

Great Works



JERRY MONTGOMERY

CONNECTING
WITH
COMMUNITY

While the pandemic is hardly over, Great Works wants to make up for a seemingly lost year by providing the community with a broad range of opportunities to engage with the conserved lands in the Great Works region. A great number of new visitors enjoyed the preserves last year and many became new members; this year, Great Works set a goal to give back to the community.

Great Works wants all to enjoy these lands and have the same experience that our staff and volunteers have. The connection these individuals have with forests, farms, wetlands, and waters conserved by Great Works leads them to not just appreciate these significant habitats, but also these connections influence staff and volunteers to continue to protect and maintain these vital ecosystems.

The staff seeks to extend this type of influence through creating opportunities for other individuals in the community to connect with these same lands protected by Great Works. Engaging the community is Great Works' way of sharing and spreading information about conservation and the importance of protecting land in the region and the essential ecosystems that exist on them. This method helps form positive attitudes throughout the community and shapes values for the younger individuals that lead to behaviors that will protect our local environments for generations to come.

This year, Great Works is providing as many community oriented activities as possible to give back in this special way and spread information about the importance of conservation. Seasonal guided hikes and the Wednesday Wandering series have continued. Guided walks with local library partners as well as history-oriented walks, nature identification walks, and those specifically for toddlers and families have been included. Make the time to join us in one of the Land Trust's guided nature based activities so that you, too, may experience the natural beauty that surrounds us right here in York County.

Great Works wants all to enjoy these lands and have the experience that our staff and volunteers have.

Great Works Regional Land Trust

www.gwrlt.org

Your local land trust in the communities of the Berwicks, Eliot, Ogunquit and Wells



GREAT WORKS
Regional Land Trust

P.O. Box 151
South Berwick, ME 03908
Office: Beach Plum Farm
610 Main St., Rte. 1, Ogunquit
(207) 646-3604
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gwrlt.org

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Cathy King, *Treasurer*
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Wells

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From the President...



I'm learning!" That was my response when family visited and – during a birding walk through Savage Preserve – asked how it was to be the new President of the GWRLT Board. While many parts of the role feel familiar from my day job, I've been amazed to learn more about the work that goes on behind the scenes. What stands out most from these early days are the tenacity of board members, staff, and partners in making land acquisition projects happen; the essential partnerships we have with property owners with easements; the enormous to-do list of our stewardship team and volunteers; the warm relationships formed during guided walks; and the steady drumbeat of the office holding the parts and pieces together. I've also observed that the Trust is in extremely capable hands. Danielle has settled in as E.D., new Board officers are in place and taking hold of their roles, and our hard-working Committees continue to deliver great work. Above all, I've gained new understandings about you – our members – and the critical role you play keeping the work grounded in our six communities and focused on making sure we continue to conserve beautiful, inspiring spaces. I'm grateful to all the patient teachers of the last few months. Looking ahead, I will be consolidating these impressions, reflections, and curiosities as Danielle and I begin to engage the GWRLT community together in strategic planning to envision the next phase of the Trust.

Finally, I would be remiss if I failed to say thank you to outgoing Board President, Tom Gilmore, perhaps the most patient teacher of all over recent months. Thank you for your past and continued work, Tom, and for keeping a steady hand on the rudder. And to the rest of you: looking forward to the months ahead being outdoors, meeting members, and discovering new opportunity in Trust properties. Hope to see you out there!

Welcome to new members:

Carl Aichele
Belinda Braley & Brent

McIntire
Helen Brock & Doug Knight
Jane Buckjune
Diane Canada
Judy Cassotis
Maryse Charest & Family
Abigail Claridge
Kim Cunningham
The Dodge/Bradley Family
Martha & Roy Fava

Jennifer Finn
Eddie Flanagan
Rachel & William Foster
Greta Goodale
Becky Gowdy
Karl Hanson
Michelle & John James
Steven Kloppenburg
Peter Lindbom
Virginia Long
Alice Lynch

Kathleen Norton
Cathie Paradee
Linda Phinney
Emily Poole
Peggy Pride
Patricia Rynkiewicz
Emily Steingart
Kathy Stewart
Val Tillinghast
Tara Treichel
Susan Watters

Addition to the Loyalty Society - 20+ Years of Continuous Giving
Lassel Architects

From the Executive Director...



Spring has finally arrived with its vibrant colors and abundance of warblers dancing around the forests, farms, and wetlands, and all of us here at Great Works want to welcome you to explore our conserved lands.

