



■ Box 181, Center Lovell, Maine 04016

AN EDUCATIONAL NEWSLETTER OF UPCOMING EVENTS & PLANS FOR SUMMER/FALL 2006

NEWS BRIEF: **Lovell Citizens Approve Landmark Conservation Article**

At the March 4, 2006 Town meeting, Lovell voters approved a warrant article for land conservation, setting a statewide precedent. Warrant article #42 directs all future funds received through penalties assessed from the removal of property from Tree Growth or Open Space, to a dedicated land conservation account. Directing "change of use" penalties to such purposes are becoming increasingly popular in communities throughout the nation, but Lovell is the first Maine community to adopt such an article. Lovell voters expressed a strong commitment to maintaining Lovell's rural character and the natural areas that support traditional uses and native ecosystems. Everyone that lives, visits, works and recreates in our forests and on our waters owes a debt of gratitude to the citizens of Lovell for this commitment and visionary action.

The Article read as follows: "To see if the town will vote to allocate one hundred percent of funds received from penalties assessed on properties removed from Tree Growth or Open Space status to a town conservation account for use only in the purchase of conservation easements or conservation lands by the town independently or in partnership with conservation organizations."

Historically, Lovell has not experienced significant annual removals of property from these current use property tax assessment programs. From 1995-2003 total penalties assessed were \$3,330. However, recent years have seen increases with penalties assessed in 2004 of \$7,686 and \$8,950 in 2005. A significant portion of the undeveloped property in the community is currently enrolled in one or more of these current use programs. It is likely that some of Lovell's future development will occur on these properties, resulting in the growth of the dedicated land conservation fund. This action will provide the community with a tool for balancing losses of forestland and natural spaces with permanently set aside lands for human and natural community benefit. One might argue that such funds are not significant enough to make a difference. In many cases penalties paid from one acre are not enough to purchase an interest in an equal acre. However, these funds can serve as leverage to obtain matching funds from foundations and access to other public and private funds.

The citizens of Lovell deserve great credit for adopting this exciting and visionary action.

Ecology at Trout Pond

Join us at Camp Susan Curtis in Stoneham on June 3 from 9-1 for a program on ecological discoveries at Trout Pond. Students from the Fryeburg Academy Advanced Placement Environmental Studies class will guide participants by sharing their

knowledge and skill in woods, water and wildlife topics. Walks begin at 9, with a family style lunch provided at noon in the Camp Dining Room. Plans are also underway for a presentation on historical artifacts of Stoneham.

*Our next newsletter is scheduled
for early July, 2006.*

Welcome to our website.

Please e-mail us with questions and suggestions.

There is a lot of news at
www.gllt.org

Tom Henderson, Executive Director (207) 925-1056

Kevin Harding, V.P. Education (207) 925-1205

GREATER LOVELL LAND TRUST PRESENTS **NATURAL HISTORY AT THE LOVELL LIBRARY**

Wednesday Evenings in July and August at 8:00 PM

July 5: How to Survive Your Dayhike

**Kevin Harding, Amateur
Naturalist**

Most of us go out for dayhikes with high hopes for a good time with no thought of getting into difficulty. On the other hand, most search and rescues involve dayhikers who are lost or got "stuck," unexpectedly spending a night in the woods and need help because they were unprepared. We will discuss how to be safe in the woods and carry enough gear to survive for a few days while waiting for help without lugging in the kitchen sink. Building a survival kit and learning how to use it is actually great fun!

July 12: Sentinels of the Coast, Lighthouses of Maine

**Michael Perry, Professional
Speaker**

Is there anything as romantic as a lighthouse perched upon a craggy ledge, peering out to sea in wait for mariners in distress? Join Mike for a beautiful slide show journey down the Maine coast from the Isle of Shoals to the candy-striped lighthouse at West Quoddy Head. We will visit some of the 64 lighthouses of Maine and share fun stories and historical anecdotes, smiles and laughter for all! Lots of special memories rekindled!

