



BRUNSWICK-TOPSHAM LANDTRUST

2018-2019 Annual Report to Community



***Honoring
Our Heritage,
Building Our Future***

BRUNSWICK-TOPSHAM LAND TRUST REPORT TO COMMUNITY 2018-2019

A Note from Our Leadership

Celebrating Our Successes and Planning for Our Future

The theme of the Land Trust's communication and outreach this year has been "Honoring Our Heritage, Building Our Future." We have been honoring our heritage by celebrating Crystal Spring Farm – the 25th anniversary of its conservation and the 20th anniversary of its award-winning farmers' market.



Angela Twitchell



Emily Swan

As we celebrate these achievements, we can see how, by taking on the truly daunting task of conserving the farm back when BTLT was really a fledgling organization, we were laying the groundwork for BTLT's future. Our success at Crystal Spring Farm enabled us to steadily build our capacity to take on more and more conservation and outreach work throughout Brunswick, Topsham, and Bowdoin. We have grown from 430 members to 1032, from 9 conserved properties to 61, from 2 miles of trail to 23. And we now play a vital role in the region, connecting people to the land through partnerships with landowners, town governments, businesses, other land trusts, and community organizations.

This year we also undertook a member and community survey. What better way to honor our heritage than to ensure that we are ready as an organization to meet conservation challenges and opportunities well into the future. Thank you for all you have contributed to BTLT's heritage and all you continue to do to build its future.

Angela Twitchell, *Executive Director*

Emily Swan

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Angela Twitchell, *Executive Director*
 Nikkilee Cataldo, *Director of Programs*
 Margaret Gerber, *Stewardship Manager*
 Kristi Hatrick, *Development Associate*
 Jacqui Koopman, *Farmers' Market Manager*
 Kate Klibansky, *Communications & Outreach Assistant*
 Jamie Pacheco, *Program Associate*

Heritage

noun

- Something handed down from the past, as a tradition

Future

noun

- An expectation of progressive development
- A time yet to come



A busy summer day at BTLT's Saturday Farmers Market at Crystal Spring Farm

4 Saturday Farmers' Market at Crystal Spring Farm Celebrates Two Decades of Serving the Community



What were you doing that summer of 1999, when Maine's total land in farms was still on a steady decline, but the number of beginning farmers was just starting to show signs of increase? The Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust was doing something big that year: establishing a farmers' market at our newly conserved Crystal Spring Farm, a novel enterprise at the time.

In 1994, when the Land Trust began acquiring Crystal Spring Farm to conserve it, our leaders knew that stewardship of this unique farm in the heart of Brunswick meant finding ways to use the land in support of local agriculture. They also knew that helping local farms bring in revenue was the key to protecting farm families, farmland, and sustainable production throughout the region. They developed the Saturday Farmers' Market at Crystal Spring Farm as a low-overhead venue where local

producers could directly market their products to the community.

And so it began, with a handful of pioneer vendors clustered in the field at Crystal Spring Farm. Some considered the location, "way out there" on Pleasant Hill Road, too isolated from the bustle of downtown Brunswick on Saturday. But the timing was perfect. The popularity of farmers' markets was about to explode. Within three years, some twenty vendors and a constant stream of customers were sharing the beauty of the farm, the bounty of the farmers, and a community spirit that continues today.

In the summer of 2019, the Market regularly saw over 3,000 visitors on a busy Saturday. Thousands of pounds of local products were sold each week, keeping local dollars local and supporting the health of the land and the community. We strive to make the Market a place where anyone can get healthy food by



Seedlings at farmers market

providing access to state and federally funded programming like SNAP and Harvest Bucks.

But the Market isn't just about the food, or the local economy, or the health of the community and the land. Yes, it provides for those things, but it exists to serve an even greater need. It is a place of coming together, where relationships are built and strengthened. It's where all who go can connect to community. Wendell Berry wrote, "A proper community answers the needs, practical as well as social and spiritual, of its members — among them the need to need one another." That's what we see every Saturday morning — a community coming together to create something greater than the sum of its parts.

