

# Hopkinton Area Land Trust 2016 Annual Meeting of Members

David S. Goldman, P.E.

President

Hopkinton Area Land Trust, Inc. September 18, 2016; 2 – 4 PM Hopkinton Lower Masonic Doherty Hall



#### What We've Accomplished

- Approximately 1000 acres of open space owned or under conservation restriction (or in process)
- Miles of trails that are actively used by the community
- Applied for ten and won nine grants for trail development, trail signage and trail repairs
- Dozens of scholarships awarded Now \$1,000/yr.
- Nurtured a growing endowment Prox. \$100,000
- Geocaching Program on trails and properties
- Increased Trust awareness through newsletters, articles, events and a web site



# **Properties and CRs**

#### **Properties**

- Wiley Woods\*
- **Brook Hollow**\* $\sqrt{}$
- Deer Run/Brickhill\*
- Hopkinton Highlands I\* $\sqrt{+CR}$ 
  - Zettek Overlook\*√
- Hopkinton Highlands II\* $\sqrt{+CR}$
- Spring-Hill I & II\*
- Hill Street\* Erna
- Old North Mill I & II\*
- Deneen-Scarlatta\*√ 2013
  - Phase I Connector to Peppercorn Trail
    Phase II Connector to Lake Maspenock
- Austin Powder Open Space\*
- **Clinton Street\* Kotob**
- Wilson Street, Zettek \*
- South Mill Street, Braim Farm I\*
- 44 South Mill St. Braim Farm II\*
- Peloguin Estates\*\* 2014/15/16
- **Canterbury Lane\*\*\***
- **Hopkinton Highlands III\*\*\***
- Commons/Rocky Woods Rd.\*\*\*
- 22 School Street\*\*

- **Conservation Easements** 
  - EMC 228 South Street\*
  - EMC 52 South Street\*
  - **Terry High School Property\*** Center Trail\*V
  - Hopkinton Meadows North St.\* $\sqrt{}$ .
  - Whitehall Property\* / w/FoW
  - Fruit Street Property\*√ 2013
  - Phipps Woods \* 2013
  - **Braden Woods\*** 2013
  - Cameron\*\*√ 2014/15
  - Whisper Way\* $\sqrt{}$ 2015
  - Brook Hollow DeGozzaldi\*\*\*
  - Deneen-Austin Powder\* $\sqrt{}$  to LMPA June 2014
  - Rockwood Meadows \* $\sqrt{}$ 2015
  - Sylvan Way Open Space\* √2016
  - Valentine Circle\*\*
  - Whitehall Woods (203 Pond)\*\*
- Property owned or Conservation Easement Granted
- \*Property or Conservation Easement in process \*\* On-Hold
- Denotes a Trust Trail
- $\sqrt{1}$  Denotes Trail under development



(further details next slide)

Grants	
– 1998 Greenways	
– 2004 Fields Pond	
– 2005 REI Ritz	\$ 1,000
– 2007 DCR Mighton Phase I	\$10,000
- 2010 CPC Signs	\$ 7,000
– 2011 DCR Mighton II	\$20,000
– 2012 CPC Signs	\$ 7,000
– 2013 CPC Signs	\$ 2,000
<ul> <li>2014 CPC Cameron/Whisper Endowment</li> </ul>	\$15,000
– 2014 CPC Signs	\$ 7,500
<ul> <li>2015 Town of Hopkinton – Trail head Signs</li> <li>CPC funding (bill directly to the Town of Hopkinton (FY2015 – 2016 )</li> </ul>	\$ 7,500
<ul> <li>2015 Town Meeting passed Article to allow Town to place a and provide an Endowment of CR on Sylvan Way OS</li> </ul>	\$ 2,500
- Whitehall Woods - 203 Pond Street Endowment	\$ 5.600
September 18, 2016 © Hopkinton Area Land Trust Inc	Л



### **Hopkinton CPC Grants**

•	2010 HALT Signage (5 signs @ \$1,500 each)	\$ 7,000	Fully Expended
	– Wiley Woods,		
	– DeGozzaldi,		
	– Andersens (2),		
	– Zettek (post)		
•	2012 HALT Signage (5 signs @ \$1,500 each).	\$ 7,000	Fully Expended
	– Fruit Street (2) ,		
	– <b>Phipps (1),</b>		
	– Braden (1),		
	<ul> <li>Cameron Woods (1)</li> </ul>		
•	2014 Cameron Woods & Whisper Way Conservation		
	<b>Restriction and Endowment</b>	\$15,000	<b>Fully Expended</b>
•	2014 HALT Signage (5 signs @ \$1,500 each).	\$ 7,500	<b>Partially Expended</b>
	– Whisper Way (2),		
	– Betty Fitzpatrick (1),		
	– Fruit Street (1),		
	<ul> <li>Braden Open Space (1)</li> </ul>		
•	2015 Sylvan Way Conservation Restriction		
	Placement and Endowment	\$ 2,500	Fully Expended
•	2015 HALT Properties Signage (5 signs @ \$1,500 each)	\$ 7,500	Unexpended
	– Deneen Phase I,		1
	– Deneen Phase II,		
	<ul> <li>Sands Memorial Trail head (end of trail sign)</li> </ul>		
	– Susan D. DeGozzaldi Memorial Trail (Cross Street)		
	– Fruit Street North Section Trailhead		



