benefit of a 45-acre nature preserve with a riverside trail.

Bob Whiteley, Belfast City Tax Assessor, reviewed the impact of Land Trust properties on annual property tax revenues in his city and stated, "I don't see Coastal Mountains Land Trust causing a value loss in the community." He continued by noting, "Protecting land is both necessary and extremely beneficial to the community at large. We need this." Permanent protection of land should not be seen as precluding a more lucrative option, but protection against a more expensive one.

Interestingly, living next door to a park or nature preserve boosts a property's value, which also helps to offset tax exemptions granted to conserved land. The Neighborhood Open Space Coalition determined that (continued on page 2)

Camden Riverwalk Easement Signed

With the May 1 signing of the Riverwalk easement, the Town of Camden completed the most essential step toward creation of a community legacy. The easement permanently protects a 900-foot riverfront corridor on which the Town will build and manage the Riverwalk, a public pathway. The Land Trust assisted in drafting the easement, and also agreed to the Town's request to be its

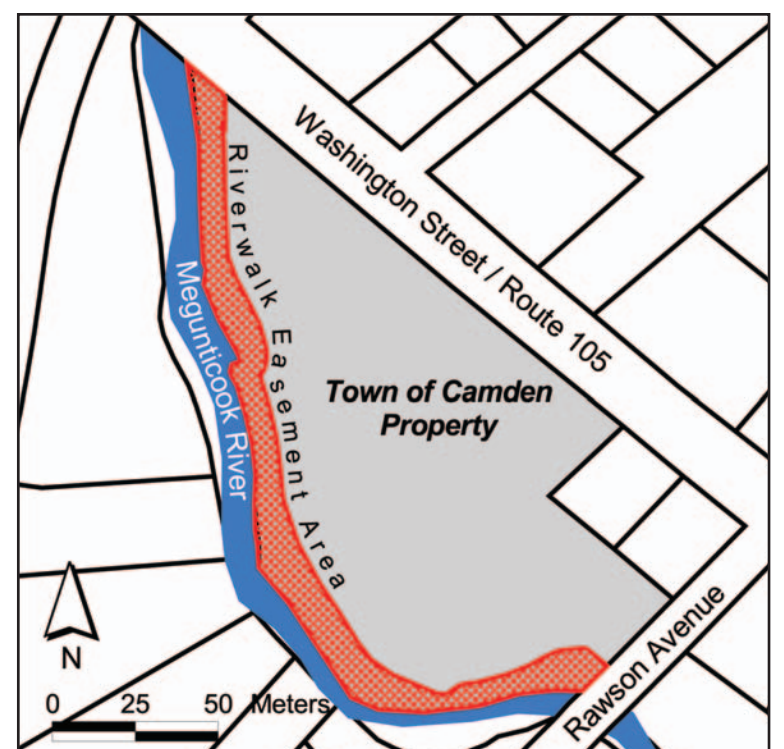


Scott Dickerson, Land Trust Executive Director, and Roberta Smith, Camden Town Manager (center) oversee the signing of the Riverwalk easement by Land Trust Board President Bland Banwell.

holder—meaning we're responsible for seeing that its terms are sustained for the future. The easement's basic purposes are to ensure that the public will always be able to enjoy access to this scenic stretch of the river, in addition to permanently protecting the plant buffer along the river's edge.

Roberta Smith, Camden Town Manager, said at the signing, "From the Town's perspective, it's great that we've come together on the easement terms. And I'm pleased that Coastal Mountains Land Trust was willing to hold it, because we've had many successful partnerships with them. This step allows the Town to continue its work with the Pathways project and developing pedestrian access opportunities in the community."

Nancy Caudle-Johnson, a leading citizen proponent of the Riverwalk, expressed her satisfaction with the positive outcome of the long process that led to the creation and signing of the easement: "It's just starting to sink in that the outcome of these efforts is that this area along the river will be there forever, that the riverside and public access to it will now be permanently protected. I'm just so happy it all worked out."



(*Economics continued*) properties in the Philadelphia area in immediate proximity to conservation lands were valued almost \$3,000 more than properties at a greater distance. Here in Maine, real estate property descriptions often tout such characteristics. For example, one local property listing recently stated, “Stunning mountain view with a waterfall...property backs up to Maine state park...with views of the Camden Snow Bowl.” Another declared, “Picture-perfect house bordering Maine Coast Heritage Trust’s Aldermere Farm.” Nancy Hughes of Jaret & Cohn Real Estate in Camden affirmed, “A broker market analysis determining current value for a property will most often cite a higher value when a residential property has the good fortune to abut preserved or conserved land.”

