




Scarborough Marsh Progress Report

Friends of Scarborough Marsh

The Friends are dedicated to the conservation, protection, restoration, and enhancement of the Scarborough Marsh watershed.

Spring 2006

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The Scarborough Marsh: You Are the Key

As you read through this progress update we hope you will gain a sense for the positive excitement many of us feel when we stop to reflect on the great work being done by so many people on behalf of Scarborough Marsh. But please make no mistake, we are just scratching the surface of the opportunities that exist.

There are all kinds of challenges in our world today. What can we do to help make the world a better place? Well I submit there is tremendous opportunity right here in our own back yard. The Scarborough Marsh is a nationally & internationally significant resource. Just ask some of the fish or birds (and people) who stop here to rest and feed on their migrations north or south! This treasure needs your help if it is to remain an oasis of refreshing open space in the rapidly changing landscape of Southern Maine.

Your involvement can be as simple as carefully planning how you manage your lawn to as dedicated as helping conserve more open space in the marsh watershed. Both of these activities, and many levels of dedication in between have significant impact on our little part of the world.

These impacts can have long term effects, for generations to come. Do you want your grand children to be able to enjoy Scarborough Marsh as we do today? I know I do! And that's why I got involved. So, if you have a little or a lot of time, if you want to have a positive effect on Scarborough Marsh, decide what you think fits your interest and get involved. Your grandchildren, and everyone else's may be glad you did.

Please join in the effort to "conserve, protect, restore, and enhance the Scarborough Marsh watershed". And to those of you who are already involved, Thank You.

C.D. Armstrong, Chair

Hundreds of Area Businesses Show They Care About Marsh

Since beginning our Auction fundraising effort three years ago, more than 400 Maine businesses advertised in our catalogs or donated goods and services for the highly successful auctions! That support is very much appreciated, and is a wonderful display of the community's care for the Scarborough Marsh and for land conservation within its watershed. The Scarborough Land Conservation Trust and the Friends of Scarborough Marsh gratefully acknowledge our many friends and encourage your patronage of our donors. Please visit our website to see the growing list of our supporters.
www.scarboroughmaine.com/marsh

SAVE THE DATE!

**Saturday,
August 12,
2006**

Scarborough
Marsh Day

See page 9 for details...

Woodin Challenge Spurs Donations at Fundraiser Auction

Scarborough Community Supports Land Conservation with 2005 Auction

An abundance of items, interspersed with twinkling lights and natural greenery, filled the parish hall on a warm fall evening in late September as supporters invested in Scarborough's future while enjoying a lighthearted evening with friends. The event is the third annual fundraiser for the Friends of the Scarborough Marsh and the Scarborough Land Conservation Trust, two organizations investing in the future by restoring and protecting open space. With plenty of items to bid on in the live or silent auctions or even win in raffles and games, enthusiastic bidders raised over \$23,000 for the preservation and restoration of land in Scarborough.

A highlight of the evening was when Eddie Woodin of Scarborough presented a \$5,000 check to Laurene Swaney, President of the Scarborough Land Conservation Trust, and CD Armstrong, President of Friends of Scarborough Marsh. Woodin followed the presentation with a challenge to the audience to match yet another check for \$2,500. Enthusiastic bidders quickly rose to the challenge and kept their hands in the air.

Anyone who would like to help this joint effort can make checks payable to the Scarborough Land Conservation Trust and mail them to PO Box 1237 Scarborough, Maine 04070-1237.

The Scarborough Land Conservation Auction was an elegant and fun evening that began at 5:30 at St. Maximilian Kolbe Church on Black Point Road with a preview of the auction items, a silent auction, cocktails and a bountiful "grazing" dinner catered by Lemon Tree Caterers of Saco. The live auction began at about 8:00 p.m. with games



Eddie Woodin of Scarborough, center, presents a check to Laurene Swaney, President of the Scarborough Land Conservation Trust, and C.D. Armstrong, President of Friends of Scarborough Marsh.

Ann

and raffles throughout the evening. Host Bob Convery of Scarborough and auctioneer Dudley Brown of James D. Julia Auctioneers kept the energy level high.