- Received the Austin Powder Open Space (6.6 Acres) & \$1,400 Endowment
- Placed a CR on Combine Deneen Austin Powder Open Space with the Lake Maspenock Preservation Association (13.6 Acres)
- Awaiting Peloquin open space transfer, 16.67 acres and contribution to the endowment fund (\$2K) (in progress)
- Finished the Whisper Way CR & sent to the State or final approval
- Received the Phipps Woods Conservation Restriction, 12.27 acres and a contribution to the Endowment Fund – (\$2K pending)
- Received the Braden Woods Conservation Restriction, 7.79 acres and a contribution to the Endowment Fund – (\$2K pending)
- Had Town Meeting pass article allowing CR on Cameron Woods
- Continue the transition to an open membership organization
  - Membership is now at 150 members
  - Fourth annual Meeting
- Increase the number of Geo-caches on trails & Properties



- Received the Conservation Restriction on Sylvan Way Open Space (16.6 Acres) & \$2,500 Endowment
- Prepared Conservation Restriction on Whitehall Woods (203 Pond Street – 32 Acres) that is ready for recording & received \$5,600 in endowment funds
- Prepared and submitted Proposal to the CPC for the reconstruction of 3 bridges in the Cameron Woods property
  - Value of the proposal is \$9,887 (\$4,000 from CPC for materials & \$5,887 in in-kind volunteer labor)
- Continue the transition to an open membership organization
  - Membership is now at 170 members
  - Fifth annual Meeting
- Increase the number of Geo-caches on trails & Properties
  - Three new Geo-caches are in process
- Revision of the Bylaws
  - Creation of the position of Vice President
  - Creation of the position of Director Emeritus
- Updating of the Strategic Plan In process



#### **Continued the Geocache-on-Trails and Properties Program**

- Whitehall Conservation Area (WCA) (GC34KJH, N 42° 14.142 W 071° 34.298);
- Karl Mighton Trail (KMT) (GC34X6Q, N 42° 13.065 W 071° 28.329);
- Deer Run, Andersen's Trail (DRT) (GC34X5Y, N 42° 14.870 W 071° 29.895).
- Wiley Woods Trail (WiWoT) (GC3YKRN, N 42° 14.607 W 071° 29.207)
- Douglas Sands Trail (DST), (GC3YKV2, N 42° 14.738 W 071° 32.918)
  - Multiple stage Cache
- Zettek Overlook (A&CZO), (GC4ARF1, N 42° 15.079 W 071° 32.954)
- Hopkinton Center Trail, (HCT), (GC4BJ6D, N 42° 13.158 W 071° 31.619)
- Whisper Way, (New) (WhWyT), (GC5WXJ9) N 42° 13.837 W 71° 33.440)
- Since inception of the program the Trust has had;
  - Geocache Master Dr. Michael Babcock
  - Visits to the Whitehall Conservation Area
  - Visits to Deer Run Andersen's Trail
  - Visits to the Karl Mighton Trail
  - Visits to the Wiley Woods Trail
  - Visits to the Sands Trail
  - Visits to the Zettek Overlook
  - Visits to the Center Trail
  - Visits to the Fruit Street Mary C O'Brien Pratt Trail
  - Visits to the Whisper Way Trail
- 500 total to date; 359 total visits last year on all properties and trails; 275 prior year
  - Deneen Austin Powder Trail

- In Process In – Process
- Betty Fitzpatrick Trail (Hopkinton Highlands II)
   3 or 4 more caches to be placed in the next few months
   In Process

#### **September 18, 2016**



### 2015 Accomplishments (further details)

#### **Properties and Conservation Restrictions Booked in 2014**

<ul> <li>Booked in 2014 - 2015</li> </ul>
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_	Austin	Powd	ler (	Company	
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Land in Fee: 6.6 Austin Powder Company to HALT	3/13/2104
- Conservation Restriction: Deneen/Austin Powder Open Space	<b>13.6 +/- Acres</b>
HALT to Lake Maspenock Preservation Association	6/6/2014
In the Pipeline for 2015-2016	
- Peloquin Conservation Area/Cobblers Way (pending)	<b>16.37</b> Acres
Endowment	<b>\$2,000 (Paid)</b>
- Cameron Woods Conservation Area CR (Received 2016)	126.35 +/- Acres
• Endowment	\$12,500 (Paid)
- Sylvan Way Open Space (Received 2016)	16.25 +/- Acres
Endowment (Received 2016)	\$2,500
- Valentine Circle Conservation Restriction (Lussier) (pending)	4.9 Acres
Endowment (pending)	\$2,500
- Whitehall Woods - 203 Pond Street CR (pending)	32 +/- Acres
<ul> <li>22 School Street property (in Fee pending)</li> </ul>	8.33 Acres



### 2016 Accomplishments (further details)

**Properties and Conservation Restrictions Booked in 2015 – 2016** 

• <u>Booked in 2015 - 2016</u>	
– Sylvan Way Open Space (pending)	16.25 +/- Acres
Endowment (pending)	\$2,500
- Cameron Woods Conservation Area CR (pending at State)	126.35 +/- Acres
• Endowment	\$12,500 (Paid)
<ul> <li>Rockwood Meadows Conservation Restriction</li> </ul>	16.0 +/- Acres
• Endowment	\$3,000 (Paid)
<ul> <li>Forestry cleanup of the Center Trail</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Art on the Trail – Center Trail (2<sup>nd</sup> Year)</li> </ul>	
In the Pipeline for 2014-2015	
<ul> <li>Peloquin Conservation Area/Cobblers Way (pending) Endowment</li> </ul>	16.37 Acres \$2,000 (Paid)
- Valentine Circle Conservation Restriction (Lussier) (pending)	4.9 Acres
Endowment (pending)	\$2,500
- Whitehall Woods (203 Pond Street Conservation Restriction	32 +/- Acres
• Endowment	\$5,600 (Paid)
<ul> <li>22 School Street</li> </ul>	8 +/- Acres
September 18, 2016 © Hopkinton Area Land Trust, Inc.	10