Providing public access to the lands conserved by Great Works is vital in spreading appreciation of the natural world. As you go through this season's newsletter, you will take note of many new additions at Great Works this year—all of which are making our conserved lands accessible to you, your family, friends, and neighbors. A new Property Steward, a couple of new Board members, and an abundance of community opportunities are all included in the exciting news making a difference here.

Whether a stroll down a path to hear the morning chorus, a trail run up the mountain to elevate your heart rate, or a walk near the river with family or friends for a social outing, our preserves provide a special place where you can connect. Whatever your motivation, every outing into our forests helps find solace and improve well-being while giving you an opportunity to appreciate the beauty of our conserved lands and their important ecosystems.

Please, use our preserves as your special place where you can relax or feel healthy. Take your time, explore, and appreciate our natural resources. We look forward to sharing morning chorus strolls, trail runs, and social outings throughout the remainder of the season and beyond.

Welcome Donovan Spaulding, Property Steward

Hello, my name is Donovan Spaulding and I recently accepted the Property Steward position at Great Works Regional Land Trust. I grew up in the White Mountains of New Hampshire where from a young age I became enthralled with the outdoors. I appreciate how local conserved lands provided the public with a connection to nature in addition to preserving wildlife habitat. This appreciation for the outdoors has stayed with me throughout my academic career at Saint Lawrence University where I graduated with a BS in Conservation in 2019.

In my spare time, I enjoy birding with friends and family throughout New England. I am an avid rock climber and enjoy the multiple crags located throughout southern Maine and New Hampshire. Maine is home to many of my favorite flora and fauna which I look forward to exploring during my time here at GWRLT. See you out on the trails! - Donovan Spaulding



GWRLT Property Guidelines

- **Properties are open from dawn to dusk.**
- **Pets are welcome and must be kept under control, on trails and out of natural areas. Owners are responsible to clean up after pets and carry out all waste. Please carry a leash with you and respect other trail users.**
- **Prohibited uses: motorized vehicles, overnight camping, fires.**
- **Respect the property. Stay on marked trails and do not use closed trails.**
- **Respect the boundaries of our neighbor's properties.**
- **Refrain from disturbing the land, habitats, and cultural items. Do not pick any plants but please take as many photos as you would like.**
- **Avoid building structures or moving rocks, branches, or other objects.**
- **Please respect other trail users and refrain from smoking or vaping.**

A Note About Foraging

Great Works has unfortunately seen an increase in foraging and harvesting of plants and seeds from the Preserves. Great Works follows a Leave No Trace Policy to protect sensitive habitats and for spaces to remain wild. Please help Great Works in sharing this message of conservation to protect our conservation areas.

Great Works Property Guidelines to be posted at all trail heads.



The Littlefield Homestead at Orris Falls.



When I first arrived in Maine, it looked similar to the suburban area of southeastern Connecticut where I grew up, but my lack of knowledge of the area made me feel unanchored to my surroundings. I often wonder now if this is what my ancestors, Daniel P. and Mercy Littlefield, felt when they first settled in the stunning mixed coastal forests of Wells. I would first learn about my relation to them my Junior year, through what felt like a series of coincidental visits to natural and historical attractions in the area. With each piece of information I found, my interest in my lineage, as well as my personal relationship with the land, grew stronger. Finally, after deciding to pursue a path in conservation and becoming an intern at Great Works Regional Land Trust, I was able to complete the story.

Being a descendant of Edmund Littlefield, a mill worker known to be the founder of Wells in 1641, Daniel Littlefield had roots in the Sanford area. After sustaining injuries in the civil war, he married Mercy Allen and purchased the land that is now Orris Falls Conservation Area in 1837 to create an upland farm and start a family. With upland farming in the area in decline, the family labored constantly to make a profit, despite other hardships such as the loss of a young daughter and Mercy's crippling rheumatism. Eventually the farm was passed down to Daniel's son Orris, for whom the area is named, and it continued to operate until the early 1900's. It is humbling to think of the resolve and sacrifice it took to maintain such an operation, and considering this reinforces my commitment to protecting the land that they once loved.

Amid all of this discovery was a perfect opportunity to use my environmental education in a way that felt truly whole-hearted. My time at Great Works allowed me to combine practical and creative skills for projects such as social media outreach and digital map making. While I enjoyed working on these rather interdisciplinary projects independently, it was extremely helpful to have people at the Trust who I could consult for expertise in certain areas. Just like the courageous people who farmed this land years ago, the Great Works community, despite each individual having a designated role, does not hesitate to collaborate to work towards a common goal. While it is obvious that the daily proceedings at Great Works today are quite different from how they were at the old Littlefield farm, I am certain that the level of dedication to the land is equally powerful.

