

# WILDLANDS NEWS

Spring 2006

## Mission Statement

*The Wildlands Trust of Southeastern Massachusetts is a nonprofit organization dedicated to land conservation and the preservation of the natural heritage of Southeastern Massachusetts. The Wildlands Trust holds its lands in trust to benefit the public today and for future generations. The Trust actively seeks to acquire and protect lands in a natural state, according to each opportunity's distinctive characteristics and needs. The Wildlands Trust also seeks to educate the public about the importance of land conservation; to advance the study and conservation of native flora and fauna; to promote cooperation with those who share the Trust's goals; and to encourage prudent public policy toward land.*

*The Wildlands Trust of Southeastern Massachusetts may protect land in Plymouth, Norfolk, Bristol, and Barnstable counties.*

*For information about membership or the benefits of conveying land or conservation (including agricultural) restrictions to the Trust, call or write to the address below. The Wildlands Trust administrative offices are located at 165 West Street, Duxbury.*

THE WILDLANDS TRUST  
OF SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS  
P.O. BOX 2282  
Duxbury, MA 02331  
Phone: (781) 934-9018  
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[www.wildlandstrust.org](http://www.wildlandstrust.org)

SAVING the SPECIAL PLACES  
of SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS  
SINCE 1973

## 2005 ANNUAL REPORT ENCLOSED

## TRUST PARTNERS WITH TOWN OF PLYMOUTH TO ESTABLISH OUTSTANDING COASTAL PRESERVE



This two phase project conserves  
a sizable block of acreage with  
high-quality pitch pine/scrub oak  
woodlands and beach frontage.

ON FEBRUARY 17, the Trust acquired a 49-acre conservation restriction, or "CR", on a parcel the Town of Plymouth recently acquired from the Joslin Diabetes Center in scenic southeast Plymouth. The parcel lies on the west side of Center Hill Road in Cedarville/Ellisville and adjacent to Cape Cod Bay. This is the first phase of one of the most exciting coastal projects to occur on the South Shore in some time.

AS THE ACCOMPANYING map demonstrates, this two phase project conserves a sizable block of acreage with high-quality pitch pine/scrub oak woodlands and extensive beach frontage. The Phase I parcel, purchased by the town and now permanently protected by the Trust, is a rolling, primarily wooded tract that offers sweeping views of Cape Cod Bay from its eastern edges. It extends from Rt. 3A on the west to Center Hill Road on the east, abutting several

cranberry bogs to the northwest. It is also adjacent to the northeast corner of the 656-acre Ellisville Harbor Area of Critical Environmental Concern(ACEC).

THE TOWN USED COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT monies to acquire the property last November following an intensive effort by the Community Preservation Committee and the Trust to ensure that it was not sold for development. The property's former owner, the Joslin Diabetes Center, preferred to sell the land for conservation, but was actively marketing the property and was prepared to sell to the highest bidder.

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SAVE THE DATE!  
ANNUAL MEETING  
SATURDAY | JUNE 10 | DUXBURY



## TRUST ESTABLISHES PIONEER PRESERVES IN DIGHTON & WHITMAN

As the winter solstice beckoned, the Trust welcomed two new communities into its protected land portfolio by acquiring donations of land in Dighton and Whitman, thereby expanding the Trust's land base to include 26 communities across Southeastern Massachusetts.

In Dighton, the Trust acquired a 3.4-acre parcel from Jeff Philbrook on December 13, the Trust's first acquisition in this southern Bristol County community. The land is wooded, includes an intermittent stream that drains into the nearby Taunton River,



The land is wooded  
and includes an  
intermittent stream.

and abuts the woodlands and pastures of the Bristol County Agricultural School on three sides. The parcel also abuts land owned by the Town of Dighton as well as an old railroad bed. Mr. Philbrook has observed a wide variety of wildlife species on the land.

Mr. Philbrook lives adjacent to the donated parcel in a home on eight acres that has been in his family for many years, and his late parents nurtured a lifelong fondness for the woods and fields they cultivated. According to Mr. Philbrook, he donated the land in *continued on page 5*

## CR PROTECTS ACQUIFER & OPEN SPACE IN MARSHFIELD

The Wildlands Trust has completed a Conservation Restriction on the 9-acre Becksmad parcel purchased by the Town of Marshfield using Community Preservation Act (CPA) monies. This is the second such CPA collaboration between Marshfield and the Trust. The parcel, located within a Zone II Water Protection District, was purchased for well-head protection and is managed by the Department of Public Works (DPW). Protection of this parcel will preserve Biomap Core habitat, increase the 770-acre Carolina Hill Reservation (Marshfield conservation land), and



The parcel is located  
within a Zone II Water  
Protection District.

enhance recreational opportunities for local residents.

