

Wareham Land Trust



NEWS

Volume 10 No. 1 Summer 2013

Walking Trails of Wareham

Have you ever wanted to get back to nature and enjoy a walk in the woods, but weren't sure where to go or how to get there? Let the Wareham Land Trust help you!

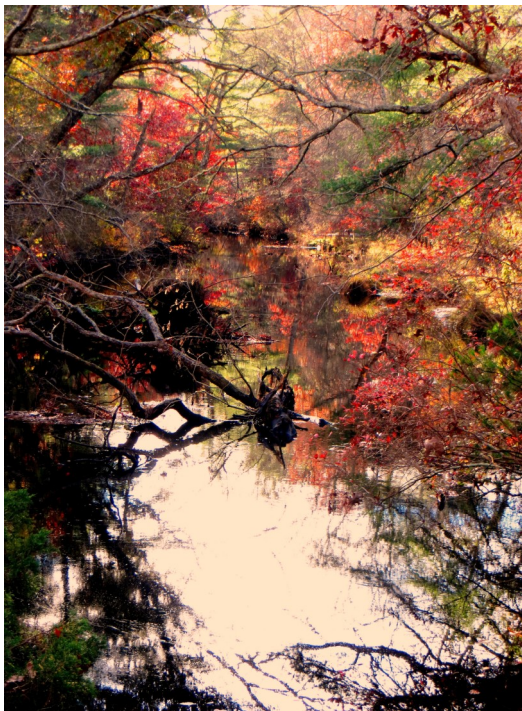
A gorgeous map of local trails has been created by a very talented and ambitious volunteer. Visit our website, warehamland.org. Under the properties page, you will find a link to a PDF file that gives you a 14-page guide to trails as well as information and history of the organization and the sites. (See the following example).

Some of these trails traverse private property. These trails are available through the generosity of private landowners who value land conservation and choose to share their land with you. Be

respectful of the property owners and neighbors; please stay on the trails. All of the areas listed in this guide are open year-round from dawn to dusk. No fees are charged for access to the trails. Most of this protected land is maintained by a land trust or other conservation organization. Conservation organizations rely on charitable contributions. Donations help support land conservation, stewardship of the preserves, trail creation and maintenance, and educational programs. Please consider making a donation to help continue all conservation efforts.



Young explorers on the trails.



Tweedy and Barnes in autumn.

Tweedy and Barnes trail map.



Blackmore Pond Road, West Wareham, MA -70.7719 41.7382
Follow Main Street, turn onto Fearing Hill Road to Blackmore Pond Road. Parking is off the pavement on Blackmore Pond Road less than 0.25 miles from County Road. This area is managed by the Wareham Land Trust.

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Open Space/Open Skies



Land Trust board members Bob Gleason and Lori Benson, field specialist Jesse Ferreira, and MA Audubon's Gina Purtell were part of the volunteer team raising a fallen osprey platform in early spring 2013.



Baby ruby-throated hummingbird



Ducks in flight



Osprey



Yellow-crowned night heron

From the land to the sky: when we protect our land, we protect their habitat. When we protect our coastline, we protect their feeding grounds. Saving our open spaces is critical to all of these beloved visitors and residents.

Wareham Land Trust

A Love Song

I grew up in a very rural area of Rhode Island. Behind our house were acres upon acres of trees, massive boulder formations we referred to as “the rock garden,” and miles of snowmobile trails to meander during any season. I was lucky enough to be a member of the last generation allowed to roam free as children. I never got lost, I never got hurt. I did climb a lot of trees. My father gave me the precious gift of appreciating the outdoors. He brought us out in December to gather creeping jenny evergreens and make our own wreaths. He brought me to the Trestle Trail at the end of our street in springtime. I didn’t really understand the Appalachian Trail at the time but we stood there together and he said “you could walk this trail all the way from Maine to Georgia.” I was stunned. I looked down at the gravelly road beneath my canvas keds in awe. “Maine to Georgia.” A moment I never forgot. He took us camping in the White Mountains and he climbed Mt. Washington many times. Later, he introduced my husband to the trails and they scaled Mt. Katahdin in Maine together. One of the first Christmas gifts we gave as a married couple was an AMC (Appalachian Mountain Club) membership to my dad. It was one of the very few times I saw him cry. It was something he’d always wanted, he said.

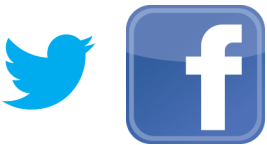
My husband was raised near the water in Onset. The beach and the marshes were his sanctuaries. Not every child grows up with a home that is as sheltering and protected as it should be. For him, the beach was a means of escape: somewhere he could always go and find

peace and serenity. Later, as we wandered back through his childhood memories together, we learned that the connection he felt with the water saved him. Now we watch those same sunsets over the North Water Street beach. We paddle lazily around Broad and Muddy Coves in our canoe. We are at peace. It was a serendipitous moment to discover the Wareham Land Trust. Here was an organization that protected the lands that speak to both of our histories. The Heron Point and Old Pasture Loop trails at the Great Neck Wildlife Sanctuary give me back my childhood meanderings in the woods. They give him back lazy summer moments in the sun. There is a curving bend along the Heron Point Loop where the evergreens surround you, rise up like a cathedral and embrace you. The end of the trail spills out to a lovely view of the marsh and the osprey nest. You can lean on the fence post and breathe it all in for a while. You are at peace.

Take a child for a walk in the great outdoors along one of the properties that the Wareham Land Trust has worked so hard to preserve. Create those memories that last forever. Give the gift of protecting the landscape that gives so much and asks so little in return. Give what you can and encourage others to help us purchase and conserve even more of the precious coastline of Wareham. Nature will sing for you.

