

The Kennebec Land Trust NEWS

Volume 24 No. 1 / Spring 2007

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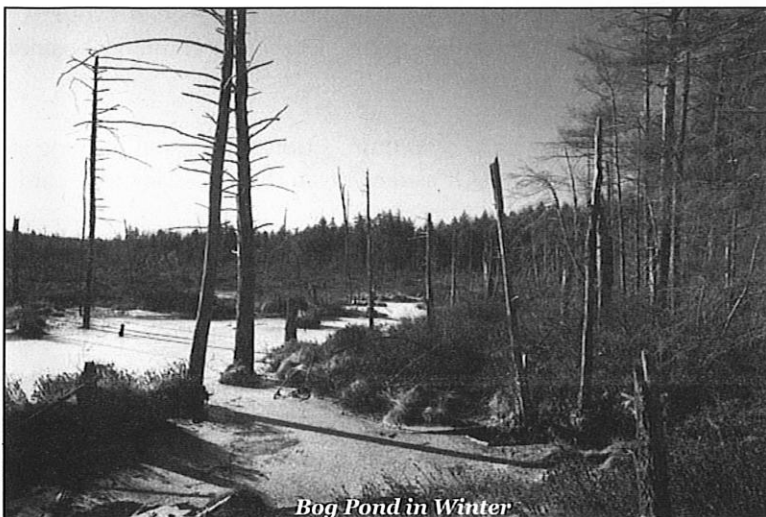
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Office Hours
Tues./Wed./Thurs. 10am - 3pm



BOG POND ADDED TO CONSERVATION LANDS NEAR JAMIES POND

Norm Rodrigue, KLT Board Member



KLT is happy to announce that after many months of patience and hard work, we have successfully acquired and preserved ninety acres of Bog Pond and surrounding uplands in Manchester, a substantial portion of which had been slated for development.

This new conservation area is significant for several reasons: 1) the property abuts the northwestern boundary of Jamies Pond Wildlife Management Area (JPWMA), an 840-acre preserve; 2) it preserves a significant portion of the Bog Pond watershed, including considerable uplands on both the easterly and westerly sides of the bog; 3) a portion of the property had recently been under contract for the development of fourteen house

lots, which would have resulted in a major encroachment into the watershed, adversely impacting water quality, wildlife, recreation, and scenic views.

KLT partnered with Dr. Anthony and Donna Mancini, Manchester residents, to acquire 80 acres of land, 50 of which are now held by KLT. The Mancinis retained 30 acres of this purchase and generously donated an additional 30 acres of their own abutting property, to add to KLT's protected lands. Another neighbor, Dr. Jeffrey Timm, contributed ten acres of his land to significantly add to the size and value of this important conservation area.

Bog Pond and the surrounding area provide habitat for moose, deer, fox, fishers, beaver, squirrels, skunks, otter, raccoons, and porcupines. Numerous birds, including osprey, ducks, geese, herons, hawks, loons, woodpeckers, turkey, partridge, and a wide variety of songbirds can also be found on the property. In addition, as on most KLT lands, opportunities for hunting, hiking, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and other outdoor activities abound.

Bog Pond is the third property KLT has acquired and conserved along JPWMA's boundaries since 1999. The Jamies Pond area is of particular value due to its hardwood and softwood forests, beautiful stone walls, streams, ponds, and wildlife habitat. By increasing the size of conservation lands in this area we help to ensure that this ecologically rich land is preserved for generations to come.