#### **Eagle Scout Service Project**

•Jake Krapf (Troop 1); Hopkinton Highlands II; Betty Fitzpatrick Trail

- Complete; *Eagle Received in 2015* 

Cameron Field (Troop 1); Zettek Overlook; Refurbishment

2014

- Complete; *Eagle Received in 2015* 

•Ryan Turano (Troop 4); Phipps Woods; Trail marking and clearing & baseline documentation

Complete; <u>Eagle Received 2015 in 2015</u>

•Henry Vumbaca (Troop 4); Deneen – Austin Powder Open Space; Trail connector to the Peppercorn Trail, foot-bridge & baseline documentation

- Complete; *Eagle Received 2015* 



#### **Eagle Scout Service Project**

	2015					
<ul> <li>Trevor Perkins (Troop 1)</li> </ul>	Whisper Way Trail & Baseline					
-Field work complete	Eagle Badge Awarded					
<ul> <li>Matthew Paolucci (Troop 1)</li> </ul>	<b>DeGozzaldi</b> Conservation					
	Area; Refurbishment					
-Field work complete	Eagle Badge Awarded					
<ul> <li>Sam Darkow (Troop 1)</li> </ul>	Fruit Street Trails & Bridge Eagle Badge Awarded					
-Field work complete						
<ul> <li>Erick Landreth (Troop 1)</li> </ul>	Deneen-Austin Powder Phase I					
	Trails & Bridge					
Field work in complete	Eagle Badge Awarded					
	2016					
Andrew Palleiko (Troop 4)	•Clean up tire dumps (3), groom and mark Trails					
Grace Darkow (Girl Scout Gold)	Diarama and model of 22 School Stree					
September 18, 2016 © Hopkinton Are	rea Land Trust, Inc. 12					



#### **Stewardship Program**

**Center trail** 

- **Cameron Woods**
- Deneen-Austin Powder:
- Phipps Woods;
- Fruit Street
- Zettek Overlook
- Brook Hollow
- Wiley Woods
- Spring-Hill
- Mighton
- Whisper Way
- Braim Farms
- Deer Run/Brickhill
- Highlands I
- Highland II
- Peloquin Woods
- Valentine Circle

September 18, 2016

Sylvan Way ( © Hopkinton Area Land Trust, Inc.

Mike Bolson, John Gardner John Ritz **Carol Esler Beth Rohlfs** Nancy & David Goldman John & Selina Paolucci Margie Wiggin & Mavis O'Leary Margie Wiggin & Mavis O'Leary **Marilyn Moriarty Christine Galeucia & Ann Payson** (open position) **Morrie Gasser** Sara Minsk-Eduardo (open position) (open position) (open position) **Don Lussier (property owner)** (open position)

### 2016 Goals

The survey of th		
•	Search Committee to find:	
	<ul> <li>A replacement director for Brian Garrett</li> </ul>	Goal Met
	<ul> <li>A replacement President for David Goldman</li> </ul>	<b>Goal Unmet</b>
•	Continue to increase Membership	Goal Met
•	Continue to increase Endowment	Goal Met
•	Continue to increase Awareness	Goal Met
•	Form committees (membership, geocacheing website development and maintenance)	g, stewardship, & Pending
•	Formalize the Stewardship Program	Goal met in 2015
•	Deploy and maintain 3 to 4 additional Geocae properties	ches sites on HALT In process
•	Finalize paperwork and trails development or and Peloquin Estates properties Update the Corporate By-Laws	n the Highlands II In process Goal Met
	Lindete Otretegie Dien end Lindete Mark Dien	

Update Strategic Plan and Update Work Plan In process

### **2017 Goals**

- Search Committee to find:
  - A replacement President for David Goldman
- Continue to increase Membership
- Continue to increase Endowment
- Continue to increase Awareness
- Three new Geocaches
- Form committees (membership, geocacheing, stewardship, & website development and maintenance)
- Finalize paperwork and trails development on the Highlands II
   and Peloquin Estates properties
- Update Strategic Plan and Update Work Plan
- Finalize Whitehall Woods CR & Baseline Documentation
  - Trail planning with Sudbury Valley Trustees
- Go-Pro the Trail Project
- QR Code the Trail Maps Project



#### Expectations 2015-2016

<ul> <li>Finish Cameron CR; (pending*) and</li> </ul>	
Received the Endowment (Received)	\$12,500
Obtain CR on Sylvan Way Open Space 16 Acres	
– & Endowment (Pending CR & Endowment)	\$ 2,500
Receive the Deed to the Peloquin Open Space	16.2 Ac.
<ul> <li>Open Space Land Pending</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Received the Endowment (Endowment Received)</li> </ul>	\$ 2,000
Continue Negotiation on Hopkinton Highlands III	25+ Ac.
<ul> <li>Baseline Doumentation on:</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Deneen- Austin Powder Open Space</li> <li>Field Wo</li> </ul>	rk Done
Baseline Document	Pending
<ul> <li>Whisper Way Open Space (+Parking area &amp; Trail)</li> </ul>	Complete
<ul> <li>Phipps Woods – complete the document</li> </ul>	Complete
<ul> <li>Cameron Woods – complete the document</li> <li>*CR at State for Secretary's signature</li> </ul>	In-Process
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#### Financial Condition of the Trust

#### • September 2015

<ul> <li>Financial Position</li> </ul>	

- XXXX5633 Business Blue Checking \$ 1
- XXXX0523 Business Money Fund
- XXXXX6254 Endowment Fund