Bottom line: in the long run, the town’s gain from conservation land balances out or even surpasses the net loss of the tax exemption.

Quality of Life

Towns featuring natural places also attract millions of seasonal residents and visiting tourists—one of Maine’s most significant revenue sources. The Brookings Institute’s 2006 report “Charting Maine’s Future: An Action Plan for Promoting Sustainable Prosperity and Quality Places” noted that “Maine’s scenic and recreational resources build an alluring brand that is vital to our current and future economy.” A 2005 Maine Department of Conservation study reported that 2.1 million



HEATHER GERQUEST

people visit Maine’s public lands and collectively spend \$60.3 million on goods and services related to their nature-based travel. In a 2003 study of tourist travel patterns in mid-coast Maine conducted by Longwoods International, about 40% visited wilderness areas, lakes and rivers, 20% explored a natural environment, and 30% enjoyed a scenic byway.

The natural health of an area can have a profound effect on its economic health. Lake Megunticook, for example, offers recreational opportunities to residents, seasonal visitors, and tourists. Currently the water quality is good, according to the Megunticook Watershed Association’s 2006 report; however, the lake is listed as threatened by pollution and at risk from new development. This report states that use of the lake contributes to the local economy; it also refers to a 1996 University of Maine study which found that for every meter decline in water clarity, shorefront property values can drop as much as 20%. The Land Trust permanently protects about 28% of the entire lakefront. These permanently protected lands provide a natural buffer of over 400 acres, which filter pollutants entering the lake. No one—not even a loon or a trout—wants to swim in murky water marred by algal blooms. A clean lake maintains its natural character, thereby sustaining recreational opportunities and associated revenues.

As reflected by the many images proudly

displayed in the local Chambers of Commerce guides, we live in an area that depends on its scenic beauty and outdoor recreation opportunities. Camden, after all, is “where the mountains meet the sea,” and the current edition of the Camden-Rockport-Lincolnton Chamber’s “Jewel of the Maine Coast” sports an entire feature entitled “Outdoor Fun: The Midcoast is a paradise for those who love to get outside.” This section refers to several of our preserves, as well as Camden Hills State Park and the Georges Highland Path. Camden Hill State Park alone generates about \$180,000 per year in camping and entrance fees, attracting thousands of visitors annually to enjoy the Park and neighboring towns. Use of our preserves is free, but we know they too are visited by thousands each year. These visitors are not just locals out for a stroll. Many are also staying in our B & Bs and inns, eating in our restaurants, and spending money in our shops.

And it’s not all fun and games, either. The region’s natural resources provide jobs in fishing, farming, and forestry. In a 50-mile radius around Belfast, 4,600 people are employed in these trades, helping sustain the local economy. Furthermore, the area has attracted a thriving community of artists of all types, as well as a nationally recognized art museum and a host of galleries that feature art inspired by the scenic landscape. The creative economy is alive and well in the western Penobscot Bay region, thanks in part to the preservation of some of our most beautiful natural places.

Bottom line: imagine this area without its many lovely harbors, without being able to enjoy a view from atop one of the Camden Hills, without the rural beauty of its farms and fields, lakes and rivers... Would you want to be here?

The Basics

In the most basic way, the healthy ecosystems of western Penobscot Bay, bolstered by more than 16,000 acres of preserves and parks, provide our human communities with essential services that we tend to take for granted: clean air to breathe, prime soils and pollinating insects for farms, orchards, and blueberry fields, forests that provide firewood and help mitigate climate change, and uncontaminated drinking water from local lakes and wells.

And things as seemingly simple as erosion control. Forested hillsides and protected floodplains, for example, prevent the extraordinary costs associated with flood damage to roads and buildings. The undeveloped floodplain of the Ducktrap River provided the necessary water retention this spring when waters rose to near-record levels. If the river corridor had been developed and partially covered with pavement or other impermeable surfaces, property damage and severe wash-outs such as occurred elsewhere in Lincolnton would have cost the community thousands of additional dollars.

Bottom line: when land is permanently protected, Mother Nature isn’t the only benefactor. Land conservation fortifies a community’s economy at its very foundation, building vitality and resilience by drawing people in like a bee to a blossom.

However, dollar signs can only symbolize a portion of the real value of land conservation. Seen from a broader perspective, the special places such as those the Land Trust protects offer solace, aesthetic inspiration, and outdoor experiences for current and future generations to enjoy—intangible qualities that are truly priceless.