My experiences with Great Works and the Littlefield Homestead have connected me to southern Maine and given me a sense of belonging to its beautiful ecosystems. Whether they are defined by familial ties, fond past experiences, or amazing new discoveries in an area, I realize now that it is often these personal connections that lead us on our paths in life, whether we are fully aware of them or not.

HOOPERS BROOK CONSERVED

Seventy plus acres of woodlands, wetlands and vernal pools along with 3,200 feet of frontage on Hoopers Brook off of Belle Marsh Road in South Berwick were protected forever with funding provided by the Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program (MNRCP) and the landowners, Bob and Karen Eger, through a bargain sale at significantly less than market value.

The Egers purchased the property in 2018 following a timber harvest by the previous owner. "We were concerned about how development might impact the wetlands and wildlife and hoped that Great Works at some point could provide permanent protection," said Bob. In the end it worked out with the property being conveyed on March 29th.

Hoopers Brook drains Hoopers Swamp and is a tributary to the Great Works River. The property has a variety of elevations and habitats with uplands sloping down and seepy areas and perched



Tim Smith

wetlands carrying groundwater down to the brook. It is part of a contiguous 3,700 acre habitat block within the Mt. Agamenticus Conservation Area. Great Works continues to seek additional conservation opportunities in the area.

The source of MNRCP funds originates from businesses whose construction projects cause unavoidable impacts to water resources and make required contributions to the Program as compensation. As part of the funding agreement Great Works will ensure that the 12 acres of forested and open wetlands and brook frontage will be a priority for management. "Short term plans are to allow the vegetation to recover from the logging operation while controlling a small number of invasive species," said Donovan Spaulding, GWRLT's new Property Steward. "Longer term we will establish a small parking area and walking trails for public access while allowing the trees to continue to mature.

This is the 140th project completed by GWRLT and pushed the number of permanently protected acres to over 7,000. An amazing record of accomplishment.



North Berwick Votes on June 8 to Support Land Conservation

On June 8, 2021, voters in North Berwick will have the opportunity to support land conservation in the town. The Town and Great Works Regional Land Trust have partnered to apply for a grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to purchase over 50 acres on Bauneg Beg Mountain near the existing Bauneg Beg Mtn Conservation Area. This grant requires matching funds so the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee initiated a Warrant Article for the June 8, Referendum (Ballot Vote) Town Meeting. This article asks voters to approve the appropriation of \$80,000 from the Open Space Impact Fee Fund to assist with the purchase of the property and \$20,000 from the Recreation Impact Fee Fund to assist with the stewardship of the property in conjunction with Great Works Regional Land Trust. Votes in support of this article will be considered in the evaluation of the LWCF grant application. There is a greater chance of approval if there is overwhelming voter support for this article. Note that money in these funds comes from Impact Fees and not taxes.



GWRLT members Amy Picotte and Carol Steingart enjoying a fall hike at Bauneg Beg Mountain's Middle Peak.

Thank you! You made our wish a reality—we now have a stewardship truck. Thank you to our Fund-a-Need donors from the Spring Auction and long-time GWRLT members, Pat Laska & Ken St. Hilaire.



New Members of the Board of Directors



If you've attended one of our seasonal outings or stewardship work days you may have met **Cathy King**. After moving to Maine, she lived in Wells for nine years and now in South Berwick for over thirty years. "This is my home. The accomplishments of the Great Works Regional Land Trust help make this a great place to live. I love spending time outdoors and have joined many Great Works Regional Land Trust hikes and several stewardship work days. I also have played for a number of land trust events with my friend Keith Fletcher in our band, the "York County Ramblers."

Cathy worked in a 501c3 organization in New Hampshire serving people with developmental disabilities. She served much of her career as the Associate Director, and has a degree in accounting, along with experience in business management. As part of the management team, she worked with financial statements, strategic planning, and with the Board of Directors, as well as overseeing specific areas of responsibility.

Rich Goodenough comes from a diverse background with a career in community banking, non-profit work, and a family of enthusiastic outdoorsmen and women. Rich lives in Eliot where he raised his two sons with his wife Kim.

