

BARNSTABLE



LAND TRUST

FALL 2021

Making a difference

by protecting the natural places people love
for present and future generations.

Dear Friends,

On this beautiful peninsula, we are experiencing two trends that threaten our quality of life and our future.

First, climate change is affecting Cape Cod's entire ecosystem with flooding and destruction from storm surges and sea level rise. Second, we are seeing a dramatic increase in development, which is making land protection more difficult and expensive.

Both trends threaten our whole way of life.

As Paul Niedzwiecki, the new CEO of the Cape Cod Chamber likes to say, "On Cape Cod, the environment is our economy. Only 16 % of land area on Cape Cod remains for development or conservation—what we choose to do with those lands really matters."

For Barnstable Land Trust, these trends highlight an urgent need to protect more land faster. In response, we have deliberately but slowly built-up organizational capacity in land stewardship, conservation, development, and communications. This investment has also allowed our volunteer corps to grow to a 75+ strong team of dedicated community members that mows, plants, clears trails, acts as program hosts, and stewards properties.

BLT's leadership also made a strategic decision to broaden the organization's focus of activity to include better stewardship of our properties and to connect more deeply to the community. This decision was driven by the need to improve management of BLT properties as more land was accumulated, to build organizational support, and to grow membership to ensure the long-term sustainability of our impact.

"On Cape Cod, the environment is our economy. Only 16 % of land area on Cape Cod remains for development or conservation—what we choose to do with those lands really matters."

Paul Niedzwiecki, CEO of the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce

Practically and most visibly, you'll see this impact in several ways: 1) this new direction inspired the purchase of a building to house our office and programming space, in a highly visible location on Route 6A in West Barnstable; 2) it also drove our decision to build a barn at Fuller Farm to house critical stewardship equipment and operations in a central location; and, 3) it led us to reclaim the historic agricultural use of the Fuller Farm property with new partnerships around permaculture gardening, and livestock grazing, allowing us to open it back up to the community for learning, volunteering, and recreation. Finally, thanks to a generous and forward-thinking donor, we produced the first Barnstable Trail Guide including almost 95 miles of trails at 34 sites, the first in a series (stay tuned!)

Our goal, in the end, is to become the organization our community needs us to be. And while we can't know exactly what the future holds, one thing is clear: if we don't engage in addressing these issues now, we will never know what could have been accomplished or the consequences for our ever-more-fragile environment and on our ever-more-fragile economy. Now is the time for BLT to take a leadership role in the community—but we need your help. Please join us in the important work ahead as we continue to conserve and protect the lands that make Barnstable and Cape Cod such a special place to live, work, and play.

With gratitude,

Janet Milkman
Executive Director



Community Connections

Leading Us Forward

Barnstable Land Trust's new Board President, Karen Weston Hanesian, has lived most of her life here. In addition to raising her own family on Cape Cod, Karen also leads a successful legal practice dedicated to representing elders, people with disabilities, and their families.

Her new role as Board President comes after serving as a board member for 6 years, during which she has seen BLT's role become more important as increased development and climate change impacts are affecting Cape Cod's environmental resources.



Making It Count This Year

- 6** Trailhead Kiosks Installed
- 71** Acres/5 Conservation Projects in Process
- 95** Miles Mapped in New Trail Guide
- 2,800** Volunteer Hours Contributed

"So many unforgettable moments in my life have been defined by Cape Cod's natural beauty. My goal is to make sure that my children and future generations can experience that same magic."



Life Imitates Art

Partnerships are critical to our strategic goal of building awareness and community engagement in support of conservation efforts.

This summer, we were proud to work with the Cahoon Museum of American Art in Cotuit on programs surrounding "The Greenhouse" exhibit by Ethan Murrow. Not only did Ethan

contribute a portion of his artist stipend to BLT, but we collaborated on several events including a panel where our Director of Land Stewardship shared insights on the value of "fallen trees."



