



# Tracts & Trails

Newsletter of the Scarborough Land Trust

SPRING 2022

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CONSERVING LAND FOR PEOPLE, FOR WILDLIFE — *FOREVER*

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

## Everyone Has a Role to Play

by Andrew Mackie



Recently, I have participated in several Town meetings. I am always interested to hear what fellow town residents have to say. It is clear from comments at these meetings, residents are concerned about the amount of growth in Scarborough. We hear the same thing from our supporters, volunteers and partners.

This got me thinking about what really makes Scarborough special. I think most individuals would rate our beaches high on the list followed by Scarborough Marsh, the five rivers flowing through Town, and SLT preserves such as Pleasant Hill, Warren Woods, and Fuller Farm. It is these natural areas that give us our sense of place and make Scarborough an exceptional place to live. This is something that also unites us as a community, regardless if you grew up in Scarborough as did your mother and grandmother, or if you moved to Maine in the last few years.

Are we willing to lose our identity and uniqueness? I'm not. This is why at SLT we work every day on behalf of the residents of Scarborough. In this issue of Tracts & Trails you will learn more about our efforts in protecting

additional natural and agricultural lands, and what we are doing to manage these lands to make properties welcoming for all. Recently, this included creating a new staff position of Conservation Director (see page 4).

Each of us has a responsibility to work today for the future of our Town. You can join in this mission. Here are some of the ways you can get involved:

- If you have real estate, consider donating it to the Scarborough Land Trust. This can be land suitable for protection as a natural area or other real estate we can sell and apply these funds toward other conservation projects.
- Include Scarborough Land Trust in your estate plans
- Volunteer on one of the upcoming trail projects (see page 9)
- Have your company join our Business Community Partners Program
- Make a monthly recurring gift
- Recognize a loved one by naming a trail, bench or other naming opportunity in their honor or memory (see pages 5-8)

I hope you will join me in looking to the future and ensuring that the Nonesuch River, Scarborough Marsh, forests, meadows, wetlands and working farms are here for generations yet to come. — *AJM*

## Make a Lasting Impact – Donate Real Estate to the Scarborough Land Trust

### Property/Lands for Conservation

Discuss whether your property is suitable for a new preserve, protected farm, or conservation easement.

### Property/Lands for Resale

Donate vacant, residential, or commercial property for resale by the Land Trust to help support conservation projects.

### Benefits:

- Opportunity to leave a permanent legacy in Scarborough
- Avoid capital gains on highly appreciated property
- Charitable income tax deduction
- Reduce estate tax burden
- Support an organization with a long-track record of conservation success
- Foster the protection of watershed and wildlife conservation
- Preserve valuable agricultural land

### Find out more about donating a conservation easement to the Scarborough Land Trust.

Contact Executive Director, Andrew Mackie to discuss possible real estate donations at [amackie@scarboroughlandtrust.org](mailto:amackie@scarboroughlandtrust.org) or (207) 289-1199.







A breeding bird of Warren Woods, Black Throated Green Warbler.

## The Expansion of Warren Woods –

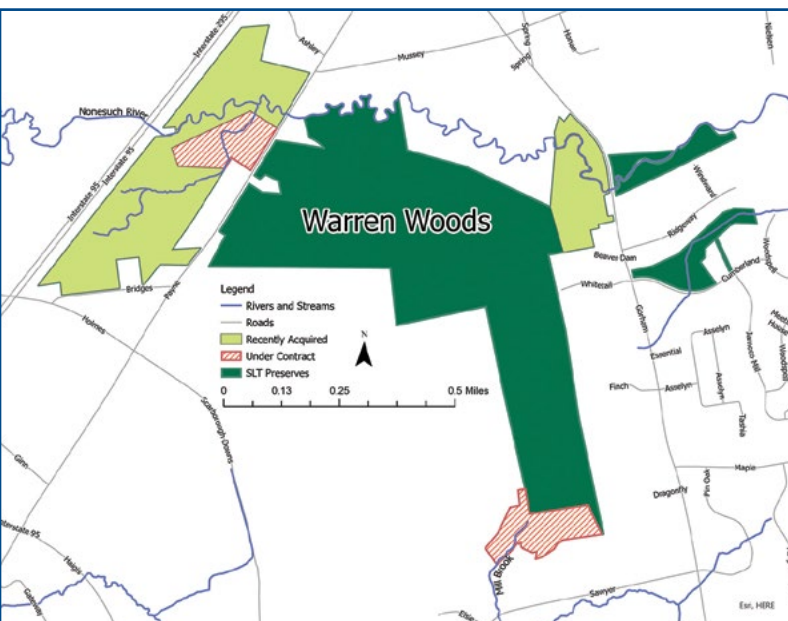
### Protecting a Unique Treasure and Extending a Corridor along the Nonesuch River

