

From the Executive Director



We've had such an exciting fall with new programming at the schools, farmers harvesting produce at the farm, a fourth annual Harvest Fest event with nearly 200 community members attending and four stunning new properties added to our portfolio of permanently protected lands. Some of FLT's good work is highlighted in this newsletter and I hope it provides a sense of the ways the Falmouth Land Trust is a vital part of our civic fabric. It is heartening to see so much interest in the mission of our land trust and to watch the ways FLT impacts our community. I am reminded that a strong land trust and a supportive community go hand-in-hand and I am thankful that this organization is able to make a difference on so many levels. We look forward to continuing to serve our community by conserving our beautiful landscape, connecting people (especially our youth) to the land, and by keeping accessible the open spaces that define Falmouth, Maine.

Jenny Grimm, Executive Director

Ways of Giving to Falmouth Land Trust

Your Support is What Keeps Us Going and Makes our Community Green

Please consider giving a gift to the Falmouth Land Trust Annual Fund campaign this year. The Annual Fund is the source of support that enables the land trust to operate. Our annual fund is comprised entirely of donations from individuals, families, businesses, corporations, and foundations. Gifts may also be made as memorials or tributes to honor loved ones.

Annual Gifts please consider a yearly gift by donating online at www.falmouthlandtrust.org or by mailing your check to Falmouth Land Trust, Attn: Development, P.O. Box 6172, Falmouth, Maine 04105. Annual gifts provide donors with an immediate tax deduction for the full gift amount.

Monthly Giving please consider making a monthly gift, which allows for the convenience of being a monthly donor while providing ongoing support and stability for the work of FLT. Your gift will automatically be charged monthly to your credit card. You are able to adjust your giving level or cancel your commitment at any time.

Gifts of Securities you may wish to consider the benefits of making a gift of securities. Some donors find that a gift of this type can provide significant tax advantages. Giving stock that has been held for more than 12 months offers two-fold tax savings: a tax deduction for the full market value of the stock on the day of the gift and capital gains may be avoided.

Matching Gifts many local corporations sponsor matching-gift programs by which an employee's charitable donation is matched with a contribution by the corporation. In this way, donors can easily leverage the value of their contribution; in some cases, the matching contribution is as high as three to one.

FLT Membership this year FLT began a membership program. If you are a regular trail user or enjoy our properties, please consider becoming a member as well as a donor. Membership is a great way to show affiliation with your local land trust. Membership benefits include discounts on programs, free use of gear, and an annual membership sticker.

YES! I/we wish to support land preservation in Falmouth and would like to give a tax deductible gift of:

Supporter: \$25.00 \$50.00 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$ _____

Name(s) _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Credit Card Payment (Please circle one) Visa / Mastercard

Cardholder's name: _____

Card# _____ CVV# _____ Exp. Date _____

My check, payable to Falmouth Land Trust, is enclosed.

I wish to provide a recurring gift to the Falmouth Land Trust.

Please charge my credit card in the following amount with the following frequency:

\$ _____ Amount of recurring charge (please provide credit card info above)

Monthly Quarterly Semiannually Annually

Please contact me about: A gift of stock Protecting my land Granting a conservation easement

You may also contribute online at www.falmouthlandtrust.org

Land Conservation Update

"I love being part of an organization that is shaping the future of our community" - Tommy Johnson



Historic Morrill Farm – Stilling's Grant

- Acres Conserved: 27.5
- Type Project: Land Donation to FLT
- Project Timeline: 2017 - 2018
- Benefits: One of the oldest farms in Falmouth, records show it was originally purchased by John Morrill Jr. from the Waldo family in 1798. John Morrill's daughters became the owners in the early 1800s. At one point, the farm was a productive Peony farm, and Mt. Washington could be seen from the top of the field. This year, Bruce and Suzanne Stillings, who have owned the farm since 1998, ensured that the farm will be protected forever. The Stillings are donating the 27+ acres of fields and woods to the Falmouth Land Trust. FLT will conserve the property in perpetuity allowing the wildlife, which is abundant on the property, to continue to thrive in the watershed of Highland Lake. The farm has excellent examples of agricultural heritage stone walls, creating a snapshot of historical farming in rural Maine. In the future, the farm will provide opportunities for birdwatching and walks in a peaceful wooded area.

permanent protection as a natural area. The North Falmouth community forest is part of a contiguous block of habitat consisting of approximately 400 acres of upland mixed hardwoods. North Falmouth is one of the most beloved mountain biking spots in southern Maine and it is full of trails that suit walkers, bikers and runners. It is also one of the most remote natural areas in Falmouth, making it an attractive haven for wildlife such as fishers, porcupines, bobcats, and songbirds.

Stillings Field

- Acres Conserved: 25.6
- Project Timeline: 2016 - 2018
- Type of Project: FLT Easement, Town-owned Property
- Benefits: This open space provides a potential for meadow habitat as well as woods edge habitat suitable for swooping predators such as owls and myotis (mouse-eared) bats, which need wide spaces to hunt insects. This scenic field, located along