From a handful of local farmers and producers to a literal field of thirty-nine vibrant, varied and exceptional vendors, our Market has evolved over its twenty seasons to become one of Maine's leading farmers' markets. To all of the many farmers, bakers, cheese makers, musicians, customers, neighbors, parking staff, market coordinators, donors, Land Trust leaders, and visionary community members who made and continue to make the Market possible — thank you! We'll look forward to another twenty seasons (and more!) of building community and serving the land together.

Crystal Spring Farm Conservation Anniversary Celebrated with a Year of Events

2019 marked the 25th anniversary of the early steps toward the conservation of Crystal Spring Farm. The history of the Farm and its conservation was outlined in our spring 2019 newsletter, and throughout the year we invited the community to help us celebrate Crystal Spring Farm, creating opportunities to engage with the farm — from the vast skies above it to the smallest insect residents.

Events included:

- Farm history display in Curtis Memorial Library's Collaboratory
- Spring birding with Jan Pierson
- Bioblitz (see page 6) of sandplain grassland (blueberry) habitat
- Summer trail run
- Soirée in the Tom Settlemire Community Garden
- Demonstration by beekeeper Ken Faulkner
- Stargazing with Southern Maine Astronomers
- Forestry walk of the history, current conditions, and future of the farm's forests
- History tour with Pejepscot Historical Society
- Music and food festival with commemorative beer release "Malt of the Earth" by Flight Deck Brewing
- Farm tour with resident farmer Seth Kroek.

Our Annual Meeting on November 17th will include a panel discussion of the history and conservation of the Farm and an event with the Telling Room, gathering your stories of Crystal Spring.



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Bioblitz in the Blueberry Sandplain Grassland

This June, we hosted our first-ever Bioblitz in the blueberry fields at Crystal Spring Farm. Bioblitzes can be useful for a variety of reasons—data collection and public engagement, for example. And they’re a fun excuse to get outside. But why focus on these particular fields?

The area many of us call the blueberry field at Crystal Spring Farm is actually a rare natural community type called sandplain grassland. These prairie-like ecosystems appeared in Maine soon after the glaciers retreated and likely were maintained in their open state through burning by indigenous Wabanaki people for blueberry production and game hunting. After European settlement, many of these grasslands were developed, converted to agriculture, or invaded by trees as a result of fire suppression.

Over the next several years, the Land Trust plans to implement prescribed burns in these blueberry fields to reduce tree and shrub cover and sustain the natural grasslands. But we won’t know how effective these treatments are unless we have a clear understanding of the condition of the habitat before and after the burn. This summer’s Bioblitz called upon enthusiastic naturalists to help us document the plants, birds, and insects currently inhabiting this rare natural habitat.

In addition to gleaning valuable data on the biodiversity of the area, we came away from the Bioblitz with a deeper appreciation of what our conservation efforts at Crystal Spring Farm are protecting.

BTLT Seasonal Stewardship Assistant, Chris Schorn, helps BTLT Board member Averil Fessenden identify a plant at the Bioblitz in June.

Building Trails for the Future

In 2019, the Land Trust had one of its most productive field seasons to date with a record number of logged stewardship staff hours thanks to Bowdoin College intern Lily McVetty and the Regional Field Team (made possible through the support of Merrymeeting Bay Trust). In addition to managing ongoing trail maintenance and addressing the spread of invasive plants, each field season includes one or two primary initiatives. This year's focus was on two projects: building the first trail at the Tarbox Preserve in Topsham and working with Maine Coast Heritage Trust to open Woodward Point Preserve.