Jay Wennemer, Marshfield's Conservation Administrator, said that "We are not buying enough land fast enough to keep pace with development. Saving this parcel with the Trust's assistance was a "win-win" because it protects a critical piece of the aquifer for our public water supply and expands existing conservation land in the area." The Trust thanks the Marshfield Department of Public Works and Community Preservation Committee for partnering with us on this project. ♡

## SPRING 2006 PROGRAMS



### BETTY ANDERSON'S WOLF TRAP HILL FARM: AN OWNER'S OBSERVATIONS AND A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Wednesday, April 26 – 7:30 PM  
Middleborough Town Hall

Join the Wildlands Trust and Mass Audubon for a presentation about the incredible natural resource findings of Betty Anderson on her Wolf Trap Hill Farm in Middleborough and their placement in the context of global warming by Dr. Richard Primack, Professor of Biology at Boston University.

Betty Anderson has lived on the farm for more than fifty years and kept daily dated records of her natural history observations. She has catalogued some 180 species of birds and 31 of the 40 mammalian species known to exist in

S. E. Massachusetts, as well as a number of rare plant species, snakes, butterflies, dragonflies, damselflies, rare amphibians, and turtles. She has noted when the first flowers of a number of species open and when the first migrating birds arrive.

Professor Primack is a world-renowned plant ecologist and author of *Essentials of Conservation Biology*, the leading textbook in the field of conservation biology, now published in eighteen foreign language editions. He and his students have spent several years investigating the impact of global climate change on the birds and plants of Massachusetts, including those on Betty Anderson's farm. He will present the intriguing findings of his latest work.

### Directions from North, East, and West:

Route 44 to Route 105 in Middleborough, south on Route 105 to Middleborough Center, through the stoplights to Town Hall ahead on the right.

### From South:

Route 105 to Middleborough Center

### TEN WILD PHOTOS; TEN WILD PLACES

Wednesday, May 17 – 7:30 PM  
Duxbury Public Library

Join noted wildlife photographer and naturalist Mark Wilson for a unique slide program that explores some of his best photos taken over 20 years in some surprising places. Mark will present ten select images. Each image

will be discussed in-depth as to how and why it was made. Supporting photos will help explain. Topics of discussion will include photo techniques, equipment, ethics and natural history and staying comfortable and healthy in harsh environments. Aspiring beginner photographers and traveled veterans alike will be inspired to assess and improve their own work. Non-photographers get to peek under the lens cap and see how a pro comes up with knock-out photos. The program will wind up with a visit from several live owls. Owls are a favorite photo subject of Mark's. Marcia Wilson, Mark's wife, will introduce the birds.

Mark Wilson is a staff photographer for the Boston Globe where he currently covers the Globe North region. Over the years he has written regular columns on photography and birds for the Globe. His wildlife photos have appeared in a wide variety of publications including National Geographic (Oct. 1992 cover, bullfrog).

### Directions:

Take Route 3 to exit 11. Follow Route 14 east. Go straight through lights at Route 3A, then 0.5 miles to Alden St. Turn right on Alden. Library is second building on left. Park behind building and enter through lower door.

Photo: Mark Wilson

### Robert Buck Memorial Program WHO'S WATCHING YOU? OWLS OF THE WORLD

Wednesday, May 24 – 6:30 PM  
Plymouth Public Library

Join naturalist Marcia Wilson and photographer Mark Wilson as they share their passion for owls! "Who's Watching You? Owls of the World" will introduce you to the owls of New England and beyond. Some owls such as Great Horned, Barred and Eastern Screech Owls are more common than you may think. Boreal owls and Great Gray owls are a rare find here, yet are found on other continents, too. Others, like Snowy Owls, Eurasian eagle owls and familiar

Barn Owls, feature in popular movies and nature programs. Mark and Marcia will share the field marks, signs, and naturalist's skills that you can use to find wild owls without disturbing them, while introducing you to six live owls up close. Everyone is treated to a hooting lesson, as well as tips on how to attract and protect owls near you.

