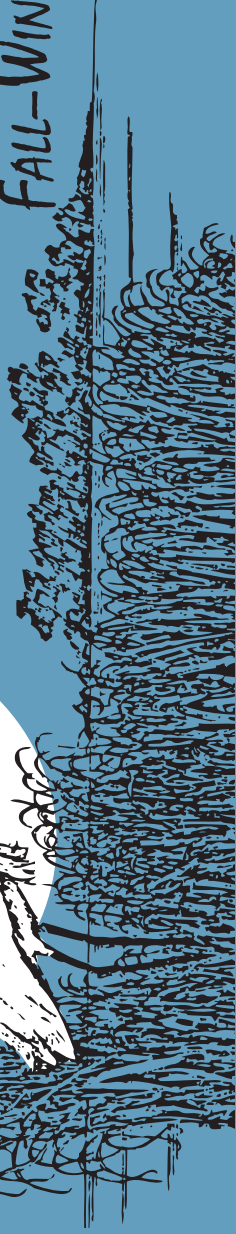




The Heron

FALL-WINTER 2022

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The Newsletter of the Mattapoisett Land Trust, Inc. • www.mattalandtrust.org • E-mail: info@mattalandtrust.org



Drone shot by Marc Anderson, looking south toward Buzzards Bay and Hammonds Cove. Mattapoisett Neck Road is on the left.

Making Contiguous Decisions

If you look at the beautiful aerial shot on the cover panning south along Mattapoissett Neck and the east side of Hammond Cove, virtually all the salt marsh and forest land visible is owned by Mattapoissett Land Trust, under conservation restrictions, or owned by the Town. Thus, this large area is protected from development. Much of this land is part of MLT’s Brandt Island Cove District. MLT is working to expand the Brandt Island Cove District eastward to Brandt Island Road and will connect to state-owned Nasketucket Bay State Reservation.

Conserving larger landscapes, rather than smaller scattered parcels of land, supports the health of the region’s ecosystems. When wildlife can move throughout a network of lands, mixing among individuals increases, which boosts genetic diversity. A diverse gene pool helps populations better withstand disease and “environmental” disturbance.

For this reason the land trust prioritizes gifts of land that are contiguous with other protected properties or have the potential of becoming part of a larger aggregate of protected properties.

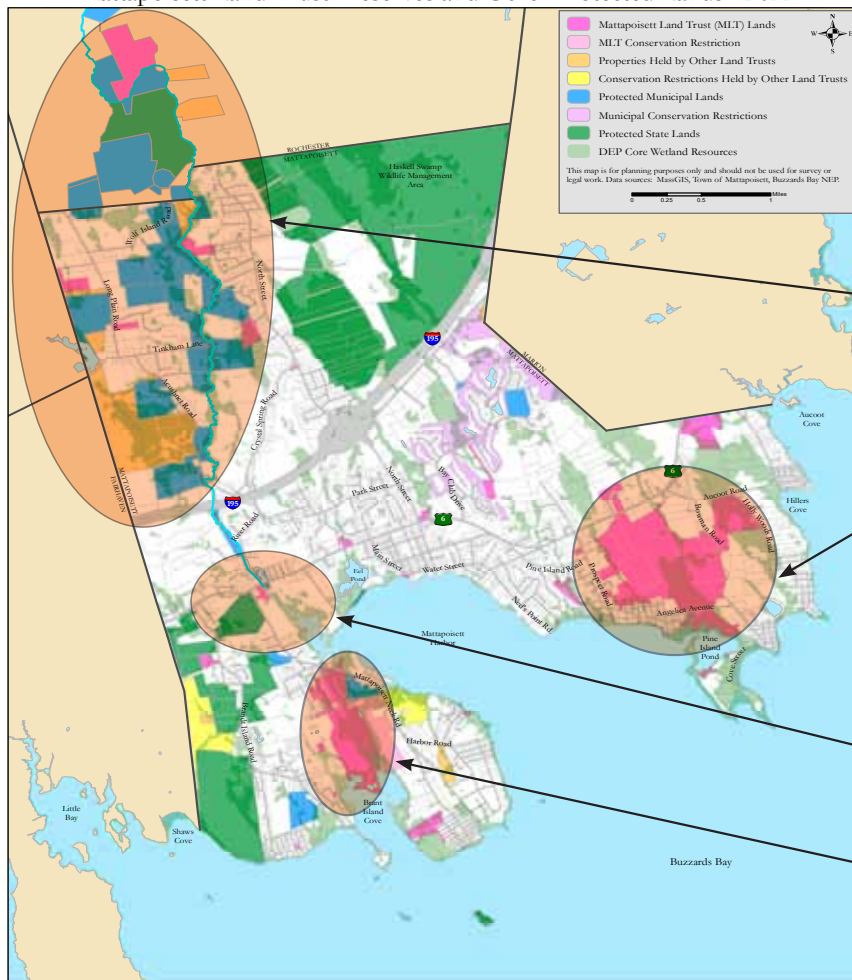
A good example of a growing area of contiguous parcels is the Old Aucoot District. This area, that began with a gift of 95 acres south of Route 6 from Ruth Hiller Martocci in 1993 and has grown, with the recent addition of the Pine Island, Oliver Wendell Holmes and Hiller parcels, to a 400 acre area made up