Tarbox Preserve, located on Middlesex Road in Topsham, is a 121-acre property conserved by the Land Trust in 2016. It has frontage on the Cathance and Muddy Rivers. The property was most recently home to the Tardiff family, who conserved the property, but it was also occupied by other Topsham families who logged, farmed, and built barns and structures on the property, including the Tarboxes, the preserve's namesakes. During the hot and humid weeks of July, our staff and the Regional Field Team cleared old logging roads, hauled stone, and wielded pick mattocks to remove stone and roots so a trail could be built on the north side of this incredible property. This new trail winds along stone walls, through fern gullies, past large pines, and out to a high peninsula forested with hemlock trees and overlooking the



Left to Right: Maegan Shanaghan, Mallory Leighton and Alex Perry of the Regional Field Team. Lower left: Bowdoin Intern Lily McVetty.

Cathance. The preserve will officially open next summer; in the meantime, the public is welcome to walk the new trail this fall and cross-country ski and snowshoe along the old logging roads during the winter.

On May 1st of this year, the two-year fundraising campaign to conserve Woodward Point was completed. This remarkable 87-acre property was purchased by Maine Coast Heritage Trust in partnership with Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust. Since then, our



Caitlin Gerber, MCHT Regional Steward, and Margaret Gerber, BTLT Stewardship Manager

Stewardship Manager, Margaret Gerber, has worked with Maine Coast Heritage Trust's Regional Steward, Caitlin Gerber, to ready the preserve for public use. We celebrated the grand opening of the property in September, and Woodward Point is now open year-round for low-impact recreation.



Perryman Village children gather in the harvest and celebrate Maine's local fauna at a summer environmental education visit.

Connecting Kids to the Land

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During the most recent growing season, every first-grade student at Brunswick's Coffin Elementary School and seventh-graders from Mt. Ararat Middle School visited the Tom Settlemire Community Garden. The students worked with Land Trust staff and volunteers to plant, weed, and care for the garden. Additionally, the Land Trust offered a summer education program about nature and gardens at Perryman Village in Brunswick. The youth living in this housing development planted and cared for their own garden, and participated in educational activities designed to help them connect more closely with the food system, nature, and their own health. As the crops matured, the children were able to share their harvest with their families and neighbors.

These activities embody much of what we value: caring for the environment, protecting the land, sharing resources and knowledge, and building community. Our education outreach program is one of the most effective ways to build a future that honors our community's heritage of farming and other traditional land uses.



Discovering worms in the garden is a favorite for many Perryman youth.

Future

New Signage Coming to BTLT Properties

This fall and spring 2020, look for new Land Trust signs at Crystal Spring Farm and other properties. Thanks to support from the Ed Meadows Conservation Fund, we have redesigned our trailhead kiosk signs, developed signs to remind visitors to leash their dogs and clean up their waste, and created interpretive signs to help educate community members about the history and ecology of Crystal Spring Farm. Our goal is to develop similar signage programs for many of our other conserved properties.



Volunteer Spotlight: Devore S. Culver

The Tom Settlemire Community Garden (TSCG) has been graced with a very devoted troupe of volunteers this year. One such volunteer, Devore “Dev” Culver, is a regular. He’s there to tackle whatever garden task is necessary. From weeding to watering, broadforking to scuffle hoeing, creating cucumber trellises to delivering harvested produce, Dev has embraced each task with a smile and enthusiasm.



“I grew up helping my family cultivate a vegetable garden each summer. Sharing the harvest with neighbors, family, and friends was a source of great pleasure; it gave me a true sense of accomplishment that I have carried throughout my life. Now that I have retired from a demanding and rewarding professional career, returning to the sheer joy of helping to grow food that many will enjoy feels like such a positive affirmation of my childhood experiences.”

“My work in the Tom Settlemire Community Garden and for the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust has been rewarding, bringing me a sense of personal accomplishment as I give back to the Brunswick community by supporting primary public education and helping provide fresh food to the Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program.”

As Lisa Martin, our Garden Coordinator, began a new full-time teaching job this fall, Dev capably took on portions of the volunteer management of the Garden, ensuring that TSCG was carefully stewarded to the end of the season. Thanks Dev!

