

## Serving Lovell, Stoneham, Stow, and Sweden, Maine

### Protecting the water, the watershed, and the wildlife and collaborating for the future in Lovell, Stoneham, Stow, Sweden, and the region Jill Rundle, President

ur environment-the open land, the waters, the wildlife, the ecosystems that we work to protect-doesn't see town lines or state borders. The GLLT mission serves four communities directly, and effects reach across the region. All lands that are challenged by development needs and environmental changes that are here now and looming in the future.

The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report was released earlier this year. This periodic report from the UN has become increasingly alarming and this year's laid out in stark terms the impacts of the environmental crisis that is gripping the globe.

We've seen it ourselves in small ways: we saved on snow plowing the low snowfall last winter, followed by a rainless spring that triggered the hatch of gypsy moths, then 20 days of rain in July (though not enough to break the drought). Sunsets burned through smoky haze from wildfires thousands of miles away, emerald ash borers found their way to our trees, the late summer brought heat waves, and autumn colors emerged only in mid-October.

The weather is changing rapidly and in unpredictable ways. Changes are impacting us in the here and now, but they are also giving us a heads-up about looking ahead. We're seeing a new normal of shifting seasons and weather that may mean our quality of life in the future will be threatened in ways that we can't anticipate but that we should plan for.

Conservation is an important tool in planning for the future. It creates a buffer against encroachments in the ecosystems and it also works with development planning to help us maintain the pristine, rustic, rural, special nature of this place that we all enjoy.

There is some urgency to focusing on a changing environment in future planning.. The GLLT is working with our service area towns and with the conservation organizations in our region, across the state, and beyond to address the issues that we can see, and to prepare for things that we haven't seen vet.

Your support for this work is important now, and for the future.

Thank you.



Migration season Photo by Jill Rundle

## Climate changes are speeding up

Impacts around the globe and in our region mean that conservation priorities must change

Have you heard the phrase, "think globally, act locally? It's especially relevant in the context of the environment and conservation. The concept has been attributed to a Scottish biologist and social activist who applied it to town planning as early as 1915 (go town comprehensive plans!) and it was revived in the 1970s when it was linked to the momentum of the environmental movement.

Reports on the impacts of climate change are reaching us from around the world. It's nearly impossible not to think globally about this issue. But it's sometimes hard to feel like we are responding in a meaningful way at the local level—to connect changes in complex atmospheric-oceanic interactions across the globe to actions we can take in our own backyards. But local is where it starts, with our behaviors as individuals, or with the work of a local land trust like GLLT.

Land conservation organizations may have some advantages. We have tools to apply to protect the undeveloped lands that take up and store carbon and filter the waters that support life as we know it. We also have information on the ecological processes that support natural resilience to rapidly changing climate conditions. But, even as we work out how to adapt the management plans for lands that we already conserve, we also need to focus on how to prioritize the lands we should protect for the future. GLLT is actively engaging in local and regional initiatives that consider where to conserve and how to manage lands to maximize climate change response and plan for the future, while supporting our communities' economies and well-being.

GLLT developed a strategic conservation plan in 2008. The plan identified the places in the Cold River, Kezar Lake, and Kezar River watersheds where conservation could achieve the highest impact on the important biodiversity, wildlife habitat, and water resources in our region. Now, fifteen years later, we are revisiting the plan and updating it to reflect the profound environmental changes that are making a dramatic difference in our region.

Thinking about reshaping conservation work to reduce greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and adapt to climate change has been going on for decades in the US. Two facts critical to land conservation goals have become clear: species are moving-locally and over great distances-in response to changing climate conditions and because of this movement, the conservation value of diverse and connected lands has intensified. For a landscape, resilience to change is achieved through its ability to sustain ecological functions (such as maintaining wildlife habitat and preventing erosion) and critical processes (such as decomposing organic material) in the face of hazardous events and new types of disturbances. Protecting resilient, connected lands provides plants, animals, and other organisms the opportunity, for example, to move from the south slope to the cooler north slope of a hill or head north through the White Mountains into Canada. Or even move from southern locales into Maine. Without planning for these so-called range-shifts,