This project would not have been possible without the help of many people, particularly Tony and Donna Mancini and Jeff Timm. Their conservation ethic, flexibility, and willingness to partner with KLT were invaluable in the effort to save this ecologically sensitive landscape. We also extend great thanks to Jon Lund, KLT Advisory Board Member and long-time advocate and supporter of Jamies Pond; Dr. Robert Mohlar, KLT founding Board Member and chair of the Trust's lands acquisition committee; and Howard Lake, KLT Board Member and attorney at Hufnagel and Lake in Winthrop, for his pro-bono legal work on this and every KLT acquisition since our founding in 1998.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear KLT members,



Deb Sewall

KLT today is the result of some key investments: land, money, and, most importantly, vision. Some of the returns on these investments are tangible – carpets of lady's slippers sloping towards a woodland path, cattail stands along a quiet lake shore, birdsongs, beaver dams, blueberry bushes. There are also less tangible rewards: the work is (mostly) fun, you meet some wonderful people, and how often do any of us get the chance to make a difference well into the future?

But while the best things in life are free, preserving them is not. A well-run nonprofit organization resembles a well-run business. Our task is to sell our product: conserving local natural treasures, offering healthy recreational opportunities, and increasing knowledge about conservation. Our competition is a host of well-deserving causes that also have compelling needs for support. As Treasurer Amy Trunnell points out, KLT's annual budget reflects our values and our optimism as much as our resources.

Every president's message comes down to the same theme - heartfelt gratitude to KLT's amazing members for your ongoing support. Our Business Partners in Conservation have been most generous - please let these community business leaders know that you appreciate their investment.

The benefits of preserving natural resources are substantial now, and they grow over time. Come to our trail opening at Parker Pond Headland – it's enough to make anyone "irrationally exuberant." Or as they say in those classic credit card ads, "taking a walk on land that you have preserved for future generations.....priceless."

Thank you so much and looking forward to seeing you over the summer,

Deb

Save the Date

KLT Annual Meeting Sunday, August 26th Augusta Country Club

KLT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Deb Sewall - President, Hallowell
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Readfield
Jean Grigsby - 2nd Vice President,
Hallowell
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Andrew Fisk - Secretary, Pittston

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Sarah Giffen, Chelsea
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Glenn Hodgkins, West Gardiner
Doug Ide, Manchester
Ann Judd, Fayette
Howard Lake, Readfield
Susan Liebling, Mt. Vernon
Diana McLaughlin, Wayne
Robert Mohlar, Readfield
Jeff Pidot, Hallowell
Norm Rodrigue, Manchester
Clyde Walton, Fayette

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Mark Johnston
Richard Judd, Ph.D.
Judy Kane

Martha Kent
Gloria & Lincoln Ladd
Barbara & Mort Libby
Jon Lund
Jessie & Douglas Macdonald
Kevin Mattson
Patricia Mooney, Ph.D.
Rupert Neily
Dianne E. Ryan
Jean Scudder
Jane Smith
Jym St. Pierre
Benjamin Townsend, Esq.
Robert Weston

KLT STAFF

Theresa Kerchner
Stewardship and Education Director
Sarah Fuller
Program Coordinator
Doug Scott
Membership Secretary

KLT NEWS EDITORS

Sarah Fuller, Theresa Kerchner, and
Janie Matrisciano

KLT NEWS LAYOUT

Sarah Fuller

VOLUNTEER WEBMASTER

Julie Mecham

VOLUNTEER TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Stan Davis, Janie Matrisciano

VOLUNTEER GRANTS COORDINATOR

Anne Reiter

KLT ANNUAL BUDGET OVERVIEW

Amy Trunnell, KLT Board Member and Treasurer

Conversations with many members have made it clear to the Board that the KLT budget is a mystery to most people. The following is an effort to remove some of the mystery by explaining the basics of our budget process.

Our financial structure has three key components that help us accomplish our goals and realize our mission. Those components are capital funds, stewardship funds, and operating funds. The capital and stewardship funds are obviously critical to our success in acquiring land and maintaining it, but the operating budget deals with the day-to-day operations of the Trust, and that is what I will address in this article.

Our budget is discussed by the Board in May and is then adopted for the fiscal year, which begins on July 1. In the past three years, as our needs have changed with the addition of 11 properties, our operating budget has grown significantly as well. Our budget for the fiscal year 04-05 was \$66,900; for 06-07 it is \$81,025.