Rich has over 30 years of experience in community banking in Maine and New Hampshire with a focus on supporting small business owners to grow, from hospitality and restaurants to commercial fishing and real estate development. For the last eight years he has worked as the VP for Kennebunk Savings commercial lender in York.

Rich also offers an extensive volunteer background with York Regional Chamber of Commerce, York Paddle and Pickle Club, Dockside Seafood Brewfest, Hawks Outdoor Leadership Development for Marshwood HS students and Rotary International.

Rich's family is a group of hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, hunters and fisherman with an emphasis in fishing. He also holds an interest and passion in trees, as his father was a Forester in New Jersey.



GREAT WORKS PARTNERS WITH LOCAL LIBRARIES

This Spring Great Works launched a new program in partnership with local libraries called "Stories in the Woods" with Wells Public Library, South Berwick Public Library, Ogunquit Memorial Library, William Fogg Library, Berwick Public Library and the D.A. Hurd Library. The popular new series of short outings for toddlers at Great Works preserves are framed around a theme such as vernal pools, insects, or fairies. Each outing begins with a book read aloud by a town librarian followed by Great Works staff leading a guided walk activity such as exploring a vernal pool, creating a nature mandala, counting butterflies, or simply discovering the wonder of the woods.

In addition to the "Stories in the Woods" series, Great Works is partnering with Berwick Public Library and William Fogg Library for two additional hike series for the Summer from June to September. William Fogg Library and Great Works will be offering a series of hikes showcasing preserves in and close to the town of Eliot, including: Douglas Memorial Woods, Goodwin Forest, Savage Wildlife Preserve, and Rocky Hills Preserve. Great Works board members will be leading the outings with library staff. These hikes will be a great opportunity to connect with the Eliot community and learn the trail systems as well as historical and natural features of the preserves.

A self-guided Poetry & Plant ID walk series will be offered by Berwick Public Library and Great Works Regional Land Trust later in the summer. Together, Berwick Public Library and Great Works staff are developing preserve-specific packets with poems, plant identification guides and maps. The goal of the outings being that participants connect with the preserve on multiple sensory levels. These walks will feature Grants Meadow off of Diamond Hill Road, Newichwannock Woods off of 236 and Keay Brook off of Hubbard Road all in Berwick. Each packet will be site specific to the preserve. These packets will be available to download in July and members and friends will be notified by email.

You can help by joining Great Works today.



Yes, I/we wish to join/renew.

Membership Levels:

<input type="checkbox"/> Student/Senior	\$25	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporter	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$35	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainer	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Steward	\$500
		<input type="checkbox"/> Visionary	\$1000

Name(s) _____ Written as you wish to be listed in our publications. If you do not wish to be listed, check here. ☐

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

- ☐ I'd like to receive emails about GWRLT news and events
- ☐ I'd like to receive "Learning From the Land," the education e-newsletter

Great Works Regional Land Trust is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Want to volunteer?

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Office help:
<input type="checkbox"/> Mailings
<input type="checkbox"/> Research | Committee Work:
<input type="checkbox"/> Development
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship | Stewardship:
<input type="checkbox"/> Property maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Invasives removal
<input type="checkbox"/> Trail work
<input type="checkbox"/> Building maintenance | Special Events:
<input type="checkbox"/> Spring Auction (held in March)
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooking/baking for an event
<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Appreciation
<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Meeting
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Events | Outreach:
<input type="checkbox"/> Booth help at local festivals
<input type="checkbox"/> Lead a hike
<input type="checkbox"/> Distribute newsletters, posters
<input type="checkbox"/> Photography
<input type="checkbox"/> Give a talk to an organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Write an article |
|---|---|--|--|--|
- ☐ I'd like to receive emails about volunteer opportunities. ☐ Please call me to discuss volunteering with Great Works.

Donate online at www.gwrlt.org

You can become a Great Works Pledge Partner!
Please charge \$_____ to my credit card ☐ monthly ☐ quarterly.
☐ I understand this charge will be ongoing until I notify GWRLT otherwise.

☐ Check enclosed (payable to GWRLT) for \$ _____

☐ Credit/Debit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ 3-digit code _____

Signature _____

Does your employer have a matching gift program? Please enclose forms.

GREAT WORKS REGIONAL LAND TRUST
Office: Beach Plum Farm | 610 Main St. (Rte.1) | Ogunquit, Maine
Mailing address: P.O. Box 151 | South Berwick, ME 03908
207-646-3604 | info@gwrlt.org

Gift Planning & Estate Planning

Consider making Great Works Regional Land Trust part of your estate plan. Planned gifts will enhance your financial outlook, and benefit conservation as well.