July 19: Ferns in Our Forest

**Wink Lees,
Nature Conservancy Naturalist**

We all encounter ferns on our walks through the Maine woods and can enjoy their beauty, but as with most elements of nature we can enjoy them more if we learn more about this family of fascinating plants. Wink will help us learn to identify ferns, describe their life cycle, and clarify their place in the forest. Wink's evening presentation will be supplemented with a field trip on the following Saturday (July 22nd) for those who wish a more comprehensive experience.

July 26: Spring Migration

**David Brown, Tracker and
Naturalist**

Beginning in late April and ending in early June, waves of colorful migrant birds spread northward from their winter ranges into the greater Lovell area. Nearly two hundred species of warblers and other songbirds, waterfowl, hawks and wading birds pass through or stay to nest in the Kezar Lake watershed. This program uses David Brown's extensive collection of bird video, much of it shot in western Maine, to show how to identify many of these birds and learn something about their hidden lives as well.

August 2: Geology 101, New England & You

Wilson Flight, Retired Teacher

Join Wilson as he explains how the New England Landscape has been created and changed over time. He will give an overview of the geological rock cycle, the affect of the ice age, and why it would be a good idea to have earthquake insurance. Through diagrams and illustrations Wilson will explain how a geologist used rocks to read the history of New England.

August 9: Origins of Environmental Awareness

**Elliot Lilien, Retired History
Teacher and Burgess Smith,
Educator and GLLT Leader**

Two thoughtful educators will investigate how modern cultures develop a concern for the environment. Elliot will help us understand old world views of the natural world, while Burgess will help us deal with how Americans have put their own unique stamp on environmentalism. Understanding where ideas come from is always a useful tool to study today's debates and concerns. Although this panel is a more academic approach than our traditional evening talks, we guarantee a lively, spirited, provocative evening.

August 16th: Conservation Opportunities

**Tom Henderson, Executive
Director of the GLLT**

In the summer of 2005, the GLLT hosted a presentation on "Maine State Beginning with Habitats Program." This program provides communities with detailed information on the valuable ecological resources in their communities to assist in their land use and conservation planning. The GLLT is currently engaged in the development of a Conservation Plan for the Kezar River, Kezar Lake and Cold River Watersheds. Tom Henderson will present the conservation opportunities and priorities behind the plan that focuses on wildlife habitat and recreational corridors from the White Mountain National Forest to the Saco River.

**In the end we will conserve
only what we love.**

**We will love only what we
understand.**

**We will understand only
what we are taught.**

Baba Dioum, Senegalese Scholar

A New Season for Our Education Series

Each year the GLLT has done its best to bring a variety of walks and evening programs to the residents of the watershed. This year we are especially proud to be able to offer more opportunities than ever before that will deliver a wide range of enriching educational experiences. If you have joined us before be sure to come again and try something new. If you have never found the time to get out on the trails with one of our trained docents or enjoy an evening talk at the Library, please come and give us a try.

Gardening for Beneficials

"What's in your garden?"

- May 27 from 10-noon **"Annuals & Perennials for Beneficials"**
- July 1 from 10-noon **"Herbs for Beneficials"**

The native plants and the herbs, vegetables and flowers that adorn our landscapes each growing season share an important relationship to a group of small creatures, known as the beneficials. The beneficials, mostly insects, rely upon the plants for foliage and nectar for survival and the plants benefit from pollination and propagation. Most of us recognize the monarch butterfly or the swallow tail, the ruby throated humming bird or the plump and fuzzy bumble bee. Lesser known perhaps are the caterpillars, the pollinating moths, and the syrphid flies. Many are dependent upon very specific plant species for nectar or foliage. The monarch is most noted for its total dependency upon milkweed for its larvae stage. Many of these beneficials are at risk due to declines in the habitats and plant species upon which they depend. In response, communities across the country are incorporating planting for beneficials into public and private gardens.

