



Hopkinton Area Land Trust, Inc. 2022 Annual Meeting

October 4, 2022
7:00 PM

Agenda

- Short Introduction and around the room
- About the Trust & What we do
- Financial Reports
- Election/Re-election of two Directors
- Trust accomplishments
- Land Stewards
- Future Goals
- Q & A
- Adjournment





About the Land Trust

Charter: Assist in acquiring and maintaining Hopkinton's open space and conservation land

- Standalone private corporation, not a part of town government, formed by town residents
- A Federal 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and MA Chapter 180 non-profit since 1995
- Managed by 9-member volunteer board of directors from residents of Hopkinton and neighboring towns, assisted by volunteers for land stewards and maintenance and Boy and Girl Scout projects
- Budget is all through membership dues and donations



The Trust's Mission

Preserve, protect, conserve, and enhance the natural resources within and around the town of Hopkinton, Massachusetts, including open spaces, water resources, marshlands, swamps, woodlands, underground water supplies, land use of historical significance and wildlife habitat, in order to maintain and improve the quality of life in the Town of Hopkinton for present and future generations.

Educate the public in the areas of conservation, ecology, forestry practices, wildlife preservation and land use planning in order to protect open space, plant and animal life.

Encourage and facilitate the use of land conservation, recreation and wildlife preservation by cooperating with the town of Hopkinton, its elected officials and committees, Hopkinton landowners and other individuals and organizations having similar purposes.



