



MaxTracks

Maxwell Conservation Trust Newsletter



www.maxwellconservationtrust.org

Phone: 781-545-4167 Fax: 781-545-9023

SPRING 2011

Another 64 Acres Will Be Preserved

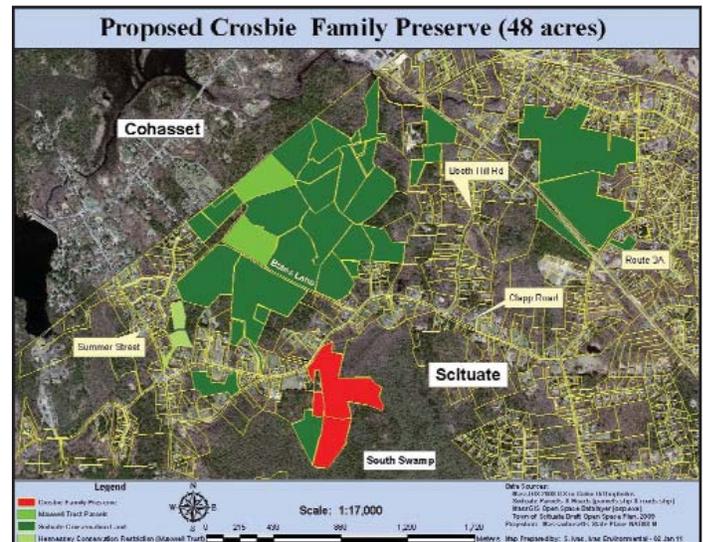
On April 11th, 2011, Town Meeting voted unanimously to preserve the Crosbie Family 48 Acre Property and the Hubbell Family 16.2 Acre Preserve. Both of these projects were facilitated by Maxwell Conservation Trust (MCT) and proposed to CPC for funding.

The Crosbie 48 Acre Property is a forested upland in the West End of Scituate abutting South Swamp and Clapp Road. It is within the Water Resource Protection Area and protects the headlands of our drinking water supply. This large parcel already has trails, so residents will enjoy yet another area for passive recreation once the sale is finalized. The Crosbie family has owned this land since the early 1900's and is very happy that it will now be preserved for future generations to enjoy.

The Hubbell 16.2 Acre Family Preserve is on the East side of 3A between North Scituate and Minot off of Indian Trail. This land abuts 16.4 acres that the family's father, Dick Hubbell, donated to the Conservation Commission in the 1960's. The land has a somewhat different topography from the other open space parcels in town, and is quite scenic. It features a red maple swamp surrounded on all sides by uplands with many large stately outcroppings of granite ledge. There are no trails currently on either the Hubble or Conservation Commission land but the Commission and Maxwell Trust have plans to develop trails so this 33 acre Hubbell Preserve can be used for passive recreation.

When Mark Twain said "Buy land – they ain't makin it no more", we doubt he had any idea what a precious commodity that land would become. We at Maxwell Trust are very proud and thankful to live in a town that supports our efforts to preserve land. We know there can be a balance between building and preservation, and that this town is committed to finding that balance.

Thank you to all who attended Town Meeting and voted for another 64 acres to be preserved!



Wheelwright Update

At April 2010 Town Meeting, residents unanimously approved the CPC funding to purchase the Wheelwright and Bjorklund parcels. CPC then applied for and was awarded in October, 2010, a LAND grant from EEA through the State of Massachusetts to receive up to \$ 500,000 toward the purchase of the 48 acre Wheelwright property – a project that Maxwell Trust facilitated – and the 7 acre Bjorklund property. These purchases should be completed within a couple of months.

Maxwell Conservation Trust, Ltd.

DIRECTORS

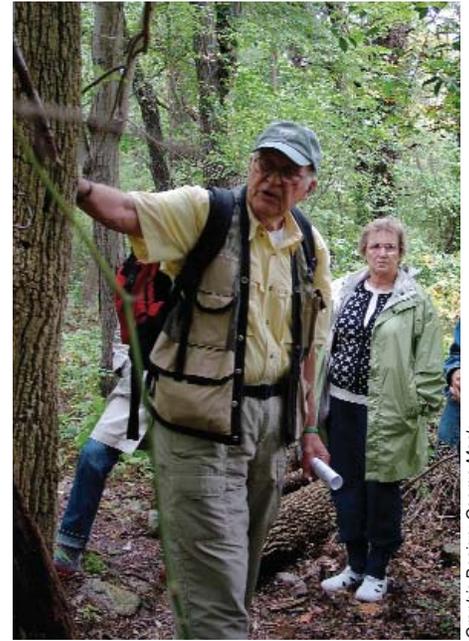
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IN MEMORIAM

Our friend Garret F. "Garry" VanWart passed away April 13, 2011 at the age of 76. Garry led many children and adults on nature walks throughout the woodlands of Scituate that were sponsored by the Maxwell Conservation Trust and the First Herring Brook Watershed Initiative. As the Deputy Director of the Trustees of Reservations, he helped steward over 70 properties from Berkshire County to Cape Cod. He advocated locally for the preservation of land vital to the community's water resources. Garry's love of nature and advocacy for preservation was boundless. He will certainly be missed by all who knew him.