A complete list of references for this article is available on our website at http://www.coastalmountains.org/news/press_room.html.

Memorial Gifts

Received 1 February 2009 – 11 May 2009

In Memory of Robert Comins: Bruce Lively & Ann Rutherford

In Memory of Frank “Terry” Jewett: Bruce Lively & Ann Rutherford

In Memory of Michael Nicholson: The Bradford Family · The Brey Family · Kelly Cowles & Family · The Elsen Family · Lisa Miller & Family · The Mortati Family · The Parker Family · The Raleigh Family · Geoff Scott & Anita Brosius-Scott · Ann & Katie Werner

In Memory of George Wallace: Carolyn Conard · Susan Conard & David Randall



Special thanks to...

■ **Susan Alexander**, our highly valued recording secretary ■ **The Center for Maine Contemporary Art**, for offering a special open house for Land Trust members only (see Events Calendar for details!) ■ **Jim Cobb**, for help with the building and well at the Bald Mountain Preserve

■ **Alison Dibble**, for leading a botany outing ■ **Joan Federman**, for research at town offices ■ **Wanda Garland**, for leading a wildflower walk on Sears Island ■ **Carol Harrell**, for research at town offices ■ **Dave Holster**, for Bald Mountain boundary work ■ **Heidi Karod**, for staffing our table at the Green Fair ■ **Morton Moesswilde**, for conducting a forestry management workshop ■ **Freeland**

■ **Savage**, for preserve signs ■ **John Sherman**, for construction of trailhead kiosks ■ **Sonia Spalding**, our Volunteer Coordinator ■ **Stephanie Smith Stein**, for donation of a limited edition broadsheet signed by artist Nancy Stein and writer Terry Tempest Williams

■ **Beech Hill “Big Sit” Bird Day:** Glenn Jenks, Patrick Keenan, Peter McKinley, Whitney Oppersdorff, Douglas Prescott, Brian Willson

■ **Fernalds Neck Trail Work:** Kate Cole, Dick DeGraaf, Betty Killoran, Bonnie & Matt Janicki

■ **Office Assistance:** Brian Bellinger, Bill Dopheide, Amy Faunce, Jeannette Faunce, Carol Harrell, Emily Lusher, Audrey Maddox, Joann Magner, Kathryn Maguire, Pat Putnam, Abby Stocks, Molly Stone, Betsy Tutein, Cami Vitullo

■ **Passy Greenway Trail Work:** Skip Pendleton, Larry Theye, Ed Williams

■ **In-Kind Business Supporters:** Bangor Savings Bank, Camden Printing, Down East Magazine, Maine Boats, Homes & Harbors, Three Islands Press

■ **Adopt-a-Trail Sponsors:** Camden Real Estate; The Cawley Family; Micki Colquhoun, Realtor; The Montgomery Family; Stephanie Smith, in memory of Richmond Smith; Village Soup – The Herald-Gazette

■ **Contribute to Place Participants:** Hawthorn Inn, Inn at Ocean’s Edge

The above list does not include the names of our Board members, who contribute their time and energy to the organization in so many different ways and for whom we are always very grateful!



Aloha, Doug Sensenig!



to use a CRUT to make a major gift while retaining the income from it during our lives. In discussing with Scott [Dickerson, our executive director] what we wanted to do, I was so impressed with what the Land Trust had accomplished that we decided to make it the only beneficiary of the CRUT and to make the gift irrevocable. As part of the Land Trust’s endowment, our gift would keep on working forever.”

Once the CRUT was established, Doug never looked back: “As the Land Trust has grown and diversified to support the community in different ways, we are more satisfied than ever about our decision. For me it is enough that conservation protects land from irresponsible development. But it does much more for the local economy—sustaining the quality of life that lures tourists and good employees, in addition

to increasing the sense of well-being we all enjoy from being surrounded by nature.”

Scott affirmed, “Doug’s commitment to land conservation in Maine during the past twenty years has created a lasting natural legacy of conserved land here.”

Doug actively served on the Land Trust board for five years, two of them as board president. He blames us—in a good way—for his departure to Hawaii: “My experience with the Land Trust’s staff and volunteers was the basis for my being hired as executive director of Hawaii Island Land Trust... I am truly honored and humbled by what has happened as a result of getting involved with Coastal Mountains Land Trust. It’s one of the best things I have ever done.”