Banner Year for Conservation



Margaret Gerber, BTLT Stewardship Manager, and Lily McVetty, 2019 Bowdoin Summer Fellow, explore Schoodic Forestry Property on the Androscoggin.

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FY2019 brought to closure six land conservation projects totaling 277 acres. Together these properties conserved more than 30,000 feet (5.7 miles) of shoreline along the Cathance, Androscoggin, and New Meadows Rivers, and Woodward Cove. This is exciting for all of us at the Land Trust because conserving the important natural habitats that are found along our shores and assuring public access to our waters is among the most important conservation priorities we have. We're thrilled to tell you about these conserved lands:

WOODWARD POINT PRESERVE:

After more than two years of working together to conserve 87 acres of spectacular coastal peninsula in Brunswick, the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust and Maine Coast Heritage Trust closed on the Woodward Point Preserve in May. Protection of this

peninsula, with two miles of shorefront, will provide excellent opportunities to enjoy the outdoors in all seasons, protect the water quality of the New Meadows River and Woodward Cove, and safeguard local clam flats. The Preserve was officially opened on September 28.

SCHOODIC FORESTRY PARCEL, ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER:

In October, after discussions with the landowner going back to 2012, BTLT conserved the 53-acre Schoodic Forestry parcel that encompasses more than two miles of frontage on the Androscoggin River in Topsham. It is located in a part of town without much conserved land. In addition to protecting wetlands and wildlife habitat, it will allow for public access to the river for hiking, fishing, and enjoying nature. BTLT will work over the winter to plan for future public trails on this spectacular property.

at BTLT

WOODWARD COVE CONSERVATION EXPANDS:

BTLT's focus on Brunswick's beautiful and productive Woodward Cove is paying off. In December 2018, the Land Trust conserved the 14.7-acre Degen property. This property, with 3,500 feet of frontage at the head of the cove, will safeguard water quality and protect the integrity of upland forests and intertidal wetland habitats. The Land Trust has also obtained additional acreage for the Woodward Cove Preserve to improve water access for clammers, wormers, and hand-carry boaters. The preserve's expansion was made possible by Bill Robitzeck and Barbrara Raimondi's generous land donation. We are profoundly grateful to them.

NEPTUNE WOODS:

In October 2018, BTLT conserved our first property at Brunswick Landing. The Neptune Woods Preserve is a 66-acre property donated to the Land Trust by Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority to be managed for conservation and outdoor recreation purposes. In partnership with 6 Rivers New England Mountain Bike Association, we are now pleased to offer popular multi-use trails on the property that are well-used by mountain bikers, hikers, cross country skiers, and dog walkers. It's a gathering place for many in a growing part of our community.

ROBERT WILLIAMS PRESERVE

In 2019, we also conserved four parcels totaling 73 acres with 5,600 feet of river frontage on the Cathance River. These parcels will significantly enhance existing conservation efforts along the Cathance River, increasing the forested buffer and associated water quality protection.

2019 BTLT Survey Helps Us Build a Sustainable Future – for Our Organization, the Land, and the Community

As this report goes to print, we are just beginning to interpret the results of the community survey we conducted this summer. We received a lot of positive and constructive feedback from many perspectives. Thank you all for taking the time to let us know what you think of our work, and how to serve you and our community better.

It should be no surprise that conserving land is your highest priority, or that Crystal Spring Farm is our most popular property, or that your favorite program is the Farmers' Market. But learning that our print newsletter and e-news are equally important ways to help you stay informed about our work is good to know in these times of ever-changing communications channels.

Your responses indicating which properties you use – and which you don't know enough about – will help us share more of the rich natural beauty we've preserved for all of us to share. And hearing strongly from you the need to address climate change, increase access for underserved members of our community, and provide more services to youth will help us plan for the future.