Where does all this revenue come from?

It comes primarily from you, the members. With 486 current members, I'd say we're a pretty committed group.

Our current budgeted revenues break down as follows:

- 81% is from membership dues or sponsorships;
- 11% is from grants and scholarships;
- 4% is from investment interest;
- 2% is from our annual meeting fees; and
- 2% is from other sources.

These funds are spent as follows:

- 68% is for staff - mostly for KLT's stewardship program, office operations, and membership tracking;
- 16% is for annual stewardship financial responsibilities;
- 10% is for educational programs, Lyceum, and newsletter communications;
- 5% is for annual meeting costs; and
- 1% is for membership dues in national conservation organizations.

KLT is blessed with many members who donate their time and expertise for operations that would otherwise require funding resources. Our members bring amazing talents to the organization: mapping, surveying, photography, legal assistance, brochure printing, and many, many more. All of these are necessary to keeping our organization vital, and they greatly reduce the cost of our operations.

KLT protects very special properties. It takes significant resources – both voluntary and financial – to run such a successful organization. I hope you will spread the word about our good works so that our membership will grow as our responsibilities for land conservation and maintenance expand.

YOUR INVESTMENT IN CONSERVATION

Over the past 19 years member investment in KLT has conserved:

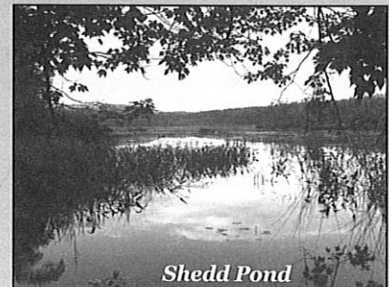
43 properties

3104 acres of forests, fields, hills, and wetlands, protecting wildlife habitat and water quality

6.8 miles of shoreline on lakes, rivers, and streams, providing public access and protecting scenic views

18.4 miles of trails for hiking, skiing, snowmobiling, and wildlife viewing

Due to the generosity and support of our members, our children and grandchildren will have the privilege of experiencing these woods and waters in the same way that previous generations have.
Thank you.



Shedd Pond

Howard Lake

NOTES FROM MAIN STREET

Theresa Kerchner, Stewardship and Education Director



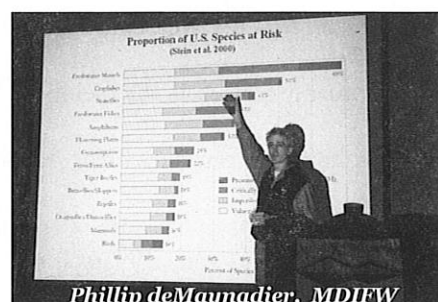
© Lynn St. Pierre

An Appreciation for "Swamps"

No doubt we had weather this year: balmy days in January, a bitter cold and windy February, seasonal temperatures in March, beautiful snowstorms, heavy winds and rains in April, and then finally the long awaited spring air. Even with summer on the horizon, I am thinking back to this year's steady April rains and the importance of undeveloped landscapes.

When the Patriot's Day storm flowed into a weeklong event, Maine's wetlands took first prize in the conservation show. It didn't take long to realize that wetlands were storing water that would otherwise have been flooding local roads, backyards, and cellars. A drive or hike through any undeveloped region in Kennebec County was a showcase for forested and open wetlands, which were seemingly filled to capacity. These "swamplands," nature's efficient and free flood control devices, are often seen as insignificant and uninspiring parts of the landscape until rain dominates the weather report.

KLT's March Lyceum on Wetlands Ecology and Conservation addressed the complexity and richness of wetland ecosystems. Phillip de Maynadier, Skip Lisle, Aram Calhoun, and Andrew Fisk spoke to over 150 Lyceum participants about wetland functions and their associated plants and wildlife, rare and endangered species, the management of beaver flowages, and the ecological importance of vernal pools on the landscape. With this knowledge, and the April rains behind us, we can now better appreciate Maine's valuable wetlands, including KLT's newly conserved Bog Pond property.