Tucked away in the center of Scarborough is a secret world. One of insect-eating plants, showy orchids, brightly colored miniature winged hunters, vocal stately owls, and much more. In Scarborough, we have a wilderness minutes away from Scarborough Public Schools, Maine Mall, and Scarborough Downs. The Elaine Stimson Warren Woods Preserve was acquired by SLT in 2012 from C. Harvey Warren. The 162-acres contains a portion of the Scottow Bog, a pitch pine bog which is a rare natural community in Maine, other wetlands, forests and a stretch of the Nonesuch River. It is a true refuge for wildlife and people.

Scarborough Land Trust has targeted this area for increased land protection and subsequent stewardship. We realize there is a limited amount of time to protect the wetlands, forests and floodplains of this area. This is the reason we acted quickly at the end of 2021 to purchase 55 acres between Payne Road and the Maine Turnpike. SLT acquisition committee members identified these parcels as significant for Nonesuch River watershed protection. The SLT Board voted to take an internal loan so we could close on these two properties thus preventing them from being sold for development.

Soon after, in early 2022, we closed on a property owned by Doug and Connie Libby located on the east side of Warren Woods. This parcel protects another 1,400 linear feet of the Nonesuch River and directly abuts the existing preserve. In April, we signed a sale and purchase agreement to acquire another 10 acres, closing a gap between the lands recently acquired between Payne Road and the Turnpike. We are scheduled to close on the purchase July 29, 2022 and are moving ahead to raise the funds needed for this acquisition. This property will allow us to develop a parking area and trailhead for these three parcels on this side of Payne Road. In addition, we will be able to have a trail leading to the Nonesuch River for a hand-carried boat launch.

*continued on page 4 ...*



SLT is currently working on land protection projects around Warren Woods and also on three projects in various areas throughout Scarborough. SLT is under contract to purchase eight acres that will help expand Fuller Farm Preserve. Another project would create a new 30-acre preserve and yet another would conserve an active farm. On average we need \$25,000 to \$30,000/acre to complete these projects. If interested in supporting land protection, contact Andrew Mackie at [amackie@scarboroughlandtrust.org](mailto:amackie@scarboroughlandtrust.org) or 719-221-6200.

...The Expansion of Warren Woods *continued*

SLT is also working on a transfer of land at the bottom of Scottow Bog that would give us another 11 acres. These parcels would add to the protected wetlands of Warren Woods and help maintain the hydrology of the area.

All totaled, this would increase the protected land as part of Warren Woods to 245 acres. As additional lands along Payne and Gorham Roads, Scarborough Downs and Haggis

Parkway get developed, Warren Woods will become even more special as a haven for many plant and animal species. This block of habitat also becomes the core of SLT's efforts to protect the lower section of the Nonesuch River. SLT is currently looking at other lands along the Nonesuch River that will help protect the future of Scarborough Marsh. 🦋



Left: One of many dragonflies in this area, Twelve-spotted Skimmer  
Right: Swamp Candles found along the trails at Warren Woods.

## NEW STAFF MEMBER

### Welcome, Scott Kunkler!



Scott will be joining SLT in May as the new Conservation Director. His work will focus on land protection projects throughout Scarborough. We are pleased to welcome Scott to his new home.

While growing up in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Scott learned to appreciate

swimming in the ocean, sunny skies, and afternoon thunderstorms. He also learned to appreciate the last remaining wild places amid the rapid development of South Florida. A love of those wild places eventually led him to spend two summers as a naturalist with Alaska State Parks and three seasons as a Park Ranger in Badlands, North Cascades, and Everglades National

Parks. While hiking and camping in the Redwoods of the northern California coast, Scott earned his B.A. in Geography from Humboldt State University. He has explored much of the Adirondack Mountains and continues to enjoy discovering the many wild areas of Maine.