#### Erika Rowland, Executive Director

Existing Conservation Land CCI WaterflawUWadiing Bird Hal CCI Watershed Boundaries

Focus Areas for Land Protection Efforts

Focus areas defined for the 2008 Conservation Plan show the importance of key watersheds in the GLLT service area for species movement and resource protection.

risks for population loss—and in some cases extinction—of plants, fish, insects, and animals due to changes in temperature, moisture, seasonal timing, and conflicts with other species will increase. So will risks to human communities related to flood frequency, pests, and pathogens

There is good news. With greater understanding of these changes, and better anticipation of the impacts, science-based tools are becoming available to help guide responses to conservation questions, including land protection. As GLLT contemplates an update to its 2008 conservation plan, we are integrating data available through The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) Resilient and Connected Lands Mapping Tool. The data starts with the important biodiversity and other values that were part of GLLT's first conservation plan, and also adds information about geologic settings, connectivity between large, undeveloped blocks of land, and other features that convey resilience to a landscape. (For a deep dive check out maps.tnc.org/ resilientland/). As TNC describes it, using landscape resilience to shape conservation is about "saving the playing field, while allowing the teams to change through time."

Resilient and connected landscapes are undeveloped

areas, typically forested and rich with different types of water resourcesrivers, ponds, and other wetlands. The Kezar River watershed, extending through Waterford, Lovell, and Sweden contains forest cover that serves as a landscape-sized filtration system to keep water quality high. The wetlands also work to intercept surface waters and reduce the impact of flooding related to heavy rain events. And the forests, living trees, standing dead and downed woody debris, and even the forest floor, absorb greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, store it in

living (leaves, roots, and cambium) and dead tissue (most of a tree's trunk).

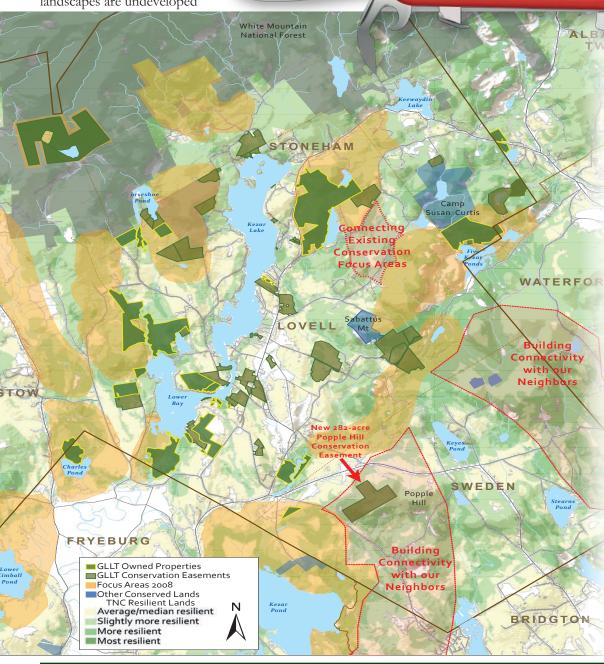
Not unlike the multiple options on a pocket knife, TNC's Resilient and Connected Landscape Mapping Tool will also calculate the current and projected future carbon storage capacity of a land parcel.

Looking at GLLT's 2008 conservation focus areas using TNC's climate-resilient and connected lands tools, most of the priority areas identified in 2008 remain important. Some reshaping will better capture

> connectivity within GLLT's three-watershed service area and some added sites could build regional connectivity between our communities and those of neighboring land trusts.

GLLT began this new era of work with the completion of a conservation project in early 2021. The new Popple Hill Conservation Easement in Sweden protects 282 acres of highly resilient land. Generously donated by Donna Simms, who had owned the property with her husband since the 1960s, the conservation easement is the first Sweden piece in the climateresilience puzzle of south to north connectivity in the Kezar River Watershed and part of a growing regional network of lands conserved for the future.