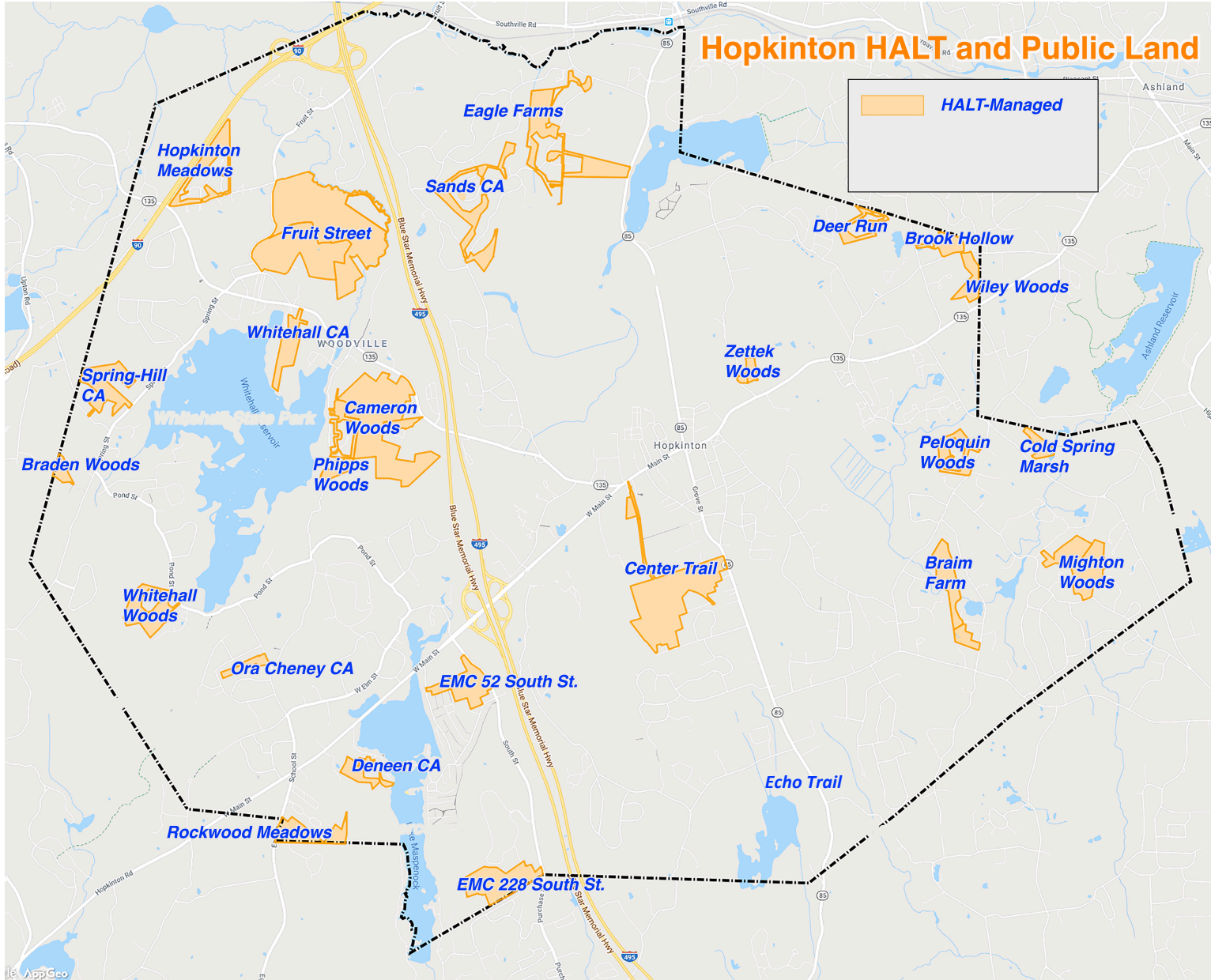
“Land Trust” is a Thing

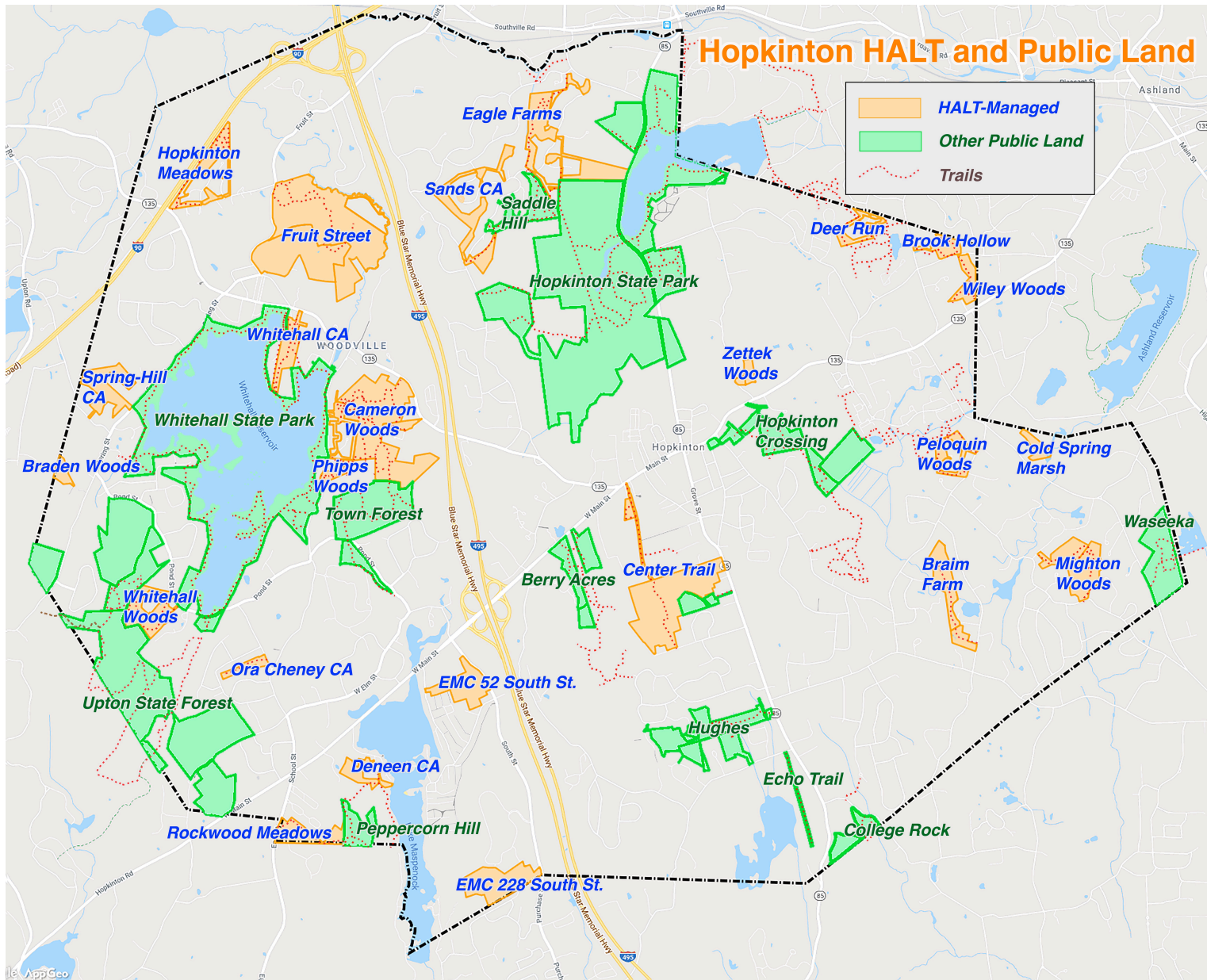
- A **private** nonprofit corporation whose mission is to conserve land
- Land is conserved in one of two ways (or both):
 - **Fee**: Donation of land to the trust through a deed; Trust is owner
 - **Conservation Restriction (CR)**: Landowner grants CR to the Trust
 - State authorizes and approves CRs
 - CR limits what can be done with the land; prohibits development
 - Land Trust enforces terms of CR
- 1400 Land Trusts in the U.S. protecting 87,000 square miles
- Other nearby Land Trusts
 - Trustees of Reservations (the first one)
 - Sudbury Valley Trustees
 - Mass Audubon
 - Friends of Whitehall
 - Upper Charles Conservation Land Trust
 - Metacomet Land Trust
 - Numerous town-oriented trusts