\$ 1,467.37 \$ 3,350.27 <u>\$87,607.44</u> Total \$92,425.08

- September 2016
  - Financial Position

– XXXXX5633	Business Blue Checking	g <b>\$</b> 395.30
– XXXXX0523	<b>Business Money Fund</b>	\$ 3,374.08
– XXXXX6254	Endowment Fund	<u>\$98,841.75</u>
		Total \$102.611.13*

\*as of September 5, 2016

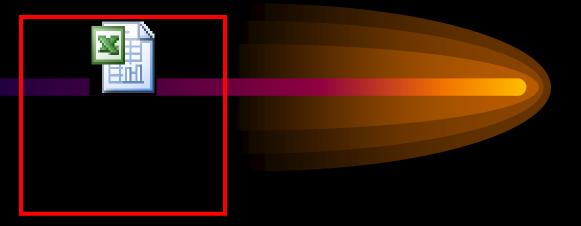
Parcel	Location	Subdivision/Donor	Acreage	Total Acreage	Owne r-ship	Cor	nservation Restriction Grantee	Trails	Date Received	Book	Page	Section
Α	Fawn Ridge Road Circle	Deer Run/Brickhill	0.30	0.30	Fee				07/30/2004	43416	139-140	NE
С	Fawn Ridge Road	Deer Run/Brickhill	12.04	12.34	Fee			Andersen's	01/23/2002	34639	205-210	NE
С	Greenwood Road	Hopkinton Highlands I	23.47	35.81	Fee	CR/Hop	Lodge to Hopkinton ConComm	Sands	06/07/2004	34524	286-287	NE
BB	Greenwood Road	Hopkinton Highlands I	7.40	43.21	Fee	CR/Hop	Lodge to Hopkinton ConComm		06/07/2004	34524	286-287	NE
D	Greenwood Road	Hopkinton Highlands I	0.36	43.57	Fee	CR/Hop	Lodge to Hopkinton ConComm	Zettek Ovlk	06/07/2004	34524	286-287	NE
AA	Greenwood Road	Hopkinton Highlands I	9.55	53.12	Fee	CR/Hop	Lodge to Hopkinton ConComm		06/11/1998	28695	487	NE
Α	Overlook Road	Hopkinton Highlands II	31.30	84.42	Fee	CR/Hop	Main CR on entire 70.55 Acres	Future	12/29/2008	52020	396-409	NE
В	Overlook Road	Hopkinton Highlands II	6.93	91.35	Fee	CR/Hop	Eagle Farm s to FoW	Future	12/29/2008	52020	410-417	NE
с	Overlook Road	Hopkinton Highlands II	25.17	116.52	Fee	CR/Hop	Water Supply Protection CR	Future	Deed to HALT			NE
н	Overlook Road	Hopkinton Highlands II	1.02	117.54	Fee	CR/Hop	Eagle farm s to Board of Health	Euture	12/29/2008	52020	419-422	NE
OS-ANR	Overlook Road	Hopkinton Highlands II	6.13	123.67	Fee	CR/Hop	Deed to HALT	Future				NE
	Cedar Street/Route 85	Hopkinton Highlands III	31.37	155.04	Fee			Future				NE
-	Cross Street	Clott	0.14	155.18	Fee			DeGozzaldi	06/16/2004	43060	240	NE
	•	DeGozzaldi	11.73	166.91	Fee	CR/Hop	Hopkinton ConComm	DeGozzald	11/30/2001	34221	553-555	NE
	Frankland Rd/Cross St	De Gozzaldi	1.84	168.75	Fee	•	Hopkinton ConComm	DeGozzaldi	11/30/2001	34221	557-558	NE
	Frankland Rd	Wiley Woods	15.88	182.79	Fee			Wiley	12/30/1997	28035	208-209	NE
-		Erna	5.90	188.69	Fee		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	,	07/24/2002	35961	446	SW
	Spring/Hill Streets	Hill Street Realty/Bernis	35.04	223.73	Fee			Future	09/12/2005	1261 LC	37	SW
-	Wood Street	Whitehall Conservation Ar	11.11	234.84		CR	Town to HALT and FOW	Town	06/17/2009	53008	530-551	SW
-	Wood Street	Whitehall Conservation Ar	13.06	247.90		CR	Town to HALT and FOW	Town	06/17/2009	53008	530-551	SW
	Pine Acres/Clinton Stree		9.39	257.29	Fee	CR	Unknown		07/13/2004	43273	569-570	SE
	Mill Street	Olde North Mill/Roux	31.75	289.04	Fee	Un		Mighton I	07/24/2001	1241 LC	96	SE SE
	East Street/Mill Street	Olde North Mill/Terry	20.24	309.28	Fee			Mighton I	12/29/2005	1313 LC	98	SE SE
	Scarlata Road	Deneen/Scarlata	5.53	314.81	Fee	CR	Hopkinton ConComm		12,20,2003	.010 20		SE SE
-	North Street	Hopkinton Meadows	29.47	344.28	100	CR	Pulte to HALT	Town	06/07/2004	34177	460-475	NW
-	North Street	Hopkinton Meadows	29.47	344.20		CR	Pulte to HALT	Town	06/07/2004	34177	460-475	NW
	Rocky Woods Road	The Commons	48.34	395.69	Fee	CR	HALT to Home Owner Association	Future?	00/07/2004	34177	400-475	NW
-	Rocky Woods Road	The Commons	48.34	401.32	Fee	CR	HALT to Home Owner Association	Future?				NW
	HOCKY WOODS HOAD	Zettek	5.63	401.32	Fee	CR	HALT to Home Owner Association	Puture?	12/28/2000	32189	048-049	NW
	Wilson Street	Zettek	1.44	402.76	Fee				07/17/2002	32189	048-049	NE
-		Zettek	1.70	404.46	Fee				07/17/2002	33311 33311	003-004	NE
	Wilson Street				ree	00	Town to UALT	Oranta				
	High School	Terry Property	68.36	478.02		CR	Town to HALT	Center	01/06/2004	41738	432	SE
	Fruit Street	Southboro Rod & Gun	22.88	500.90	5	CR	Southboro Gun Club to HALT	<b>E</b>				NW
-	Canterbury Lane	Canterbury	6.38	507.28	Fee	CR	LMPA (Malcolm Page)	Future				NW
	Canterbury Lane	Canterbury	1.04	508.32	Fee	CR	LMPA (Malcolm Page)	Future		00000		NW
	228 South Street	Soverign Development	6.25	514.57		CR	Soverign to HALT		12/30/1997	28038	416-430	SW
	228 South Street	Soverign Development	3.98	518.55		CR	Soverign to HALT		12/30/1997	28038	416-430	SW
-	52 South Street	EMC2	8.00	522.57		CR	EMCC to HALT	_	02/22/2002	34878	150-164	SW
	Fruit Street Property	Town of Hopkinton	145.00	667.57		CR	Town to HALT & SVT	Future?				NW
	Peloquin Estates	Peloquin Estates (Gassett	16.37	683.94	Fee	CR	Unknown	Future				SER25 26
		Braim Farm LLC (Terry)	29.31	713.24	Fee	CR	Unknown	Future	05/11/2010	54664	230-231	SE
	, <i>,</i>	Braim Farm LLC (Terry)	10.51	723.75	Fee	CR	Unknown	Future				SE
		Hopkinton	12.27	736.02	CR	CR						
	Braden Woods	Hopkinton	7.79	743.81	CR	CR						
	Cameron/Whisper Way	Hopkinton	132.00	875.81	CR	CR						
	West Main Street	Austin Powder	6.6	882.41	Fee							