Greater Lovell Land Trust Fall 2021 Newsletter



### Meet the Neighbors! We live in a great neighborhood

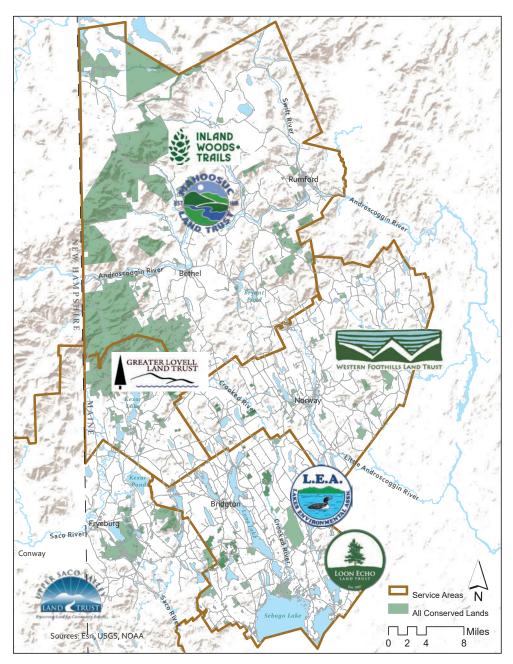
Moira Yip, Board Member

Luckily, the GLLT doesn't exist in isolation. We are surrounded by a network of sister organizations that act in many important ways to protect the land and the environment all around us. Every time you come to our area, and every time you leave, you travel through lands in the towns that these organizations protect, and that also keep us from being a tiny solitary island of beauty surrounded by a sea of development.

Let me introduce some of the other important pieces that work with us to solve the puzzle of conservation in our region.

When you arrive in Lovell from New Hampshire, you have driven through the territory of the Upper Saco Valley Land Trust (usvlt. org). Founded in 2000, the USVLT conserves 12,000 acres in the Mount Washington Valley, including eight properties with trail systems. They work to "preserve the ecological systems and cultural values of the Upper Saco River Valley...provide for the continued well-being and availability of land for farming, forestry, recreation, and education, as well as for land remaining in its natural state, benefiting natural and human communities." They serve 11 towns: Chatham, Conway, Eaton, Bartlett, Albany and Jackson, NH, and extend into the towns of Fryeburg, Denmark and Brownfield, ME. GLLT shared several board members with USVLT in their early years, and our first Executive Director, Tom Henderson, served on their board as well.

When you use Rte 302 through Naples and Bridgton you are passing through the service area of the Loon Echo Land



Trust (loonecholandtrust.org). LELT was founded just after the GLLT, in 1987, and they now protect over 8,500 acres of land in the northern Sebago Lake region. Many of their properties support multi-use trail systems. You may have tackled one of the four trails that they maintain on their best known preserve, Pleasant Mountain.

The Lakes Environmental Association, (mainelakes.org), is focused on

protecting lakes and water quality throughout the region. LEA's mission is to "preserve and restore the exceptional water quality of Maine's lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, and wetlands and the integrity of their watersheds." They have led the ongoing battle against invasive water plants like Eurasian Milfoil, that can do substantial damage to our pristine waters, and they are well known to many of us because of their research and educational Lake Science Center, located in, Bridgton. The Center staff works to foster and sustain initiatives that will assure the long-term resilience of freshwater systems and communities. In addition to limnology (freshwater science) studies, the LEA preserves about 1,000 acres, including two preserves with trail systems-Holt Pond and the Highland Research Forest- that focus on the intertwined functions of terrestrial and aquatic natural communities.

If you arrive in our area from the Lewiston area traveling through South Paris and Norway, it is the Western Foothills Land Trust (wfltmaine.org) that cares for those hills. Founded in 1987, WFLT serves the Oxford Hills area, including Waterford, Norway, Paris, Harrison and Oxford. It protects over 7,000 acres, including six properties with trails. They are "dedicated to the conservation and preservation of native ecosystems, farm and forest lands, watersheds, and scenic landscapes for the benefit of wild and human communities in western Maine." If you're a Nordic skier (or have always wanted to give it a try), check out the 7 miles of groomed trails with equipment available on loan at WFLT's Roberts Farm Preserve in Norway.