HALT Fee and CR Land

- How acquired
 - Donations by private individuals
 - Donations by developers
 - Land in a subdivision that cannot be developed
 - 50% required open space in an OSLPD subdivision
 - Order of Conditions for some developments
 - Donation of CR by town
- Fee owned
 - 343 acres, 16 properties
- Conservation Restrictions
 - 515 acres, 7 properties
- In process or expected
 - 60 acres, 5 properties
- 28 Miles of Trails







What HALT Does with Conservation Land

- Ensure land retains its conservation value
 - Clean up any existing problems
 - Prepare **baseline documentation** describing initial conditions of land
 - Monitor land at least yearly for encroachments or future problems that detract from conservation value
- Activities
 - Find and mark boundaries
 - Support public access (usually)
 - Build and maintain trails
 - Erect trailhead signs
 - Trail markers and interpretive signs
 - Trail maps
 - Website



Annual Meeting Business

Election of Board of Director Seats



Hopkinton Area Land Trust Board of Director Nominee Slate

Current Board Members and Terms

Nominees for Re-Election	Terms of Office	
	From	To
Peter Barbieri <i>(7/30/20-Furber)</i>	9/25/19	Sept 2022 Annual Meeting
Steve Frohbieter	9/25/19	Sept 2022 Annual Meeting
Steve Levandosky	9/25/19	Sept 2022 Annual Meeting
Edwin G. Brohm	9/23/20	Sept 2023 Annual Meeting
Charles H. Dauchy	9/23/20	Sept 2023 Annual Meeting
Barry Rosenbloom	9/23/20	Sept 2023 Annual Meeting
Morrie Gasser	10/14/21	Sept 2024 Annual Meeting
Open	10/14/21	Sept 2024 Annual Meeting
Kenneth Parker	10/14/21	Sept 2024 Annual Meeting

What We've Accomplished in 25 Years

- 930 acres of open space owned, under conservation restriction or in process
- 27 Miles of trails actively used by the community
- Applied for 18 and won 17 grants for trail development, trail signage and trail repairs
- Geocaching program on trails and properties
- Increased Trust awareness through newsletters, advertisements, articles, events and a web site
- Begin development of comprehensive trail maps

HOPKINTON AREA LAND TRUST, INC.
SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

in \$'s

	FY 22	FY 21	FY 20	FY 19	FY 18
	ending 3/31/22	ending 3/31/21	ending 3/31/20	ending 3/31/19	ending 3/31/18
REVENUES:					
Contributions	\$ 19,602	\$ 19,809	\$ 17,815	\$ 11,200	\$ 9,535
Other Income	6,500				
Interest income	254	1,038	1,890	1,008	379
TOTAL REVENUES	26,356	20,847	19,705	12,208	9,914
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,252	9,995	12,764	12,259	8,311
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	18,104	10,852	6,941	(51)	1,603
NET ASSETS, BEGIN OF YR	\$ 126,987	\$ 116,135	\$ 109,194	\$ 109,245	\$ 107,642
NET ASSETS, END OF YR	\$ 145,091	\$ 126,987	\$ 116,135	\$ 109,194	\$ 109,245

