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

Three Rivers Land Trust
PO Box 906, Acton, ME 04001
Website: www.3rlt.org

Four decades ago, the late Walter J. P. Sharpe, a dedicated land conservationist, formed the Three Rivers Land Trust (3RLT). Our mission is "To protect significant natural lands in South Central Maine and beyond for present and future generations." We strive to conserve high-quality and rare habitats that house conservation. First, the property includes high-quality and rare habitats that house uncommon species in need of protection.

Three elements have made the Walnut Hill property stand out as a priority for conservation. First, the property includes high-quality and rare habitats that house uncommon species in need of protection. Second, these 88 contiguous acres are located in a corridor of forest within an approximately 6,000-acre area of state species of concern, as well. The third element is that the property is a corridor of forest adjacent to headwaters of the Even Falls and includes approximately 1,100 feet of road frontage into housing lots. The degree to which these swaths of forest without development have been preserved.

The impact on Three Rivers Land Trust will be to stimulate the participation of nearby landowners in protecting their lands in the Deering Road neighborhood focus area.

The woodlands on all of Three Rivers Land Trust protected properties are working forests, benefiting the local economy. The easements also include a component for wildlife and environmental education of local communities.

Protecting the future of Rivard Farm matters because it is a popular family farm in a 3RLT focus area, producing high quality food in a very attractive, healthy environment, easily accessible to a large population.

The Three Rivers Land Trust has been an all-volunteer organization, funded by fundraising, marketing, and land trust capacity building. The Land Trust will work with the previous owner had completed obligations to our easement donors, as many large and small landowners in the three rivers land trust work together and with willing landowners in the Sanford/Springvalle.

A Message from the Rivard family: Sanford/Springvale

2012 Fall Newsletter
Three Rivers Land Trust (3RLT) • Post Office Box 906 • Acton, Maine 04001-0906

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The Rivard Farm: Community Support Needed for LMF Bond Vote 11/6/12

The Rivard Farm LLC is a popular well-known farm and family in the community of Sanford/Springvale. If preserved, it will increase the awareness and benefits of farmland protection and ease the transition of the farm to a younger generation. Farmlands that provide locally-grown fruits, vegetables and meat marketed directly to the consumer are a high priority for Three Rivers Land Trust land protection program.

The land will be to stimulate the participation of nearby landowners in protecting their lands in the Deering Road neighborhood focus area. The woodlands on all of Three Rivers Land Trust

A Message from the Rivard family:

Rivard Farm has been a contributing element to the agricultural character of the Sanford-Springvale area for over 85 years. Rivard Farm is one of the oldest pick-your-own operations in the region, and is frequently

News from Hobbs Farm in Acton

Asian bittersweet and juniper. Other native shrubs and trees that have encroached on the fields are likely to be removed along with larger rocks that are in the way of field work. Nils and his crew have been using a bulldozer with a root rake to remove this debris. He mentioned the scarcity of small rocks as a sign that extensive cultivation has occurred in these areas in the past.

Recently, Nils has been working with his excavator around the old barn site. There are many large rocks in this area that he thinks are pieces of the old foundation. He plans to reuse these in the boundary walls of the surrounding area. Once the debris and rocks are removed, Nils proposes to bring in a large bog harrow to cut the sod and roots.

The impact on Three Rivers Land Trust will be to stimulate the participation of nearby landowners in protecting their lands in the Deering Road neighborhood focus area. The woodlands on all of Three Rivers Land Trust

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continued on pg 2
The Importance of Membership

A larger membership shows community support which helps with acquiring grant funding and raising our visibility throughout our region. Additional financial support will eventually allow us to hire staff. With paid staff we will be able to expand our work and conserve additional precious acres for future generations to enjoy.

With additional resources we will be able to conserve more properties like the Hobbs Farm in Acton and the Salmon Falls Preserve in North Lebanon. We will be able to continue work on projects like Forest Works! – the York County Forest Protection Project that has already protected owned wooded land in a ten town region in Northwestern York County. We will be able to continue to conserve these open spaces and preserve the unique landscape of our region.