### Directions:

Route 3 to Exit 5. If traveling from the North, turn left at the end of the exit and proceed straight thru 2 traffic lights. If traveling from the South turn right at the end of the exit and proceed straight thru 1 traffic light. The Library is just ahead at the bottom of the hill on the right.





# TRUST RECEIVES MAJOR GRANT FOR TAUNTON WATERSHED INITIATIVE

The Trust has received a grant of \$50,000 from the Sheehan Family Foundation to lead the land conservation component of the Taunton River Watershed Campaign.

According to Meg Sheehan, a trustee of the Sheehan Family Foundation, “We wanted to build on the Trust’s long-standing commitment to the Taunton River’s important and still undeveloped land resources and it’s proven record of success in saving land in the watershed. Our foundation believes that this is a critical juncture for this truly “wild and scenic” watershed—we know that the Trust will give its all to the Campaign partners and to strategic conservation.”

The Trust’s land protection staff, Gabriela Silva and Scott MacFaden, and Trust executive director Mark Primack will work as a team on this project. According to Gabriela, “This is a very exciting opportunity for us to have a lasting impact on some of the largest and most significant lands remaining in Eastern Massachusetts. We know that work in this area can be challenging, but with the energy and expertise of our partners we know that we can achieve some lasting protection of outstanding wildlife habitat, the character of our communities, and provide our grandchildren with learning experiences and outdoor recreational opportunities.”

As part of the Campaign, a Mini-grants program will help fund local projects that protect land and water resources within the Taunton River Watershed. A total of \$11,700 in grant monies was recently awarded to 13 local groups. Five projects seek to advance passage of the Community Preservation Act in

5 towns in the watershed—Lakeville, Wrentham, Plympton, Raynham, and Carver—while the other 8 projects will help build public support for conservation by raising awareness about the significant resources that characterize the region. Check the Taunton River Watershed Campaign website at [www.savethetaunton.org](http://www.savethetaunton.org) to learn more about current happenings in this area.

Our key partners in this initiative include the Taunton River Watershed Alliance, The Nature Conservancy, Save the Bay, and the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District; also The Trustees of Reservations, Mass Audubon, Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, Environmental League of Massachusetts, and Trust for Public Land. 🌿



## THE TRUST’S GOALS FOR THIS EXCITING NEW INITIATIVE:

- IDENTIFY KEY PARCELS based on their natural resource, agricultural, archeological, scenic, and recreational values and on their role in protecting water quality and quantity;
- DEVELOP PRIORITIES for land conservation from among the areas identified as being of significance;
- COORDINATE and ENCOURAGE LAND PROTECTION by other nonprofit organizations and state and federal agencies;
- ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE EFFORTS, including passage of the Community Preservation Act and smart zoning, and provide technical assistance to municipal land conservation projects;
- DEVELOP and IMPLEMENT landowner outreach strategies;
- MONITOR the status of priority parcels and alert others in the Campaign and local communities of threats.

# TRUST ACQUIRES PRESERVE ON BLACKWATER POND IN KINGSTON

On December 28, the Trust acquired a 12.9-acre gift of land on Blackwater Pond in north Kingston from sisters Pam Ruffini and Linda Gangi. The parcel is part of a larger holding on both sides of Winthrop Street that has been in the sisters’ family for over eighty-five years. It was subdivided in 2003 from the larger property. The sisters had been engaged in discussions with the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game, which had considerable interest in acquiring their land because of its outstanding habitat values. However, the agency last year referred the project to the Trust because the project seemed to be a more appropriate fit for us than for the Department.

The donated land includes frontage on Winthrop Street, some upland, extensive areas of Atlantic Cedar Swamp, two streams draining into Blackwater Pond, and approximately 400 feet of frontage on the western shore of the pond. One of the most scenic ponds in the region, Blackwater Pond offers a near-wilderness feel with its primarily undeveloped shoreline and



The 12.9 acre parcel has been in the family for over 85 years.

surrounding stands of dense cedar. The pond is not easily approached from any direction, and it receives few visitors. Most of the parcels adjacent to the pond are undeveloped, including a sizable holding owned by the Town of Kingston.