In addition think about Great Works Regional Land Trust when writing or revising your will.

For information on Planned Giving programs or referral to a professional resource, please contact Danielle Olsen at (207) 646-3604 at our Beach Plum Farm office in Ogunquit or at danielle.olsen@gwrlt.org.

Cord Wood from Great Works
Green firewood at \$260/cord
Seasoned at \$320/cord

Seasoned hemlock, good for campfires and fire pits.
\$175 per cord or \$100 per 1/2 cord, cut, split and delivered.
Smaller amounts may be picked up by arrangement.

Delivered in our service area.
Call Bob Eger at (207) 475-6730 or email info@gwrlt.org.

SAVE THE DATE!
35TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE
SATURDAY, AUGUST 28TH, 12-4PM
Local Food and Beer * Live Music * Games * Preserve Tour
Come enjoy and celebrate Great Works Regional Land Trust!



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In this issue:

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- Land Protection Projects
- New Board Members:
Cathy King & Rich Goodenough
- Library Partners



Support these trails! Donate! gwrlt.org

Visit www.gwrlt.org, call 207-646-3604
or email info@gwrlt.org for more
information. Sign up on the website for
email notices and follow Great Works
Regional Land Trust on Facebook and
Instagram@gwrlt.

...for everyone, forever

Calendar...

gwrlt.org



Thank you to our hike sponsors:



- Wednesday, Jun 2 **Wednesday Wandering**, Goodwin Forest, 870 Goodwin Road, Eliot, 10-11am
Thursday, Jun 3 **Yoga**, Beach Plum Farm, 610 Main Street, Ogunquit, 4:30-6pm, \$10 a class
Friday, Jun 4-13th **Trail Trek**, Support land conservation and participate.
Saturday, Jun 5 **Hike**, Douglas Memorial Woods, 1412 State Road, Eliot, 10-11am
Thursday, Jun 10 **Stories in the Woods**, Payeur Preserve, Spring Hill Road, Ogunquit
10-11:30am | Scavenger Hunt with the Ogunquit Memorial Library
Yoga, Beach Plum Farm, 610 Main Street, Ogunquit, 4:30-6pm, \$10 a class
Saturday, Jun 12 **Plein Air Day at Beach Plum Farm**, 610 Main Street, Ogunquit
Thursday, Jun 17 **Stories in the Woods**, Douglas Memorial Woods, 1412 State Road, Eliot
10-11:30am | Nature Mandala with the William Fogg Library
Yoga, Beach Plum Farm, 610 Main Street, Ogunquit, 4:30-6pm, \$10 a class
Thursday, Jun 24 **Yoga**, Beach Plum Farm, 610 Main Street, Ogunquit, 4:30-6pm, \$10 a class
Wednesday, Jul 7 **Wednesday Wandering**, Kenyon Hill Preserve, 110 Ogunquit Road, South Berwick, 10-11:30am
Saturday, Jul 10 **Hike**, Goodwin Forest, 870 Goodwin Road, Eliot, 10-11am
Thursday, Jul 15 **Stories in the Woods**, Beach Plum Farm Preserve, 610 Main Street, Ogunquit
10-11:30am | Salt Marshes with the Wells Public Library
Wednesday, Aug 4 **Wednesday Wandering**, Payeur Preserve, Spring Hill Road, Ogunquit, 10-11:30am
Saturday, Aug 7 **Hike**, Savage Wildlife Preserve, 15 Dover-Eliot Road, South Berwick, 10-11am
Thursday, Aug 19 **Stories in the Woods**, Savage Wildlife Preserve, 15 Dover-Eliot Road, South Berwick
10-11:30am | Butterfly Counting with the South Berwick Public Library
Wednesday, Sep 1 **Wednesday Wandering**, Kimball Farm North Preserve, Berwick Road, South Berwick, 10am-noon
Saturday, Sep 11 **Hike**, Rocky Hills Preserve, Punkintown Road, South Berwick, 10am-1pm
Watch for the full schedule of hikes on our website: www.gwrlt.org.

All outdoor adventures are open to the public and free to members of Great Works. A \$5 donation per person or \$10 donation per family is suggested for non-members. Space on hikes is limited to 18 people. Please follow CDC guidance regarding masks and social distancing.
Reservations required. Interested hikers are encouraged to visit, call **207-646-3604** or email info@gwrlt.org for more information, hike status, suggestions for gear, and weather update.