Join or Renew Today. We need your help. Thank you for your support.

Town__________________________________ State______________ Zip___________________

Yes! Please add me to TRLT’s email list.

Memberships and contributions are tax deductible. Yes! Please add me to 3RLT’s email list

Name_______________________________

Address____________________________________________________________________________

Town______________________________________ State______________ Zip___________________

Phone__________________________ Email__________________________

Board of Directors:

Action
Carl Davis 636-3700
carldev@metrocast.net

Tom Cashin 636-3582
macx86@gmail.com

Latosia Crockett 412-3616

Alfred
Allied Carlson 490-1646
alstafford@mainetel.net

Paula Frodyma 475-8412
pfrodyma@me.com

Shapleigh
Mark E. Baker 459-5069
mbaker1961@gmail.com

Helen Nagler 617-30-4024

Amy Trimb, Secretary
272-4937
amy@finalmile.com

Lebanon
Dennis Spalding 457-1344
dennis@cyberj.net

John Brad 457-5435
chavak@psi.net

North Berwick
Marline DelPrete 459-5069
mdelprete@daehlye.com

Paula Frodyma 475-8412
pfrodyma@me.com

Fred Holt, Treasurer
shoel489@roadrunner.com

Charles Griffith 636-1875
cgriffith@metrocast.net

Bill Hutcheson 636-2737

Sanford/Springvale
Sid Emery 324-9585

Karen Nevin, President
324-7353

nmoore@metrocast.net

Diane Widack 324-3698
gw widening@psj.net

Kathleen Nevin 324-7195

mnevin4@psj.net

Waterboro
Melissa Brandt 245-5167
mbrandt@metrocast.net

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Three Rivers Land Trust

HORIZONS
FOCUSING ON THE CONSERVATION OF OPEN SPACE

Three Rivers Land Trust (3RLT) • Post Office Box 906 • Acton, Maine 04001-0906

2014 Summer Newsletter

A WALK AT WILLIAMS TOWN PARK

One of the gravel roads on the property

Another 3RLT First Friday Foray was held on June 5, 2014. A walk at the Williams Town Park in Shapleigh was attended by a number of people. The 300-acre Park was given to the Town in 2011 and has been open to the public ever since.

It is an ideal place for family outings. The trails are gravel roads. If you venture off the gravel roads, there are benches along the way, short side trails through woods, healthy blueberry bushes at the top of the ridge, ponds to examine for frogs, a productive vernal pool, and splendid views of distant mountains and the coast.

It is not difficult to find. If you have a new 3RLT Quiet Places map (it is #13), you can find the property by going to Back Road/Stanley Road and turn left onto the property after the pavement ends. There are are maps available at the Park entrance.

The Park is also wonderful in the winter when non-motorized activities are encouraged. On snowshoes, you will find a myriad of animal tracks unseen in milder weather. The Town hopes to plow a parking area this coming winter to facilitate the Park’s use.

Because of the abundant wildlife, the Park is visited often. Be sure to wear blaze orange if you visit during hunting season. Overnight use is not allowed except by special permission from the Selectmen.

The most important thing is to enjoy this amazing gift to the Town of Shapleigh, and to all of us.

Marc Motors "Community Spotlight" Highlights Three Rivers Land Trust for the Month of July

Each month, Marc Motors highlights a non-profit organization and donates $5 for every oil change it completes that month.

July was assigned to Three Rivers Land Trust and Marc Motors donated $805 to our organization.

Thanks go out to Marc Motors and all who participated in the program.

Pictured here is Phil Royer, Service Manager, presenting the check to Fred Frodyma, Vice-President of Three Rivers Land Trust. Also shown are: Shaun McCormack, General Manager, and Sue Lontine, Program Manager.

Marc Motorsbreaks.com
Dear Land Appreciators:

This year has certainly started out with exciting achievements for Three Rivers Land Trust and donations. The board has decided to hire its first employee, Ruth Gutman, to serve as our membership and outreach coordinator. Ruth brings computer savvy, dedication, and a great ability to engage people to this part-time job. We have two land acquisition projects on the front burners:

The first is to try to expand the Walnut Hill II property in Alfred to include some road frontage and the ability to have a few parking spaces off road.

The second is to begin the process of trying to conserve a large block of up to 2,300 acres of land in Acton and Shapleigh from Goat Hill to Shapleigh Pond. We are hoping that the greater community will chip in with support for this important and beautiful block of land. We are dreaming large!

The Sanford Trails Committee (sanfordtrails.org) sponsored an incredible Farm to Farm walk in conjunction with Maine’s Open Farm Day on July 27. Nine Farms were visited along a trail of 3.9 miles across fields and through the woods. Many hearty souls completed the circuit on foot despite a torrential downpour of almost an inch of rain around 12 noon. Loads of folks also drove the Farm 2 Farm route. Many thanks go out to Lee Burnet who did the lion’s share of the organizing. We hope this event will be bigger and better under sunny skies next year. Check out the website to see pictures! www.3rlt.org

Work continues with Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative toward our accreditation to be completed by the Land Trust Alliance (lta.org) in the fall of 2015! This is an exhaustive organizational challenge to meet twelve policy and operational standards.

Hobb’s Farm Trails have made great progress thanks to Larissa Crockett’s leadership of a shifting troupe of volunteers. We are hoping to have a great event during “The Great Maine Outdoor Weekend” September 26-28. Check out the website for updates on this event.

We will have our display again at the Acton Fair in the 4H building, so be sure to stop by!

As you can see, there is a lot going on. We have a terrific, gifted, and active crew of Directors who all volunteer to keep this organization rolling. Special thanks go out to the Frodnymans for everything they do, and especially the work they do to get this newsletter out!