Blackwater Pond and its associated wetlands comprise one of the richest and most ecologically diverse sites anywhere in the region. It contains several unusual habitat types, including cedar swamps, a black spruce bog, and a shrub bog. Former Trust biologist Brian Reid’s assessment of the area indicated that the Atlantic White Cedar swamp appeared to exceed 100 acres in extent, one of the larger remaining examples in the region of this once-commonplace habitat; that the Black Spruce Bog is one of only three known locations in Southeastern Massachusetts where black spruce occurs; that the shrub bog located on the southwest side of the pond (a portion of which may occur on the donated land) supports a population of pitcher plants, a very uncommon species in the region; and that there were no invasive species of any kind.

The Trust extends its thanks to Pam and Linda for their generous contribution to conservation in Kingston, and to Land Agent Joan Pierce at the Division of Fish and Game for referring the project to us. 🌿

## ...PIONEER PRESERVES IN DIGHTON & WHITMAN

(continued from page 2)

order “to continue to have a home for my friends—the mink, muskrat, box turtle, fox, birds and native plants—and at the same time a sort of living memorial to my parents Wayne and Flora who passed on to many people their appreciation of the natural world.”

The Trust extends its thanks to Mr. Philbrook for his generous gift, and we will endeavor to emulate the Philbrook family’s good stewardship.

Moving northward to Whitman, the Trust received a 3.92-acre donation of land from Mary Claire Smedile on

December 21, the Trust’s first acquisition of any kind in Whitman.

The wooded parcel sits in the northeast corner of town, adjacent to a portion of the Whitman Town Forest and also adjacent to other undeveloped properties that extend to the Rockland town line. This corner of Whitman is enough removed from the bustle of the rapidly growing South Shore to offer a surprisingly peaceful refuge, and is a reminder that our region still harbors a multitude of quiet havens that aren’t apparent at first glance.

Ms. Smedile intends to follow her initial donation with an additional gift of an abutting four-acre parcel sometime this year.

She elected to donate her property because “I wanted my land to stay in its natural state, and to continue to provide a haven for the wildlife that shares the area with us”.

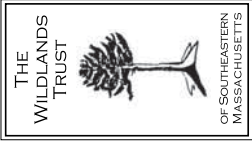
The Trust is grateful to Ms. Smedile for her contribution to conservation, and for helping us to establish a presence in Whitman and northwestern Plymouth County. 🌿