Preserving and Protecting Special Places

Farming Returns to Fuller Farm

One of the most transformational properties that BLT has been working on this past year has been Fuller Farm in Marston Mills. Purchased in 2012, BLT's goal has been to bring back the agricultural history of this 22-acre farm. Thanks to

partners like Resilient Roots and Goat Green Cape Cod, that vision is starting to take shape with **goat grazing, a pollinator field, and a permaculture garden.** Watch for a new post and beam barn in 2022 to provide for storage and

maintenance of BLT's land stewardship equipment, as well as to support farm-related workshops and education programs that will be open to the community. BLT is grateful to Tree Fellers Arbor Care for their support in this project.



Lowell Park Woodlands Trail

Sportswriters have called the Cotuit Kettleer's home ballfield "a scene right out of a Norman Rockwell painting." And nature lovers are praising the newly created half-mile interpretative nature trail surrounding the Elizabeth Lowell Park as "a home run."

In 2015, the surrounding lands were purchased by BLT in an effort to maintain the ballpark and community character by preventing the possibility of future adjacent development.

This year, staff and volunteers built **a new trail that celebrates the preservation of the classic pine-oak woodlands surrounding the ballfield** while also connecting to a network of established trails and nearby neighborhoods. Another win for the home team!

Neighborhood Treasure & Iconic View to be Preserved Forever

The Brazelton Family has worked with Barnstable Land Trust for over three decades, preserving dozens of acres of their former farm fields, marsh, and wetland abutting Barnstable Harbor. **The next generation has now pledged to conserve the last 5.6 acres of fields on Commerce Road, preserving the iconic view of the field and harbor** on a favorite walking route for neighbors and visitors.

Barnstable Land Trust has received approval from the Barnstable Community Preservation Committee for a portion of the project budget, which means the campaign for the remaining funds will begin soon. To find out more about this important project, we invite you to contact our office.



The Future of Twin Brooks Golf Course

In looking at a map, one does not see a lot of green space in Hyannis. While that might be expected in a place that serves as Cape Cod's downtown, Hyannis residents need access to open space as much as anyone.

Without our help, Hyannis may lose what little green space is left. A proposed development for the 40-acre Twin Brooks Golf Course includes 312 new rental homes in 13 three-story multi-family residential buildings. This will be one of the largest developments in Hyannis on one of the largest remaining green spaces in the area. The land is

bordered by two nutrient-impacted creeks running into the estuary and Lewis Bay.

The parcel is already under agreement, but **BLT is hoping to drive a new vision of possible uses that integrates conservation concerns and natural resource protection with housing and local economic revitalization efforts.**

The project will continue into early 2022 with the goal of providing new innovative solutions for consideration by developers, local towns, and the Cape Cod Commission.

Why Support Barnstable Land Trust?

It has never been more important to protect the natural places that make Cape Cod and the Town of Barnstable so special. Donations and memberships help fund urgent conservation, advocacy, land stewardship, and projects like Fuller Farm and hiking trails. Together we have the power to conserve, protect, and restore Barnstable's open spaces before they disappear. This work is critical—and we need your help.

With Gratitude

Thank you for honoring those you care for and supporting their love of nature

Gift Dedications from September 10, 2020 – September 23, 2021

TRIBUTE & MEMORIAL GIFTS

Jim Gould
Joyce Feuerstein-Rosenbaum

Carol Lockwood
Roger & Sheila Lockwood

John Pappas
Alexander Pappas

IN HONOR OF

Hank Ader
Emanuel & Susan Mason

All Land Trusts
Frank & Mary Wojciechowski

Red Bansfield
Donald & Elizabeth Mossa

Kelly Barber
Tom Barber

Barnstable
Kelly Barber

Jaci Barton
Charles & Susan Rohrbach

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Christopher & Sally Jackson

Tobey Collins for her Birthday
Aaron & Dorothy Weintraub

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Jeffrey Conover

Alex Eleftherakis
Frederick Peter Phillips &
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Maurice Garofoli

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Elizabeth Gould & Peter Zika