Norm Rodrigue

Phillip deMaynadier, MDIFW

KLT STEWARDSHIP

Despite the year's wildly fluctuating weather, our hardy stewards, board members, and volunteers:

- *monitored* our 3,000 acres of conservation lands;
- *cleared* blowdowns from 18 miles of trails;
- *met* with landowners to monitor easement conditions;
- *developed* bird inventory and invasive plant control projects for our properties;
- *designed* new trails with Eagle Scouts; and
- *gathered* for our annual January stewardship workshop to exchange information and stewardship skills.



© Lynn St. Pierre

Thank you to all of our seasoned and new volunteers.

KLT Hunting, Trapping, and ATV Policies

The KLT Board has recently approved two policies that pertain to public use of KLT lands, one on hunting and trapping, and another on ATV use. Please call our office (377-2848) if you would like a written copy of these policies or see our website: www.tkl.org.

WESTMAN WOODS PRESERVED

This past fall, Mrs. Westman bequeathed the woodland property adjoining her home on the South Road in Readfield to KLT. This bequest conserves 26 acres of wildlife habitat across the road from KLT's St. Andre Fields easement and protects the watershed of Maranacook Lake. The western portion of the property contains a conifer-hardwood tree stand dominated by hemlock trees, some of which are over 100 years old. In accordance with Mrs. Westman's wishes, Westman Woods Preserve will forever be a haven for wildlife. KLT deeply appreciates this generous gift, an enduring testament to her love of nature.

PLANNED GIVING FOR KENNEBEC LAND TRUST

Planned giving allows you to make charitable gifts at a future date while enabling you or your family to retain the use of the asset in the meantime. There are several ways (detailed below) to arrange a future gift that can meet your estate planning needs and fulfill your charitable intentions. If you would like to explore options for making a planned gift to KLT, please contact our office and Theresa will put you in touch with a knowledgeable board member for a confidential discussion. We will gladly work with your attorney or financial advisor, who can advise you in light of your individual circumstances.

Bequests are perhaps the simplest form of a planned gift. The following is an example: *"I hereby give The Kennebec Land Trust, a Maine nonprofit organization, a bequest of \$_____ to be used for its general charitable purposes."*

You might also consider a **share or percentage of your residuary estate**: *"I hereby give The Kennebec Land Trust, a Maine nonprofit organization, 10% of my residuary estate to be used for its general charitable purposes."* Please be sure to let us know about your planned bequest, so your gift may be properly acknowledged.

Land donations are another option. If this is something you are considering, please contact us so that we may visit your property to see that it meets our criteria for permanent protection. Even if it does not, you may still want to leave it to the Trust, understanding that we would sell it and use the proceeds to conserve other ecologically important properties. For conservation property donations, please consider including a generous cash bequest so that we may meet all of the anticipated future costs of caring for the land. An example is: *"In the event I do not make such a conveyance during my lifetime, I hereby devise and bequeath to The Kennebec Land Trust, a Maine non-profit corporation, certain real property described as follows: (Insert legal description of the land). I also bequeath to The Kennebec Land Trust the sum of \$_____ for stewardship of this and other Trust properties."*

Designating KLT as the beneficiary to your **IRA, Keogh, or other qualified pension plan** can have significant tax benefits to you and your survivors. Assets in these plans accumulate without being taxed but when they are distributed, substantial income tax can result. Designating a charity as the beneficiary of the plan, while leaving other types of assets to surviving family members, can maximize your ability to provide for both your family and the charity.