HOPKINTON AREA LAND TRUST, INC. STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

in \$'s

	FY 22 Ending 3/31/22	FY 21 Ending 3/31/21	FY 20 Ending 3/31/20	FY 19 Ending 3/31/19	FY 18 Ending 3/31/18
<u>Net Assets</u>					
Operating Fund	\$ 41,865	\$ 21,534	\$ 11,883	\$ 6,738	\$ 5,382
Stewardship	103,536	105,453	104,252	102,456	103,863
Accounts Payable	(310)				
Total	\$ 145,091	\$126,987	\$ 116,135	\$ 109,194	\$ 109,245

Hopkinton Area Land Trust, Inc. Functional Expenses

in Dollars

	3/31/2022	3/31/2021	3/31/2020
Stewardship/program	\$ 1,836	\$ 4,823	3,895
Newsletter/fundraising	1,623	1,496	3,112
Dues	400	400	550
Website	639	626	2,336
Accounting	750	1,000	1,200
Insurance	1,114	1,007	1,038
Office/postage	76	117	169
Contribution	1,300		50
Fees	514	526	414
TOTAL	\$ 8,252	\$ 9,995	\$ 12,764

Note: categories per bank registers

Membership Donations Trend

	FY 2022			FY 2021			FY 2020		FY 2019	
	4/1/21 - 3/31/2022			4/1/20 - 03/31/2021			4/1/19 - 3/31/20		4/1/18 - 3/31/19	
	Total Qty	New Members	\$ Amount	Total Qty	New	\$ Amount	Quantity	\$ Amount	Quantity	\$ Amount
Total Family Donations	159	34	18,215	148	31	17,060	116	12,462		
<u>Other Organizations</u>										
LinQuest, Mathworks, Hopk Garden Club, Phipps Ins, Amazon, Takeda, Medtronic, The Benevity Fund Matching funds	6		\$ 1,386	3	-	1,250	5	2,400	3	1,600
Total Members	165	0	\$ 19,602	151	0	18,310	121	\$14,862	79	\$ 11,200
Total Number of Payments	123	34	//////////	115	31	//////////	88	//////////	58	//////////
Other Revenue -Sale -10 Emerson Way-Mighton			5,000							
Other Revenue-Easement Granted 42 Greenwood			1,500							
<u>Stewardship Collections</u>										
Lussier CR-Valentine Cir.						\$1,500		\$1,000		
B Lafferty -Peloquin Sign								\$1,956		
Total Donations & transactions			\$ 26,102			\$19,810		\$17,818		

2021-2022 Organizational Changes

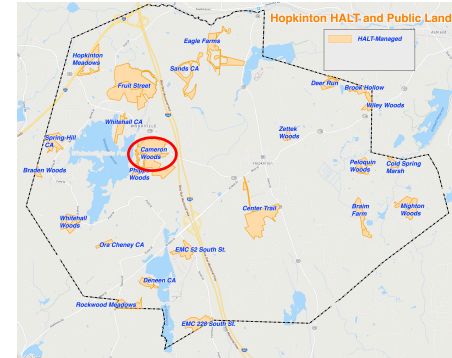
- Growth of 9% in membership (on top of 27% last year)
- Open director position

2021-2022 Accomplishments

Properties and Trails

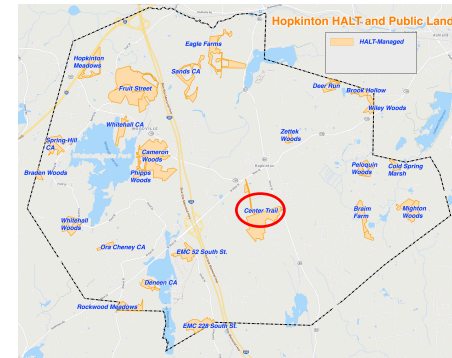
- Cameron Woods

- New bridge (24')
- New bench



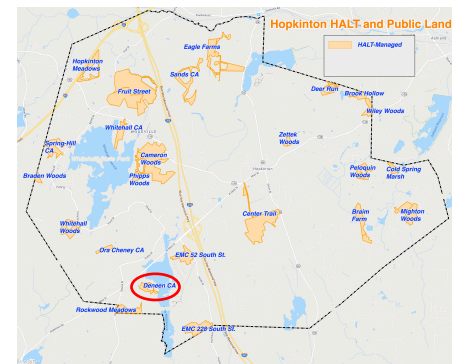
- Center Trail

- Conservation restriction ready to be signed by state



- Deneen Conservation Area

- New trails
- New bridges



2021-2022 Accomplishments

Properties and Trails (cont'd)