Garden clubs, school kids and the serious and casual gardeners alike are all discovering the ease and enjoyment of attracting beneficials to their landscapes. Whether you have a few potted plants, a small herb bed or a full landscape of annual and perennial beds, you can make a big difference. Small deeds go along way to aiding these small creatures and multiple small deeds, throughout the community aid entire populations. Plant some lupines for the eastern tailed blue butterfly. Allow some milkweed to flourish in a small patch of the old field. Resist the urge to eliminate those foliage eating caterpillars as butterflies they will become.

The Greater Lovell community is fortunate to have Susan Belding, owner and operator of the Old Stage Farm, an organic farm specializing in flowers and herbs. Susan is knowledgeable in beneficial insects and birds and their plant and habitat requirements. The Greater Lovell Land Trust is partnering with Susan to encourage local gardeners to consider growing beneficial landscapes and to adopt stewardship practices to ensure healthy beneficial populations. Old Stage Farm and the GLLT will be co-hosting two programs this season:

- 1) **"Annuals & Perennials for Beneficials"** on May 27 from 10-noon
- 2) **"Herbs for Beneficials"** on July 1 from 10-noon.

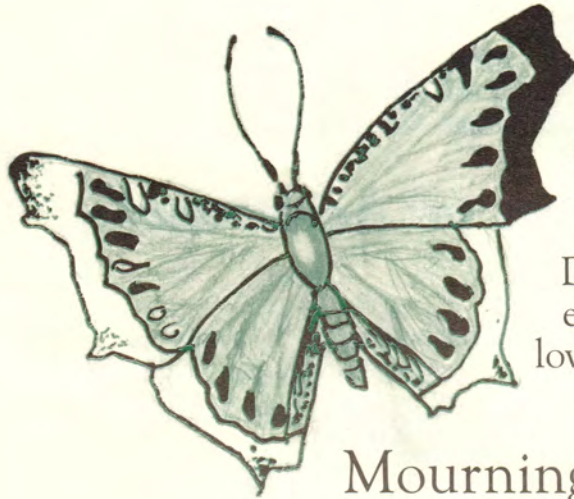
Programs are open to the public and families are encouraged to attend. Truly special for children will be a butterfly identification and release at the July program, weather permitting. Susan will have organic seedlings for many of the featured plants on sale at the farm the day of the event and throughout the season. Please join us for these two high quality programs and support our little garden creatures by growing beneficial landscapes.



■ Box 181, Center Lovell, Maine 04016
Telephone 207-925-1056

April-May June

1st emerge in Spring.



Hibernates in crevices of old buildings and hollow trees.

Dark brown edges in yellow with blue dots.

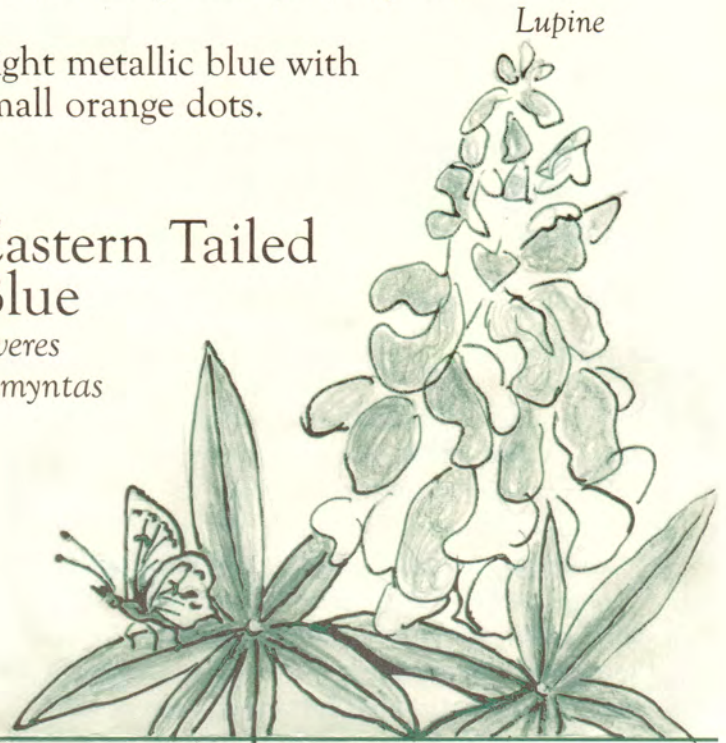
Mourning Cloak
Nymphalis antiopa

Feeds on legumes (i.e., lupine).

