



Green Team II turtle tracking with MassWildlife

Teens Unplug and Get Connected

When local teens turn off their electronics and explore the natural world, they connect with the environment, the conservation community, and each other.

At Wildlands Trust, we believe that today's wired generation can greatly benefit from connecting to nature instead of the nearest Wi-Fi. That is why we started the Youth Unplugged Initiative in 2015, to create programming designed to engage teenagers meaningfully in environmental learning.

In our third year running Youth Unplugged, two flagship programs have emerged: Envirothon and Green Team. Each school year we coach and sponsor motivated Brockton High School students in the Envirothon program to promote environmental literacy and community building. This past year we also helped launch an Envirothon program at Plymouth South High School by providing support to new coaches and students. In the summer we facilitate our Green Team program to provide volunteer and career exploration opportunities for teens. This summer we also added our first middle-school age group to Green Team.

We are very proud of what we have been able to accomplish with these programs; moreover, we are incredibly fortunate to have met so many teens who are motivated to make positive change in their communities and we want to share their experiences with you.

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A Green Team I member holds recently harvested onions at Bay End Farm in Bourne



TOP: Envirothon team members during the Forestry portion of the competition MIDDLE: The 2017 Brockton High School/Wildlands Trust Envirothon team BOTTOM: Team members working together during the 2017 Envirothon competition at Drumlin Farm in Lincoln



A Prolific Period for Land Preservation

Since the publication of our last newsletter, we have been busy completing a wide range of land protection projects across our coverage area.

North River Corridor CPA CR



During the spring, we acquired a parcel in Kingston that expanded our Indian Hill Preserve, and preserved an expanse of salt-marsh along the lower Bluefish River in Duxbury. As summer beckoned in June, we closed on two projects: a collaboration with our colleagues at the Massachusetts Division of Fish and Game that preserved 62-acres along the Taunton River in Bridgewater—directly abutting Great River Preserve as well as the Taunton River Wildlife Management

Area—and an acquisition of a 10-acre parcel in Plymouth that expands one of our oldest and most cherished landscapes, the Halfway Pond Conservation Area.

Over the summer, we completed a quintet of Community Preservation Act conservation restrictions in Marshfield that help protect a wide array of landscapes, habitats, and conservation values, including North River frontage, rare species habitats, and drinking water supplies.

Many thanks to our land donors and volunteer and professional colleagues who collaborated with us on these projects, including the Frey family in Kingston, the Nash family of Duxbury and other points, Joan Pierce from Mass. DFG, and Marshfield Open Space Committee Chair, Karen O'Donnell. Land preservation is inherently a collaborative endeavor, and successful outcomes are realized principally through productive partnerships.



Halfway Pond Addition



Nash Saltmarsh Donation



Taunton River WMA Expansion

FREY DONATION

4.6 acres, Kingston

- Rare species habitat
- Water supply protection
- Expansion of existing Indian Hill Preserve

NASH SALTMARSH DONATION

3 acres, Duxbury

- Surface water quality
- Riparian corridor
- Rare species habitat

TAUNTON RIVER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA EXPANSION

62 acres, Bridgewater

- Surface water quality
- River frontage
- Rare species habitat
- Wildlife corridor
- Expansion of existing Great River Preserve/Taunton WMA

HALFWAY POND CONSERVATION AREA ADDITION

10.2 acres, Plymouth

- Surface water quality
- Pond frontage
- Rare species habitat
- Wildlife corridor
- Expansion of existing Halfway Pond Conservation Area

NORTH RIVER CORRIDOR CPA CR

32.4 acres, Marshfield

- Surface Water Quality
- River Frontage
- Rare Species Habitat
- Wildlife corridor
- Expansion of existing open space assemblage along North River

FURNACE BROOK WATERSHED CPA CR

7.7 acres, Marshfield

- Watershed protection
- Stream frontage
- Rare species habitat
- Wildlife corridor
- Expansion of existing open space assemblage

CAROLINA HILL ADDITION CPA CR

8 acres, Marshfield

- Watershed protection
- Rare species habitat
- Wildlife corridor
- Expansion of existing open space assemblage Carolina Hill Reservation

HOLLY ROAD CPA CR

27.6 acres, Marshfield

- Drinking water supply protection
- Rare species habitat
- Certified vernal pools

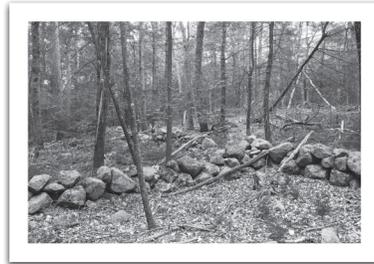
CARESWELL STREET CPA CR

18 acres, Marshfield

- Watershed protection
- Rare species habitat
- Expansion of existing open space assemblage

Plans to Restore Stone Farm Get Green Light

Restoration of Brockton's Stone Farm to provide residents increased useable green space.