Best Wishes,

Jean Noon, President

Three Rivers Land Trust worked with the Alfred Conservation Commission to sponsor a booth at the 2014 Alfred Festival on July 19th. Often, adults and children don’t pay much attention to conservation related booths at these events, choosing instead to favor food vendors, crafters, kiddie rides and amusements. This year was different, thanks to a plywood photo cut-out of a Moose, a Bear, and a Squirrel where folks could poke their heads through the display and have their faces imprinted in one of these animal figures. George Main, carpenter and barn builder, was kind enough to fabricate this display and set it up at the festival. Needless to say, both adults and children found it exciting to have their picture taken.

This attraction allowed us to show the importance of preserving the land so kids from all over could learn the need to provide a habitat for these animals in future generations. We had the chance to see these creatures in the wild one day also. It also allowed our volunteers to have a discussion with the parents about the role Three Rivers Land Trust plays in preserving the land. We found many families from outside the immediate area who were happy to learn of our land trust and walk away a little more knowledgeable and, hopefully, with a plan to become active members of our land trust.

Three Rivers Land Trust

To maintain, support and enhance the working landscape of farms and forest and such valued natural resources as lakes, rivers, streams, wetlands, historic sites, scenic places, and wildlife habitat, in the inland municipalities of York County, Maine, by acquiring property in fee and conservation easements, and by garnering community support.”

3RLT has successfully conserved over 1,800 acres which includes easements from 10 landowners. Currently, there are several more easements in the works.

For more information visit the web site www.3rlt.org or call 324-3733.

3RLT was founded in 2000 and serves the towns of Acton, Alfred, Lebanon, Sanford/ Springvale, Shapleigh. Covering an area of 215 square miles, or about 47,800 acres, this area is the last region of York County to establish an organization that is committed to providing assistance to citizens interested in preserving their property and holding and maintaining easements forever.

The home-cooked dinner will be sourced from local farms. There will be a presentation on our recently acquired 200-acre parcel, the Sousa Family Preserve, located in Alfred, ME.

Do not hallucinate.

2 5
Maine Excellence Program
Land Trust received a grant from the
necessary to maintain even the basics of
place to keep this promise, either by caring
upholding the public trust and ensuring that
It recognizes organizations for meeting
land trusts, of those only 11 achieved
This is a long term effort
achieving accreditation.
grant from Three Rivers
that our home's destiny is secure, and we thank Three Rivers
fields below a majestic rainbow; "We could potentially farm
misty-eyed to see chickens here again," recounts Jordan, his
the farm revitalized: "Every family member I talked to was
would pour over the mounds of data and then
our family or
easement allows for timber harvesting,
easement states that the property will
be preserved as farmland in perpetuity,
legacy. A conservation easement seemed
Blood approached the Land Trust about
sisters Bea Lord and Marjorie Lord
is preserving working farms, so when
a certain obligation and responsibility
The easement was completed in
Deer Camp/Black Bear Camp

ToAD FArMers Continued
Marybeth has incorporated laying and meat birds to the farm as well. “I love raising chickens," she says, “and now with our expanded flock at Red Wing, we have enough eggs to sell at the Sanborn and Springvale markets.” In the future, The Toad hopes to grow grain for the chickens to make the operation more sustainable. They also aspire to clean out the old incubators and breed some chickens...a nod to the farm’s hatchery’s past.

Family members at the reunion were so pleased to see the farm revitalized: “Every family member talked to me this morning and thanked me for bringing things back.” Jordan, his family and volunteers are looking at those abandoned fields beyond a majestic rainbow; “We could potentially farm here for the rest of our lives.” We all hope this is the future of Marjorie’s dream when the land is

Society of Maine (FSM) is a stronger and
more focused organization as a result of our participation in the accreditation program. The seal of accreditation provides people with a strengthened confidence in FSM and in the land trust community overall.” Alan Hutchinson, Executive Director.

TOAD FARMERS SPRAY THEIR WINGS AT RED WING FARM IN LEBANON

A big part of the Three Rivers mission is to support working farms, so when sisters Bea Lord and Marjorie Lord Blood approached the Land Trust about protecting their 124-acre family farm in Lebanon, they were excited to work with them to preserve their family’s farming legacy. A conservation easement seemed a
CAMP TEACHES ABOUT TREES & WILDLIFE
While Mother Nature didn’t exactly cooperate, about 38
Lebanon Community School was interrupted by a downpour,
They meticulously vacuumed the long-unused chicken
out the fields. The seeds in the greenhouse sprouted. They ordered chicks — laying hens and heritage meat birds — to begin raising. The new chicken houses. They meticulously vacuumed out the barns,

The Old Farm and the New Farm

The old farm and the new farm。“But the new farm is a whole new world,” Jordan Pike, and a new generation of Stewards and Restorers took root.
The Farmers
Jordan Pike, a Lebanon native, left a lucrative job to found Two Toad Farm in 2008 “because I recognized the need for more farmers and more local food production.” In the years since, he and partners John Blood and Marjorie Lord

Our appreciation for the perseverance and persistence of our forefathers led us to search for a way that would secure the future.
The Toad Farmers

Two Toad Farm now supports a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) that feeds 23 families, including the children of Marjorie Blood. Seth LaFlamme of North Country Produce packaged and marketed their produce.

When the weather finally warmed, the farmers seeded their greenhouse and began the long process of replanting the old barns. With the help of one of the farm’s old employees, they cleared out the fields. The seeds in the greenhouse sprouted. They ordered chicks — laying hens and heritage meat birds — to begin raising. The new chicken houses.