



Taunton River Greenway: Oxbow Corridor



Taunton River Greenway Gains Ground

A partnership between the Trust and The Nature Conservancy results in the protection of a key property on this Wild and Scenic River.

The Trust took another step toward helping realize the vision of a Taunton River greenway with our recent acquisition of a 45-acre parcel of land along the river, in East Taunton. Purchased with the financial and staff support of our partner organization The Nature Conservancy (TNC), the Trust acquired the property from Easton-based builder Douglas King in late December. Situated on a conspicuous and very scenic bend along the Taunton River, the property contains nearly a mile of river frontage and a diverse range of habitat types, including upland woods, marsh, red maple swamp and riparian woodland. It represents an important addition to our 63-acre Oxbow Preserve located just upstream on the Raynham side of the river.

The Trust and TNC worked for almost four years toward this acquisition. Our efforts began just a few months after the Oxbow Preserve was acquired in September 2008. Coincidentally, Mr. King happened to contact TNC about another matter several months later, and the discussion eventually turned to his extensive holdings along the Taunton River adjacent to the Oxbow. Concurrently, and with the nonprofits' facilitation, Mr. King worked with the United States Department of Agriculture to put a Wetlands Reserve Program easement on a 66-acre parcel directly abutting the Oxbow. The reserve program's primary goal is to restore altered and degraded wetland systems, and provides

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The Wildlands Trust is a non-profit organization dedicated to conserving land and preserving the natural heritage of Southeastern Massachusetts. We work to permanently protect and steward important habitats and landscapes, including woodlands and fields, ponds, coastal areas, agricultural lands, and river systems.
www.wildlandstrust.org

Turning Forty Is a Pretty Big Deal.

From of a handful of visionary individuals, the Trust has grown to thousands of supporters making a difference.



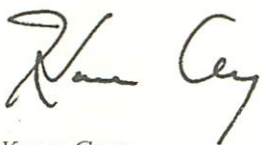
40 YEARS

For most people, by the time you reach forty, maturity has set in and wisdom and perspective are starting to emerge; you are old enough to look back and feel proud of what you have accomplished, but also young enough to continue to look forward and feel inspired and hopeful.

Organizations are no different than people in this regard. A fortieth anniversary is a significant milestone. It's a time to celebrate past accomplishments but more importantly, it's time to reflect upon lessons learned so you can move forward and make the next 40 count for something important and meaningful.

During the upcoming year we will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Wildlands Trust. The Trust was founded in 1973 out of a controversy that was rattling the town of Plymouth. The town had just been selected as the host site for Massachusetts' first nuclear power plant and community fears of melt downs and radiation leaks dominated public meetings and the headlines. While health and safety was of foremost concern for most, another small group of Plymouth residents saw a different kind of threat: a potential influx of new developers looking to take advantage of the promised lower tax rates. In response, this group decided to establish the Wildlands Trust to protect important pieces of open space before they were lost permanently to development.

So many of the organizations we respect and celebrate today were launched under similar circumstances—committed people taking proactive measures to counter a threat. This small group of individuals, who met weekly at the Plymouth Airport snack bar back in 1973, has today grown into a community of thousands across the region who care about the future of our natural heritage. As we prepare to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Trust, the first lesson learned is that our founding members, and all of you who have since joined them, are critical to our success. Only because of your support will the Wildlands Trust be able to keep fighting to preserve the quality of life we all enjoy in southeastern Massachusetts for the next forty years and beyond.



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Executive Director

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Administrative offices are at
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FOR INFORMATION about
membership or the benefits of
conveying land or conservation
restrictions (agricultural included)
to the Trust, call or write:

Wildlands Trust

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A Quartet of Recently Completed Projects Round Out the Latest Acquisitions

Recently protected properties include two that are key additions to riverfront greenways, the Trust's first CPA CR in Kingston, and a parcel adjacent to an existing Trust preserve.

OXBOW PRESERVE ADDITION

The Trust purchased this property in partnership with The Nature Conservancy from Easton-based builder Douglas A. King. See the cover story for more on this important addition to our Oxbow Preserve across the river in Raynham.



Oxbow Preserve Addition

45 ACRES, TAUNTON

River frontage adds to the greenway along the Taunton, a National Wild and Scenic River

- ⦿ Wetlands
- ⦿ Uplands
- ⦿ Mixed Woodlands
- ⦿ River Frontage
- ⦿ Scenic Vistas
- ⦿ Freshwater Habitat
- ⦿ Wildlife Corridor

CALISTA CPA CR

The first CPA CR held by the Trust in Kingston, the Calista property was acquired by the Town with CPA funds in 2010. Frontage on the Jones River, adjacent salt marshes and upland make it a diverse as well as scenic property. Open fields may host a community garden in the future.