Light metallic blue with small orange dots.

Eastern Tailed Blue

Everes comyntas



Lupine

July August

Caterpillar feeds on Chinese forget-me-nots (Cynoglossom).

Brown with top pink under wing with blue eye spots.



American Painted Lady
Cynthia virginensis

Caterpillar feeds on common violet leaves.

Orange and brown with black markings and silver spots.

Great Spangled Fritillary

Speyeria cybele



WALKS AND HIKES 2006

Our walks are free and led by trained docents. No prior sign up is necessary. Docents will guide visitors on trails and point out important natural features, identify plants, identify animal sign, and help participants learn to read the forested landscape. Please bring appropriate clothing, water, bug spray, and good walking shoes to deal with all weather. Pets are not invited. Car pooling is encouraged. Families are welcome, but programs are most suitable for children over age five. All our walks are scheduled on Thursdays to make it easier to remember and plan your calendar with the exception of a walk on Saturday July 22nd.



Note: There are two programs on July 6th that will occur at different places and times designed for different audiences.

July 6th - 9-12: Great Brook (Active) Meet at the Heald Pond parking area and carpool up to the entrance at Hut Road. A hike up along Great Brook to view the changes created by a special project by the Forest Service to bring back native species of fish by improving the structure of the brook.

July 6th - 10-12: Heald Pond (Family) A walk especially designed for school age children to explore the world of forest floor critters.

July 13th - 9-12: Sucker Brook Preserve (Active) We will focus on the bear activity in this area (on and off trail) and examine a bear tree, a bear's skull, bear feeding activity, and if we are very lucky we might find a bear track or some scat.

July 20th - 9-12: Kezar River Tract (Strenuous) Come and walk our newly acquired 100 acre tract of land that borders the Kezar River. We will walk on old roads, bushwhack through the forest and climb up and down several steep ravines to examine what a newly cut forest does for wildlife.

July 22nd - 9-11: Sucker Brook (Casual) A special trip to study ferns with an expert from the Nature Conservancy.

July 27th - 9-11: Heald Pond (Gentle) We will look for medicinal and edible plants along the roadsides and in the Heald Pond area.

August 3rd - 9-11: Sucker Brook Preserve (Casual) We will focus on mushrooms and ground cover in this lovely shaded riparian environment along the brook.

August 10th - 9-11: Stockford Reserve (Gentle) We will focus on wildflowers and the forest management of this reserve as we walk to the top of a small hill to enjoy the view.

August 17th - 9-12: Heald Pond (Active)

A walk to the summit of Flat Hill to explore the woodlands and look for plants and animal sign of particular interest.

Note: There are two programs on August 24th that will occur at different places and times designed for different audiences.

August 24th - 9-12: Heald Pond (Casual) With the guidance of Tom Wessel's *Reading the Forested Landscape*, two sites will be visited. At Heald Pond the concepts will be introduced and then participants will proceed to the Bradley Pond parking area to apply these ideas to a new site.

August 24th - 10-12: Sucker Brook (Family)

A walk especially geared for families with school age children to explore the critters on the forest floor.

August 31st - 9-12: Whiting Hill (Active)

A walk to explore the beginning of the fall season by looking at seeds and their vital role in the ecosystem.

FALL HIKES

Note: Be sure to have an appropriate parking pass from the National Forest.

Sept. 16th, Saturday - 8AM: Baldface Mt.