- **Eagle Farms & Sands (Highland Park)**

- New trail signs at entrances
- Removing rocks from trail

- **Fruit Street**

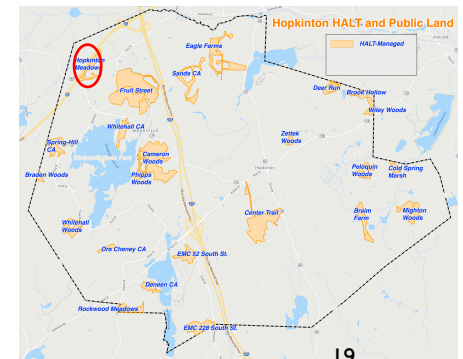
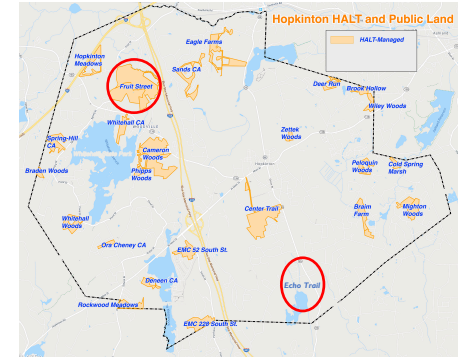
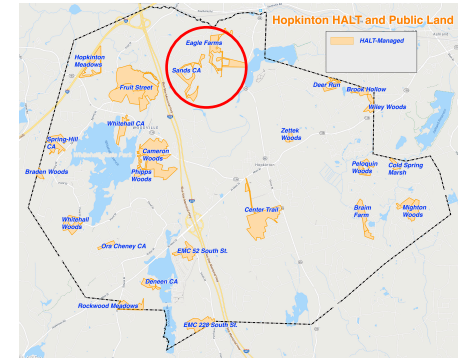
- Knotweed removal
- Cellar hole cleanup
- New bridges (2)
- New bench
- Trail relocation

- **Echo Trail**

- Conservation Restriction ready to be signed by state

- **Hopkinton Meadows**

- Trail rerouting
- New boardwalk (32')

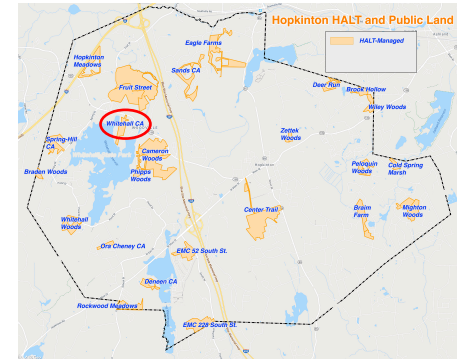


2021-2022 Accomplishments

Properties and Trails (cont'd)