Rochelle S. Albin; Alden School O'Neil Farm Walkathon Participants; Paula & Anthony Allen; Mr. & Mrs. Walter Amory; Ms. Karen Anderson; Stephen Anderson; Phil Angell; Regina Angell; Jeff & Amy Annis; Anonymous; Steven & Anne Antonellis; Pat & Sam Aprea; Mr. & Mrs. F. A. Archibald, Jr.; Alison Arnold; Art by Hedda; Bafflin Foundation; Rollin W. Bailey; Jeffrey & Peggie Baker; David Balboni; Marcia Ballou; Daniel C. & Rosalie Barrett; Mr. & Mrs. John F. Barrett; Joan Barry; Betty Magoun Bates; Nicholas & Susan Bates; John & Catherine Bear; Marc Beattie; Mr. & Mrs. Mark N. Bell; Phil & Kathi Benjamin; Bennett's General Store; Ellen Berall; R. Bruce & Georgine Berridge; Mary Kathryn Bertelli; Arthur & Eileen Bertoni; David & Lisa Betteridge; Thomas & Maura Bickford; J. Leonard & Dorothy Bicknell; Ms. Gertrude F. Bicknell; Mary Ann **Binsfield**; Cherry R. Bishop; Linwood Blaisdell; **The** Bobseine Family; Bongis Turkey Roost; Mr. Allen M. Bornheimer; Mr. & Mrs. Hamilton B. Bowman; Bonnie Boyd & Jennifer **Leighton**; Tom & Colleen Brayer; Patrick Brennan; **Patrick** & Kellie Bresnehan; Elizabeth Breuer Stacey; Anne Briggs; Maryann E. Brink & Jonathan Chur; Shirley A. Brown; **Rick B.** Burnet; Marjorie A. Burns; Margarita S. Burpee; **Mr. & Mrs. Samuel** Butcher; Jill A. R. Cadigan; Robert & Kathleen Carr; F. Sherburne & Shirley Carter; Steven & **Janis Carvalho**; Mr. & Mrs. Paul Casale; Peter T. Case; **Deborah J. Caso**; Lindsay H. Cavanagh; The Cesarin Family; Marilyn Chadwick; Jeffrey & Susan Chandler; Seth & Mrs. Ernest A. Chandler, Jr.; Sam & Caroline Chapin; **Aileen** Sanger Chase; Scott & Cheryl Chatlin; Rebecca & Chuck Chin; Dr. & Mrs. **Leo T. Chylack**; **John & Jeanne** Clark; John M. Clark; Richard & Barbara Cleary; **Mr. & Mrs. Frederic** Clifford; Mr. & Mrs. Stewart B. Clifford; Wayne L. Clough; Sally J. **Cochrane**; **Federic & Betsey** Cole; **Ann M. Collins**; Jill Collins; Thelma V. Collins; Mr. & Mrs. **Michael A. Collora**; **Commonwealth** of Massachusetts; Bonnie C. Conant; Diane & **Frederick Conley**; Kevin & Anne **Conlon**; **Marsha** Connor; Diane Connors; Mr. & Mrs. **Donald L. Connors**; **Consumers'** Medical Resource; Mr. & Mrs. John Conway; **Jonathan Cook & Diane Aglier-Cook**; **John & Barbara** D. Cook; Patricia S. Cook; Henrietta & **Donald Cosentino**; **Richard & Leah** Cotton; Mr. & Mrs. Charles Cousins; Mr. & Mrs. **Richards** Cowen; Alan **Crandon**; **Peter & Debbie** Cressman; Amanda Currul; Sarah T. Curtin; Mr. **David S. Cutler & Reverend** Catherine Cullen; Carolyn F. Dailey; Steven J. Daley; Mr. & Mrs. Douglas **Danner**; **Mr. & Mrs. Douglas** Dapprich; Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Davenport; Sarah & **John Davenport**; Mr. & Mrs. Allen F. Davis; Sylvia Davison; **Dr. & Mrs. C. R. de Burlo**, Jr.; **Mr. & Mrs. David** DeGhetto; Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Delano; Mr. & Mrs. **Brackett Dennis**on; Mr. & Mrs. E. P. Devnew, Jr.; Michael & Betty Dewire; **Mrs. Laura C. Dhooge**; **Holly A. 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Gill III**; **Caroline & Hillary Goings**; **Dr. & Mrs. Robert A. Goodell**, Jr.; **Mr. H. Shippen Goodhue**; **Patricia Gorman**; Kevin J. & **Kathleen A. Gould**; **Dr. David H. Gould**; **Jeff Gray & Bettina Lesieur**; **Mrs. Judith Gray White**; **Jillian Green**; Beth & Mike **Gregg**; **Anne** & Charles Gregory; **Marianne Griffin Crane**; Mark A. **Grimason**; **Maria & Gregg Griner**; **Donald & Mary Guidoboni**; **Leona M. Guild**; **Mr. & Mrs. Thomas** Guilfoile; Elaine Guilfoyle; **Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Haas**; **Mrs. Anita Haffey**; **Wendy & Chris Hale**; **Anne Philbrick Hall**; **Howard & Judy Hall**; **Jeffrey & Celeste Hall**; Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Hall; **Brendan & Bethann Halligan**; **Abdulkader & Eufrazia Ann Hamadeh**; **John Hamel**; **William & Kathleen Hanlon**; **Shella W. Hannon**; Mr. & Mrs. William Harris; **Elizabeth Harrison**; **Mr. & Mrs. Douglas E. Hart**; **J. C. Hart & L. 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Kennedy**; **Jean & Ted Kennett**; **John Keogh**; **Edith Keppel**; **Mr. Laurence W. King**; **Judy Kiplinger**; **Gerard L. Kirby**; **Mrs. Cailetton Knight**, Jr.; **Paul & Karen Knouse**; **Mr. & Mrs. Dan Kostreva**; **Chad Krahmer**; **The Peter Krusell Family**; **Deborah & Thomas Kuskal**; **Janet & Erik H. Kusins**; **Andrew & Judith Kusmin**; **Mrs. James E. Ladd**; **Allen & Joanne Lahey**; **Peter & Gail Lake**; **Mr. & Mrs. Morgan** Lamarche; **Gregory Lamarche & Mikaela Sardo**; **Margaret & Norman Lamonde**; **Carol Langford**, M.D.; **Miss Gertrude Lanman**; **Mr. Henry Larsen**; **Peter & Molly Larsen**; **Mr. & Mrs. Peter** Lawrence; **Mr. & Mrs. Samuel** Lawson; **Burke & Barbara Leahey**; **Mr. & Mrs. Paul LeFevre**; **Mr. Alan C. F. Leggett**; **John O. Lehner**; **Mr. & Mrs. Charles** Leonard; **Kenneth C. Leonard**, Jr.; **Mr. Joel A. Lerner**; **Bettina Lesieur's Art Students**; **Mr. & Mrs. Howard LeVine**; **Sue Littlefield**; **Mr. & Mrs. Edward B. Long**; **Poppyann M. Longsjö**; **Sarah Loomis Moran**; **Doug Loring**; **Caroline K. Loring**; **Mr. & Mrs. Richard** Loring; **Mr. & Mrs. Stephen B. Loring**; **Mr. & Mrs. David** Lowry; **Mrs. Joan Lyman**; **Frederick T. Lyons**; **Robert & Nancy Lyons**; **Jenny Maas**; **Mary Mabey**; **Audrey A. Macdonald**; **John MacKinnon**; **Margery L. MacMillan**; **Amy, Jen, & Bailey MacNab**; **Eleanor W. Maentz**; **Hans Maentz**; **Mr. & Mrs. Ayaz** Mahmud; **Paige Malone**; **Kevin & Katina Manning**; **William Marks**; **Marshfield Office Supply**; **Robert H. Martin** & **Claire Stanton**; **Laura E. Marwill**; **David Matthews**; **Mark E. Mattson**; **Ann V. Mayeski**; **Elise McAllister**; **Kristen A. McArdle**; **B. McBride**; **Aileen O. McCarthy**; **Rose Mary McCarthy**; **Thomas & Ann McClure**; **John E. & Robin McCluskey**; **Stephen & Regina G. McCormack**; **Sarah McCormick**; **Donald & Brooke McDonough**; **Matt & Claudia McElduff**; **Mr. Edward J. 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# THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE O'NEIL FARM DREAM A REALITY.