If you come from the North, via Bethel, the Mahoosuc Valley Land Trust (www.mahoosuc.org), founded in 1988, covers Albany Township, Bethel, Gilead, Newry, and Rumford, as well as several NH towns in the Mahoosuc Range. Their mission is "to conserve and share the Mahoosuc region's important natural lands with our communities now and for the future." They conserve over 8,600 acres, including the newly acquired Shelburne Riverlands and recently have been running the highly significant Campaign for the Androscoggin. Their properties support over 20 miles of trails and 4 boat launches to the Androscoggin Canoe Trail.

Also Bethel-based is Inland Woods & Trails (woodsandtrails.org), a conservation and outdoor recreation organization "dedicated to creating economic growth and prosperity by connecting communities through the development, maintenance, and promotion of a multi-use recreational trail network for human-powered activities for all ages and abilities." They have all-season trails including hiking, skiing, and mountain biking!

Nature doesn't care about town lines. A regional view and collaboration on land conservation initiatives that straddle our assorted towns and protect our larger forests and entire ecosystem is increasingly important.

So, stay alert to the work of these wonderful organizations; we owe all of them our gratitude.

"It's not about being perfect; it is about doing

So, don't get down on yourself for failures. Do get creative.

Before disposing of something, think about whether you or

someone else could use it. Together we can move toward a

the best that you can in the circumstances."



This summer we co-hosted a remote Zero Waste Maine workshop with Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library and Casco Public Library. The idea is to discover ways to reduce the plastic in your life and to ind ways to make your home and life more eco-friendly.

Going waste free is a process that one needs to ease into.

It takes time to break old habits and form new ones.

#### Here is a baker's dozen ways to get started:

- Learn to love your tap water
- Sip from a reusable water bottle, travel mug
- Stash reusable bags in your vehicle
- Shop at farmers' markets
- Frequent yard sales and thrift shops
- Choose unpackaged options
- BYO "to go" containers

#### For more information: zerowasteme.org

• BYO cutlery set and cloth napkin

Zero Waste Maine.

- Ask for "no straw"
- Turn worn out clothing into rags
- Use wool dryer balls
- Cover food with beeswax wraps
- Wrap gifts in reusable materials



Greater Lovell Land Trust Fall 2021 Newsletter

## Programming in a pandemic? We've got that!

#### Leigh's Top Five Takeaways from the new normal

Like the rest of the world navigating the twists and turns of the pandemic, Greater Lovell Land Trust's education programs worked up a hybrid model, including in-person and remote formats. We're grateful to the town of Lovell for allowing us to use the Rec Field for some in-person presentations. We were also thrilled to return to Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library and Hewnoaks Artist Colony on several occasions over the summer. At other times, we adapted to Google Meet and Zoom programs that made it possible to pull off presentations that allowed those near and far to attend.

### It's *your* education program... but what did I learn from creating it?

For starters, partnering with Lovell Rec to offer some programs is a real benefit for both organizations and for the town. Periodically, Meg Dyer and I brainstorm and the result is a

variety of events that introduce people to GLLT properties. One such event was the three-location Easter Egg hunt. With Lovell Rec and New Suncook PTA, we stuffed and hid 1,200 eggs. Oops, I mean the Easter Bunny did that. When families arrived at Kezar River Reserve, I asked if they'd ever been there before. Most often the answer was no. Now they know where it is and the reserve has seen a lot of traffic all summer. Going forward, we'll continue to offer the hunt at GLLT properties rather than at the elementary school. Oh, and by



the way, we thought all the eggs had been found, but...I recently discovered one with a piece of candy still hidden inside. Keep your eyes open! Finders keepers.

My second learning: With the snap of a finger you really can shift to Plan B... even if you don't have a Plan B. When the leader of the Yoga Walk had a family emergency

moments before arriving at the trailhead, participants determined to go on the walk anyway and contribute what they could. All were a bit anxious to start, but as we walked two or three shared yoga poses at different points along the trail, another taught us some Tai Chi movements, and there were moments of silence and shared quiet reflection. Plan B led to an ending of gratefulness by all.

Another take-away (and one of my favorites), be open to (and watch for) surprises along the trail. So often we go outdoors with an expectation that we'll spy a certain critter. We hope for these surprises. It's those unexpected sightings that are

#### Leigh Hayes, Education Director

the best, like the time we were birding during our Feathered Friends Fridays in June and one participant went behind the blind at Deer Hill Bog (yes, we sometimes go afield). As I approached, she frantically whispered, "Leigh, come here." Walking around the front of the blind, I still wasn't sure what drew her attention, until she pointed. There was a moose at the water's edge.