Calista CPA CR

10 ACRES, KINGSTON

Diverse property with open fields, scenic vistas, and frontage on Jones River estuary

- ⦿ Salt Marsh
- ⦿ Upland
- ⦿ Upland Fields
- ⦿ River Frontage
- ⦿ Scenic Vistas
- ⦿ Priority Habitat
- ⦿ Historical

SOUTH RIVER PARK CPA CR

This project protects an important link in the emerging South River Greenway. It includes frontage on the South River and is NHESP-designated Priority Wildlife Habitat.



South River Park CPA CR

2.5 ACRES, MARSHFIELD

A small pocket park with a boardwalk overlooking the river, integral component of the South River Greenway

- ⦿ River Frontage
- ⦿ Upland
- ⦿ Wildlife Corridor
- ⦿ Priority Habitat

KEMP DEED RESTRICTION

Donated by Mr. Wallace Kemp, the Kemp DR protects a parcel directly abutting the Trust's Melzar-Hatch Preserve, our oldest preserve in Hanover. A portion of the property's fields are leased to a local dairy farmer for hay production.



Kemp Deed Restriction

2 ACRES, HANOVER

Scenic rolling fields with stone walls support hay production and protect land adjacent to the Melzar-Hatch Preserve

- ⦿ Upland Fields
- ⦿ Scenic Vista
- ⦿ Wildlife Corridor
- ⦿ Agriculture

A Hearty Welcome to Our New Board Members

Changes in position and the arrival of new (and old!) members mark this year's evolution of the board.

Wildlands Trust is fortunate to have a smart and dedicated group of people who contribute their time and talent serving on the board of directors. This year, three members shifted into different positions, allowing them to use their skills in ways that best benefit the Trust. That, along with the arrival of three fresh new members and the return of a seasoned previous member, has made for a well-rounded board.

After six years of commendable service, **Mike Hanlon** of Plymouth has stepped down as Treasurer of the Wildlands Trust. Mike will remain on the Board and is now free to focus his efforts on co-chairing the Davis-Douglas building project along with fellow board member, fellow professional engineer, and fellow Plymouthian, **Sam Chapin**.

Board member **Greg Lucini**, a CPA and business leader from Berkley, has stepped into the position of Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee.

Les Plimpton of Plymouth has resigned from the Board of Directors after 8 years of service, but will also be staying very involved with the Trust through his work on the Davis-Douglas Farm project.

Outdoor enthusiast **Lisa Fortune Creeden** of Middleboro has joined the Board for a three-year term. A medical professional at

the Jordan Hospital, Lisa brings experience in advocacy, volunteerism and small business management, as well as a passion for outdoor recreation.

The Board has gained strong financial and legal expertise with the addition of **Jean Loewenberg** of Plymouth. Jean is the executive vice president of Loomis, Sayles and Company, an investment management group where she serves as general counsel and chief legal officer.

We also welcome Attorney **Scott Ford** of Brockton to the Board for a three year term. Scott, who has served on many committees and boards in the City of Brockton, developed his love for nature while exploring the Trust's 126-acre Brockton Audubon Preserve as a child. He practices law in Boston where he specializes in civil and business litigation.

We all smiled when we learned that former board member and acquisitions committee chair **Gary Langenbach** of Kingston agreed to come out of retirement and serve an additional three year term. Gary's knowledge of land protection is unsurpassed and we have missed his leadership during his recent absence from the board.

We look forward to working together and having an exciting, productive 40th year.

MEET A MEMBER



Member: Carpenter Family
Hometown: Hanson, MA
Joined: February 2008

Will Carpenter joined the Trust "so our family can benefit from the great work you do to protect and preserve our local treasures." Will is continuing a family legacy of supporting land protection. His mother, Ruth, was a huge advocate of conservation and the Trust. Exploring open spaces and taking the kids for walks in the woods was one of her passions. "Our fondest memories of her include going for long walks on the beach and wandering around the Tucker Preserve and Willow Brook Farm areas."

SERIOUS CYCLES OFFERS DISCOUNTS TO TRUST MEMBERS



Now you can get 10% off service, parts and accessories when you present your valid Wildlands Trust membership card at Serious Cycles in Plymouth. We thank them and all our participating retailers for their generous support!

Wildlands Ambassadors: A Fresh New Face of the Trust

A group of energetic volunteers engage the community and help build awareness for conservation and Wildlands Trust.