*Thank you for your generous support of the Kennebec Land Trust's
conservation efforts in our community.*



Howard Lake

Stream at Westman Woods

KLT GROWS EAST OF THE KENNEBEC

John Melrose, Steward, Vassalboro Wildlife Habitat



Theresa Korbner

VWH field walk, January 2007

Vassalboro Wildlife Habitat (VWH) is a new property now held by the Kennebec Land Trust. Late in 2006, this generous gift secured over 200 acres on and near the southerly half of Webber Pond, including 2,200 feet of shore frontage on the west shore and 600 feet on the east shore. The donor wishes to remain anonymous.

The parcels west of Webber Pond lying just south of the Natanis Golf Course are generally flat and predominantly forested, and they include several beaver bogs located along three minor streams. A trolley line built in 1909 and abandoned in 1932 runs through the property and is now a snowmobile trail managed by the local club. The parcel east of Webber Pond can only be accessed by water. It

has an older stand of timber and rises to provide a glimpse of the Bigelow Range from the easterly boundary. A stewardship committee was formed and met for the first time this past January. Work has begun on a management plan and on a trail between the Webber Pond Road and the Pond. Individuals interested in supporting the Vassalboro Wildlife Habitat with donations of their time should contact KLT.

SCOUTS EARN HIGHEST HONORS AND HELP LAND TRUST

Two local scouts have recently worked on service projects with the Kennebec Land Trust.

Kyle Marvinney, working towards his Boy Scout Eagle Award, completed portions of foot and bog bridges at Torsey Pond Nature Preserve in Readfield. Kyle's ambitious project has improved the hiking trails on this conservation easement property and the recreational value of this natural resource.

As part of her Girl Scout Gold Award, Marissa Griswold of Monmouth designed and created a tabletop display that illustrates KLT's mission, properties, and the different ways people can get involved in local conservation efforts. The display is already in use, showcasing the organization's conservation work throughout our region.



© Jym St. Pierre

Many thanks to Kyle and Marissa for their excellent work and dedication to their communities.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING KLT'S CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

The following individuals have generously donated their time and talent to KLT this past winter and spring.

Brooke Barnes	Kyle Marvinney
Peggy Barnes	Andy McLeod
Andy Bosworth	Aaron McGarvey
Aram Calhoun	Julie Mecham
Ginny Coady	John & Molly Melrose
Beth Craigie	Donna & Tom
Julia, Jane, & Stan Davis	Mickewich
Tim & Maggie Davis	Bob Mohlar
Wade Davis	Robert Mulliken
Kate Doiron	Ian Ormon
Maddy Edwards	Daniel Perkins
Andrew Fisk	Anne Reiter
Douglas Fuller	Norm Rodrigue
Sarah Giffen	Darlene Steele & Ladd
Jane & Ray Giglio	Recreation Center
Raquel Goodrich	Board of Directors
Jean Grigsby	Jeff Pidot
Marissa Griswold	Jym St. Pierre
Al Haury	Mary Sturtevant
Bea Horne	Andy Tolman
Jeff Janell	Steve Walker, MDIFW
Ron Joseph	
Lisa Kane	
Gloria & Lincoln Ladd	
Robert Ladd	
Howard Lake	
Jon Lund	
Penny Markley	
Janie Matrisciano	

With sympathy and gratitude:

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Kennebec Land Trust in memory of Abby Holman.

KLT THANKS OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION

TRUSTEES

Kennebec Savings Bank

CONSERVATORS

Gardiner Savings Bank, FSB

Nicholson & Ryan, Jewelers

SPONSORS

Augusta Country Club

Bay Wrap

Camp Androscoggin

Camp Kippewa

Camp Laurel

Camp Tekakwitha

Camp Winnebago

FABCO

Joel D. Davis and Associates, a private
wealth advisory practice of

Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.