Your membership is essential to our success and we cherish and are thankful for your support. If you have not already, we hope you will join or renew your membership today.

Finally, we also hope you will tell your friends and family about Three Rivers Land Trust. Tell them why the organization is so important to you and encourage them join as well.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

Volunteers & Thank Yous

Thanks to:

- Melissa Brandt for coordinating the owl presentation at our Annual Meeting.
- Madge Baker and Pat Smith for organizing a number of walks at the Walnut Hill Property.
- The Rivard Family and Glenn Wildes for their hospitality and help at Open Farm Day at Rivard’s.
- For their help at Alfred Festival Days: Fred Frodyma, Pat Smith, Al Carlson, Alfred Conservation Commission, Heidi Woolever Daly and our Float Participants and Organizers: Lee Burnett, Heidi Woolever Daly, Fred Frodyma, Carl Davis, Chad and Nick Liston, Dora Spedding, Glenn Wildes, Kathleen Neufville, Kelsey and Read McNamara, and Chris, Rob and Colm Hull.
- Madge Baker for taking up the task of straightening out our records in anticipation of us starting the land trust accreditation process.
- Madge Baker, Al Carlson, Tom Cashin, Heidi Woolever Daly, Carl Davis, Pat Hutchins and Bill Hutchins for their help at the 3RLT Display at the Acton Fair.
- Jean Noon for all her work as Board President of Three Rivers Land Trust.

Nathan Gallant of the Shapleigh Conservation Committee for all his good work clearing the trails at the Shapleigh Town Forest.

Fred Frodyma for all his work and involvement getting us started with the Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative. Fred also helped us secure a technology grant from the Norcross Wildlife Foundation for a computer and a scanner.

3RLT has successfully conserved over 1,800 acres which includes easements on 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.
All of them for their contribution to our Trust.

Chris, won the cruise. The sunset cooperated. Three Rivers is very grateful to sunset cruise on Mousam Lake. Board member, John Bozak, and his wife,

Last year Jane and Dan Archambeault donated to our fundraising auction a

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Farmers List — Buy Local & Support Local Growers to keep farm lands viable!

Annette’s Gardens, Perennials
Springvale 324-0331

Applegate Deer Farm
Shapleigh 793-8777

Berry Best Farm
Lebanon 457-1435

Blueberry Hill Farm
Acton 457-1151

Carpenter’s Christmas Tree Farm
Springvale 324-8899

Gile’s Family Farm
Acton 636-1752

Kelly Orchard Inc
Acton 477-2948

Late Light Farm
Sanford 324-6597

McDougal Orchards LLC
Springvale 324-9594

Notre Dame Institute
Alfred 324-6412

Oakhill Alpaca Ranch
Shapleigh 793-3414

Ridley’s Farm Store
Shapleigh 636-1068

Rivard’s Blueberry Farm
Springvale 324-5566

Sanford Farmers Market
Central Park
Saturday 9-12:00

Shapleigh Knoll Farm
Shapleigh 247-6948

Springvale Nurseries
Sanford 490-5843

The Noon Family Sheep Farm
Springvale 324-3733

Two Toad Farm
252-1103
www.twotoadfarm.com

Wolf Pine Farm CSA
Alfred 324-2367

Have you noticed how bustling the Sanford Farmers’ Market has become?

Since moving to Central Park in the downtown this year, the number of vendors has doubled to a dozen or more and foot traffic has increased noticeably. Discounts are available for seniors with Senior Share cards and for low-income residents with EBT cards.

It’s great to see support for local farms growing. Farming is a challenge, especially in southern Maine.

Folks at the market are very aware of the strong link between local agriculture and land conservation, as Sanford Farmers’ Market

I discovered from talking to several of them. Putting a conservation easement on a property can make land made permanently available to farming while lowering the cost to farmers.

“Preserving local farmland is very high on our list of goals,” said Mary Beth Stocking, who brings a gorgeous bounty of produce to the market. She and her partner Jordan Pike run Two Toad Farm on leased acreage in Lebanon. “The price of land is a big obstacle to new farmers getting into it,” she said. “People can’t really afford land as a farm anymore.”