Scott's work experience ranges from working on farms to managing the facilities of a non-profit leadership summer camp. He was a board member of a library and served on a town planning board. Recently, he worked for the state of NY managing real estate transactions while developing housing for homeless individuals and families. He looks forward to applying these skills to help protect land in Scarborough.

When not working, Scott still loves swimming in the ocean, as well as running, playing the piano (or at least attempting to do so), and spending time with his family. 🌿





# SCARBOROUGH LAND TRUST

Conserving land for people, for wildlife — *forever.*

## Naming Opportunities 2022 – 2025



Photo credit: Dan Kehlenbach



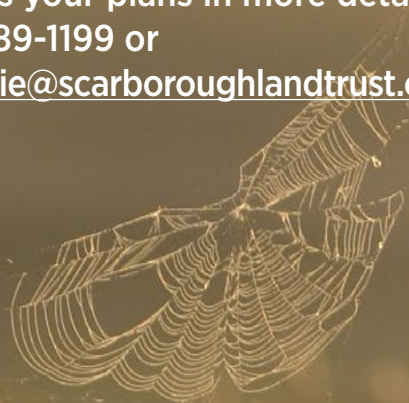
# Create A Lasting Legacy for Your Family & Friends

Thank you for considering a gift to the Scarborough Land Trust. Scarborough Land Trust properties are special places protecting nature and farming forever!

The following naming opportunities provide the ability to honor and cherish individuals that hold a special place in your life while also helping

to meet your philanthropy goals. We look forward to assisting you in deciding what opportunity is best for you.

Please contact our Executive Director, Andrew Mackie, to discuss your plans in more detail at 207-289-1199 or [amackie@scarboroughlandtrust.org](mailto:amackie@scarboroughlandtrust.org).



## Some Examples of Naming Opportunities



Trail



Boardwalk



### Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)

The Eastern White Pine is an important tree of our forests for both people and wildlife. In 1895 the Maine Legislature designated the pine cone and tassel of the tree as Maine's official floral emblem. In 1945 the white pine was made the official tree of the State of Maine. The tree played a prominent role in the economy of the region as its straight tree trunks provided masts for English sailing ships. Starting in the late 1600's large white pines were bleached with the mark of the broad arrow, reserved for use by the Royal Navy.

This label is in honor of Jane Dick, she donated every moment in nature.

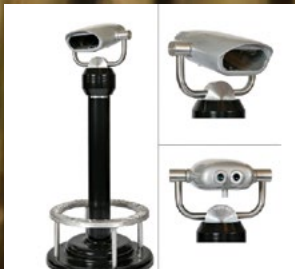
Tree Label



Bridge



Observation Platform



Binocular Stand



Wood Bench



Stone Bench



Electric Car

## Naming Opportunities Donation Levels

Trails - Naming for a trail - \$100,000

Platforms - \$50,000

Boardwalks - \$25,000

Bridges - \$25,000

Wood Bench - \$10,000

Stone Bench - \$15,000

Picnic Tables - \$5,000

Binocular Observation Station - \$7,500

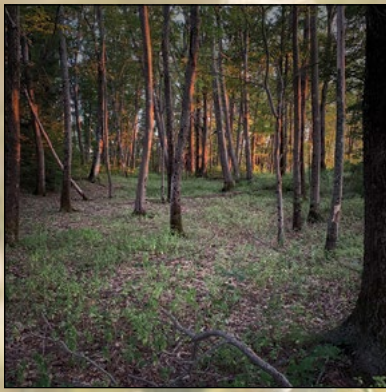
Truck - \$5,000 (Full Wrap)

Electric Car - \$50,000 (Purchase)

Tree Labels - \$500 (per label)

Naming Opportunity	Pleasant Hill	Libby River Farm	Blue Point	Warren Woods	Sewell Woods	Fuller Farm	Broadturn Farm	Other
Trails	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Boardwalks				✓	✓	✓	✓	
Bridges		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Wood Benches	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Stone Benches	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Picnic Tables	✓		✓				✓	
Observation Platforms		✓						
Binocular Stations		✓	✓					
Tree Labels	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Storage Barn	✓							
Truck - Full Wrap								✓
Electric Car								✓