One of the struggles a small nonprofit often faces is having enough people power to become a locally recognized presence. To bridge the gap between the need for greater visibility across our 60 communities and limited staff time, the Trust has created the Wildlands Ambassadors program to help spread the word about our mission and build awareness about local conservation among the public.

Wildlands Ambassadors is a group of passionate volunteers who represent the Trust at public events like farmers' markets, library talks, and our Davis-Douglas Farm open houses. The fledgling program began in early

October under the leadership of MassLIFT AmeriCorps member Lianna Lee, and has continued to grow steadily ever since. The aim of this community outreach program is to build momentum among people who care about land protection, but may not be aware of Wildlands Trust's mission to protect land in Southeastern Massachusetts. Our current Ambassadors live in Plymouth, Duxbury, Lakeville, Marshfield, and Middleboro. Recently the Ambassadors program was featured in Land Trust Alliance's magazine, Saving Lands, in the Conservation News section.

In the future, Ambassadors will be market hosts at the Plimoth Plantation farmers' market, the Bristol County Agricultural Fair, and give informational talks at the Plymouth and Marshfield Public Libraries. Check out the calendar of events on the back cover for the dates and times and visit www.wildlandstrust.org for up-to-date additions to other Ambassador events.

If you are interested in becoming a Wildlands Ambassador please contact Lianna Lee, at LLee@wildlandstrust.org or 781-934-9018.



GRAB YOUR SCISSORS AND FILL IN THE BOXES ON THE WILDLANDS TRUST "VISIT 5 GAME" CARD.

It's easy to play. Cut out the game card on the right, visit any 5 of the preserves listed, and fill in the box with the code you find at the kiosk at the trail head of each preserve. Once you collect 5 preserve codes, follow the mailing instructions on the card to redeem it for your free Wildlands Trust tote bag.

RULES: Open to current Wildlands Trust members only. Limit one tote bag per member, while supplies last.

PLEASE NOTE:

At press time, trails at several preserves were impassable due to fallen trees from the recent storms. In order to clean up, the start of the Wildlands Trust "Take 5 Game" has been delayed. See you in June!

DELAYED 'TIL JUNE 1

Wildlands Trust "Visit 5 Game"

COLLECT CODES FROM 5 PRESERVES BELOW AND WIN A TOTE BAG.*

1. Visit any 5 of the preserves below.
2. Find the code at the bottom right corner of the preserve kiosk.
3. Write the preserve code in the box.
4. When you have collected 5 codes, follow the mailing directions on the back of this card.

<input type="text"/>	Bridgewater Great River Preserve
<input type="text"/>	Duxbury Cow Tent Hill
<input type="text"/>	Halifax Striar Conservancy
<input type="text"/>	Marshfield Phillips Farm
<input type="text"/>	Pembroke Willow Brook Farm
<input type="text"/>	Pembroke Tucker Preserve
<input type="text"/>	Plymouth Halfway Pond Conservation Area
<input type="text"/>	Plymouth South Triangle Pond
<input type="text"/>	Plymouth Emery Preserve (West)
<input type="text"/>	Plymouth Shifting Lots Preserve

1010

***RULES:** Open to current Wildlands Trust members only. Limit one tote bag per member, while supplies last.

CUT ON DOTTED LINE

Taunton River Greenway Gains Ground — CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

funds for USDA to purchase permanent easements from owners of qualifying properties. In 2012, our focus turned to closing a deal on the 45-acre tract. Since 2008, all of this activity has culminated in the permanent protection of nearly 175 contiguous acres of land on both sides of the river.

This project represents the latest chapter in the Trust's longstanding commitment to land protection in the Taunton River Watershed. The Trust first took a leadership role in the watershed in the late 1990s, a time when few other organizations were devoting attention to the area. More recently, the watershed's abundant natural resources and fertile opportunities to protect significant riparian areas have attracted the attention of the conservation community, particularly TNC. The river's designation as a National Wild and Scenic River by the US Congress in 2009 has also been instrumental in advancing its profile amongst both the public and the conservation community. The river continues to shake off its undeserved reputation as a forgettable industrial relic, and is attracting new adherents to its many charms.

Both the Trust and TNC are part of the Taunton River Coalition, a coalition of conservation and environmental organizations dedicated to preserving the land and natural resources of the Taunton River watershed. The groups are also members of the Taunton River Stewardship Council, established as part of the river's designation as a National Wild and Scenic River, that includes a diverse array of community, nonprofit, and governmental representatives. The Stewardship Council assisted our efforts to acquire the King parcel by helping fund one of the several appraisals needed to advance the project.