J.S. McCarthy Printers

Jusst Real Estate

Knowlton, Hewins, Roberts Funeral Homes

Longfellow's Greenhouses

Rotary Garage

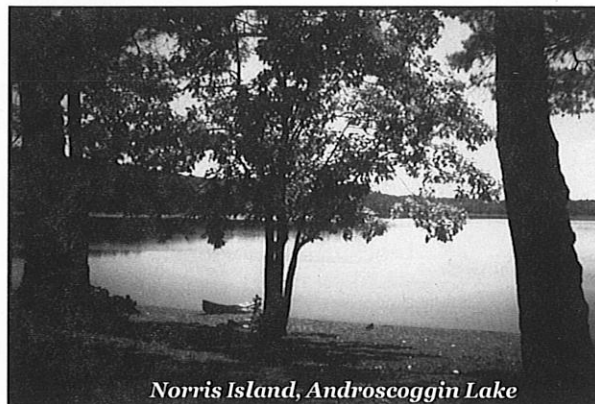
Saunders Manufacturing

The Write Approach, Jean Grigsby, consulting

Thomas Agency Insurance

Tyson-Kielty Realty

Weiderhorn Group



Norris Island, Androscoggin Lake

© Lynn St. Pierre

The Business Partners in Conservation program recognizes business leaders and companies in our community who have made significant contributions of cash, goods, and services to support the regional conservation efforts of the Kennebec Land Trust.

To learn more about this program, please contact KLT board member Norm Rodrigue at 207-622-6204.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Carmen Anastase

Sarah Aronson

Stefanie Barley & Cheryl Ring

Eleanor & Fred Benner

Bruce Bierce

Charles Bonney

Carolyn Bulliner

Virginia & Richard Burrill

Margaret Chadwick &

Robert Weimont

Joseph & Martha Clark

Vern & Betsy Cook

Percis & Jon Crimmel

Michael & Janet Cross

Tom & Nicole Danielson

Richard & Marlene Duncan

Margaret Edmondson

Alan & Carol Ellingwood

Robert & Nancy Fitzgerald

Clifton & Jean Fletcher

Irene Forster

Delbert & Carol Fuller

Joanna Gabel

Elaine Gershman

Allan Haury & Jane Bird

Helen B. Holman

Ernest B. Johnson

Daniel & Sarah Lafond

Michael Lahey

Susan Louis

Louise Macy

Mary Duke Blouin Revocable Trust

Christine McDonald & Julia Letcher

Sarah McGonigle

Patrick & Margaret McLaughlin

Ronald Merriman

Colleen Messina

Robert Miller

Monique Mitchell

Joseph & Martha Nielsen

Eric & Heather Nisch

Samantha & Scott Olsen

Elizabeth Parlee & David Kahn

Sunshine Perlis

Virginia Remeika

Gerald Rodman

George & Judith Rogers

Mary Roulston

Mary Schneckenburger &

Ken Voorhees

Peter Schwindt

Dr. Karen Seaborg

Russell & Dale Sherburne

Susan & Charles Smith

Linda & James Stanton

Karen & John Steelhammer

Derrick & Wendy Tooth

Jack Tupper

Suzanne & William Young

Wendy Zamler

NATURE NOTES



Sarah Fuller

Jon & Doug check their coordinates

Cobbossee Islands—January 31, 2007. Advisory Board Member Jon Lund, volunteer Steward Tom Feagin, and Doug & Sarah Fuller ventured out onto the winter ice to mark KLT property boundaries on Hodgdon Island and post KLT signs there and on other nearby islands under the care of the Trust. Aside from a few ice fishermen, there were several chickadees who were surprised at our presence on Hodgdon, and we spotted track evidence of fishers wandering about. Using a GPS and compass, Jon and Doug found and highlighted the metal property markers, and Tom and Sarah worked to post new KLT signs. We are hoping to get out again on the lake this summer to gather more GPS data for the creation of a map and brochures for visitors to the Cobbossee Islands. *Sarah Fuller, KLT Program Coordinator.*