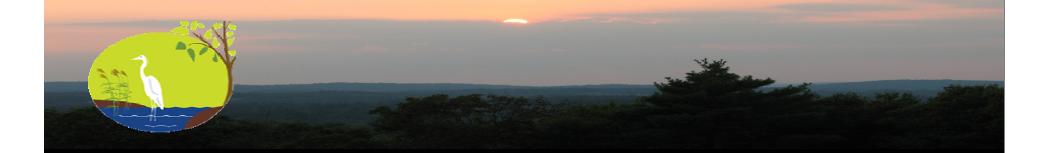
In - Progress

**On-Hold** 



# Work that needs Accomplishment





# **Hopkinton Area Land Trust**

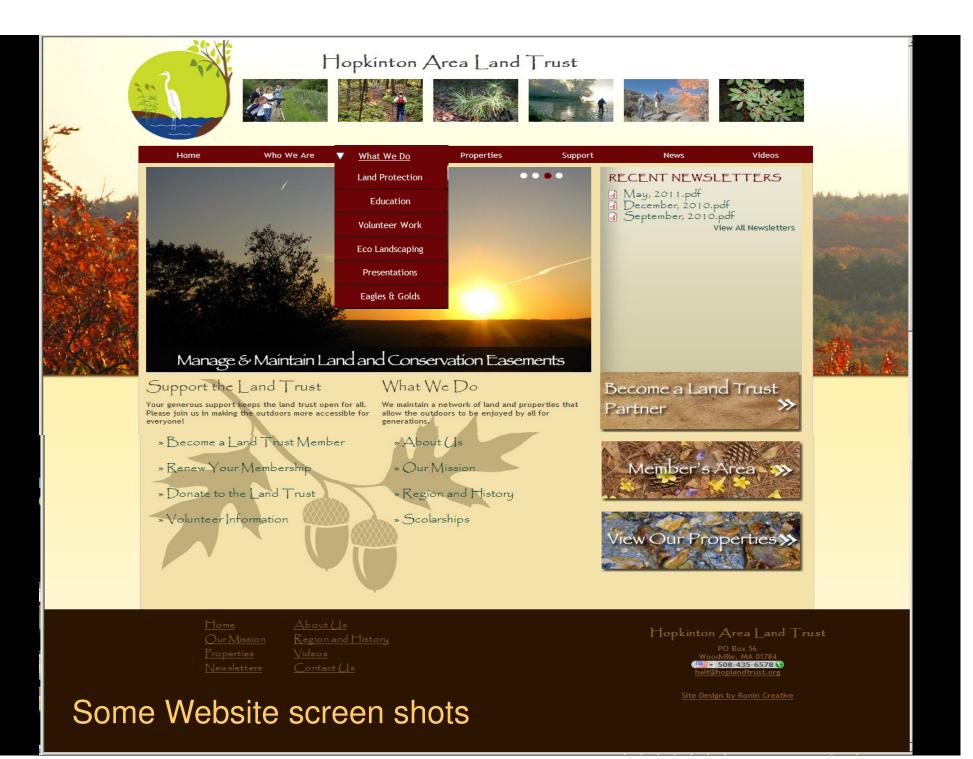
2016 Annual Meeting

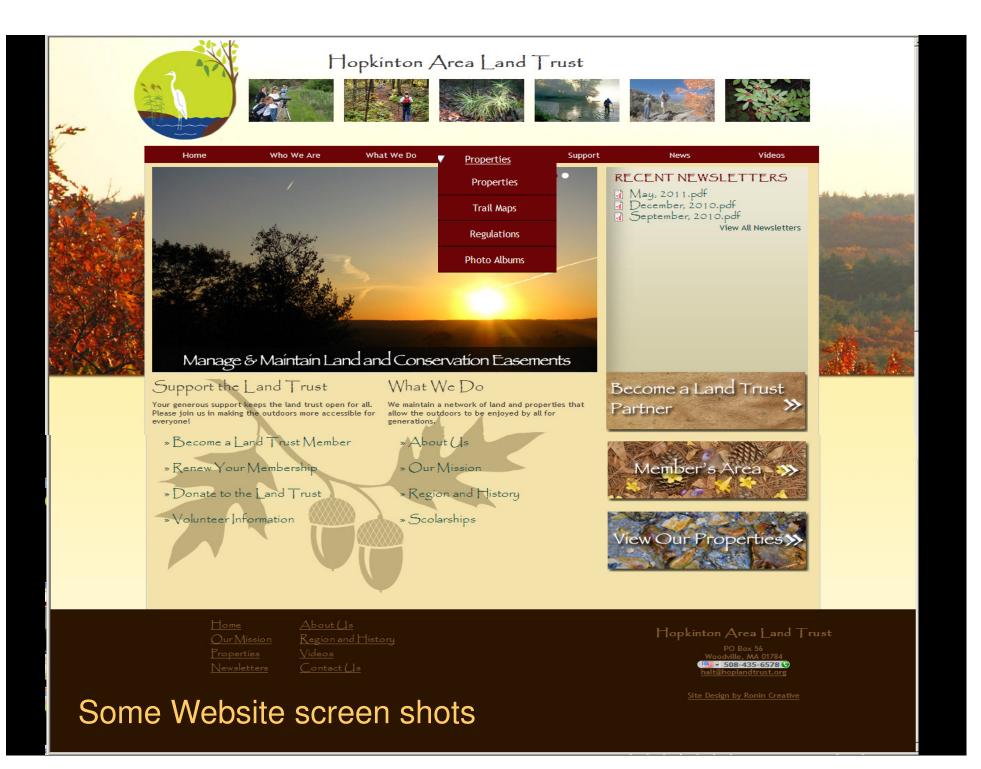




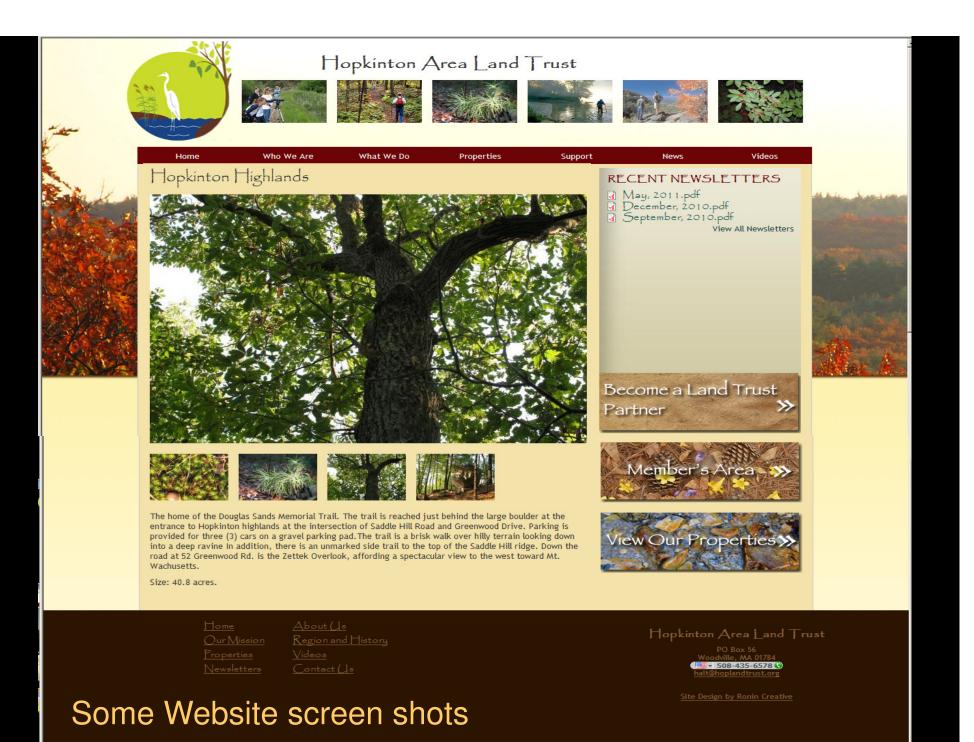
# Back-up

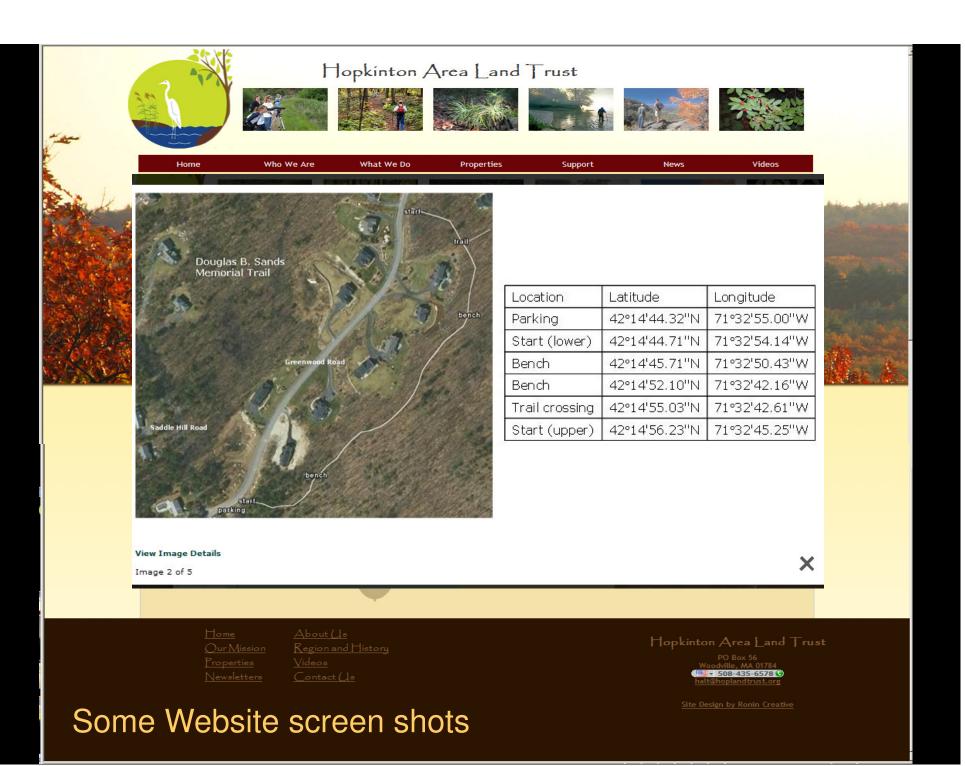














## **Our Vision**

# Provide a continuous trail around the entire town. A "<u>Green Necklace</u>" if you will.



# Who We Are

- The <u>Hopkinton Area Land Trust</u> is a Federal 501(c)(3), State Chapter 180, Not-for-Profit Corporation, incorporated in 1995
- Membership and Volunteer organization
- Currently governed by a nine member, dedicated, board of directors (two original directors still serve since we were founded in 1995)
- Many members, friends, supporters, and donors in the Hopkinton and surrounding area

## **Officers and Directors**

- Officers
  - David S. Goldman, PE, President
  - Edwin Brohm, Treasurer
  - Kenneth Parker, Secretary & Clerk
- Directors
  - 1. David S. Goldman, PE, Chairman (Founding Member)
  - 2. Edwin Brohm, Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor
  - 3. Barry Rosenbloom
  - 4. Jeff Furber
  - 5. Gail Clifford
  - 6. Mavis O'Leary
  - 7. Kenneth Parker
  - 8. Morrie Gasser
  - 9. Open Seat

10. Director Emeritus: Mary C. Pratt, (Founding Member)



# Who We Aren't

- HALT is NOT the Hopkinton Open Space Commission (OSPC)
  - OSPC is supported by Hopkinton Tax Dollars form the Community Preservation Committee
- Community Preservation Committee
  - Overseer of the tax monies collected from Hopkinton Taxes and partially matched by the State
- There is a <u>mistaken perception</u> that the Hopkinton Area Land Trust is a part of the Town (Hopkinton Open Space Commission) and supported by tax dollars



# What We Do

- Acquire and protect open space in and around Hopkinton