#### Challenging oneself to step outside of the comfort level also took on new meaning. This summer, Dr. Nat Wheelwright

joined us for a nature walk that involved spending some time with leeches. Yes, those blood-sucking little annelid worms. On a walk attended by fifteen people, three of us stepped into the water. After only a few minutes, a leech found me, and quickly attached to my



leg. As I tried to get it off and into my hand, it detached. I stepped out to let others give it a try, but no one took me up on that offer. In the meantime, another leech, a species that prefers amphibians over humans, began swimming around Moira Yip's leg. Nat eventually captured it and placed it in a white tray so all on shore could see it. Then he did the unthinkable and encouraged us to hold it! It was rather like playing with a slinky as I found myself placing one hand below the other to capture its moves. As if that wasn't enough, Nat put it on his face. We all watched in awe, until it approached his ear. We gasped and he quickly pulled it off and returned it to the pond.

Finally, it's the people who have really jazzed me this past year. Maybe it's because we're all grateful for the gifts of the land and the ability to explore together again. I've learned that our subscribers really appreciate the Monday email blasts—a total surprise because we hear so often about overflowing email. But during this pandemic, some of you have told me how much you look forward to them each week. So many have shared their delight in seeing what we're up to and what the landscape looks like even when they can't be with us. I've also learned that you like the variety of programming that the land trust offers. That said, I've realized that there are certain age groups that we don't capture. We're working on that, and it didn't go unnoticed that at a denim workshop co-hosted with Hewnoaks, we had representation from every age group. Have a suggestion? Contact me: leigh.hayes@gllt.org.

Check gllt.org for a current list of events and sign up to receive our weekly email blast for updates and information about all events *including some pop-ups*.

## onservation Makeover ney Pond Reserve becomes ney Pond Conservation Easement

We have breaking news. The Whitney Pond property has new owners, and it will still remain as one of GLLT's important conservation lands. "Wait, what?"

GLLT purchased the 64-acre Whitney Pond property in late 2014. The property is lovely. It surrounds a 10-acre wildlife pond. It has some rocky cliffs with views of the surrounding forestlands. The outlet brook feeds into the Crooked River and the Sebago watershed. Turtles, beavers, wading birds...

## It has all the features and conservation values a land trust seeks to protect in an ecosystem.

The property also has some features that are outside the usual mission of a land trust. There is an off-the-grid cabin, which is often in need of repairs and maintenance, a bridge over the outlet that is part of an ongoing tug-of-war with the resident beavers, and a right-of-way over an unmaintained one and a half mile gravel road to reach it. The cabin is a special location and for a number of years we made it available to rent as an affordable, remote, outdoor experience. The costs associated with the rental and property management were a drain on the budget, never matched by the income. Expenses mounted over the years and then COVID hit.

### "I thought land trusts never sold conservation land?"

It is unusual. Land trusts only sell conservation lands in very exceptional circumstances. GLLT's board of directors faced just such a situation.

Over more than a year we engaged in sometimes emotional deliberation. For many on our team the cabin on the property is a very special place. Ultimately, with consideration of our organization's future, the GLLT board decided to put the cabin on the market subject to a conservation easement held by the land trust. The property would continue to be protected, and

would certainly be held by new owners who shared a conservation from original project funders, the new owners took possession of the with an easement in place. There are permanent limits on building and the site and CLUT.

vision. With approval property on October 1 other activities allowed on

the site and GLLT will continue to monitor the property each year to ensure that the terms of the conservation easement and conservation values that so many appreciated at the start are being upheld by wonderful new, conservation easement owners who share our vision for the future.

We're looking forward to welcoming the new conservation easement owners and we extend many thanks to all who have volunteered their time and energy to make the Whitney Pond reserve a conservation success. Special thanks to board member emeritus, Heinrich Wurm and Linda Wurm, a longtime GLLT docent

View of Whitney Pond from the outlet beaver dam



## Wandering LDs (formerly known as "gypsy" moths)

#### Rhyan Paquereau, Land Steward

We call them Gypsy Moths, but the Entomological Society of America (ESA) decided in 2021 to

change the common name of this invasive European pest as the word "gypsy" is considered a pejorative term by the Roma people. The ESA hasn't settled on a new common name for Lymantria dispar, but "Wandering Moth" and "LD Moth" are pulling ahead as the preferred moniker.