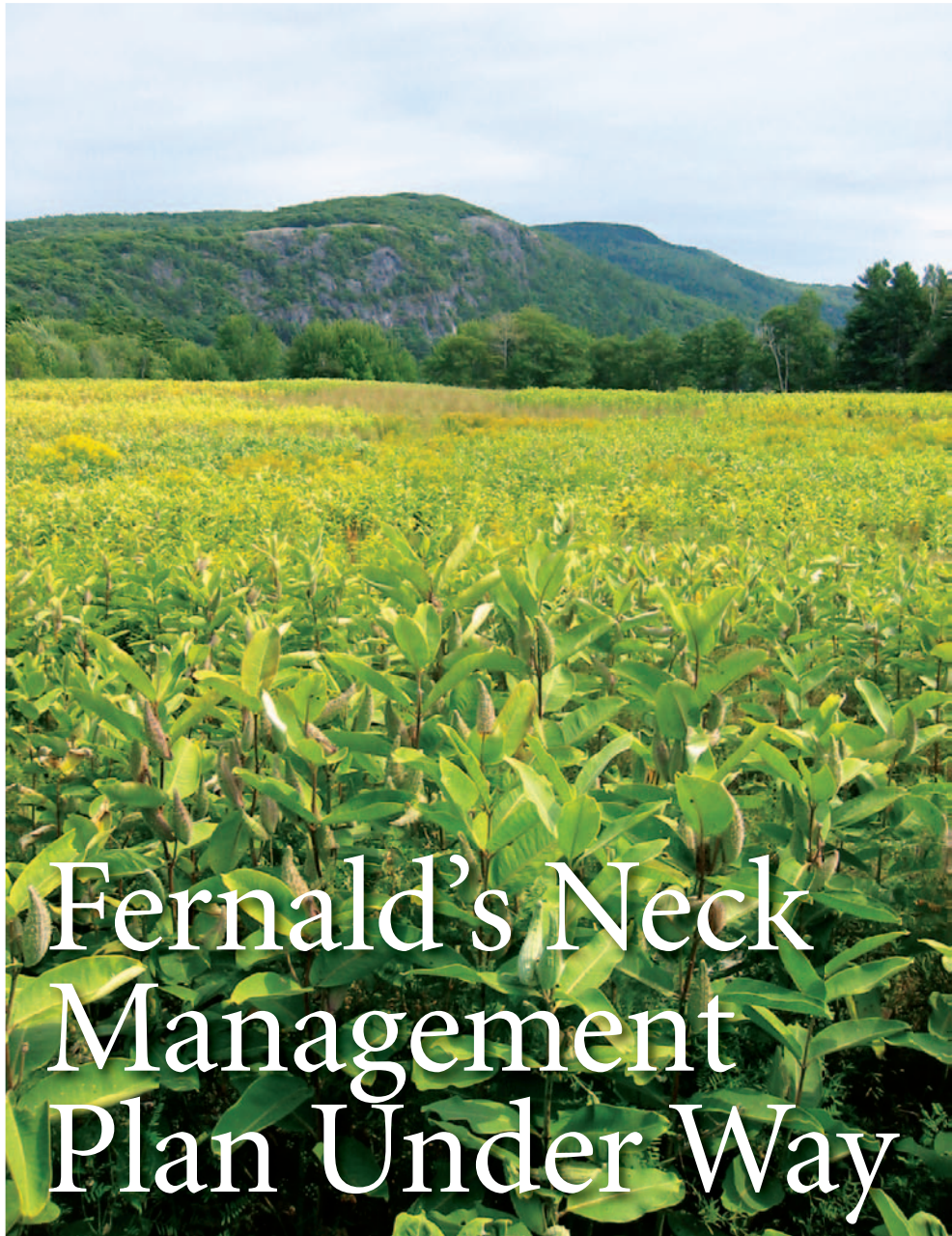
Scott echoed the sentiments of us all when he said, “While I celebrate Doug’s new opportunity to conserve land in Hawaii, I’m going to really miss working with him here in Maine.” But we take pleasure in knowing that Doug’s commitment to land conservation will now benefit another beautiful place in the world—and are assured that his relationship with us will last no matter where he lives. Thank you, Doug, for all that you have done for us, and best wishes in your new island home!

This spring we regretfully bade farewell to former Board president Doug Sensenig—although our regret was tinged with both admiration and envy, as Doug is leaving Maine to become the first executive director of Hawaii Land Trust on the island of Hawaii.

Land conservation runs in Doug’s family. Here in midcoast Maine, where his family ties go back over 100 years, his mother Elinor Janney Thurlow was very active in the conservation community and became an early supporter when we were still known as the Camden-Rockport Land Trust. In 1988 she donated to us a conservation easement on the family farm on Fernalds Neck in Lincolnton; Doug himself helped draft the easement.