This is just a snapshot of the rich feedback you provided. Look for more information in late fall; we hope to give a more complete report on what we learned through the survey at our annual meeting in November.



This word cloud was made from the responses to the BTLT survey when people were asked what they valued most about BTLT.

Community Support

Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust continues to enjoy generous support from our community and we are grateful for the opportunities this support has helped make possible. In the past year, we have focused our fundraising efforts on increasing unrestricted annual fund gifts, as well as retaining members and adding new ones. We also dedicated significant effort to raising \$3.5 million, in partnership with Maine Coast Heritage Trust, for the purchase of Woodward Point.

Highlights of FY2019:

- Raised \$272,852 through annual fund gifts from 1,032 members. These funds provide critical support for all Land Trust activities;
- Maintained an impressive retention rate of 82% for general Community Members;
- Increased to 72 Community and 35 Business Partners that support BTLT with annual gifts of \$1,000 or more. The retention rate was 84% for our Community Partners and 76% for our Business Partners;
- Exceeded the goal for our Annual Fund by over \$1,000;
- Increased our long-term dedicated stewardship endowment funds to more than \$630,000, an increase of over \$80,000;
- Continued our Legacy Circle outreach, encouraging our supporters to consider a planned gift to support our future work.

FY2020 fundraising goals include:

- Increase the Annual Fund to \$276,500 keeping overall membership at more than 1,000 members;
- Maintain 66 Community Partners and 35 Business Partners;
- Encourage long-term donors to consider perpetuity support through a legacy gift;
- Seek major gifts and grant awards for imminent land conservation projects and community programs;
- Increase our stewardship endowment funds to \$700,000 by the end of FY2020, with a goal of reaching \$2 million by 2025.

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Business Partner Spotlight

“We feel passionate about supporting efforts to combat food insecurity and promote education, and that’s why we give,” says Dead River General Manager Fred Woodbury. Founded in 1909, family-owned Dead River Company celebrates 110 years of serving the people of Maine this year. Fred notes that while Dead River gives to many local organizations, giving to Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust means that everyone in the community benefits — everyone who uses the trails, goes to the Farmers’ Market, or just takes in the view. “We feel pretty good about that.”

Future

Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Business Supporters

We are fortunate to have the support of our vibrant local business community. Together, we support the economic health of the Brunswick-Topsham region and strive to make it a very special place to live, work, and visit.

Business Partners contribute \$1,000 or more of unrestricted support to the Land Trust annually. Please help us thank our Business Partners:



To find out more about how your business can participate in one of these programs, visit www.btlr.org/business or call the Land Trust at (207) 729-7694.

Business Members - Many thanks to our 54 Business Members, who provide up to \$1,000 of annual support.

Albert Putnam Associates
 Applewald Farm
 BRP Inc
 Brushstrokes by Maria
 Carrot Signs
 Cook's Lobster & Ale House
 Corvus Treeworks, LLC
 Country Fare
 Dirigo Tree Service LLC
 FlyRight
 Freeport Wild Bird Supply
 G. M. Wild Construction
 Garbage to Garden
 Gelato Fiasco
 Gollodge Strategies & Solutions LLC
 Good Group Decisions

Hootenanny Bread
 Jade Integrated Health
 Johnny's Selected Seeds
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 and Garden Supply
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 Urban Garden Center
 Vail's Tree Service, Inc
 Welltree, Inc.
 Whatley Farm
 Wildflours Gluten-Free Bakery
 Wright-Pierce

Thank You!

Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, foundations, and organizations for their annual membership contribution during fiscal year 2018-19 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019).

Community Partners

Community Partners contribute \$1,000 or more to the Land Trust annually. These annual gifts are key to the Land Trust's ability to continue to innovate and creatively meet the needs of our community. The Land Trust is grateful for the broad base of support we enjoy, but we are especially grateful to those who are willing and able to give at this higher level.