Webber Rogers—The second week in April offers an excellent opportunity to view ducks at close range on the Webber Rogers Farmstead easement. Pleasant Pond is still ice-covered, but Potter Brook is ice-free and the ducks congregate in the open water. The Shore trail, which runs along the shore of Potter Brook, offers a good vantage point. During a brief afternoon walk this year, wood ducks, hooded mergansers, American mergansers, mallards, black ducks, and green-winged teal were observed. The ducks were very skittish and a number were flushed, unidentified, each time we moved along the trail. Good binoculars were very helpful. *George Rogers, easement donor, Webber-Rogers Farmstead Conservation Area*



D. Denburt, USFWS

Green-winged teal



THE KENNEBEC LAND TRUST

PO Box 261, Winthrop, ME 04364

For additional information about KLT call our office at 207-377-2848
or visit our website at www.tkl.org



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KENNEBEC LAND TRUST ~ 2007 SUMMER AND FALL PROGRAMS

Directions to properties are on our website: www.tkltr.org. Please call the office for information: 377-2848.

June 23 Birding and Beaver Flowages; Davidson Nature Preserve, Vassalboro 6:30-8:30 am. Leader: Ron Joseph, KLT Steward

Join KLT members and friends for an early morning bird walk at the ecologically rich 97-acre Davidson Nature Preserve in Vassalboro. Eighteen species of warblers have been identified during the spring migration and several uncommon birds such as field sparrows and eastern towhees have been sighted. The program includes a walk to the Preserve beaver flowage to view an active heron rookery. Co-sponsored by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.



Norm Rodrigue
Jamies Pond

July 14 Parker Pond Headland Trail Dedication and Family Walk; Parker Pond Headland, Fayette ~ 10-11:30 am. Leaders: Deb Sewall, KLT President, Glenn Hodgkins & Clyde Walton, Stewards, & Bill Rogers, Parker Pond Association

This preserve protects a stunning 100 acre forested peninsula and 5,000 feet of rocky undeveloped shore line on Parker Pond. The Headland was protected by KLT and the Parker Pond Association in 2004 with support from the Lands for Maine's Future. Join us for a beautiful hike on the new 1.5 mile Headland Trail. All ages are welcome! This conservation land can be accessed by canoe or kayak or from the Fellows Cove Road.

July 26th Presentation by Bridget Stutchbury, author of *Silence of the Songbirds* ~ Sponsored by Vaughan Homestead Foundation & KLT. 7:00 pm ~ Ladd Recreation Center, Wayne.

Bridget Stutchbury completed her Ph.D. at Yale University. She was formerly a research associate at the Smithsonian Institution and is currently professor of biology at York University in Toronto. Dr. Stutchbury is recognized as an international birding expert, and is affiliated with many organizations seeking to preserve bird habitats.

July 29 ME Mycological Association Foray, Webber-Rogers Farmstead Conservation Area, Litchfield, 2-4 pm. Leaders: Michaline Mulvoy, MMA, Paul Johnson, KLT Steward, & George & Judy Rogers, easement donors.

Visit KLT's 117 acre Webber-Rogers Farmstead Conservation Area with Michaline Mulvoy, a mushroom expert. Bring a basket for your collection and a magnifying glass if you have one. Participants are welcome to bring specimens from home for identification, especially if you have something unusual.

August 4 Great Wayne Fair Family Canoe Trip, Perkins Woods, Androscoggin Lake, Wayne, 9 -11am. Leaders: Jane and Stan Davis, KLT Stewards

Bring your canoe or kayak, and bathing suit if you like to swim. We'll meet at the State boat launch on Rt. 133 in Wayne and paddle across the cove to the KLT Perkins Property. A short trail leads through a magnificent grove of old pine and hemlock and to a rocky point looking across Androscoggin Lake.