But what really established Doug’s longtime commitment to us, permanently uniting him to our mission, was his family’s creation of a charitable remainder unitrust (CRUT) to benefit the Land Trust.

Doug explained, “We decided to sell the family farm on Fernalds Neck in 2003 after my mother became too ill to live there. We wanted to honor her wish to do something significant to benefit land conservation in the area. With the help of Sarah Ruef-Lindquist we planned



Fernald's Neck Management Plan Under Way

With the transfer of the Fernald's Neck Preserve to Coastal Mountains Land Trust from the Nature Conservancy in spring 2007, our organization took on the significant responsibility of taking care of one of the most cherished conservation properties in our region. Composed of more than 300 acres of forest, field, and wetland, the Fernald's Neck Preserve juts out into the center of Lake Megunticook. The property offers spectacular scenery, three miles of hiking trails, over five miles of undeveloped lakefront, idyllic lakeside picnic spots, and valuable wildlife habitat.

Over the course of our first two years as stewards of Fernald's Neck, we've worked hard getting to know the place by learning its history and ecology, as well as talking to the people who visit and enjoy it. Working together with ecologists, neighbors, visitors, relevant state agencies, and the Megunticook Watershed Association, our staff has gathered extensive information about the Preserve in order to put together a picture of the property's health and key management challenges. In 2008 ecologists Alison Dibble and Cathy Rees conducted an inventory of the plant species and natural community types found on the property, as well as sensitive areas of special concern. Through a cooperative management arrangement, we have also worked closely with the Megunticook Watershed Association and its director Ken Bailey to ensure that the Preserve continues to be monitored properly by water. We've also begun to work with Ken to investigate the status and potential impact of the Canada

goose population on Lake Megunticook and Fernald's Neck.

With all of this experience under our belt, the Land Trust is now in a good position to plan for the future. We've begun the process of drafting a management plan which will outline our objectives and strategies for managing the Preserve over the next five years. Key issues addressed within the plan will include protection of rare species and sensitive habitats, management of public access and use, maintenance of trails, control of invasive species, and potential public education events. As part of the plan, we're considering a range of guidelines and actions to protect the property, some of which will be new. Possible changes might include the introduction of a limited fall hunting season to reduce the Preserve's deer population, which has been devastating the forest understory, implementation of a new volunteer docent program to provide increased coverage on the heavily visited property, and making the main trail wheel-chair accessible.

Even as the organization works to finalize these plans, we're committed to continuing to gather input and ideas from the community about the future of the Fernald's Neck Preserve. We will be hosting a public meeting to discuss our draft plan for the Preserve on **Tuesday, July 7 at 7pm** at the Land Trust office. If Fernald's Neck is a special place for you, we encourage you to attend. If you can't make the meeting, please share your thoughts and comments with our conservation lands manager Ian Stewart at (207) 236-7091 or ians@coastalmountains.org.

Get Down and Dirty with the Land Trust

Volunteers are integral to the success of Coastal Mountains Land Trust. And this year, as the economy has tightened, we realize we're counting on your help more than ever. Becoming a volunteer is a great way to get outside, meet new people, and help protect the special places that make this a wonderful community to live in.

Right now we're seeking volunteers to help with a range of stewardship and outreach activities. For example, our ongoing work developing the Gateway to the Mountains trail system offers a great opportunity to get involved with land conservation in your community. In partnership with the Camden Snow Bowl and the Midcoast Chapter of the New England Mountain Bike Association (McNEMBA), we'll be working on a monthly basis from June through October on a new 3.5-mile, multi-use loop trail from the Snow Bowl south through our Ragged Mountain Preserve. The trail will provide access for hiking, mountain biking and cross-country skiing on more than 325 acres of conserved land on the forested southern end of Ragged Mountain.

By combining the efforts of volunteers from the Land Trust, McNEMBA, and the Snow Bowl, we'll be creating sustainable trails that support a range of uses, while at the same time protecting



A group of young participants on a cycling tour with Apogee Adventures helped out with field work on the Beech Hill Preserve last summer as part of the tour's volunteer service component.

vernal pools, wetlands, and other sensitive wildlife areas highlighted by the Preserve's recent ecological inventory. The project will also include signs and an informational kiosk to guide trail users.

If this kind of hands-on work appeals to you, please contact Ava Goodale, our Membership Coordinator, at 236-7091 or info@coastalmountains.org, or visit the Volunteers page at www.coastalmountains.org to read about other volunteer opportunities and download a Volunteer Form.