of 13 contiguous parcels stretching from Prospect Road to Hollywoods Road and from north of Route 6 to Pine Island Pond. This provides an expanded home for wildlife, an area with almost 4 miles of hiking trails and a sizable forest that we can keep healthy through best forest management practices.

For years the land trust has worked with the Town and the Buzzards Bay Coalition (BBC) to increase the area and quality of the protected watershed that provides drinking water for Mattapoissett, Marion, Fairhaven and Rochester from the Mattapoissett River valley and the aquifer below. Through this long-term, cooperative effort, hundreds of acres of land near the River and overlying the aquifer protection district are now owned by the Town and protected in perpetuity. This large area of protected land not only protects our drinking water but creates a large, contiguous area of superb wildlife habitat.

The Hammond Quarry property, acquired several years ago, was protected through joint efforts of MLT and BBC with the State’s Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR.) It is valuable, not only because of its prime wildlife habitat, but also because it provides the opportunity for there to be contiguous protected lands from Route 6, across the Bike Path and down to the large Nasketucket Bay State Reservation.

Mattapoissett Land Trust Preserves and Other Protected Lands - 2022



*Watershed/
Aquifer
Protection Area*

*Old Aucoot
District*

*Mattapoissett
River Tidelands/
Hammond
Quarry*

*Brandt Island
Cove District*

With the acquisition of the Alves and Bucciarelli properties on the east side of the Mattapoissett River, across from the Hammond Quarry, the land trust has begun an initiative to protect both sides of the tidal Mattapoissett River below Route 6. Beyond benefits for wildlife, protecting contiguous riverfront would provide future opportunities for recreation, connecting Route 6 to the Bike Path, and provide a buffer from changing tidal action resulting from climate change.

Connecting protected properties takes a clear vision supported by patience, fundraising, grant writing, working with landowners, the Town, the State, other organizations and sometimes the federal government.

The results are well worth the effort!



After two years of covid and bad weather, the Great Community Picnic was finally back at Munro Preserve again this year! Thanks to our wonderful co-collaborators at the Mattapoisett Museum and all of our volunteers, we worked together to pull off a great night full of music, oysters, great food and great community.



Kayak Camp 2022 was, yet again, a very successful collaboration with the MATT REC Seahorse Explorer campers. It was the largest program in our 5 years of this camp, with 43 children participating! With help from MATT

REC counselors and life guards, as well as the dedicated MLT volunteers, the children learned kayak safety, paddled in the harbor, and all went home with a signed copy of Donna Lee Tufts' book, "From my Kayak."



Looking forward to the upcoming 4th & 5th Grade "Science of Beekeeping" program given by Matthew Urguart and Kitty DeGroot to be held on October 20, 2022 at Old Hammondtown School and in the Spring at the Grace Pond apiaries.