We would like to express our gratitude to the countless individuals whose passion, energy, and generosity helped us bring this monumental effort to a successful conclusion. Your support is



what makes it possible for the Wildlands Trust of Southeastern Massachusetts to continue to preserve and protect the special places that we know and love—like O'Neil Farm. Thank You.

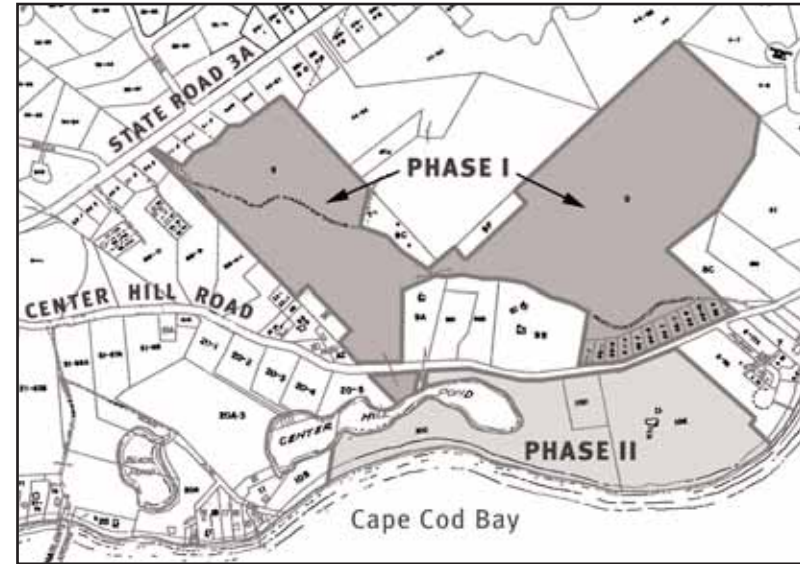


The Phase II parcel supports a rich diversity of habitats, including coastal woodlands, dunes, Center Hill Pond, and 2,800 feet of beachfront on Cape Cod Bay. It lies entirely within the Ellisville Harbor ACEC, and includes a building used by Joslin for summer camps for children with diabetes. The town is considering multiple options for the building's future use. As with most properties

acquired with CPA funds, the properties will be open to the public for passive, nonmotorized recreation and will include two adjacent trailhead parking areas along Center Hill Road. The town and the Trust are already collaborating on designs for the trailhead areas and plans to enhance the existing trails on the Phase II land.