TNC is a valued partner that shares many of our land protection aspirations in the Taunton River watershed, and its continuing willingness to invest serious resources in the watershed has helped make projects like this possible. While our more recent collaborations reflect the complexity of protecting land in the 21st century, links between the two organizations date all the way back to the Trust's earlier days, and an era of simpler transactions. One of our most significant early acquisitions,

232 acres around Halfway Pond in Plymouth that represents the core of our Halfway Pond Preserve, was originally preserved by TNC, and subsequently transferred to the Trust in 1982.


As TNC's Associate Director of Land Protection David McGowan relates, "The Nature Conservancy is fortunate to have a great partner like the Wildlands Trust. For this project, our combined efforts yielded an additional 111 acres of protected land adjacent to the Trust's Oxbow Preserve. It's a terrific outcome for the Taunton River watershed."

While finally securing the 45-acre parcel represents an important step forward, our work along this stretch of the river is not yet complete. The Trust and TNC look forward to working with Mr. King to secure yet additional land in the future, including the large parcel protected by the WRP easement that he still owns. The eventual goal is to assemble a conservation reserve of at least 174 acres under the Trust's stewardship, an outcome that would double the original Oxbow Preserve's 63 acres.

The realization of an expanded Oxbow Preserve will help us address a long-standing need at both this location and across the Taunton River watershed: quality public access. Our longer-range vision for this particular landscape is to enable public access to the newly expanded Oxbow Preserve and the Taunton River. This vision would include access to walking trails across open fields, beech woodlands, and the Oxbow Island, along with a launch site on the Taunton for car-top boats to provide needed access to the river.

"The Taunton River watershed continues to be a high priority for Wildlands Trust," said Karen Grey, the Trust's Executive Director. "This project presented a great opportunity to build on our past successes in the area of the Oxbow Preserve, and fills in another critical gap along the Wild and Scenic Taunton River corridor."

Visit 5 preserves and collect the codes
WILDLANDS TRUST "VISIT 5 GAME"
PLAY THE



CUT ON DOTTED LINE

5. Fill in your name and mailing address below.
6. Mail this card to:
Wildlands Trust, PO Box 2282, Duxbury, MA 02331

MEMBER NAME _____
MAILING ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Not a member?
Visit www.wildlandstrust.org to join.

WILDLANDS TRUST
40 YEARS

FOLD

See page 5 for the flip-side of this card and information on the Wildland Trust Preserves Game.

Thank You for Your Contribution

The Trust relies on private philanthropy to fund the work we do to save land throughout the region. You, our supporters, *are* Wildlands Trust. Thank you for your vision and for your dedication to preserving land for future generations.

In Memory of

RICHARD ANDERSON

- Harold & Marie Anderson, *N. Grafton*
- Lee & Sheri Anderson, *W. Bridgewater*
- Candice & Jay DeJongh, *Beavercreek, OH*
- Sally & Jim Hunter, *Cincinnati, OH*
- Old Bridgewater Hist. Society, *W. Bridgewater*
- Priscilla Alta Pratt, *W. Bridgewater*
- Paula Sullivan, *S. Boston*
- Jose Vargas, *W. Bridgewater*
- WBHS Class of 1966, *W. Bridgewater*

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- Daniel & Mary Ellen Egan, *Charlestown*

-Joseph & Holly Evers, *Charlestown*

- Harvard Class of 1955
- Jay Kimball & Family, *Plymouth*
- Doug & Lois Post, *Plymouth*
- Charlotte E. Russell, *Plymouth*
- Wood's Seafood, *Plymouth*

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- Lucie Wilson, *E. Bridgewater*

ROLAND HOLMES

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- Jane Bradley, *Duxbury*
- Viola Carter, *Natick*
- Donald Coen & Deborah Marvel, *Medfield*
- Deborah Cohen, *Longboat Key, FL*
- Thomas Condon, *Plymouth*
- Mary Craig, *Natick*
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- Anne Fenn, *Londonderry, NH*
- Robert & Shelley Freedman, *Swampscott*
- Joe Grady, *Duxbury*

-Cynthia Green, *Medfield*

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- Jody & Jim Horvitz, *Sharon*
- Carol Kilbride, *Stoneham*
- Patricia Leipprandt, *Milton*
- Stanley & Ilene Levine, *Dartmouth*
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- Stephanie Skolnick, *Pembroke*
- Gary & Elizabeth Stacey, *Marshfield*
- Greg Siedschlag, *Washington, DC*
- Mackie & Bob Spitzer, *Longboat Key, FL*
- Staff of Memorial School, *Natick*
- Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Vautrain, *Duxbury*