Pleasant Hill Preserve  
135 acres

270 Pleasant Hill Road  
Scarborough, ME 04074



Blue Point Preserve  
14 acres

5 Seaveys Landing Road  
Scarborough, ME 04074



Sewell Woods Preserve  
35 acres

50 Ash Swamp Road  
Scarborough, ME 04074



Fuller Farm Preserve  
220 acres

305 Broadturn Road  
Scarborough, ME 04074



Libby River Farm  
Preserve

75 acres  
320 Black Point Road  
Scarborough, ME 04074



Warren Woods Preserve  
228 acres

363 Payne Road  
Scarborough, ME 04074



Broadturn Farm Preserve  
434 acres

4 Hanson Road  
Scarborough, ME 04074



### Trail Renovations in Western Scarborough:

A well-loved property and a hidden gem preserve are getting some TLC this summer season.

Fuller Farm is one of SLT's most-visited and ecologically diverse properties west of the Turnpike, and the Bird Trail at Fuller Farm is due for restoration. This trail has the soft, regularly saturated soils of a floodplain and forested wetland, making it more vulnerable to erosion than upland soils. Fuller Farm has one of the longest trail systems in Scarborough, hosting tens of thousands of visits each year and providing outdoor recreation options for our community in the west of Scarborough.

Due to the extreme degradation of the bog bridges and the climate change-induced sustained periods of flooding, severe erosion from traffic going off the trail has widened the trail by 10 feet along much of the route. Flooding events have increased in intensity to the point of dislodging and washing away bog bridging multiple times in the last 3 years. Heavy visitation, especially since the beginning of the COVID pandemic, has led to soil compaction and denuded areas. Not only is the damage antithetical to our conservation mission, it is aesthetically unappealing. SLT is taking this opportunity to improve the conditions for adaptive access to support visitors with mobility needs. These improvements will also greatly help sustain the trailside wildlife communities, and keep our trail open year-round for many years to come. Installing new and additional infrastructure will allow visitors to enjoy the trail without sacrificing trailside habitat and improve access for a greater number of visitors with diverse needs. Crews will be led by SLT Board Member and Lead Steward, Tom Nolan.

Sewell Woods Preserve provides folks in Southern Scarborough with a chance to relax stream-side in a

*continued on page 10 ...*



Bog bridges under water at Sewell Woods.

**Do you like working outside?**

**Want to make a difference this summer?**

If so, join one of SLT's trail crews to help complete these projects. We are looking for volunteers to lend a hand. We welcome volunteers at all different skill levels. To find out more or to sign up, contact SLT Stewardship Director, Samantha Wolf at [swolf@scarboroughlandtrust.org](mailto:swolf@scarboroughlandtrust.org) or 207-289-1199.



## TRAIL PROJECTS

... Trail Renovations in Western Scarborough *continued*

mixed forest wetland with minimal noise pollution. This Preserve protects the Stuart Brook watershed, and trails pass through seasonally wet areas, forested wetland, cross Stuart Brook twice, and connect visitors to trails around Frith Farm. This trail system crosses many low wetland areas, and the bog bridges are in dire need of repair, replacement, and expansion. This project will elevate the walking conditions, protect surrounding habitat from further erosion, and create a safer and more enjoyable visit for decades to come. The project will commence midsummer, during the projected driest weeks of the year. It will involve a work team of at least 6 people over the course of 4 weeks, led by SLT Lead Steward Emily Brown.

Restoring the Bird Trail at Fuller Farm and the trail network at Sewell Woods meets three priorities for SLT: Environmental Stewardship, Access to Nature, and Equity in Access. This spring and summer, be sure to say hello to SLT's volunteer trail crew. 🐾



Rotted bog bridges on the Bird Trail.



Volunteers working on the Hayfield Trail.



