

Nashoba Conservation Trust Summer 2018 News

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it's a Great Time to be in Pepperell

Conservation Corner

Ken Hartlage

My wife Lucy and I were on vacation in Point Reyes CA a few weeks ago and, one morning, took the beautiful drive north to the town of Jenner. As it was still kind of fogged in, we decided to grab a coffee in the Cafe Aquatica, a great little place beside the Russian River. There we met a young couple from the Netherlands, also on vacation, and struck up a conversation. This was easy to do because their English was perfect, whereas my Dutch is limited to just three words: "Een bier alstublieft" Trust me, you don't need google translate for that one.



Anyway...our new Dutch friends talked and talked about how large the US is and varied the terrain, and how the Mojave desert is so massive and the Rocky Mountains are so tall, and how beautiful the California coast is with its redwood trees and mysterious fog, and how they just loved exploring and taking it all in. And that was in just the first five minutes :-). But seriously, it's always refreshing to see one's home through the eyes of a visitor because it's so easy to forget or even take for granted what we do have. After we parted ways and Lucy and I headed off for more exploring on our own, I'm pretty sure we drove a little more slowly and stopped a little more frequently, if for no other reason than to enjoy what was right in front of our noses.

NCT Begins Work on Pollinator Meadow Project

Article and photos by Michael Veit

We are very pleased to announce that NCT has recently acquired a grant to create a two acre pollinator meadow on one of its properties. This grant was generously provided by the Community Foundation of Northern Middlesex County. The pollinator meadow will be encompassed within the Seminatore Conservation Area. Acquired by NCT in 1978, this 22 acre parcel is part of a much larger, contiguous mosaic of protected land. The property includes a perennial pond, wetlands, upland forest, and approximately 2.6 acres of old field/pasture.



Work on the project began in the spring with NCT board members and volunteers clearing debris, cutting down trees and branches, and removing invasive plants and old fencing.

More recently the old pasture was hayed and the first application of herbicide was made. By early fall the ground should be clear of existing vegetation and ready for seeding. The complete, fully flowering meadow will likely not be realized for another couple of growing seasons as it takes a while for the plants to grow from seed to maturity.



Once established, the meadow will include a suite of colorful, native perennial flowers and bunch grasses. It will not only provide essential food and habitat for pollinators such as bees, butterflies and other insects, but will also create habitat for other wildlife including birds and mammals. As part of the project, access will be greatly improved and new trails will be constructed into and around the meadow that will take advantage of other natural features that the parcel and surrounding conservation land have to offer. One or two benches will be secured to enhance the experience of visitors, and a kiosk containing educational resources will also be constructed.

Ultimately, we are planning to provide a unique, peaceful, and beautiful recreational space in which community members can enjoy and explore nature, and that can be used to educate community members about the amazing



NCT Has Been Busy!

Below are just a few of the activities and projects NCT has been involved in over the past few months. **NCT and its members participated in the annual 4th of July parade with our partners from the Pepperell Horse Owners Association** NCT decided to take part in the annual 4th of July parade this year. The effort was organized by volunteer NCT members, Pat Peavey and Maegan Carrasquillo. They received great support from many NCT Members of the Pepperell Horse Association Joined NCT in the Parade members who dressed up to represent activities that would take place on our many conservation areas.



NCT in Pepperell's 4th of July Parade



NCT member volunteers enjoying the parade on a hot July morning.



Members of the Pepperell Horse Association joined NCT in the parade



Our Treasurer Patty Franklin dressed to represent a trail kiosk

Grand Opening of the new ADA Trail and Native Garden at Lawrence Library

After almost two years of effort, the Lawrence Library officially opened the new ADA complain trail. Debra Spratt, Directory of the library hosted the event. Represented at the event were members of the Library Board of Directors, members of NCT, Troop 13 Eagle scouts, members of Friends of the Library, and a number of interested citizens. Please come down and enjoy the new trail and the beautiful



Project Manager Paul Peavey cutting the ribbon to officially open the new ADA compliant trail.

Dedication of the Eagle Scout bench at Sue's Ramble conservation area.



Samuel Jeffrey and Sue Edwards sit on a bench at 'Sue's Ramble' conservation area. Construction of the bench was part of Sam's Eagle Scout project, which also included creating a path to the bench from dirt Jewett Street. 'Sue's Ramble' area is named after her because of her generosity, which made the land purchase possible.



Samuel and Sue share a 'high five' celebrating the completion of his Eagle Scout project. We are thankful to Samuel for providing a place to sit and reflect overlooking the beautiful wetland on dirt Jewett Street.



Eagle scouts from Troop 13 in Pepperell enjoying one of the two benches they donated to the cause. (left to right are Liam Reed, Thomas Giuffre, Shane Yost, Ethan Reed)

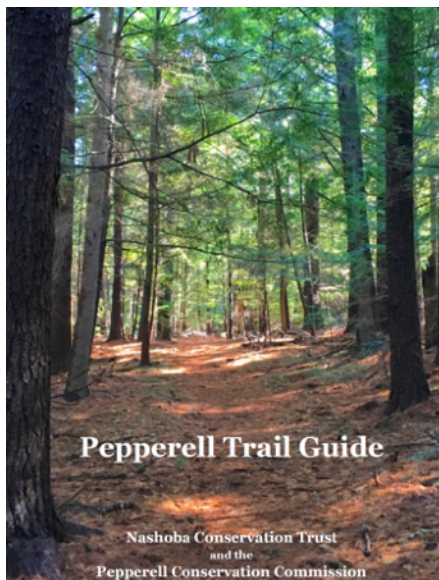
Member Articles

Paul Peavey

We have some excellent writing talent out there in our NCT member base. If you have anything you are interested in or passionate about, from a conservation perspective please use the link below to let us know. 100 – 300 words is about average. We are always looking for volunteers to lend a fresh perspective to our newsletters.

Newsletter@nashobatrust.org

Our new 2016 trail guide is available. The guide describes (16) different conservation areas managed by NCT and the Pepperell Conservation Commission. Contained in each section is a description of the parcel, a detailed trail map, and other information to help you enjoy each of these beautiful areas. If you would like a trail guide just visit the NCT website at www.nashobatrust.org



NCT Gear

Show off your support for NCT. Great holiday gift!

NCT T-shirts. Sizes S-M-L-XL-XXL. \$20 ea



Window or bumper decals

Window or Bumper decal 3" X 6" \$5.00 ea.

If you are interested in our merchandise email us at patpv1@icloud.com for purchasing information.

Support NCT by Using Amazon Smile

Another way of supporting NCT is by using AmazonSmile when you shop on line. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

You shop. Amazon gives. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases at smile.amazon.com to the charitable organization of your choice.

Your purchases with AmazonSmile will support Nashoba Conservation Trust. I have it set up as one of the 'Favorites' in my browser.

Support NCT with your donations

The NCT offers the following levels of membership:

- Individual - \$35
- Family - \$50
- Sponsor - \$100
- Patron - \$250
- Benefactor - \$1000
- Other amount

All memberships include subscription to the NCT Quarterly Newsletter.

Visit the website at nashobatrust.org to donate or mail your check to:

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