Anonymous (2)
Ellen Asherman
Bradley and Katharine Babson
Tim and Anne Banks
Mark Battle and Kathy Thorson
Les and Michelle Borodinsky
Jim Brokaw and Mollie Sandock
Amanda and Kevin Bunker
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Steve Walker and Jackie Sartoris
Steven and Susan Weems
Nat and Genie Wheelwright
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Wayne Whitney and Shelby Patton
Marty and Jan Wilk
Marc and Sarah Zimman

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To find out more about becoming a **Community Partner** please visit www.btltr.org/community-partners or call the Land Trust at (207)729-7694.

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Donor Spotlight

16

Lucy and Charlotte Griset, ages 9 and 6, became BTLT members this summer. Every week they receive a \$6 allowance — \$2 to save, \$2 to spend, and \$2 to give. They held onto their “to give” money starting in January, with a plan to donate it to BTLT, which they proudly did in June at the Land Trust’s Farmers’ Market booth.

“Everyone’s really nice at the Farmers’ Market,” explained Lucy. Charlotte agreed, and observed, “The honey we got there was really good.”

They enjoy BTLT’s Crystal Spring Farm trails and like to swim at Head of Tide Park in Topsham. They also like to learn about the outdoors through an afterschool program called “Nature Nuts” organized by their mom, Olivia. At Nature Nuts they learned about vernal pools, plants, snowy owls, and, on a recent camp-out at Sebago Lake, they noted, “We spent most of our time underwater.” Although their future plans are still in flux, right now they are considering becoming a rocket scientist, park ranger, babysitter, waitress, or maybe going into outer space.

We are particularly grateful for this support – the future of conservation (and the natural world) is in the hands of young people like Lucy and Charlotte. Their willingness to give to BTLT is a shining example of what the future may hold!

Thank you so much for your support Lucy and Charlotte!



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Woodward Point Grand Opening a Big Success

On September 28, Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust and Maine Coast Heritage Trust welcomed over 125 community members to celebrate the grand opening of a beautiful new preserve along the shores of the New Meadows River. We are grateful to all of you who made conservation of this land possible. The property is now open to the public, and we look forward to seeing you on the trail!

Mary M. O'Brien and Stephen G. Naculich
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ORGANIZATIONS

ArtVan
 Bowdoin College
 Brunswick High School
 Cathance River Education Alliance
 Curtis Memorial Library
 Extended Food and Nutrition Education Program
 First Parish Church
 Harpswell Heritage Trust
 Kennebec Estuary Land Trust
 Maine Coast Heritage Trust
 Maine Federation of Farmers' Markets
 Mid Coast Hospital / Access Health
 Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program
 Mid Coast Redevelopment Authority

6 Rivers New England Mountain Bike Association (NEMBA)
 Peaks Environmental Action Team
 Pejepscot Historical Society
 Southern Maine Astronomers
 Maine Network of Community Food Councils
 St. Paul's Episcopal Church
 The Bank of Maine
 Topsham Public Library
 Town of Brunswick
 Town of Topsham
 Youth Cycle Project

FOUNDATIONS AND PUBLIC GRANTS

Cumberland County Master Gardener Association
 Davis Conservation Fund
 Elmira B. Sewall Foundation
 Fund for Maine Land Conservation (MCF)
 Helen Clay Frick Foundation
 Land for Maine's Future
 Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund
 Marilyn Settemire Fund
 Merrymeeting Bay Trust
 Milton Hart Foundation
 Morton-Kelly Charitable Foundation
 Moser Family Foundation, Inc.
 New England Grassroots Environment Fund
 Onion Foundation
 The Henry Foundation

LAND AND EASEMENT DONATIONS

Mid Coast Regional Redevelopment Authority
 William Robitzek and Barbara Raimondi