Trail Maps ... Paper Or On Your Phone

Printable trail maps are available for download as PDF files on mattlandtrust.org/mlt-trail-maps/. For trail maps on your digital device, download a FREE app for smartphones and tablets called Avenza Maps. All MLT trail maps are available for free download in the Avenza store. Trail maps will display on your device with your location updated continuously as the blue dot. The app also allows users to record a GPS track, navigate to a destination, and measure distances. If you have problems, email us at info@mattlandtrust.org.

New Ways To Donate

We recently made a change in the Donations page of our website. You can now arrange for recurring payments monthly, quarterly or annually from either a credit card or from a bank account. Of course, you can still make a one-time donation if you choose. In addition to membership, the site can accept honor / memorial donations as well as donations for a special purpose.

Why not eliminate any concerns about whether your membership is up-to-date?

Set up a recurring annual contribution today!

Help Us Save Trees

The Heron is available as a PDF at mattlandtrust.org/newsletter, with back issues dating to 1996. If you would like to end your subscription to the paper edition and get a notice that the latest PDF edition is online, send an email request to info@mattlandtrust.org

Your Legacy For Open Land

For over 40 years MLT has worked to ensure that you and your family will always have woods, fields, ponds, and trails to enjoy. Much of our success has been made possible by generous individuals who made provisions in their wills to support MLT. Have you thought about leaving a legacy to protect the nature of Mattapoisett through a planned gift? Please let us know if you have or would like to consider naming MLT as a beneficiary in your estate plan. We appreciate gifts of all sizes.

2022 Hunting Seasons Are Here!

Hunting seasons in Mattapoisett open on October 1st and continue through the end of the year, with limited small game and waterfowl hunting continuing into January and February 2023. Hunting activity will peak from November 28 to December 10. Detailed information can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/2022-hunting-season-summary/download> Mattapoisett is in Zone 11.

Mattapoisett Land Trust properties are open to lawful hunting, in accordance with state regulations. Please be aware of and respect hunters who are legally using MLT lands. Dress for safety, using hats and/or vests of "Blaze Orange" to improve your visibility. And remember, hunters are generally less active during the middle of the day, and no hunting is allowed on Sundays.

MLT welcomes hunters using Land Trust properties, but reminds them that all hunting stands must be removed at the end of the season. We hope hunters and non-hunters alike will enjoy MLT's woods, fields and marshes!



Since its inception in 1974 the Mattapoissett Land Trust has always been an all-volunteer organization. Focused entirely on preserving natural resources and wildlife areas, the MLT has performed its mission so effectively – with over

Welcome our new Community

900 acres now protected – that it became evident that more help was needed. Enter Colleen Andrews, a Quincy native, who joined MLT as the very first full-time employee in April of this year.

A 2018 graduate with a B.S. in Biology from Westfield State, which included a semester abroad in New Zealand, Colleen comes to Mattapoissett from her previous position with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Upstate New York. Prior to that she also had

The MLT board depends for its very existence on the willing participation of like-minded people from our community. The first eleven stepped up in 1974. Today the list of those who served is long. When someone departs another new face always appears. We are delighted therefore to now introduce our newest board members.

Profiles by Don Cuddy

Kristen McCormack



Growing up here, Kristen McCormack spent her youth playing in the marshes, woods and vernal ponds of Mattapoissett Neck. “Building tree-houses, cutting paths, skating on the ponds and drawing pictures of seaweed,” she said. “I love the land in Mattapoissett. It’s a beautiful, beautiful place.”

As a young woman Kristen moved away, pursuing a career in Boston where she founded and led a number of high-profile non-profit organizations. She was a founding and executive director of the Boston Food Bank and founder of the Neighborhood House Charter School- one of the first in Massachusetts. Over the following years, all spent in Boston, Kristen worked for a succession of public and

non-profit organizations which eventually led to her being recruited to teach non-profit management at Boston University in their MBA program. “In all the jobs I’ve had I’ve been blessed to work with good people,” she said. “I’ve learned that when we all work together magic can happen. I think the Land Trust is a great example of that. I’m incredibly impressed at the level of talent and commitment that people at the land trust have demonstrated.”