- Accept the donation of land, Conservation Restrictions, money and other assets
- Develop trails, often working with local scouting organizations (Eagle and Gold, public service projects)
- Promote conservation and passive recreation
- Educate the public on land preservation and conservation issues
- Award college scholarships to conservationminded Hopkinton students



#### Why Permanently Protected Space is Important to You

- A quick tutorial on the value of Open Space
  - 1. Real Estate & Property Values
  - 2. Municipal Taxes & Expenditures
  - 3. Real Estate Development and Property Values
  - 4. Investment vs. Return



# Real Estate & Property Values

- People and businesses want to locate next to high-quality parks and open spaces. In general, the higher the quality of a park or open space, the greater the demand for property near the park or open space. That demand translates directly into higher property values and greater municipal tax revenues. Research conducted by The Trust for Public Lands, Center for City Park Excellence has found that "excellent" parks and open spaces tend to add 15% to the value of a nearby property. Problematic parks and open spaces, however, can subtract 5% of a home's value. <sup>64, 65</sup>
- <sup>64</sup> The Trust for Public Lands, Measuiring the Economic value of a City Parks System (2009)
- <sup>65</sup> Ernst & Young, Analysis of Secondary Economic Impacts Resulting from Park Expenditures (New York, NY: New Yorkers for Parks, 2003)



#### Municipal Taxes & Expenditures (1)

In addition to increasing property tax revenues through increased property values and generating new sales tax revenues from visitiors, land conservation saves Commonwealth communities money through avoided costs on expensive infrastructure and other municipal services requested by residentially developed areas such as <u>schools</u>, <u>police</u>, and fire protection, and others. Studies have consequently