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Emily Brown



**Emily Brown**, the new lead steward of our Sewell Woods property, loves the outdoors, is a skilled trail maker, and has dreams of someday owning her own farm. Emily grew up in Pennsylvania and graduated from Penn State's Erie campus with a degree in biology. After graduation, she volunteered with a local conservation group and worked as a substitute teacher. Emily soon realized she preferred being outside, first taking a job with a landscaper who used only native plants, followed by a job with Maine Conservation Corp (MCC). In 2019 she was an MCC team leader for an Off the Beaten Path trail project north of Baxter State Park. Emily has also been involved in building trails, many with footbridges, in other areas of the state including Biddeford, Freeport and Camden.

While looking for new outdoor job opportunities, Emily accepted a job with a credit union located in the Greater Portland area. After seeing an announcement about volunteer opportunities at SLT, she signed up to help, quickly using the skills learned at MCC to develop a plan for trail maintenance at Sewell Woods. Soon after, she secured an apprenticeship with a farm on Long Island, NY, which meant she had to leave Maine and SLT for a time. After completing the apprenticeship, she returned to Maine, reconnected with SLT, and took over the lead steward position at Sewell Woods. She chose to be the steward at Sewell because she sees lots of potential in this property. One of the special aspects of Sewell Woods is that one of the trails connects to Frith Farm, a local organic farm, and Emily's dream is to be a farmer. When asked about challenges at Sewell Woods she mentions the need for more foot bridges as well as the issue of materials found on the property that are not native to the land, such as plastic and painted objects.

Emily's future plans include owning a farm in Maine with a café serving tea made from the herbs she will grow. Emily has fallen in love with the state of Maine, especially because of its proximity to ocean and mountains as well

as the spirit and energy of the Maine people. In preparation for owning her own farm, Emily will be working at a local farm this summer that grows organic vegetables and flowers.

When Emily is not working on the farm or volunteering for SLT, she can be found biking and running. She will run her first half marathon this spring. She also paints, makes pottery, and participates in community theater.

Emily will be leading volunteer crews this summer as she builds foot bridges at Sewell Woods. SLT will publicize dates of Emily's workdays once the dates are confirmed. Volunteers do not need any experience; Emily will teach volunteers everything they need to know and there will be tasks for all skill levels. When Emily was asked what she would tell people about volunteering for SLT she responded, "Don't be intimidated about trail work or volunteering. It's more relaxed, educational and fun than people think."

Please keep your eyes posted for opportunities to help Emily build bridges as well as other SLT volunteer events.



In April, Scarborough Land Trust celebrated the many volunteers behind the organization's 2021 efforts at our first Volunteer Appreciation Event. Thank you to the dozens of volunteers that came out on a rainy day, and to the dozens more who were unable to join us, for sharing their time, talent and passion with SLT!

Photo credit: Samantha Wolf





## SCARBOROUGH LAND TRUST

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04070

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## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

### May

- Saturday, May 7th – Birding with Andrew
- Saturday, May 7th – Annual Clean Up Day
- Thursday, May 12th – Birding with Andrew
- Saturday, May 14th – Wildflower Walk
- Sunday, May 15th – Plant Sale with Rebel Hill Farms
- Saturday, May 21st – Pollinator Parade
- Tuesday, May 24th – In partnership with Scarborough Public Library, author Sue Inches program, *“Storytelling and the Art of Advocacy: How personal stories of connection with the earth can be used to advocate for the environment”*

### June

- Saturday, June 4th – Fern Walk
- Wednesday, June 22nd – Wildflower Walk
- Saturday, June 25th – Bat Program
- Tuesday, June 28th – Youth Wildflower Walk

### July

- Wednesday, July 6th – Firefly Program
- Saturday, July 9th – Mushroom Walk

### August

- Wednesday, August 3rd – Bat Program
- Thursday, August 25th – Hold the Date, Annual Broadturn Farm Dinner

Thank you to our Business Community Partners

#### TRAILBLAZERS



#### STEWARDS



Tom & Julia Ranello  
RE/MAX Shoreline



#### SUSTAINERS

Hannaford Supermarkets  
H.M. Payson  
Neil and Heather Jamieson  
Moody's Collision Centers

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### Scarborough Land Trust

(207) 289-1199

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Website: [www.scarboroughlandtrust.org](http://www.scarboroughlandtrust.org)

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