The name change may be news, but we already know how destructive these invasive moths are to North American forests. In early summer, caterpillars

emerge and feed on the leaves of broadleaf trees. The damage is most noticeable from late June to early July as caterpillars reach maturity. During this stage up to 70% of their caloric requirement is consumed, which often results in mature trees being completely defoliated overnight.

During July, caterpillars begin to form reddish-

brown pupae in protected places on tree trunks, wooden structures, on trail blaze signs, and most anywhere else. By late July mature moths emerge, and females begin laying eggs on trees, rocks, and structures in their distinctive fuzzy, tancolored masses. They are everywhere!

Lymantria dispar arrived in Maine in the 1970s, and it wasn't long before severe outbreaks resulted in widespread defoliation events, particularly in the 1980s. Natural fluctuations occur in Maine due to weather and disease,

which are closely related. Cold winters have a huge impact on the number of eggs that survive. A single night of

-20°F or colder will kill most of the egg masses above the snow line. Once eggs hatch and grow into caterpillars and moths, disease (primarily in the form of fungal pathogens) starts to take a toll. These pathogens often require a

warm, damp start to the summer in order to thrive. The fact that

the 2020-21 winter in southern Oxford County was relatively mild and was followed by a hot, dry start

to summer contributed to the outbreaks this year.

There are benefits and drawbacks to everything, and there are some benefits to a Lymantria dispar outbreak. For starters, the pockets of defoliation give understory shrubs and young tees a rare dose of sunlight

that can boost growth. Many of these understory shrubs create thickets and produce fruits that serve as essential habitat and food sources for birds and small mammals. These plants are further helped by the frass (or droppings) from Lymantria dispar caterpillars that rains down during defoliation events, providing added fertilizer. Trees that do succumb to defoliation become "snags," another essential source of food and shelter for small mammals and cavity-nesting birds. Thankfully, some native birds (gray catbirds, and

downy woodpeckers, to name a couple) eat Lymantria dispar caterpillars, and the ubiquitous gray squirrels are likely to munch on pupae.

Where does this leave us? Lymantria dispar is here to stay. Mass eradication is incredibly difficult without application of pesticides to our forests. The good news is that large-scale outbreaks are uncommon, and defoliation events are typically very localized. Mature broadleaf trees are able to withstand



several seasons of defoliation, although they are more susceptible to other stressors. Needleleaved trees are less lucky—they can be killed by a single defoliation. However, it's not as though there is nothing we can do. Here are things landowners can do to help control *Lymantria dispar* and maintain healthy trees.

asses on forest trees

- Egg masses can be scraped off of trees into a container and then incinerated. Eggs can also be crushed, but this is not as effective.
- Burlap can be placed around the base of tree trunks during summer to trap caterpillars underneath, where they can then be destroyed.
- Commercially available "tanglefoot" adhesive strips can be placed around tree trunks to prevent caterpillars from climbing into the canopy.
- Licensed pesticide applicators can be hired to apply insecticides to trees in larger areas, although the above mechanical methods are preferred and can help reduce the severity of small infestations.

As with so many of life's happenings, one species loss is another species gain, and benefits do arise on the wings of our wandering, LD moths.



mmer foliage damag

Adult and egg mass on trail signs

#### Kezar Lake News from the KLWA Rick Pilsbury, President

L ooking back on the summer of 2021, the looming question is how did it go by so fast and how can we slow it down. Submissions welcome.

Until then, please be assured our watershed is in excellent health thanks to your generous support and commitment to our mission to preserve, protect and maintain.

We were busy this summer. We added two new Directors—Dave Durrenberger and Chris Brink—and thanked retiring Directors Ed Poliquin, Don Griggs, Wes Huntress and Lynda Rasco. We introduced the MainLakes "LakeSmart" program which marks a big step forward for the watershed. It assists lakeshore property owners to understand and implement best practices to sustain the health of the watershed. Please participate in "LakeSmart." Learn about it and sign up at our website, Kezarwatershed. org. Find LakeSmart under the Projects drop-down menu. We'll take it from there.