Wildlands Trust, with support from the city of Brockton's Conservation Commission and Department of Planning and Economic Development, has successfully received grant funding from the Seth Sprague Foundation and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation to reestablish and enhance 2.4 miles of nature trails on Stone Farm, a property owned by the city of Brockton. The Stone Farm restoration project seeks to benefit one of Brockton's many highly urbanized environmental justice communities by providing families and individuals with restored and well maintained hiking trails. This 104-acre property will link up with the adjacent and previously restored Brockton Audubon Preserve creating a 4.3-mile hiking corridor comprised of over 225 acres.

Over the years, Stone Farm has become an area for rampant yard waste dumping and unauthorized all-terrain vehicle activity; however, in October, Wildlands Trust will initiate this restoration project which includes the closure of destructive ATV trails, clearing of new neighborhood trail heads, construction of trail head kiosks, wetland boardwalk construction, and the overall maintenance of previously existing trail systems.

The Stone Farm restoration project is more than a 104-acre cleanup and trail construction endeavor. In working for the neighborhoods within this area and the city of Brockton, Wildlands Trust is hoping to engage neighbors and families in the overall well-being of their community. The long-term goal of this project is not only to create a beautiful 4-mile trail within a city, but also to create sustainable conservation land and encourage the continued appreciation of our open space and natural communities. We will engage Brockton volunteer groups, including youth and educational organizations, to help provide stewardship. The people of Brockton love their city and Wildlands hopes to aid in the continuing development of its health and sustainability.

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE?



We make it easy for you to donate, join, or renew your membership quickly—all from the comfort of your home!

Visit us today at:
www.wildlandstrust.org

Find out more about:

- Adopting A Preserve
- Greening the Gateway Cities
- Land Conservation
- Programs and Events
- The DDF Community Garden
- Trails Near You
- Volunteering
- And More!

SEASONAL SPECIAL EVENTS



SEED SAVING & MEDICINAL HERBS WORKSHOP

Saturday, November 4
1:00 – 3:00 pm
Davis-Douglas Farm, Plymouth

HOLIDAY CARD MAKING WORKSHOP

Sunday, November 19
1:00 – 3:00 pm
Davis-Douglas Farm, Plymouth

POST-FEAST WADDLE

Friday, November 24
10:00 am – Noon
Davis-Douglas Farm/Emery
Preserve, Plymouth

HOLIDAY WREATH WORKSHOP

Saturday, December 2
Noon – 2:30 pm
Davis-Douglas Farm, Plymouth

LEARN TO CROCHET I

Saturday, December 9
10:00 am – 12:30 pm
Davis-Douglas Farm, Plymouth

LEARN TO CROCHET II

Saturday, December 16
10:00 am – 12:30 pm
Davis-Douglas Farm, Plymouth

Check our website for monthly hikes, trail runs, yoga classes, and more!

Wildlands Trust Teams Up With DCR for Greening the Gateway Cities

In an effort to reduce energy use for household heating and cooling, our program looks to increase tree canopy cover by 5-10 percent within areas of Brockton.



Wildlands Trust is excited to announce its involvement in the Greening the Gateway Cities Program (GGCP) in Brockton. What is a Gateway City and why is the state focusing on these locations for the program?

According to The Massachusetts Institute for a New Commonwealth (MassINC), “Gateway Cities are midsize urban centers that anchor regional economies around the state. For generations, these communities were home to industry that offered residents good jobs and a ‘gateway’ to the American Dream. Over the past several decades, manufacturing jobs slowly disappeared. Lacking resources and capacity to rebuild and reposition, Gateway Cities have been slow to draw new economy investment.”

The Greening the Gateway Cities Program is an initiative funded by the state of Massachusetts that works to revitalize these cities by bringing the energy efficiency and environmental benefits of a health tree canopy. The Baker-Polito administration announced in April 2016 that Brockton was to be included within the program’s expansion.

As an organization that has lead conservation efforts in Brockton since 2010 after

acquiring the Brockton Audubon Preserve, we were eager to accept the role of assisting the GGCP in reaching its goal to plant 2,400 trees in Brockton throughout the next three years.

Wildlands Trust is responsible for facilitating the engagement and outreach initiatives for GGCP Brockton alongside DCR for the purpose of gaining community support for the program and obtaining tree planting requests from local residents and property owners.

Our staff will administer a variety of engagement techniques that include neighborhood canvassing, social media campaigning, and tabling at local public events to educate the Brockton community on the environmental, energy, and social benefits of urban tree planting.