shown that open space and working lands contribute more in taxes than they require in municipal services. Residential land, however, contributes less in taxes than it receives in municipal services, representing a net loss to local governments. The <u>national median</u> <u>across 151 communities over 25 years is that for every \$1 paid in local taxes, working land and open space require \$0.35 in services while the average home requires \$1.16 in services.<sup>62</sup>
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<sup>62</sup> American Farmland Trust, Cost of Community Fact Sheet (Northampton, MA Information Center, 2010)

**September 18, 2016** 



#### Municipal Taxes & Expenditures (2)

- <u>Studies in Massachusetts all communities</u> undertaken by the American Farmland Trust confirm these findings. <u>Open space and</u> working farms and forest require an average only \$0.43 in services for every \$1 in tax revenue generated by those lands. Residential land, meanwhile require \$1.10 in services for every \$1 generated in tax Revenue. <sup>63</sup>
- In a 1999 report and in general terms, current <u>non-residential</u> <u>service costs for Hopkinton are \$0.75 per square foot annual</u> <u>service cost for every \$1 in revenue. Further, the study found that</u> <u>the residential service costs for Hopkinton are \$1.35 in municipal</u> <u>service costs for every \$1 in revenue</u>.<sup>64</sup> Open space was not sutdied or mentioned but, the service cost would be lower than non-residential (read commercial/industrial) properties.
- <sup>62</sup> American Farmland Trust, Cost of Community Fact Sheet (Northampton, MA Information Center, 2010)
- <sup>63</sup> Ibid
- <sup>64</sup> "Organizing for a balanced Fiscal Future: Land Use, Political Culture & Town Finance", Judi Barrett, June 30, 1999, Community Opportunities Group, Inc., Connery Associates, for the Town of Hopkinton Massachusetts