—Carleen M. Loper

“NATURE SINGS
HER MOST
EXQUISITE
SONGS TO
THOSE THAT
LOVE HER.”
—HELEN KELLER



This past year the Wareham Land Trust has tried to find new ways to communicate information to its members as well as reach out to potential new ones.

As part of that effort, we now post regular updates to both Facebook and Twitter. Find us and friend us on facebook: www.facebook.com/warehamlandtrust. Follow us on Twitter @WarehamLT.



Osprey Overlook Trail, Great Neck



Marshland near Little Harbor.

**"THE EARTH HAS
MUSIC FOR
THOSE WHO
LISTEN."
— GEORGE
SANTANAYA**

WLT Seeking National Accreditation

An important public notice was posted in September of last year. The Wareham Land Trust applied for accreditation with the Land Trust Alliance (LTA).

"The Land Trust Alliance promotes voluntary private land conservation to benefit communities and natural systems. They are the national convener, strategist and representative of more than 1,700 land trusts across America."¹

The Wareham Land Trust has been a member of the LTA since its inception in 2001. In 2007, founding member Mary McFadden joined the Alliance's National Council, and became a Board member in 2011.

Independent accreditation is an essential tool in providing assurance of our commitment as well as accountability to the public. The accreditation process verifies that the promise of protecting land "forever" is not only a goal, but a fact backed up by verifiable policies.

Land trusts are important to our communities as they are entrusted to conserve land in perpetuity. A significant part of that promise is to have procedures in place that are successful and sustainable. The Wareham Land Trust policies have been examined and critiqued over the past three years to prepare for the application requirements.

This process involves a serious

commitment of time, energy and work by the Board to insure that we meet national standards for excellence. Earning the accreditation seal denotes a sense of permanence, and is considered a mark of distinction among conservation groups.

The process has strengthened our mission and our resolve! We are confident as the accreditation work continues that we will earn this highly respected designation. What does it mean? It means our members and future members can be increasingly confident in the Land Trust's ability to preserve our diverse lands and treasured resources forever.

¹ www.lta.org

WLT Board Member Honored

In May, WLT Board Member Mack Phinney received a 2012 Guardian Award.

The Guardian Award is the highest honor bestowed by the Buzzards Bay Coalition. The Coalition is dedicated to the protection, restoration, and sustainable use of the Bay.

The award honors those not only for what they have

achieved, but for how they inspire others.

Mack, a retired Wareham environmental sciences teacher, has spent years working on Bay restoration projects and organizing and leading educational programs.

He is chair of the Wareham Land Trust's Events Committee.



Mack Phinney

**"ADOPT THE PACE OF NATURE.
HER SECRET IS PATIENCE."
—RALPH WALDO EMERSON**

Wareham Land Trust

Have You Seen Us? Join us!

- Garden Club Presentations: “Preservation of Buzzards Bay” and Ecolandscaping co-sponsored with Buzzards Bay Coalition
- Native Pollinators—Birds, Bees, Butterflies and More
- Friday Forest Walks, Nature Talks and Author Visits at Great Neck with MA Audubon
- Natural History of the American Oystercatcher
- Swan Festival
- National Moth Week
- Recycle for Conservation Yard Sale
- Cranberry Harvest Festival
- The Lives of South Coast Ospreys
- River Ecology and Restoration
- Saving Endangered Sea Turtles



Bumblebee and Lilac

Programs are advertised locally and via membership emails and Facebook postings. Please join us at a future event!

It Takes More Than a Village

Over the years, the Wareham Land Trust has collaborated with other regional and state organizations like the Buzzards Bay Coalition and MA Audubon. Through these collaborations, and with strong support from Wareham citizens through local matches provided by Wareham’s Community Preservation funding, we have brought millions of dollars in federal and state conservation funding to Wareham. This has enabled us to protect hundreds of acres of land in our town, and in the last decade the percentage of Wareham’s protected open space has quadrupled.

“STUDY NATURE,
LOVE NATURE,
STAY CLOSE TO
NATURE. IT WILL
NEVER FAIL
YOU.” — FRANK
LLOYD WRIGHT



Committed and involved.: WLT members at the Massachusetts Land Conservation Conference.



Volunteers in their natural habitat.

The Wareham Land Trust is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to protecting and conserving Wareham's open space and natural resources. All gifts and bequests to the WLT are tax-deductible within IRS guidelines. With 54 miles of shoreline, Wareham claims some of the most breathtaking landscapes in the Commonwealth. From bogs to barrier beaches, forests to farmlands, we are surrounded by a diversity of lands and natural resources.

Membership

Join our efforts to preserve Wareham's open space and natural resources today!

Membership Categories

Individual:	\$10.	\$ _____
Family:	\$20	\$ _____
Supporting:	\$25	\$ _____
Friend:	\$50	\$ _____
Sustaining:	\$100	\$ _____
Sponsor:	\$250	\$ _____
Benefactor:	\$500	\$ _____
Lifetime:	\$1,000	\$ _____
Incorporator:	\$5,000	\$ _____
Conservation Leader	\$10,000	\$ _____

(or land donation):

Other Contribution: \$ _____

Corporate Membership Opportunities: Please contact us for more information.

Name _____
Address _____
Town/State/Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Please send contributions to:

The Wareham Land Trust Inc.

P O Box 718

Wareham MA 02571-0718

Please visit us online: www.warehamland.org or call 508-295-0211

membership@warehamland.org



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