August 26th KLT Field Trips and Annual Meeting at the Augusta Country Club

Sept. 29th Plein-air Painting Workshop, Mathews Wildlife Habitat. Fayette ~ 9 am - noon. Leaders: Maine artist Cathy St. Pierre, and KLT Stewards Ann Judd and Ron Giard

Join fellow artists and leader Cathy St Pierre for a plein-air painting workshop at the 17 acre scenic Mathews Wildlife Habitat, part of the historic Underwood Farm. A large sugar maple is the centerpiece of the property & massive stone walls surround the fields. Participants will gather at 11:30 for refreshments & to discuss their work at the home of Ann Judd & Ron Giard.

Oct. 20th Vaughan Woods Work Day, Hallowell, 9 am - noon

A community work day organized by KLT Steward Andrew Fisk, the Hallowell Conservation Commission, and the Vaughan Homestead Foundation. Please bring gloves, rakes, pruning shears and shovels. Contact Jon Lund, Hallowell Conservation Commission at 622-4843 for more information. Meet at Hall-Dale High School parking lot on Maple Street.

Gardening to Protect Maine's Natural Heritage

Controlling Invasive Plants

Choosing Alternatives



The Kennebec Land Trust



Representatives of the Kennebec Land Trust and Scott Longfellow of Manchester met this spring to discuss public education about invasive species control, and LD 1447, a Resolve **signed in May, 2007** by Governor Baldacci. This Resolve directs the Maine department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to study invasive terrestrial plant species to determine whether some form of restriction on plants identified as "invasive terrestrial plants" is warranted. Since KLT volunteers have been hard at work on invasive species control projects on our ecologically important conservation lands, we wanted to provide gardeners with background about this issue and a list of alternatives to the most common invasives. We hope you will join us in this important stewardship effort.

What are invasive species?

Invasive plants are non-native species that grow and multiply rapidly and can spread to unmanageable levels over short periods of time. **Invasive species are the second greatest threat to global biodiversity, after loss of habitat.** These species have few natural control agents, compete with native plants, reduce habitat and food for animals, and can threaten the stability of entire ecosystems. Invasive plants have impacted our forests, wetlands, lakes, streams, croplands and pastures, and many of Maine's sensitive natural habitats.

How do invasive plants spread?

Humans are primarily responsible for the spread of invasive plants. Before we understood their impacts, people planted invasives for ornamental and landscape purposes, for erosion control, and for wildlife cover. Some species arrived as stowaways. A few arrived with wildlife. Once here, many are spread by birds or by their own rapid vegetative growth. Others are hitchhikers on tires or boots or in transplant pots. Invasive plants often require direct sunlight, so they thrive along forest edges and in disturbed areas.

Some of the Northeast's most troublesome plants are: Japanese barberry, burning bush, bush honeysuckles, Oriental bittersweet, autumn-olive, common and glossy buckthorns, Norway maple, multi-flora rose, Japanese knotweed, non-native phragmites, black swallowwort, garlic mustard, purple loosestrife and non-native milfoils.

Our natural landscape is a precious resource. Its future depends on the choices we make. Please help protect Maine's native plants, animals, and ecosystems. If you purchase or move a plant, consider whether it may be invasive. Plants advertised as fast growing, prolific, and tolerant of many growing conditions are often the ones that become invasive. If you are looking for a plant that has the color or form associated with one of the invasives listed below, please consider purchasing one of the suggested alternatives.

Invasive

burning bush
barberry (all cultivars)
shrub honeysuckles
goutweed
Norway maple
bittersweet
purple loosestrife
yellow flag iris

Alternatives

highbush blueberry, black huckleberry, Fothergilla, Aronia spp.
dwarf ninebark cultivars, spirea x bumalda cultivars
serviceberry, witch hazel, ninebark
Meehan's mint, dwarf astilbes, running foamflower
native red maple (*Acer rubrum*), sugar maple
grape cultivars, Virginia creeper, native vine honeysuckles
Liatris cultivars
blue flag iris, Siberian iris, Japanese iris