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Daniel Hart
Anne Bousquet

Joyce Kazanjian
Carla Kazanjian

KB Merry Christmas
Virginia Klun

William & Catherine Lemmey
Matt & Ingrid Epperly

Doris (Sprague) McGarvey
Lorri Ann & Stephen Devlin

Amy Sylvia & Andrew McPhee
Maureen McPhee

Patricia Merriell
Michael Fitzgerald

Janet Milkman
Patti Cohen
Jeanne Haws
Sarah Johnson
Helene Lauffer
Maureen Thomas

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Burton & Marian Ehrlich

Gil Newton
Nancy Wigley

Olivier
Elizabeth Orr & George Foy

Lillie Peterson-Wirtanen
Julia Quinn

Keith Putnam
Sandra Blatchford & Carl Gustafson

John & Jean Quigley
Mark & Kristen Coe

Mark Robinson
William & Tracy O'Neill

Lynn & Al Rutman
Emanuel & Susan Mason

Mary-Gaines Standish
Marguerite Standish

**The Exhibition "Greenhouse"
at the Cahoon Museum**
Ethan Bowditch Murrow

The Great Work BLT Does
Diane Philos-Jensen

**The Organizers of the
Tour de Barnstable**
Joseph Michael Lalley

Suzanne Tjoelker
Richard Giragosian

IN MEMORY OF

Rosa Babcock
William Babcock

Red Bansfield
Matt Bansfield
Judith Terry
Marilyn Wightman

**George & Peggy Beale and
Cliff & Gara Wood**
Charles & Martha Clifford

John Beaton
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Cayman & Callie
Norman Weill &
Lee Connolly-Weill

Rosetta Celentano
Connie McPheeters

Charlie
William & Mary Beebe

Timothy & Ellen Coggeshall
Caroline Coggeshall &
David Banta

Nancy Colbert
James Colbert

Nancy Coleman
James Whittier

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Joan V. Cullen

Ellen Culver
John Culver

Bill Dalrymple
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Dennis & Amy Dias

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Sallie Williams Neubauer

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David & Cindy Edelson
Roanne Neuwirth

Rosita Fattler
Wolfgang Fattler

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Margaret Belden
Robert & Gail Hesse
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Mary Kay Fox

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Frazier & Nancy Ivimey Frazier**
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Peter Freeman

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Don Hayward

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Ruth Anne Heselbarth

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Betsy Andrews
Paul & Linda Berg
Diane & Kevin Greenwich
Kimberly & Jason Littlefield
Janet Mullen
Albert Reuther
Susan Roberts
Diane Ross

Gramp (Dan) Mullen
Grandchildren Molly, Beckett,
& Isac Mullen
Daniel & Sally Mullen

Elizabeth Mumford
Tangley Campbell Lloyd

My 40-year walking partner, Alan
Beverly Donheiser

Nancy
James Whittier

Joan Laffey Nelson
Sheila Laffey

Joan Bianchi Neuwirth
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Named Trail Heads At the 2021 Annual Meeting in July, founder Jaci Barton was honored with BLT's Founders Award and outgoing Board President Joseph Hawley was recognized and thanked for his leadership. You'll find their trail head markers at Pogorelc Sanctuary at the BLT Conservation Center and Fuller Farm.

Time to Hit the Trails!

Once you have the new Barnstable Trail Guide in your hands, you won't want to let it go!

This comprehensive map shows hiking trails and conservation land throughout Barnstable's seven villages. Highlighting almost 95 miles of hiking trails with descriptions on 34 key locations, the map includes information on access, parking, walking distances, trail tips, dog walking rules, and safety guidelines.

Two more maps are in the works: one on Eagle Pond and one on Cape Cod Pathways. Pick up your free copy in local libraries and visitor centers or access the digital version at BLT.org.



About Barnstable Land Trust

Barnstable Land Trust (BLT) is a community-support nonprofit whose mission is to preserve the natural resources and special places in the Town of Barnstable and nearby areas. We have conserved over 1,100 acres and supported the Town in protecting over 11,000 more.