LEGACY CIRCLE

Anonymous (2)
 Edwin Allen, Jr. and Barbara Bean
 Macky Bennett*
 Barbara Clark*
 John Cullen and Natasha Kempers-Cullen
 Marilyn Dwyer*
 Bill Fitzsimmons and Liz Armstrong
 Arian Heald
 Marguerite (Libby) Hyatt
 David Osborne
 Keisha Payson and John Blood
 Tom Settemire and his children, Todd, Julie, and Scott
 David and June Vail
 Lloyd Van Lunen
 Wendy Walsh and Jerielle Young
 Margaret Wilson
 Thomas and Carolyn Wood

We've tried our best to ensure the accuracy of this donor list. We sincerely apologize if there are any errors. If your name is omitted or listed incorrectly, please call 729-7694 or contact kristi@btl.org. Thank you!

*Deceased

Gift Planning

A legacy gift can extend your commitment to conservation. Your bequest to Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust helps to secure our long-term sustainability and ensure that your commitment to protecting natural habitat, watershed areas, and scenic landscapes is maintained in the future. Your bequest will ensure that the places we conserve today will remain well taken care of for generations to come.

Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust created the Legacy Circle to recognize and thank individuals and families who include us in their estate plans. Legacy gifts, created in a will or other estate planning vehicle, are the cornerstone of the Land Trust's long-term sustainability. We are deeply grateful to each Legacy Circle member for this very special expression of loyalty, confidence, and support. For more information on planned giving opportunities, call us at (207) 729-7694 or visit www.btltr.org/planned-giving.



Keisha Payson and John Blood

“When drafting our will, in addition to thinking of what we would provide for our family, we also knew we wanted to give back to our community. We feel so fortunate to call Brunswick home, and one of the things we deeply appreciate about Brunswick is the easy access to nature. We are regular users of Land Trust trails, including those at Crystal Spring Farm and Maquoit Bay.

Putting the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust in our will made perfect sense. The Land Trust's thoughtful planning and hard work has helped shape our community for all to enjoy, now and for generations to come. We're glad to be a part of that legacy.”
– Keisha Payson and John Blood, BTLT Legacy Circle members

We lost a great friend of the Earth with the passing on April 3, 2019, of long-time BTLT member, Barbara Clark. Barbara was passionate about doing what she could, on an individual level, to save the planet. Her step-daughter Cathy observed that she rarely used her clothes dryer, walked to the grocery store whenever possible, installed solar panels on her roof despite the fact that she didn't get much power from them, and converted her home to geothermal. Her commitment to environmental protection extended to her community as well. She co-led the creation of the Dan Hole Watershed Trust in central New Hampshire, she served on the Earth Care Team at First Parish Church, and she was a steadfast member of BTLT for over 25 years. Barbara's legacy and love of the Earth will live on through the generous bequest that she left to Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust.

In our spring newsletter this year, we noted the loss of long-time BTLT Board Member Marilyn Dwyer. The bequests to the Land Trust from Marilyn Dwyer, Barbara Clark, and others will help ensure their commitment to conservation and environmental action continues for generations to come.



Statement of Activities for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

Together we are building a strong financial base. With over 1,000 members, we are working to strengthen our financial foundation so that both this generation and those that follow will be able to enjoy the natural beauty and bounty of the communities we serve. Over the last 4 years we have focused on growing our annual fund and diversifying our base of support. Our focus for the next 4 years will be on sustaining our new higher level of annual support AND building a strong endowment for land stewardship and program support. This is in reaction to our recent member and community survey. We heard you loud and clear...conserve more of our special places and continue to offer creative and diverse programming to connect people to the land and our natural resources.

SUPPORT, REVENUE, AND GAINS

Contributions	\$571,000
Donated land and easements	\$74,000
Grants	\$175,000
Other revenues	\$175,000
Total Support, Revenue and Gains	\$995,000

EXPENSES

Programs	\$658,000
Supporting Services	\$115,000
Fundraising	\$50,000
Total Expenses	\$823,000

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

\$172,000

NET ASSETS

Beginning of year	\$4,253,000
End of year	\$4,425,000*

*Of this total, \$2.2 million represents land and conservation easements held by the organization; \$726,000 of property and equipment; \$634,000 of funds held in the organization's endowment fund, dedicated for stewardship purposes; and over \$500,000 restricted by donors.