Graphic Design: George Mack
Printing: Webster Printing



FALL WALKS

Watch for details on our website
and in the newspapers for
Walks in the Fall
with Maxwell Trust

We will be hosting guided walks on the
Bates Lane Area Conservation Lands.
We're looking forward to seeing you
on the trails!

Trust Receives Gift of Land From Developer

Maxwell Trust has been working for a couple of years with Eugene Mattie, developer of Cowings Cove on Summer St. in Norwell, to preserve acreage that abuts South Swamp. This land is of vital importance since it is within Scituate's Water Resource Protection Area.

Eugene approached the Trust a number of years ago to explore the idea of development which could coexist with some land preservation. When he decided to proceed with Cowings Cove, it seemed the perfect chance to put this plan into play. Maxwell Trust received a donation of 11 acres of forested upland from Cowings Cove LLC on January 6, 2011. In turn, the developer will receive tax credits for this donation to a qualified Conservation entity.

The Trust saw this proposition as a "Win Win" for everyone involved: The creative and foresighted developer benefits financially from the tax credits and the increased value of estate lots abutting conservation land. The Town of Scituate benefits through continued protection of their Water Resource Area and the continuing efforts of Maxwell Trust. And the local citizens know that 11 acres of additional open space has been protected for perpetuity.



Vernal Pools

With the cold rainy nights of Spring comes vernal pool season. Vernal pools are any fishfree, temporary wetland that supports indicator species like wood frogs and yellow spotted salamanders. These pools have been used to procreate for hundreds of years by the same critters every year.

This green gelatinous algae covered egg mass contains about 1,500 individual wood frog eggs. They will hatch in about 28 days and feed on the

symbiotic green algae for a few days until they are strong enough to swim in the pool.

The race has begun now for them! The tadpoles must grow their legs and mature enough to leave the vernal pool and return to their homes in the woods before the pool dries up, usually in early summer. Scituate is fortunate that it has many vernal pools and their critters who are protected through their State Certification.



Andy Bergsten

Why does the Maxwell Conservation Trust need members?

Maxwell Conservation Trust is a conservation group based in Scituate. The Trust's mission is to preserve open space, protect the watershed, preserve habitat, and create areas for passive recreation that we can all enjoy. What we accomplish will be the legacy that we pass on to our children. With the support of our members and the citizens of the town, we have helped to orchestrate the preservation of 273 acres of forest in Scituate.

The Trust is a 501(c)3 non-profit public organization supported by its members and volunteers. There are no paid staff, and the only source of funds is from members. The Trust has expenses associated with maintaining our non-profit status: fees to the state and Federal governments, attorney fees for legal work associated with projects, accounting fees, and licensing fees. To maintain our public non-profit status, the Trust MUST have public support from members. Please consider becoming a supporter of this legacy by becoming a member or renewing your membership, and please send your friends our link!



MEMBERSHIP FORM

With your Support We Can Do More!

Our next project needs YOU!

There are additional lands to be saved, and we still need to clear, blaze and maintain the trails in the face of the seasons, as well as offering conservation programs.

Thank you! Your contribution is tax-deductible.

Annual Membership:

- \$5,000 Guardian of the Land
- \$2,500 Keeper of the Land
- \$1,000 Trustee of the Land
- \$500 Land Conservator
- \$250 Land Caretaker
- \$100 Land Protector
- \$50 "Family" Land Saver
- \$25 Land Saver
- _____ Memorial Donation

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

PHONE _____

Please make checks payable to
Maxwell Conservation Trust, Ltd.

292 Clapp Road
 Scituate, MA 02066

The Maxwell Conservation Trust does not share membership information, addresses or email addresses with any other groups or organizations.



Eagle Scout Builds Benches

During 2010, Patrick Noenickx (and fellow Scouts) built and installed 5 benches at various resting points in the Bates Lane Trail Area. These benches were Patrick's Eagle Scout project as a member of Scituate Troop 7. As you can see, Maxwell III, at 3 months old, is checking this one out.



A Request from Maxwell

We will no longer be purchasing a Bulk Mail permit due to the expensive and frustrating inefficiency of this modality. Plus, who reads their mail these days!? So we would like to ask you all to forward this electronic newsletter to everyone you think would be interested in Maxwell Trust and our mission. Perhaps in this way, we will be able to reach as many people as we might have with the bulk mail. Thanks in advance for your help.



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Preserving Open Space for All

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Andy Bergsten

Fiddleheads (fern fronds)



This Land is Your Land!