To date, the combined efforts between DCR and Wildlands has resulted in the siting of several hundred trees, scheduled to be planted during the program’s planting seasons of September-November and April-June.

To learn more about the GGCP, visit our website at wildlandstrust.org/greening-the-gateway-cities.

END-OF-YEAR IRA CONTRIBUTION



On December 18, 2015, the “Protecting Americans for Tax Hikes Act” permanently extended the IRA Charitable Rollover, allowing you to authorize your IRA custodian to make a qualified charitable distribution to Wildlands Trust, Inc. The distribution can count towards your required minimum distribution and is tax-free!

To make this gift, the donor must be 70½ years old or older and the distribution must go directly from the IRA to Wildlands Trust, Inc. Gifts must be outright (not to a donor advised fund, a support organization, charitable trust or charitable gift annuity) and cannot exceed \$100,000 per taxpayer, per year.

Your IRA custodian will require our mailing address and Tax ID Number. For more information, our Tax ID Number, or to notify us of your gift, please contact Sue Chamberlain at 774-343-5121 x101 or schamberlain@wildlandstrust.org

Teens Unplug and Get Connected

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Green Team II testing water quality with Herring Ponds Watershed Association

“We started out just coming to meetings after school, but we’ve become a family,” Brittany said to their team of ten on the way to the state-wide Envirothon competition in May. Brittany and Nicole, then juniors at Brockton High School, stood at the front of the bus congratulating their team on all they had accomplished and getting energized for the day ahead. Not only were they about to put their knowledge of forestry, wildlife, water, and soil sciences to the test, but the team would soon present their research project on Agricultural Soil and Water Conservation in Brockton to a panel of ten judges.

They worked hard all school year studying the assigned topics and researching issues of water shortage and limited agriculture in their city. In the spring, they visited community gardens around Brockton to collect soil for analysis, take pictures for garden management, assess water availability, and compile a report for Brockton’s Promise, an alliance for youth working “toward providing all youth and their families in the City of Champions with the tools they need for success.” Brandon, another junior on the team, designed a prototype for a trough-style rainwater collection system that is more efficient than traditional rain barrels when a gutter is unavailable.

When the time came to present, nerves were high but the team was ready. They aced their oral presentation, answered questions thoroughly, and received high praise from the judges. It was no surprise to us at Wildlands when BHS tied for third place for their presentation, received both the Community Research and Community Action awards, and placed sixth overall in the state!

Brandon, Brittany, and Nicole were all accepted into the summer 2017 Green Team program here at Wildlands. During Green Team, teenagers get the rare opportunity to work alongside and learn from professionals in many environmental concentrations.

“Being a part of Green Team blew my expectations out of the water,” said Brandon.

During this six-day internship, crew members undertake group projects focusing on land stewardship, organic farming, wildlife conservation, watershed health, and outdoor recreation. “Sitting around the campfire, eating s’mores and tacos, and listening to others sing and tell riddles was one of the best nights ever and my favorite memory of Green Team,” Nicole reflects on our first ever Green Team campout.

In total, seventeen students completed twelve volunteer projects throughout the region over three weeks of Green Team 2017. It is our hope that programs like Green Team and Envirothon inspire young people to continue to explore career and volunteer opportunities in an environmental field. In fact, some of our crew members already have.

Maura Coughlin was a part of Green Team 2016. When she went to college and aged out of the program, we hired her on as the Education and Stewardship Assistant for summer 2017. “Green Team gave me the knowledge to be an environmentally conscience citizen, the passion to continue enjoying and learning about the environment, and the opportunity to have the best summer job experience I could have imagined.”

After volunteering at Bay End Farm during Green Team this summer, Callahan was influenced to look into an agricultural career and started working at Bay End. Will was a Green Team 2016 member, who recently finished his Eagle Scout project of building the new boardwalk at our Stewart-Person Preserve in Kingston, joined Green Team for a second year this summer. John, another Eagle Scout candidate, was also inspired by Green Team to plan his project with Wildlands Trust to expand the trail system in the Great South Pond region.



Green Team I taking a break for a group shot at Bay End Farm, Bourne



Green Team II turtle tracking in West Bridgewater with Mass Bay Wildlife

Youth Unplugged also encompasses our work with scout troops, youth groups, young adult inclusive programs, AmeriCorps, and seasonal staff and interns. Each and every young person that we’ve worked with has blown our expectations out of the water. They inspire us to continue working to permanently protect land for future generations. Are you for a new generation of leaders who are plugged into nature? We certainly are.