Advance Blueberry Sales Skyrocket

In our Spring newsletter we shared our plans for this summer's blueberry harvest on Beech Hill, including information on how to pre-order ten-pound boxes of our luscious, organic blueberries. This was our first real advertising effort for the program—last year, our first year in the pre-order business, we offered them only via limited word-of-mouth. So we're pleased to report that this year's response has exceeded our expectations! Orders from individual customers have already doubled from last year, and they are still coming in. We may even reach our production limit before the pre-order deadline of July 1 (so if you haven't placed your order, act fast!)

In addition to individual orders, we've also received several bulk orders to help further boost our total berry sales. Susan Boivin, Assistant Director of Food Services at Camden Hills Regional High School, has placed an order for 100 ten-pound boxes for the 2009-10 academic year. She plans on making lots of blueberry muffins. And that's not all the lucky students will enjoy. Each year the high school

food service hosts Harvest Days, inviting local farmers to set up in the cafeteria during lunch to showcase the food products they produce. During last year's Harvest Days, Susan served chicken breast baked with Brie topped with a blueberry sauce. This year she plans on making blueberry crepes with mascarpone cheese. She said, "When the kids ask about the food, I can say this came from the local area by people who are invested in the community."

The benefits of Beech Hill blueberries abound. Those who attend the Belfast Maskers' performance of "Oliver" at Steamboat Landing Park in Belfast this summer may be able to enjoy a blueberry treat just as tasty as crepes or jam. To benefit the Land Trust, Board members Sharron Walsh and Mary Rackmales will be selling home-made blueberry pie (made with Beech Hill berries, of course) and other baked goods at the Maskers' refreshments table on various days during the run of this show. We are grateful to the Maskers for giving us (and other area nonprofits) this nice little fundraising opportunity—and a chance to further show off our high quality berries.

And we are especially grateful to everybody who has pre-ordered blueberries from Beech Hill Preserve this year. These orders, big and small, are helping to sustain the special beauty of the Beech Hill Preserve for generations to come. If you have any questions regarding this year's Beech Hill Preserve blueberry harvest, please contact Joe Zipparo at (207) 236-7091 or joez@coastalmountains.org.



Coastal Mountains Land Trust

101 Mount Battie Street, Camden ME 04843, 207-236-7091, www.coastalmountains.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: Bland Banwell
Vice President: Galen Todd
Treasurer: Jay Freedman
Secretary: Sharron Walsh

Judy Berk, John Claussen, Micki Colquhoun, Marylee Dodge, John Doncaster, Philip Lewis, Didi Manns, Corallie Murray, Mary Rackmales, Jerry Savitz, Ingrid Warren

STAFF:

Executive Director: Scott Dickerson
Development Director: Kristen Lindquist
Membership Coordinator: Ava Goodale
Conservation Lands Manager: Ian Stewart
Stewardship Assistant: Joe Zipparo
Landscapes is published in March, June and Oct.
Editor: Kristen Lindquist; Designer: Mirosław Jurek;
Printer: Camden Printing. Printed on recycled paper.

BEECH HILL CAMPAIGN

Progress as of 1 May, 2009

Fundraising goal	\$820,000
Fundraising progress	\$800,706



Your generous support will help us complete this effort to secure the future of Beech Nut and its surrounding fields and blueberry barrens.

Beech Hill Summer Work Opportunity

Looking for work this summer? Have a son or daughter who will be home in July and August and needs some extra cash? We need a few motivated and energetic individuals who are interested in sustainable agriculture to work during the blueberry harvest at our Beech Hill Preserve—hand raking, sorting, and packing blueberries. A four- to five-week commitment is required, with irregular hours and days dependent on weather and the vagaries of nature. Work would start in late July and run through August. For more details, including pay, please contact Joe Zipparo, our stewardship assistant and Beech Hill Preserve manager, at (207) 236-7091 or joez@coastalmountains.org.

2009 EVENTS CALENDAR

Throughout the year, we offer opportunities to explore the landscape of the western Penobscot Bay region with natural historians and others. For updates on events listed below, please check our website and local newspapers. For further information or to sign up for those events requiring advance registration, please call the Land Trust at (207) 236-7091.

**Kid friendly activity. Please note that all children attending our outreach activities must be accompanied by an adult.*

SPECIAL EVENT FOR LAND TRUST MEMBERS ONLY!