Nearing retirement from her position as master lecturer in management and organizations at BU’s Questrom School of Business, Kristen and her husband, Michael Taubenberger, now make their home in Mattapoissett, very thankful it escaped the flames that engulfed the Mattapoissett boatyard as their house sits directly across the street.

Despite her decades as a city dweller Kristen remained close to Mattapoissett, where her mother still lives, and has followed the progress of the land trust with interest. “I met Mike Huguenin when he was working on the saltmarsh next to my mother’s house. We stayed in touch and now my husband and I are ready to contribute in any capacity we can.”

Jenn Kaiser



Jenn Kaiser is our other recent, and welcome, addition to the MLT board. A lifelong townie who grew up close to the family-owned boatyard run by her father, Jenn credits the persuasive powers of Mike Huguenin for her decision to join us. “Mike is my neighbor and friend,” she said. And Jenn has been a long-time user of MLT properties. “I love to take my dog on the trails, particularly the Munn property and the one that goes to Brandt

Island Cove. It’s wonderful what the land trust has done in preserving open space and I thought this would be a good place to volunteer.”

Understandably, Jenn’s time in the immediate future will be largely consumed with the task of rebuilding the family business after the devastating fire on August 19. “I love to give back to the community but now the community is giving to us,” she said. In a curious coincidence, the home of our other incoming board member Kristen McCormack sits directly across the street from the boatyard, so it is indeed fortunate that firefighters were able to contain the blaze.

Her decision to join the MLT board was an easy one as the Kaiser family were already MLT members and both Jenn and her husband Dave have a long history of volunteering in the community. Jenn is deeply involved with Nativity Prep in New Bedford, a tuition-free school for boys from households of limited means, while Dave is very active in support of the Congregational Church. Jenn has also served on the board at the Zeiterion theater in New Bedford. “I love the Z and support it but I feel my skill set is better suited to the Land Trust and Nativity Prep so those two places are where I feel I need to be,” she said.

Engagement and Stewardship Manager

a spell in Everglades National Park, monitoring the endangered Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow and has also worked on Cape Cod's National Seashore monitoring endangered shorebirds. During the lengthy Covid lockdown Colleen also made good use of her time by obtaining a graduate certificate in Wildlife Management, on-line, from Oregon State University.

Since starting in her new role, Colleen has been maintaining up-

keep of MLT's public parks and hiking trails, organizing stewardship workdays with volunteers, and even getting all MLT hiking trails onto the AllTrails app. She has also organized public walks and events, like the Council on Aging event held in June and the Fall Birding Walk in September. Be sure to follow the Land Trust on Facebook and Instagram as Colleen keeps followers up to date on everything MLT is up to so you don't miss a beat!

Thomas Galavotti: MLT's "Engaged Community Service Award Scholar"

From His Early Years Searching Crustaceans to Oceanography At North Carolina State University

By Ellen P. Flynn, Education Chair



We caught up with Thomas, the recipient of the Mattapoisett Land Trust's June 2022 "Engaged Community Service Award Scholar" while he is attending North Carolina State University to study Oceanography. In his Marine Science program he has choices to specialize and do research programs in the four fundamental disciplines of oceanography (physical, chemical, biological and geological), as well as in the emerging area of marine meteorology.

So far Thomas finds life quite different than Southeastern Massachusetts. "It is definitely a lot more humid down here, and nowhere near as serene as the Cape. We're getting nicer weather now as fall comes into swing." Thomas explains, "college learning is definitely more independent, as professors can be vague and jump quickly without realizing that students aren't quite following along."

Thomas said "I've been doing a lot of textbook work outside of lectures in places where I feel challenged, which is really not unfamiliar since I did the same during Hybrid learning in Covid times."

He finds the people at North Carolina State University all extraordinarily nice, unlike the common perception of a northerner.

When asked if he had any college communications about the Martha's Vineyard Immigrant situation he said "we have not discussed the immigrants and politics much, but that may just be as I am not in any social science classes."