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

DIANNE GRADY

- Theresa Dickie, *Hanson*
- Joseph Luppi, *Boston*
- Newfield House, *Plymouth*
- Darlene Smith, *Unknown*
- Geoffrey & Joyce Stewart, *Plymouth*

NINA JACKSON

- Stever & Elise Aubrey (& family), *Edgartown*
- Maude M. Belli, *Pennington, NJ*
- Dorothy Davis, *Duxbury*
- Bruce & Anne Dawson, *Bedford*
- Frances Fisher, *Chapel Hill, NC*
- Barbara T. Kent, *Winchester*
- Joan & J. Edward McDonald, *Cohasset*
- SRD Siblings, *Lakewood, CO*

VIOLA HOLMES & HAZEL FREEMAN

Cindy McCabe-Holmes, *Berkley*

PAUL LOVETT

- Eugenie King & Larry Hawkins, *Pembroke*
- Jim & Jill Kelly, *King of Prussia, PA*
- Roselyn & George Kubek, *Pembroke*
- Gail Nunes, *Pembroke*

JOHN LYNCH

- Anne Lynch, *Plymouth*

DONALD RUBIN

- James & Nancy Denman, *Plympton*

BURNET M. VIVONA

- Ronnie Vivona, *Plymouth*

WESLEY SOMERVILLE

- Douglas & Lois Post, *Plymouth*

In Honor of

MEG, ANNA, CAROLINE, & SAM CHAPIN

- Phoebe & Douglas Kitson,
West Chester, PA

BETH YOUNG & BILL FINCH

- Wendy Jones, *Duxbury*

ZEHAVA ROSENBERG & MADELINE ZEMBER

- Susan Carter, *Columbia, SC*

**WE THANK THE DORR FOUNDATION AND
ROCKLAND TRUST FOR THEIR GENEROUS
GRANTS TO YOUTH UNPLUGGED.**

WILDLANDS WELCOMES TWO NEW STAFF MEMBERS



Connor

CONOR MICHAUD was hired in July as the community stewardship program coordinator. Conor was born and raised on the South Shore and his formative years working on water quality research and instructing microbiology out of a teaching laboratory in Cohasset.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Science in environmental science from the University of Massachusetts Lowell, Conor found work as a crew leader in Anchorage and the Denali Backcountry with the Student Conservation Association in Alaska. After working for the SCA, Conor was contracted to work on the Google Trekker project as a GIS field technician in Philadelphia. Over the course of nine months, Conor worked to geolocate and photograph every trail system in Philadelphia for Google's largest-ever city Trekker project. Upon completion of this project, Conor moved back to his home state and began working here at Wildlands Trust. Please reach out to the Conor for any of your Community Stewardship questions or needs.



Tommy

TOMMY BLANCHARD has recently been hired as the land stewardship coordinator at Wildlands Trust for the next 11 months through the TerraCorps program, which supports 36 full-time AmeriCorps members serving at various non-profits located across Massachusetts. Tommy grew up exploring and camping in and around his hometown of Duxbury, and has a deep affection for New England and a desire to give back to local communities, especially those in areas that lack adequate access to green space.

In addition to his interest in the great outdoors, Tommy enjoys acting, singing, and performing stand-up comedy. He recently graduated from Hamilton College with a Bachelor of Arts in biology and is currently considering a career in education. Tommy is excited to spend a year focusing on conservation initiatives and engaging with youth and local communities and we are excited to have him on the team!



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



PROPERTY SPOTLIGHT

STAFF PICK: Stewart Person Preserve, Kingston

Picturesque views of pine covered hillsides, freshwater ponds, and a tumbling brook are the highlight of this preserve.

Just minutes off exit 9 on route 3, Stewart Person is an excellent preserve if you're looking for a short, scenic hike. Located off Sylvia Place Road in Kingston, the 27-acre Stewart Person Preserve was protected in two phases: the Stewart family donated 13 acres in 1975 and the Person family donated an adjoining 13 acres in 2011. The main trail follows the edge of Sylvia Place Pond with trails that run upland on the southern portion of the property. Just recently, William Adams, a Plymouth Boy Scout, restored two of the water crossings as his Eagle Scout project. These water crossings allow visitors safe passage over both streams that connect to the pond. The preserve's industrial past is still apparent in the form of dams, borrow pits, and the foundation of an old mill. Colonial settlers were first drawn to the area for the abundant bog-iron and the mill ponds became the site of a cannonball and shoe shop. Another unique feature of the property is a herring ladder that was restored by Wildlands in 1981 and in mid-spring, visitors can view herring making their annual spawning run at the ladder. Sylvia Place Pond is also a prime local fishing spot for bass, perch, and pickerel. This preserve provides productive wildlife viewing with a diversity of habitats—hikers along the banks of the two ponds even occasionally spot otters.