The Forest Works! project is up and running. Outreach coordinator Lee Burnett has been educating landowners and town officials about the benefits of keeping woods as working forest. Both a brochure and a website (www.forestworksmne.org) have been produced. Presentations have been made in Waterboro, Newfield, Alfred and Acton. A series of classes will be taught through RSU 57 adult ed this fall. In addition, Burnett and others have worked with owners of large properties in Lebanon, Newfield and Alfred who are interested in creating legacies with their woodland.

Three Rivers Land Trust folks can take pride in playing a part in sustaining local agriculture. The trust holds conservation easements on the Berry Best Farm in Lebanon, where John and Chris Bozak grow peaches and blueberries, and the Jones Farm in Lebanon, where Roger and Karen Ridley pasture cows and grow tomatoes and corn. Two other local farms have conservation easements in place: McDougal Orchard in Springvale, where Jack and Ellen McAdam grow apples and other fruit, and Noon Family Sheep Farm in Springvale, where Jean and Bill Noon raise sheep.

We can all do more by shopping at farmers’ markets. In addition to Sanford, there’s the Newfield Farmers’ Market at 19th Century Willowbrook Village and the North Berwick Farmers’ Market at the North Berwick Town Hall Parking lot.

“Coming to the farmers’ market helps land conservation because it creates a community around food,” explains Heidi Woolever Daly. She and her husband Ned raise Sheep in Alfred. “This is an agricultural region historically. People want to see it continue. When people come to the farmers’ market they are participating in part of the solution, keeping land in a productive state.”

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New Members Since Last Newsletter

Lee & Gail Burnett
Robin Cobb
Thomas Collins
Richard & Nancy Carter
Joffre & Rita Duigle
Pastor Joe Everett
Linda East
Sandra and Roy Hutchinson
Daniel Krainin & Amy Woolover
Chad Liston

N. Grace Lowenburg
Gavin Maloney/Late Light Farm
Mary Lou McDonnell
Kelsey & Read McNamara
Merilee Mapes Perkins & John Perkins
Kim Mushk
Stanley & Arlene Smith
Edward & Amy Wertheim


Thanks also to: Terry Walters of Hollis, Donald Mansur, Maine Forest Service, Ken Canfield, Maine Forest Service, Steve Walker, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Judy Casey on a Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the project consultants: Lee Burnett, Marcel Polak, Maine Association of Conservation Commissions and Mike Gaito.

Potluck Announcement

The annual Three Rivers Land Trust dinner will be a potluck affair Friday, September 28 at Berry Best Farm, the farm of Chris and John Bozak, Coburn Drive off of Center Road, Lebanon, beginning at 5 pm. It will be preceded by a walk at 4pm to visit the working forest and the “pick your own” farm. The Land Trust has held an easement on their farm for several years. John is a member of the Board of Directors. It’s a wonderful place to visit. All are welcome.

Sunset Cruise

Last year Jane and Dan Archambeault donated to our fundraising auction a sunset cruise on Mousam Lake. Board member, John Bozak, and his wife, Chris, won the cruise. The sunset cooperated. Three Rivers is very grateful to all of them for their contribution to our Trust.

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ForestWorks! Update

The Forest Works! project is up and running. Outreach coordinator Lee Burnett has been educating landowners and town officials about the benefits of keeping woods as working forest. Both a brochure and a website (www.forestworksmne.org) have been produced. Presentations have been made in Waterboro, Newfield, Alfred and Acton. A series of classes will be taught through RSU 57 adult ed this fall. In addition, Burnett and others have worked with owners of large properties in Lebanon, Newfield and Alfred who are interested in creating legacies with their woodland.

All this focused activity has impressed the Forest Legacy Committee in Augusta, which is poised to amend its boundaries and make forests in our region eligible for federal Forest Legacy funding, which would be a tremendous boost. A decision is pending.

Thanks to the Forest Work! Steering Committee members: Joe Anderson, York County Soil and Water Conservation District, Greg Caporossi, Trust for Public Lands, LaMarr Clannon, Maine NEMO, Keith Fletcher, Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Fred Frodyma, Alfred Conservation