When asked how he was adjusting to college life Thomas had this to say, "I am loving it so far, even though classes are rigorous but fun. I am taking practically all sciences and the process of learning is enlightening." Thomas is eagerly awaiting the Club/Student Association fair to be held in a few weeks when students have an opportunity to join and select their choice of extracurricular activities.

In addition to his passion for the environment, he chose North Carolina State University because he has a lifelong passion for Marine Life and his college is part of the "Research Triangle Institute" founded in 1958, which includes Duke University and University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.

RTI's Center for Water Resources will develop a "new hydrometeorology team to examine the essentials for flood analysis." The Center has a plan for water security and water resilience.

The Mattapoisett Land Trust and Education Committee congratulate Thomas on his success and look forward to keeping up with his future endeavors.

Stay Tuned for: John Kassabian, Blanch B. Perry Scholarship Winner, June 2022. Attending Loyola Marymount University on the West Coast studying urban studies.



Supported by



In late Fall and early Spring the Education Committee will engage young junior high and high school artists both musicians and photographers to present and perform in our parks. This program was originally suggested by board member Don Cuddy, and because local adult musicians play their music at Dunseith; we have decided to offer the "Arts In the Parks" for young adults.

Pine Island Pond photos by Liam Waldron, Center photo by Ellen P. Flynn

Honor Your Loved Ones

The following individuals or groups have chosen in the last six months to honor their loved ones through donations to the Mattapoissett Land Trust.

In memory of June White Clay:

Patrice Cooper & Tony Nesi
Mattapoissett, MA

Employees of The Cooperative Bank
Roslindale, MA

Charles River Country Club
Newton Centre, MA

Bruce Clay
Boxford, MA

Bob and Fran Clay
Osterville, MA

Donna Courtemanche
Mattapoissett, MA

Daniel Dempsey
South Boston, MA

Robert Forsberg
Westwood, MA

Susan Francis
Hancock, NH

Susan Howell
Boxford, MA

Michael & Joanne Ryan
Westwood, MA

Scott Lippstreu
New York, NY

Judith Livolsi
Mattapoissett, MA

Marianne Nicastro
Plainville, MA

Stephanie & Charles Peck
Medfield, MA

Kimberly Pelletier
Fairhaven, MA

Gary and Mary Pforzheimer
Belmont, MA

Jeanne Stevens
Brentwood, TN

Eve and Jay Stobel
Marco Island, FL

Arleen & Joe Thompson
Duxbury, MA

Kathleen White
Acushnet, MA

Douglas Williams
Mattapoissett, MA

In memory of Michael E. Couture:

Diane Brown-Couture
Mattapoissett, MA

The Brad Hathaway family
Mattapoissett, MA

Ms. Kristine Lopes
Berlin, WI

Liz and Ken Ackerman
Mattapoissett, MA

In honor of Charlie Duponte:

Rick and Laure Warren
Mattapoissett, MA

In memory of Priscilla Hathaway:

The Brad Hathaway family
Mattapoissett, MA

In celebration of Mike Huguenin's birthday:

Elizabeth Hill
Mattapoissett, MA

In celebration of William Huguenin's wedding:

Elizabeth Hill
Mattapoissett, MA

In celebration of Gary Johnson's birthday:

Virginia Johnson
Williams Bay, WI

Luana Josvold
Mattapoissett, MA

In memory of Faron Margeson's love of the family lands:

Joann Ruszel-Margeson, his wife, son
Zach and daughter-in-law, Danielle
Fairhaven, MA

In memory of Annette Moran:

James Moran
Mattapoissett, MA

In memory of Tim O'Connor:

Betty O'Connor
Mattapoissett, MA

Thank you for your generous contributions which will be used to further our mission of protecting the land and the environment of Mattapoissett for generations to come.

Kids' Corner

Making the world colorful

New England is famous for its wonderful fall colors and we in Mattapoisett have a native tree that is spectacular in its display, the red maple or swamp maple (*Acer rubrum*). The U.S. Forest Service has estimated that the red maple is the most common tree in the eastern portion of the United States. Given its ability to thrive in a great variety of conditions, even in areas that get flooded, and its ability to quickly grow in areas where forests have been cut, it is not surprising that we have a large number of red maples in Mattapoisett.