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- Thomas Condon, *Plymouth*
- Ginny Davis & Karl Lekberg, *Duxbury*
- Bob & Susan Meharg, *Plymouth*
- Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Sheehan, *Duxbury*

ALICE DOUGLAS WRIGHT

- Rachel Manchester, *Cape Coral, FL*

In Honor of

SAMANTHA & TORI BOS

- David DeGhetto, *Norwell*

BUCK & SUE BROUGHAM

- Jonathan Brougham, *Princeton, NJ*

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- Colin & Sue Stewart, *Laguna Niguel, CA*

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- Elizabeth Nordell, *Duluth, MN*

Taunton River Greenway Gains Ground — CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

On behalf of all who share an interest in expanding the Oxbow Preserve and advancing the vision of a Taunton River greenway, thank you to all those who helped make this acquisition possible, including our friends at TNC and the Sheehan Family Foundation for its

continuing and vital support for our land conservation work across Southeastern Massachusetts and in the Taunton River watershed. The Foundation was the lead funder for our acquisition of the Oxbow Preserve back in 2008, and its support continues to make a critical difference.



WILDLANDS CALENDAR

MARCH

3/2 SAT EMS SNOWSHOE CLINIC

Great River Preserve
Bridgewater
10-NOON

Come join us for a fun filled morning of testing out snowshoes courtesy of EMS! We will snowshoe for 2-3 miles. Family friendly event.

3/9 SAT TRAILBLAZERS AT STEWART PRESERVE

Kingston
10-1 PM

Learn about stewardship, meet new friends, and enjoy the outdoors while helping us clear trails. Training, tools, and snacks provided on-site by Wildlands Trust staff.

DATE TBD BRIDIE'S GARDEN SPRING KICK-OFF EVENT

Kingston
10-1 PM

Calling all gardeners and volunteers! Bring your enthusiasm and help to begin planting crops for Bridie's Garden. All produce goes directly to residents of the Plymouth Coalition for the Homeless. The weather in March is unpredictable, so call 781-934-9018 or check our website for the exact date.

Wildlands Trail Walkers events continue to be held monthly and are an excellent way to explore Wildlands Trust preserves with our staff members. For Trail Walkers dates, check out www.wildlandstrust.org.

APRIL

4/2 TUE WILDLANDS AMBASSADORS TALK

Ventress Library
Marshfield
6-7:30 PM

Welcome Spring by learning more about Wildlands Trust and the work we do in your community.

4/13 SAT GUIDED CLIMATE LAB WALK

Bourne
10-11:30 AM

Attend this nature walk to learn about our Climate Lab collaboration with Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences. Rising Tide Charter School's high school ecology students conduct real time phenological monitoring and collect data for the Center. Reservations required. RSVP at: admin@wildlandstrust.org

4/27 SAT AMBASSADORS at BRISTOL AG FAIR

Bristol County
Agricultural High School
Dighton
10-4 PM

Wildlands Ambassadors will discuss the Trust's work in preserving agricultural land in Southeastern MA.

MAY

5/18 SAT 3rd ANNUAL RUN FOR CONSERVATION

Myles Standish State Forest
Plymouth

This 5k run/walk is an opportunity for runners, walkers, families, local nonprofits, businesses, and everyone in between to come together and support land conservation in Southeastern MA.

New this year! Nonprofit Team Registration: Gather three colleagues at your nonprofit (family members count!) and compete for title of fastest nonprofit in the South Shore. Discounted registration fee of \$20. First 100 entrants receive free race t-shirts.

For more info, visit: www.active.com/running/plymouth-ma/run-for-conservation-5k-2013

5/25 SAT BIRDING WALK

Great River Preserve
Bridgewater
Time TBD

Bring out your binoculars! Meet some of our feathered neighbors on the South Shore and come away with basic birding identification skills.

5/29 WED "GOING FOR A WALK"

Plymouth Public Library
Plymouth
2-3 pm

With photos and a lively narrative, we'll walk you through some favorite Wildlands Trust preserves without leaving the comfort of the library. A great way for those with limited mobility to experience a bit of the outdoors.

Don't miss out. There's always something happening at the Trust. To keep updated on these and other events, call 781-934-9018 or visit us frequently at www.wildlandstrust.org

Stop by our table and say hello at these farmers' markets:

Plymouth Farmers' Market/Plimoth Plantation

Wildlands Ambassadors will be welcoming people to the market and running a children's activity table.

2:30-6:30 PM

Thursday 3/14

Thursday 4/11

Marshfield Farmers' Market/Marshfield Fairgrounds

10-2 PM

Saturday 3/16