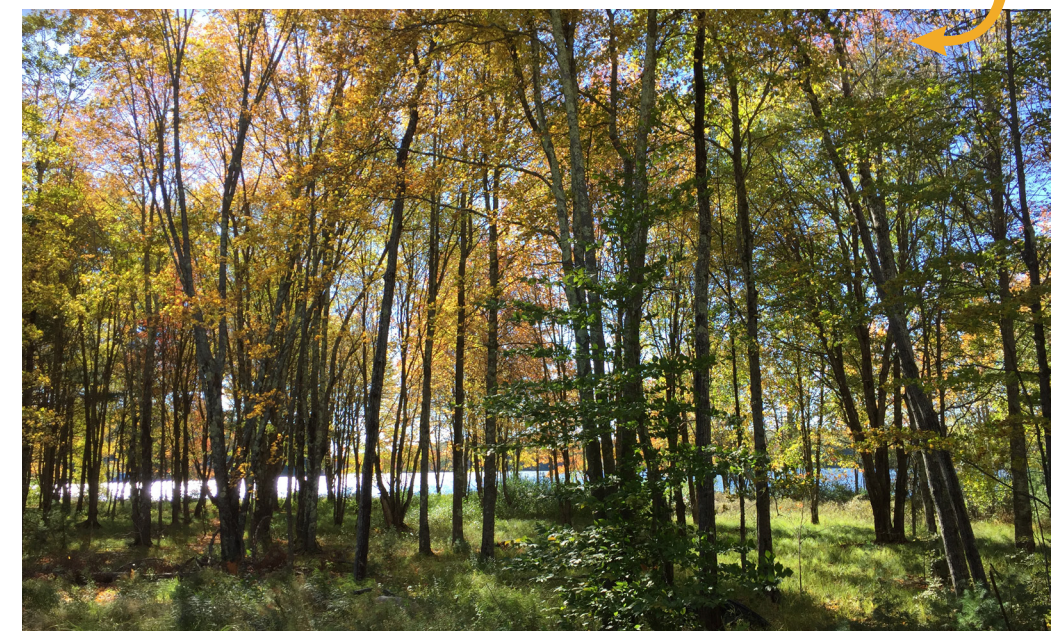
Blackstrap Road, provides a viewshed for bikers and others passing along the road corridor. There is a small parking area in the southern corner of the property with access to the trails and field.

Suckfish II – Suckfish Conservation Area

- Acres Conserved: 31.58
- Project Timeline: 2016 - 2018
- Type of Project: Easement, Town-owned Property
- Benefits: This project protects the shore of Highland Lake from future development, thus safeguarding the water quality and endangered aquatic species identified in the area. The property also provides habitat for Bald Eagles, which in the last decade were removed from the endangered species list, and other native wildlife species in the mixed hardwood uplands that comprise much of this property.

Buck-Chase Parcel – North Falmouth Community Forest

- Acres Conserved: 106.8
- Project Timeline: 2015 - 2018
- Type of Project: FLT Easement, Town-owned Property
- Benefits: This addition to the North Falmouth Community Forest ensures its



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Falmouth Land Trust is grateful to local businesses for lending their support to keep Falmouth green and healthy!

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CONSERVING LAND IN OUR COMMUNITY
FROM 1981 'TIL FOREVER

Our heartiest appreciation to the restaurants that continue to support the Falmouth Land Trust by proving delicious food at the Harvest Fest each year.

THANK YOU

- The Foreside Tavern
- Town Landing Market
- Millie's Skillet
- Orchid Thai
- Ricetta's
- Rivalries

Falmouth Land Trust's mission is to preserve and care for fields, forests, farms, and shorelines, in the Town of Falmouth, while maintaining the historical character and nurturing an enduring stewardship and enjoyment of the land.

PO Box 6172
Falmouth ME 04105
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207-200-5488

CONSERVING LAND IN OUR COMMUNITY
FROM 1981 'TIL FOREVER



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jennifer Grimm

A Falmouth Land Trust newsletter to the community **Fall 2018**



SHAPING THE FUTURE: JUNIOR NATURALIST & YOUTH LEADERS TEAM UP WITH FALMOUTH LAND TRUST.

Falmouth Land Trust continues to strengthen its programming with young people in an effort to connect our community members and their families to our landscape. Kate Nicoll, FLT's outreach and education coordinator, is working with elementary schoolers in an afternoon program offering aspiring junior naturalists the opportunities to learn more about the world they inhabit. Kate continues to offer recess trail walks during the day at Falmouth



Young Naturalists at Falmouth Elementary School

Elementary School allowing students a quieter outdoor option to recess excitement. At the high school level, FLT is hosting five Falmouth seniors who have selected the Land Trust as the organization they will serve during a leadership development program being piloted this year with the Service Learning Club. The seniors will work on stewardship and management activities to help sustain the ecological values and improve access at the McCrann Preserve.

LAND CONSERVATION UPDATE: NEW PROPERTIES PROTECTED.

The Falmouth Land Trust has permanently conserved 1,700 acres of land in Falmouth since its inception in 1981. Our portfolio includes 48 parcels of land – some private, some public and some owned in fee by our organization. This year we have added newly protected acres to our list of forever open spaces. See page 3 for additional information about the new properties.

FARM UPDATE: FIRST FARMING SEASON A SUCCESS!

In its first growing season, the Hurricane Valley Farm produced approximately 11,000 pounds of locally grown produce for families in Maine. This amount of food represents a milestone for our community as well as the Hurricane Valley Farm project, which has a long-term vision to develop sustainable agriculture over the next decade. The 62-acre property was purchased by the Falmouth Land Trust in 2015. Next year, our partner, Cultivating Community, anticipates adding additional garden plots to the community gardening area, expanding the number of participating farmers and developing a small apiary program for honey and pollination. This past summer, Cultivating Community had four farmers working at the Hurricane Valley Farm growing vegetables for markets in their farmer training program, which will also be expanding in the future. The trails at HVF are open to people who wish to take a walk or run on the property.



First harvest at Hurricane Valley Farm