The trees are not large or long lasting – they only grow to about 80-120 feet high and usually only live for about 100 years. They have a root system that tends to remain near the top of the soil, within the first 10 inches. This can create problems if it is growing beside roads or sidewalks but is not a problem in reforested woodlands. Red maple is a “soft” maple unlike the “hard” sugar maple so its wood is not as useful for furniture but it can be used for veneer or small projects.

The fall leaves are not the only part of the tree that is red. During the summer the stems of the leaves can have a red color and the flowers occurring early in the spring are also red. Even the seed can have a reddish tinge to them. Like sugar maples, the sap of the red maple can be boiled down to make maple syrup. The problem with tapping red maples for sap is that the sweetness only occurs before the trees flower in the spring and that occurs much earlier for red maples than for sugar maples.

The map shows the enormous range of the red maple—from Newfoundland to Florida and even west of the Mississippi River and it is only limited by the Great Plains. The fact that it is so adaptable to so many climates and moisture conditions should reassure us that even with the reality of climate change affecting Mattapoisett, residents and visitors will be able to enjoy the colorful red maples for centuries to come. Visit one of the MLT properties this fall to see how common they are.



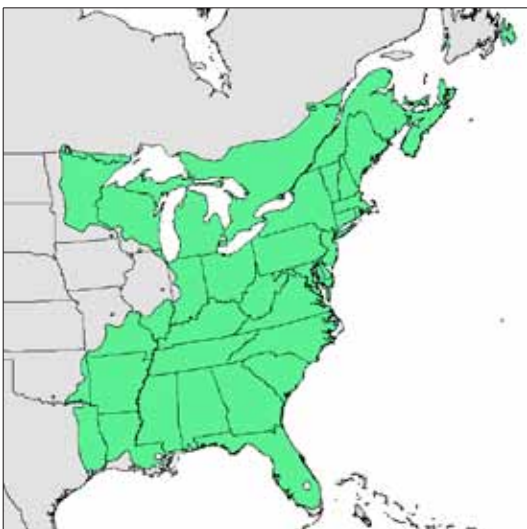
Native Plant Trust: Arthur Haines, 2022



Native Plant Trust: Frank Bramley, 2022



Native Plant Trust: Frank Bramley, 2022



U.S. Geological Survey- Wikipedia



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Calendar — Fall and Winter Activities

Check MLT's website and social media for updates on all activities.

October 15 10:00 AM Mindfulness Walk 1 hour long walk led by Jessica Webb Grace Meadow, Bowman Road



Salty's Silvery Moon Soirée

Join us on Saturday October 22nd from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. for our annual autumn campfire at Dunseith Gardens, home of Salty the Seahorse. As always we'll have a roaring campfire and ingredients to make your own s'mores! Joining us will be Jackson Gillman, the "Standup Chameleon" to delight you with stories around the campfire. There will also be music from Jeff Dunn. This is a free event, open to the public, and always provides an evening of fun for all ages. There is no parking at Dunseith, so park in the village and bring a flashlight to find your way home or back to your car.

The Heron is published bi-annually by the Mattapoisett Land Trust.

The MLT, formed in 1974, is a non-profit, tax-exempt charitable organization incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Its purpose is to preserve open space for the enjoyment of current and future residents of Mattapoisett, as well as to educate the public about the sound use of natural resources, and to work with other organizations having the same goals.

Our membership consists of annual contributors – our primary source of revenue – and a volunteer Board of Directors: Marc Anderson, Karen Borges, Mary Cabral, Wendy Copps, Don Cuddy, Arthur Damaskos, Peter Davies, Ellen Flynn, Jerry Johnson, Sandra Hering, Gary P. Johnson, Jenn Kaiser, Kristen McCormack, Paul Osenkowski, Charles Radville, Andrew Porter, ORR student representative and Mike Huguenin, President.

The MLT is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. All contributions are fully tax deductible.

Mattapoisett Land Trust, Inc., P.O. Box 31, Mattapoisett, MA 02739

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