BREAKDOWN OF PROGRAM EXPENSES

Agricultural Programs	\$142,000
Education, Outreach & Other Programs	\$100,000
Land Conservation	\$290,000
Stewardship	\$126,000
Total Program Expenses	\$658,000

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust is a nonprofit, tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, a publicly supported organization as defined by Section 170(b) A-6. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. An independent auditor's report is available upon request. Our 990 is also available online at www.btlit.org.

2,950+

Acres of
Conserved
Land

40+

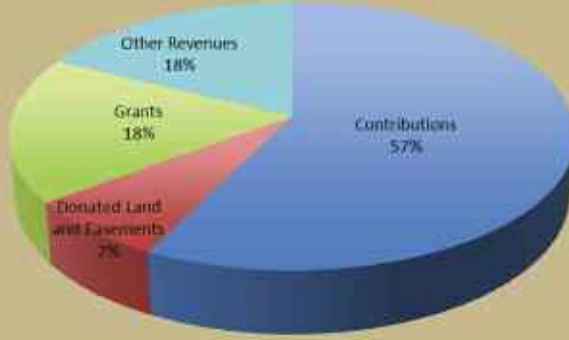
Vendors at the
Farmers' Market

50+

Educational
Events
Annually

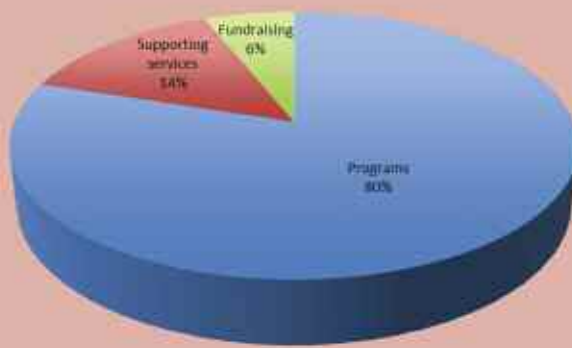
Support, Revenue, and Gains by Category

Totaling \$995K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019



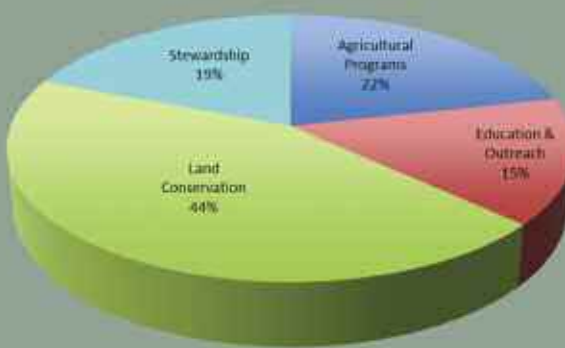
Expenses by Category

Totaling \$823K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019



Program Expenses by Category

Totaling \$658K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019



61

Properties
Managed

300+

Volunteers

23

Miles of
Hiking Trails



56 Maine Street
Brunswick, ME 04011

Join us Sunday, November 17, from 4:00-7:00pm for our 2019 Annual Meeting!

Gather with your fellow Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust members at Frontier Café to celebrate the year's successes. Enjoy a tasty buffet, cash bar, and plenty of good company. This is your chance to hear more about what we have accomplished this year – with your support – and to vote for new and returning Board members. In addition, we will host a panel of community members in a discussion of the conservation history of Crystal Spring Farm.

At 3:00 p.m., just before the Annual Meeting, join BTLT and the Telling Room for a short workshop to help YOU remember and tell your stories about Crystal Spring Farm. We want to hear your story!

A huge thank you to our Annual Meeting sponsor