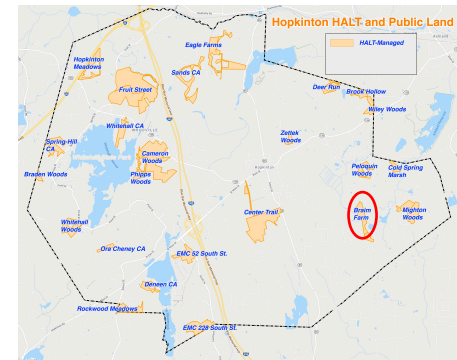
- **Whitehall Conservation Area**

- Helped clear invasives from meadow
- New bench in meadow



- **Braim Farm**

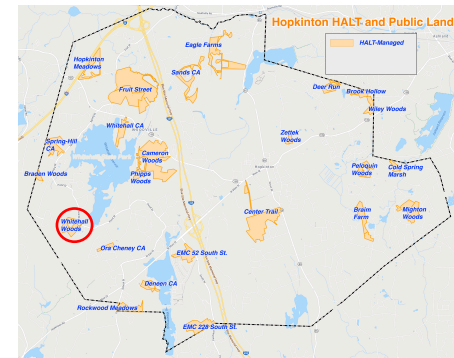
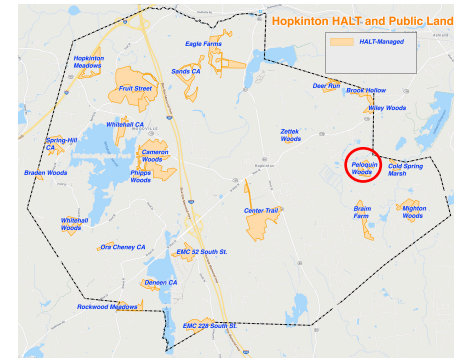
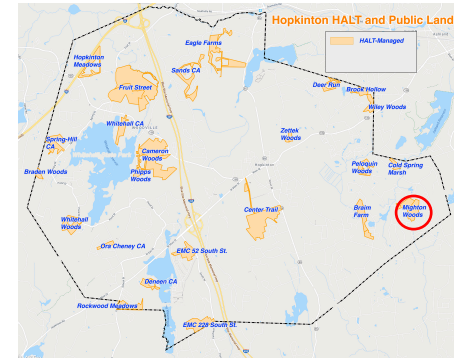
- Cleanup of debris
- Bench cutting of trails



2021-2022 Accomplishments

Properties and Trails (cont'd)

- Mighton Woods
 - Trail relocation
 - New bridges (3x10')
- Pelouquin Woods
 - Garlic mustard removal
 - Frail Cellar Hole cleanup
- Whitehall Woods
 - New bridge



2021-2022 Accomplishments Events

- Trails Club walks at:
 - Brook Hollow/Wiley Woods
 - Whitehall Woods
 - Fruit Street
 - Eagle Farms
 - Mighton Woods
 - Sands
- Polyarts
- Art on the Trail

2021-2022 Accomplishments Outreach

- Hopkinton Independent ads
- Maintain sign boards at most trailheads

Enjoy the trails!

HOPKINTON AREA LAND TRUST

Visit our booth at PolyArts - September 10

- Most trails are family-friendly
- Most trails are not crowded
- Check our website for interactive maps of trails near you
- Volunteers wanted for trail work, land stewards, and other activities

Check our website for our upcoming Annual Meeting date.
Details on website under Events

PLEASE JOIN HALT
Support land conservation in Hopkinton!

hopkintonlandtrust.org



October 4, 2022

2021-2022 Accomplishments

Public Involvement

- Open Space Preservation Commission
 - Open space acquisition: Rice Woods
 - Invasive control
 - Property monitoring and encroachment resolutions
- Trails Coordination and Management Committee & Trails Club
 - Work days for invasive removal and cellar hole cleanup
- Upper Charles Trail Committee
 - Routing of Campus Connector on high school (Center Trail) property
- Community Preservation Committee
 - Quarterly updates on prior grants for
 - Conservation restrictions at Center Trail, Echo Trail
 - Bridges and boardwalks at Cameron Woods
- Conservation Commission
 - Exemption requests for bridges and boardwalks
 - Addressing encroachment issues on conservation land



Volunteers & Land Stewards

- Land work maintaining trails
- Assisting as a property Steward
- Share your knowledge with Nature as an event presenter
- Advocate for the Trust helping us spread the word:
 - Referrals to the website for info on properties available
- Please sign up with us as a land Steward or a volunteer to help with skills you would like to share.

Land Steward Responsibilities

- Assigned to a Trust's Property to monitor
- Annual walk of the property's boundaries to detect encroachments yards, debris or construction, bench and bridge conditions, any safety threats such as hunting stands.
 - Complete a brief monitoring report of all observations of the condition of boundaries.
- Walking trail is monitored more frequently—at a minimum of twice annually to observe if trail is:
 - Safe, clean, clear of obstacles, downed trees.