2021 proved to be a good year for our loons. Nine chicks–four on Kezar, and five on the watershed's ponds–reached an age of six weeks, the age they are considered to have fledged. This is the first year since our study began four years ago that the number of fledged chicks reached the level to maintain a sustainable population. Our new nesting platforms have been a big help in this effort. We did lose one

adult loon to an eagle attack near the town beach. If you see an injured loon, please call the Maine Wardens at 207-287-8000. It is also important to call the KLWA at 207-925-8020, as we can often act very quickly.

Thanks to all who attended our live annual meeting in July and to the Old Saco Inn for providing such a beautiful venue. Our top priority is "vigilance" and with your help we will continue to keep eyes on the water.





Greater Lovell Land Trust loans Nature Backpacks that are filled with tools and information to make exploring the natural world fun and interesting. The backpacks change from season to season and for new topics. The backpacks have been updated for autumn with new topics that fit the season:

- Red: Nature in Your Backyard
- Green: Geology
- Gray: Trees
- Blue: Mammals.

Each is stocked with topic field guides and naturalist gear including maps, magnifiers, notebooks and more. Library members can check them out of Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library for a week at a time, just like you would a book. Have fun exploring!

# 27-year-long milfoireradication

#### Diane Caracciolo, Chair Lovell Invasive Plant Prevention Committee

This summer, after 26 years of battling an insidious milfoil infestation, caretakers of Cushman Pond declared that they have finally eradicated their pesky green foe. Residents found variable-leaf milfoil in Cushman Pond in 1995, perhaps unwittingly brought by bait fisherman who move traps from pond to pond.

Excessive plant growth can reach from the bottom of the pond to the surface. It reduces the dissolved oxygen in the water, which harms fish and native plant life. Recreation is spoiled by tangles of plants that clog propellers, intakes, and wrap around swimmers' arms and legs.

Over the past 26 years, more than 150 people have participated in the antimilfoil effort, which collectively has taken thousands of hours. In 1998 an aquatic herbicide was applied to the infestation and isolated from the rest of the pond. Following the treatment, snorkelers and divers removed recurring growth by hand.

Even small broken fragments of the tenacious and fragile plant can produce regrowth, so the work is slow and recurrence is common. Benthic mats—black cloth or plastic that sits on the bottom and smothers the plants—were custom-sized for the small pond. Native plants reclaimed the areas where the mats were used.

Maine Department of Environmental Protection considers a water body to be milfoil-free if the plant isn't found for three consecutive years. Eradication is rare, a very small



Scott Gregory (left) and Doug Faille celebrate the 27 year cleanup and declare Cushman Pond "milfoil-free. (courtesy Conway Daily Sun)

number of infestations have been successfully removed and ponds returned to pristine condition.

The last time the eradication workers found Milfoil in Cushman Pond was August 2018. The 2021 dive with six snorkelers, four scuba divers and about 35 people in canoes, kayaks, and along the shore combing the pond was the last of 16 consecutive lake surveys with no finds. The Friends of Cushman Pond passed with flying colors!

The Lovell Invasive Plant Prevention Committee is supported by the town and donations. LIPPC conducts courtesy boat inspections at town launches during the boating season. If you see a suspicious plant, note the location and contact lippc.org, or take a sample to the Kezar Lake Marina for identification.



## Calendar

#### Saturday, October 2, 9:30am

**Rainbow of Fallen Leaves Hike** We'll gather colorful leaves and create rainbows at the summit.

#### Friday, October 15, 5:00-7:00pm (rain date: October 16)

#### Jack-o-Lantern Hike

Get into the Halloween spirit with the first GLLT/ Lovell Rec co-sponsored Jack-o-Lantern hike.

#### Sunday, November 7 12:30-3:30pm

#### Soup Loop, Pasta Path, and other trails

In collaboration with Lovell Food Pantry and Sweden Food pantry, we'll offer various hikes. Your admission will be non-perishable items and toiletries

#### December, All month long

#### Festival of Trees

Register to adopt a tree to decorate along the Homestead Trail at Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve parking lot #4. Share your selfies with us.