We need to get there early to assure adequate parking at the Baldface parking lot. We will not go to the highest summit, but will ascend the rock scramble to enjoy the views. This is about a six hour hike for those in good condition. If time permits we may explore the Chandler Gorge on the way back.

Sept. 30th, Saturday - 9 AM: Caribou Mt.

Meet at the Caribou Mt. parking area off Route 113. We will ascend the Caribou Trail and come down the Mud Brook Trail. This is a six hour hike for those in good condition.

Guidelines For Walks

- A gentle walk is on wide, flat trails that do not go long distances.
- A casual walk is on developed trails on mostly level terrain.
- An active walk is on developed and rough trails up and down hill.
- A strenuous walk is on and off trail, up and down hill.

DIRECTIONS

The Heald Pond and Flat Hill walks will take place at the Heald and Bradley Reserve. From Lovell drive north on route 5 and turn right on Slab City Road and proceed a short distance over a bridge to a small parking area on your left past the launching area where a docent will meet you.

The Sucker Brook walks will use the Sucker Brook Preserve off Horseshoe Pond Road. From Lovell drive north on route 5 to the West Lovell Road on your left. Proceed over the bridge to Foxboro road (a left at the next fork). Drive about two miles to Horseshoe Pond road on your right. Proceed down this dirt road a short distance to the Horseshoe Pond parking area.

The Kezar River Tract walks will meet across from the "Wicked Good Store" where a good forest road enters the land. Look for orange flags at the road entrance. Proceed carefully to an open parking area.

The Stockford Reserve walks will begin at the reserve. From route 5 take the West Lovell Road over the bridge and then the first dirt road on your left (Ladies Delight). The reserve parking lot is on your right a short distance down the road.

Native Roots: The American Defense of Nature

We living generations of Americans often associate the origins of the environmental protection movement with the ferment of dissent, reform, and civil strife that rocked the decades of the 1960's and 1970's. Thus it sometimes is mistaken for one of the contemporary, political creeds that shared the stage with the anti-war movement: civil rights, feminism, sexual liberation, and other challenges to the established order. In fact, though, preservation of America's wild places is a mission with a long, distinguished genealogy, shaped by an advocacy movement nearly as old as the Republic, with concerns far beyond the politics of the moment. The taproots are right here in northern New England.

Preservation's first spokesmen of great consequence, by the reckoning of historians, were two eloquent sons of this region, Henry David Thoreau and George Perkins Marsh, born in the generation that followed the Constitution's authors. Nature and wilderness were essential for respite from mundane affairs and for spiritual understanding, according to the American Transcendentalist writers, among whom Thoreau was a pivotal figure. Walden is the best known of his literary excursions, and Civil Disobedience the most famous of his commentaries on political ethics. But it was his call for national preserves of wilderness in his reflections on The Maine Woods, printed posthumously in 1864, that is considered a defining event in the history of environmental preservation.

In that same year, George Perkins Marsh published Man and Nature; or, Physical Geography as Modified by Human Action, arguably the first systematic analysis of permanent, human impact on major ecosystems. As a boy in Vermont, Marsh had recognized the damage that deforestation was doing to soils and watersheds. Carefully observing the long-term effects of massive timber destruction he saw around him while Ambassador to Italy, he concluded in Man and Nature that environmental damage had wrought catastrophic climate changes that undermined the empires of the Mediterranean. This insight connected the preservation of nature with economic self-interest, and thereby prompted his countrymen to launch the defense of our forests. Marsh therefore is celebrated as a father of conservation in America.

Clearly the land trust work we do today in the Kezar Watershed fits within this lineage. We're engaged in a mission that reaches back a century and a half, to the far-sighted naturalists of a time before the industrial age, when the frontier was still a place and not a memory. We maintain lands and waters where humans still connect with nature, as Thoreau considered so essential. We defend the ecosystems of the watershed from the consequences Marsh predicted if we heedlessly consume the living substance of our habitat. We carry on historic work, but its object is the preservation of our future.

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