Joslin acquired its Plymouth holdings in 1981 via a bequest from Agnes Trask. The town's acquisition of the 49-acre tract for \$1,675,000, and subsequent granting of the CR to the Trust, completes Phase I of the Center Hill Beach Preservation Project. Phase II is to include the acquisition of the remaining 28 acres on the east side of Center Hill Road, with the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Trust to co-hold a CR on that property. The Town will officially move to acquire the additional acreage in May by seeking Town Meeting authorization to expend \$4 million for this second phase of the project.

However, Plymouth's ultimate outlay for Phase II is likely to be significantly less than the initial cost. With the



Phase I and II of one of the South Shore's most exciting coastal projects.

Trust's assistance, it has obtained a commitment of \$750,000 from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and has submitted a grant to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for \$2.25 million in land acquisition funds. Provided the NOAA grant request is approved in full, the town's final contribution to the Phase II acquisition might be as little as \$500,000, given that the town's projected total contribution of \$1 million includes \$500,000 of Community Preservation Act matching funds from the state.

The Trust has nurtured a long-standing interest in helping to facilitate the preservation of this tract because of its unusual wildlife habitats, size, and beach frontage—in fact it may be the single most significant coastal opportunity anywhere on the South Shore. Trust staff first contacted Joslin in 1999 at the request of the Commonwealth's

Office of Coastal Zone Management. Joslin immediately expressed interest in exploring the possibility of a sale for conservation, as the needs of its summer camp programs had outgrown the capacity of its Plymouth operation, but it also had to consider its fiduciary responsibility to maximize income. The Trust has maintained periodic contact with Joslin since then, and upon learning last

spring that the property was on the market, we immediately notified the town.

According to Plymouth Community Preservation Committee Chair William Keohan, "The success of this project is an example of the critical need for partnerships in implementing the CPA. The Town of Plymouth needed the support and expertise of the Wildlands Trust in helping us to make this acquisition happen. The Trust's Scott MacFaden worked tirelessly and unselfishly on this project. We look forward to continuing our partnership in the future."

The opportunity to acquire any coastal property for conservation along the South Shore is unusual at this juncture in our state's history, but the prospect of acquiring property with the features and appeal of the Joslin land is extraordinary and of the once-in-a-generation variety. The Trust is enthused about completing another CR on land acquired with Community Preservation Act funds in Plymouth, and looks forward to continuing its partnership with the CPC and to the town's prospective acquisition of Joslin's oceanfront acreage later this year. ♡

## DONORS TO WOLF TRAP HILL FARM

Thanks to these donors who helped to save Betty Anderson's Wolf Trap Hill Farm. Funds are in hand, including the State Match, and the project will be completed in the next few months:



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## SEE THE LAND FIRST HAND: JOIN US AS A VOLUNTEER STEWARD

### ADOPT A PRESERVE

With our success in land protection comes the long term task of stewardship. With 4,500 acres in over 140 properties we are increasingly in need of help from volunteers. We would like your help to adopt a preserve. By doing so, you would commit to the following on one or more properties:

1) walking the trails, if there are trails, or driving by the property, once per month at a minimum and keeping a watchful eye on what's happening;

2) picking up any roadside or trailhead trash;

3) completing light trail maintenance like pruning and clipping;

4) letting us know when you've been out, what you've seen, and what ideas you have.

We know there are a few of you already doing this and we'd be happy to formally assign you or a group of your friends to a favorite preserve. See contact below.

### TWO WAYS TO CONTACT US:

1. Simply send an email directly to Jessica Schultz, [jschultz@wildlandstrust.org](mailto:jschultz@wildlandstrust.org) or call her at **781-934-9018**.
2. Go to our website, [www.wildlandstrust.org](http://www.wildlandstrust.org), and complete our new Volunteer Feedback which includes questions to get you thinking about what you've seen. To find it, go to the Membership and Volunteering area, then click on Volunteering and provide us with your feedback. Click submit and the form goes directly to Jessica.



**PROVIDE US FEEDBACK**  
While you're enjoying your walk, we'd love to know your observations. Have you noticed any problems? Have an idea of how we might improve our trails? Let us know that everything looks okay.



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome these new members who joined the Trust between December, 2005, and February, 2006:

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