#### Saturday, January 1, 12:30 - 3:30pm (snow date: Jan 2)

#### First Day Hike 2022

Let's CELEBRATE the start of this new year like no other.

#### Monday, January 17, 6:00-8:00pm

#### Howl with the Wolves Hike

We'll make a lot of noise as we admire the first full moon of 2022 Once again we ask that you pre-register for programs. Numbers will be limited. Registration confirmation will include event location. E-mail: leigh.hayes@gllt.org. State of Maine guidelines for group activities may change. GLLT will follow state protocols. Help us keep you safe; check the latest information at maine.gov.

A few pop-up events may occur. We'll announce those via social media and e-mails. If you aren't on our e-mail list, contact Leigh at the address above or subscribe on our website - gllt.org.

#### Saturday, January 29, 10AM-2pm, (snow date: Feb 5)

**Second Annual Community Snow Day** With Lovell Rec and Pleasant Point Inn, we'll offer a variety of outdoor activities for all ages.

Wednesday, February 2, 9:30-noon Searching For Shadows Hike Let's channel our inner groundhog and

notice all the shadows winter offers.

#### Sunday, February 13, 12:30-3:30pm

#### Embracing Trees Hike

Fall in love with tree bark and buds on this winter hike.

#### Saturday, March 5, 9:30am - noon Bugs in Winter Hike

We'll search for evidence of how insects survive the cold and perhaps crack open a few surprises.

#### Friday, March 18, 7:30 - 9:00pm

"Who Cooks for You?" Owl Prowl Just maybe this will be the year a barred owl hoots back when we call.

#### Saturday, March 26, 9:30am - noon Cabin Fever Reliever Hikes

It's time to get out and stretch those muscles if you've been hibernating all winter.

#### Saturday, April 16, 9:30am - noon Easter Egg Hunt

Co-sponsored by Lovell Rec, New Suncook PTA, and GLLT, the Easter Bunny promises to hide eggs at Chip Stockford Reserve and Kezar River Reserve.

#### Friday, April 22, 9:30am - noon Honoring the Earth Hike

We'll take a walk and show our appreciation for all that the Earth provides.

#### Thursday, May 5, 5:00 - 7:00pm *Cinco de Mayo* 5K Trail Run

On your mark, get set, go at Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve, co-sponsored by GLLT and Lovell Rec.

#### Friday, May 13, 6:30 - 9:00am

#### **Feathered Friends Friday**

Birding for all levels of experience. We'll provide field guides and binoculars if needed.

#### Saturday, May 14, 9:30am - noon

#### Spring Ephemerals Hike

Join us as we admire the delicate bits of color beginning to adorn the landscape.

#### Wednesday, May 18, 9:30am - 1:30pm

Charles to Charles, River to Pond

We'll paddle to GLLT's newest reserve and enjoy a meal on lunch rock. BYO Boat and lunch

#### Friday, May 20, 6:30 - 9:00am

#### **Feathered Friends Friday**

Birding for all levels of experience. We'll provide field guides and binoculars if needed.

#### Friday, May 27, 6:30 - 9:00am

#### Feathered Friends Friday

Birding for all levels of experience. We'll provide field guides and binoculars if needed. GLLT Board of Directors 2021

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#### Special Note:

Greater Lovell Land Trust has been here through these unusual times, offering new environmental education activities, carrying out familiar programs with a compliant twist, and working hard to maintain trails and lands for all to enjoy and find renewal.

Please consider supporting our efforts. Visit gllt.org to donate and to see other ways to get involved in our work.

@greaterlovelllandtrust www.gllt.org 207.925.1056 ⊠info@gllt.org

municipalities including Lovell, Stoneham, Stow, and Sweden, Maine.

watersheds for the benefit and enjoyment of the natural and human community today and as a legacy for the juture. Our service area includes several Me mork with our neighbors, towns, and like-minded organizations to protect and preserve the ecosystems of the Kezar Lake, Kezar River, and Cold River



P.O. Box 225, Lovell, ME 04051

LAND TRUST **GREATER LOVELL** 

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