You Are Here: Linden Frederick, Studies, Paintings Center for Maine Contemporary Art, 162 Russell Ave., Rockport

Monday, June 29, 3:00 – 5:00 PM

The Center for Maine Contemporary Art has graciously offered to open its doors to all members of Coastal Mountains Land Trust for two hours on a day when it's normally closed. Additionally, the normal \$5 gallery admission fee will be waived for this special "members only" event! (The show is up in the main gallery through July 18.)

Public Discussion of Fernald's Neck Management Plan

Land Trust Office, 101 Mount Battie St., Camden

Tuesday, July 7, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

We invite those interested in our future management of the Fernald's Neck Preserve to attend this open forum presentation of our draft management plan.

*Tots in Trees: A Preserve Exploration Especially for Children

Stover Preserve, Belfast

Saturday, July 18, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

Children of all ages are invited to join the Land Trust along with local pediatricians, sports coaches, and phys. ed. teachers for this hike to get out, get active, and have fun! Whether by sling, backpack, or their own two feet, kids will enjoy the fresh air for this one-mile forest hike, partially along the Passagassawakeag River. Meet at the Stover Preserve trailhead parking lot on Doak Road.

*Blueberry Free Pick

Beech Hill Preserve, Rockport

Saturday, August 8 & Sunday, August 9, 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Bring your buckets, bring the family, and enjoy picking your own organic, low-bush blueberries in designated fields on Beech Hill. This is the only time the fields are open to the public for picking, so mark your calendar. Sorry, raking is not permitted.

Beech Nut Book Signing:

Designing the Maine Landscape

Beech Nut, Beech Hill Preserve, Rockport

Saturday, August 8, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Authors Theresa Mattor and Lucie Teegarden will sign their new book *Designing the Maine Landscape* in Beech Nut. This beautiful book is the result of a 10-year



survey of designed landscapes by the Maine Olmstead Alliance and features Beech Hill and Beech Nut. At 11:30 AM Theresa will speak briefly about the book's creation and conservation of Maine's designed and natural landscapes. Net proceeds from book sales at this event will benefit the Land Trust.

*Youth Yoga with YoKids

Stover Preserve, Belfast

Saturday, August 22, 10:00 – 11:30 AM

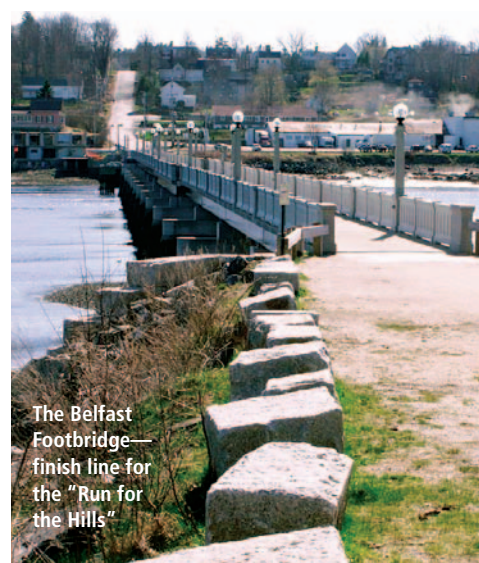
Lily Goodale, local yoga instructor and director of YoKids, will lead a nature-based yoga session especially for children (parents are welcome to follow along). Please bring a blanket or yoga pad suitable for outdoor use.

Annual Membership Meeting

Tranquility Grange Hall, Lincolnville

Tuesday, August 25, 5:00 – 7:00 PM

We encourage all members to join us! See the evening's Agenda to the right.



First Annual 5K & 10K "Run for the Hills"

Sunday, September 20, 9 AM registration

at the Belfast Boathouse

Walkers start at 9:30 AM; Runners start at 9:45

Support the Land Trust and enjoy a scenic walk or run through downtown Belfast and along the Passagassawakeag River past two Land Trust preserves. For more details, and to download a registration form, please visit www.coastalmountains.org/news/calendar.html. Entry fee for runners is \$15 before September 12, \$20 after; for walkers, recommended minimum is \$25 in sponsorships. All net proceeds will benefit the Land Trust's work.

Nature Photography Workshop

Fernald's Neck Preserve, Lincolnville

Saturday, October 10, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Ben Magro, local photographer and owner of Coastal Helicopters, will teach the basics of nature photography in this introductory workshop. Please bring your own camera and a lunch. Group size is limited to 12 participants; please register with the Land Trust at 236-7091. In the event of rain, the workshop will be rescheduled.