**September 18, 2016** 



#### **Real Estate Development** and Property Values

- Open space preservation in Massachusetts also supports economic development by simulating real estate development (and re-development) while boosting property values and thereby increasing municipal tax revenues. Studies have shown that the value of property adjacent to either public or privately owned open space is measurably higher that that of comparable properties without this amenity. The value is even greater when the adjacent open space land is <u>permanently protected</u>.<sup>57</sup>
- An academic study that examined the amenity value of proximity to Great Meadow National Wildlife Refuge, located 20 miles west of Boston found that a property located 200 meters (almost 650 feet) closer to the refuge increases the sale price of the average property almost \$2,000.58
- Another study found that an average home in Lynnfield, Massachusetts is \$34,600 more if located near open space, an increase of 6.7% in property value. This increase in value generates an additional \$415 in town property taxes per house annually.<sup>59</sup>
- Local trails are also a highly desirable amenity among homebuyers. Homes near the Minute Bikeway and Nashua River Rail Trail sell in 21 days on average, or 45% faster than other comparable homes and sell closer to their list price.<sup>60</sup>
- <sup>57</sup> US Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service. Cooperating Across Boundaries: Partnership to Conserve Open Space in Rural America (2006)
   <sup>58</sup> Brad C. Neumann, Kevin J. Boyle, and Kathleen P. Bell, "Property Price Effects of a National Wildlife Refuge: Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in Massachusetts" (Land Use Policy 26, No. 4, 2009, pp 1011-1019)
   <sup>59</sup> Amber Donnelly, "Measuring the Value of Open Space: A Hedonic Study: (Bachelor's thesis, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA
- <sup>60</sup> Craig Della Penna, Home Sales near Two Massachusetts Rail Trails (Northampton, MA: The Murphys Realtors, Inc. 2006)

**September 18, 2016** 

## Investment vs. Return

 The Trust for Public Land conducted an economic analysis of the return on the Commonwealth investment (read CPA) in land conservation through a variety of state funding programs and found that for every \$1 invested in land conservation returned \$4 in natural goods and services in Massachusetts

#### Conclusions Why Permanently Protected Space is Important to You

- Lower or stable real estate taxes
- <u>Higher value</u> of homes adjacent to open spaces and trails
- <u>Quicker sales</u> of homes adjacent to open space and trails.
- Maintenance of the rural character of Hopkinton

Continued the Geocache-on-Trails and Properties Program

- Whitehall Conservation Area (WCA) (GC34KJH, N 42° 14.142 W 071° 34.298);
- Karl Mighton Trail (KMT) (GC34X6Q, N 42° 13.065 W 071° 28.329);
- Deer Run, Andersen's Trail (DRT) (GC34X5Y, N 42° 14.870 W 071° 29.895).
- Wiley Woods Trail (WWT) (GC3YKRN, N 42° 14.607 W 071° 29.207)
- Douglas Sands Trail (DST), (GC3YKV2, N 42° 14.738 W 071° 32.918)
  - Multiple stage Cache
- Zettek Overlook (A&CZO), (GC4ARF1, N 42° 15.079 W 071° 32.954)
- Hopkinton Center Trail, (HCT), (GC4BJ6D, N 42° 13.158 W 071° 31.619)
- Since inception of the program the Trust has had;
  - Geocache Master Dr. Michael Babcock
  - 54 visits to the Whitehall Conservation Area
  - 51 visits to Deer Run Andersen's Trail
  - 47 visits to the Karl Mighton Trail
  - 38 visits to the Wiley Woods Trail
  - 16 visits to the Sands Trail
  - 34 visits to the Zettek Overlook
  - 35 visits to the Center Trail
- 275 total to date; 174 total visits last year on all properties and trails
  - Deneen Austin Powder Trail
  - Betty Fitzpatrick Trail (Hopkinton Highlands II)
  - 3 or 4 more caches to be placed in the next few months

#### **September 18, 2016**



- Continue to increase Membership
- Continue to increase Endowment
- Continue to increase Awareness
- Recruit a volunteer web master

- Goal Met (165)
- Goal Met
- Goal Met
- Goal Met

- Goal Met

- Form committees (membership, geocacheing, stewardship, & website development and maintenance) - Goal Met
- Formalize the Stewardship Program
- Deploy and maintain 3 to 4 additional Geocaches sites on HALT properties
   Goal Met
- Finalize paperwork and trails development on the Highlands II and Peloquin Estates properties - Goal Met
- Update Strategic Plan and Update Work Plan In Process



### 2015 Accomplishments (further details)

#### **Properties and Conservation Restrictions Booked**

#### Booked in 2013

- **Properties** 
  - Braim Farm II; 9.1 Acres; Donor: George Connor, Connorstone Inc. 12/24/2013
  - Deneen Open Space 5.53 Acres Deneen Trust3/18/2013
    - Endowment: \$500 5/15/2014
- Conservation Restrictions
  - Fruit Street Conservation Area
    - Town of Hopkinton (Co-held with Sudbury Valley Trustees)
    - Endowment \$5,000 share 6/25/2013
  - Phipps Woods Conservation Area 7.33 +/- Acres Town of Hopkinton 6/25/2013
    - Endowment \$2,000 (Received)
  - Braden Woods Conservation Area 7.79 +/- Acres Town of Hopkinton 6/25/2013
    - Endowment

\$2,000 (Received)

145 +/- Acres