2022-2023 Goals

- Continue to increase membership
- Continue to increase awareness
 - Hold events
 - Communicate through email
- New Geocaches
- Create additional trail maps
- Develop trails in open space at Frankland Road solar farm
- Complete baseline reports for Echo Trail and Center Trail addendum
- Continue working with town committees to support trail development and land acquisition
- Complete baseline reports for earlier acquisitions
- Establish more consistent annual monitoring

October 4, 2022



Geocache Program

- What is Geocaching
 - Geocaching is an activity to find “Treasures”, in hidden containers using a GPS or cell phone
 - Cache contains a log, and other trinkets that the finder can swap and leave a different one behind
 - Finder signs the log and reports the find on geocaching.com
- What and Why
 - The trust sponsors, registers and hides the geocache
 - Supports others to hide geocaches on HALT property
 - Encourages people to walk and enjoy the trails
 - A treasure hunt for families and kids
- Where are sites
 - 24 locations across 16 HALT-managed properties, usually not far from trails
 - Placed by HALT and others with HALT coordination
 - Check our website and geocaching.com for locations

Pictures of Geocache Containers

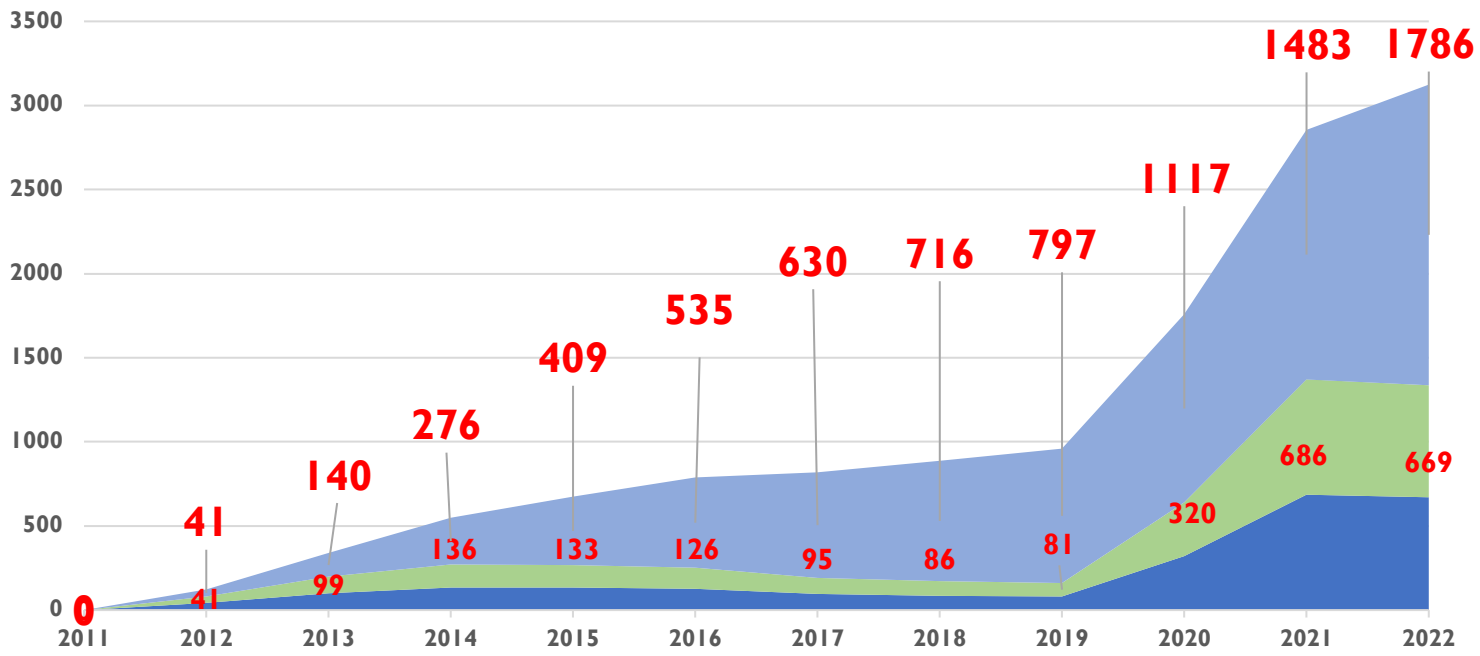




Geocache Use

Includes HALT-owned and HALT-authorized

Cumulative Hits



#caches	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
#caches	2	4	7	7	9	9	9	10	10	14	25	24

Q&A

?



Support Your Town Land Trust

We hope to see you on the trails.

Support your town Land Trust's operating expenses through your membership support and spreading the word for others to do the same.

Thank you for attending today