The Ecology of Bald and Ragged Mountains

Camden Public Library

Thursday, November 12, 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Dr. Alison Dibble will present her findings from the ecological inventory she carried out for the Land Trust on the Bald and Ragged Mountains Preserves.

Hidden World Revealed: A Reading

Camden Public Library

Tuesday, December 8, 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Join local naturalist and author Tom Seymour for readings from his recent book, *Hidden World Revealed: Musings of a Maine Naturalist*, a collection of short essays about Maine's natural landscape.

Please Join Us for the Annual Meeting of the Membership

Tranquility Grange, Route 52, 1 mile north of Lincolnville Center, Tuesday, August 25, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Agenda

- Social Hour with light refreshments
- Bland Banwell: President's Report
- Jay Freedman: Treasurer's Report
- Scott Dickerson: Executive Director's Report
- Election of Directors
- Presentation of the William J. Zwartjes Volunteer Award, to a volunteer who has offered truly extraordinary service to our program
- Presentation of the Charles and Mary P. Chatfield Conservation Award, to a landowner who has demonstrated exceptional dedication to conservation by gift of their land.

If you would like to nominate someone to serve on our Board of Directors, please contact Board President Bland Banwell at (207) 338-5485 or bbanwell@roadrunner.com by July 25.

Putting Our Best Face Forward



Coastal Mountains Land Trust now shows its face on Facebook, the on-line social networking tool that helps you connect with friends, family, colleagues, and a wide variety of organizations around the world. Please visit us on Facebook and become a fan! Our Page includes an events calendar, photo albums, news updates, and a place for visitors to upload photos and post comments. If you aren't yet a member of Facebook (membership is free), you can still check out our Page via this link: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Coastal-Mountains-Land-Trust/49776541087?ref=ts>. Please let us know what you think!

Creative Recycling

Next time you park in our Beech Hill Road lot at the Beech Hill Preserve, you may notice some work in progress in the adjacent woods. It may not look like it, but we're recycling! Instead of demolishing a small building that we acquired with our purchase of the Bald Cliffs Tract on Bald Mountain, we decided to get creative and put it to new use on our Beech Hill blueberry farm. The former sugarhouse, where maple sap was once boiled into syrup, will soon serve as the main facility where we will winnow blueberries and distribute boxed blueberry orders with easy customer access.

We are thrilled to have solved several stewardship goals at once: we've avoided demolition and disposal costs, reduced the cost of materials that would have been needed to construct a brand-new building, and ended up with a perfect little building for our blueberry processing and marketing activity on Beech Hill. We look forward to showing you around the place when you come to pick up your pre-ordered berries in August!

Down East Magazine Gives Environmental Award to Sears Island Group

Down East has honored the Sears Island Planning Initiative (SIPI) and Governor Baldacci with its 2009 Environmental Award. Given a mandate by the governor in 2006, SIPI set into motion the long process that ultimately led to an historic consensus agreement on the 931-acre island's future, including permanent conservation of two-thirds of the island. Our executive director Scott Dickerson actively participated as one of SIPI's 46 members, and then saw the process all the way through as a member of the Joint Use Planning Committee that helped design the conservation easement now held by Maine Coast Heritage Trust.

BEECH NUT OPEN HOUSE CALENDAR 2009

Volunteer docents will host a series of open houses at Beech Nut, the historic stone house at the summit of Beech Hill. Guests are invited to tour the hut, learn about the Preserve's history, and enjoy the spectacular views. This year we are compiling a community scrapbook of the hut's history. Please share your Beech Hill memories with us—docents will include copies of your photographs, Beech Hill stories, or other historical elements in the book for all to enjoy.

- **Sunday, June 21, 6:30 PM - 8 PM:** This is a special open house to celebrate the Summer Solstice.
- **Wednesday, July 8, 10 AM - 2 PM**
- **Saturday, July 25, 10 AM - 2 PM**
- **Saturday, August 8, 10 AM – 2 PM:** This special open house features a signing of *Designing the Maine Landscape* by the authors from 11am – 1pm; see Events Calendar for more

- information.
- **Sunday, August 9, 10 AM - 2 PM**
- **Wednesday, August 12, 10 AM - 2 PM**
- **Saturday, August 29, 10 AM - 2 PM**
- **Wednesday, September 9, 10 AM - 2 PM**
- **Saturday, September 26, 10 AM - 2 PM**
- **Wednesday, October 7, 10 AM - 2 PM**
- **Saturday, October 24, 10 AM - 2 PM**



We permanently conserve land to benefit the natural and human communities of western Penobscot Bay. Please visit us at www.coastalmountains.org