Awards were also handed out, notably to Phil Bozenhard, who is known locally as the 'marsh manager. Bozenhard, who will soon be retiring from public service, is a wildlife biologist with Maine's Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife department, and has been instrumental in protecting the Scarborough Marsh, a resource of regional significance. Lynn Sewell and Stephanie Cox were also recognized for their "remarkable and steadfast work in support of land conservation."

Event organizer, Lynn Sewell, ably coordinated a dedicated band of volunteers who worked tirelessly contacting catalog advertisers, soliciting donations of goods and services to auction or give as prizes, decorating the parish hall on the day of the event, and attending to the myriad details that make up an event of this kind. Event volunteers Nancy Agan, Kathleen Bayley, Betts & C.D. Armstrong, Ro Bloom, Stephanie Cox, Sue Currier,

Delehanty, James Edwards, Reo & Lisa Fecteau, Stacey Kim, Lucy LaCasse, Karen Ledew, Roger Mallar, Mike Mallar, Sandy & Jim McMahon, Rick Murphy, Dave Paul, Lynn Sewell, Mike & Lisa Stoddard, Richard Sullivan, Laurene Swaney, Elaine Toher, Sue & Doug Williams, Susan Wilder, and Eddie Woodin are to be commended for helping to make this another successful FUNdraiser. "It was a real team-effort, with a big pay off for local land conservation efforts," noted Scarborough Land Conservation Trust president, Laurene Swaney.

Donations from hundreds of area businesses* and residents included several unique tours and exclusive overnight getaways! And the hall was brimming with original art and fine photos, and handcrafted items by local artists, goods and services for home and family, gift certificates from favorite local businesses and restaurants, tickets to theater and sporting events, as well as all sorts of sporting gear! We were really pleased by the level of community support and generosity from families and businesses alike," commented Friends chairman, CD Armstrong.

* Please visit us on he web for a list of our

Careful Stewardship—It's up to all of us!

Phragmites... ...on the move

By Lois Winter, U.S. Fish and Wildlife
Service Gulf of Maine Coastal Program

I have watched people cutting Phragmites at the edge of a roadway, with an eye to decorating their home with the distinctive and lovely plant. Last fall, a friend of mine saw a pick-up truck loaded with Phragmites heading north on I-95. En route, seeds were blowing away in the wind, perhaps to germinate in roadside wetlands. There is also the story of a surprising find right here in Scarborough. During the fall that we were completing the restoration project at Cascade Brook, I went out to the site to show off our work to a grant funder — and right in the middle of the restoration area, a duck blind was set up, covered in Phragmites — the very plant we were spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to try to remove from Cascade Brook!

Clearly, even people who care about Maine's salt marshes are not well informed about Phragmites, an invasive plant that has severely compromised the integrity of salt marshes to our south, and threatens the biological values of salt marshes in Maine. Also known as common reed, the tall perennial wetland grass thrives in sunny wetlands, in brackish or fresh water.

No one knows how far north Phragmites might extend, and whether or not it will overwhelm Maine's native salt marshes, as it has overwhelmed marshes to our south. But signs are ominous. Today, Phragmites has taken over large sections of the marsh. * But fortunately partners are working together to stem its spread.

Phragmites sports an attractive plume of flowers and can grow up to eighteen feet high. The plant spreads by seed or by sending out new shoots from underground stems, called rhizomes, or from above-ground runners called stolons. Non-native Phragmites can take over rapidly, blocking out the native salt marsh assemblage of plants and animals and oblit-



erating critical pool and panne habitat that offer refuge and feeding grounds for fish and waterbirds. It can also create a dense jungle of vegetation that furbearers, deer, many native salt marsh birds and even people cannot penetrate. Huge annual accumulations of Phragmites dry and fall to the ground and decompose, thus raising the surface of the marsh, which reduces high tide flows, decreases salinity, lowers the water table and generally makes the marsh surface even more appealing to the plant. Once established, controlling Phragmites is challenging, to say the least.

Whatever approaches we use to limit the spread of non-native Phragmites, we need to recognize environmental factors that contribute to its spread. For example, by increasing tidal flow to increase salinity, dense stands of Phragmites may be out-competed by plants that better tolerate saline conditions. Working with landowners to increase the width of riparian buffers, and improve upland management practices can reduce freshwater and phosphorus/nutrient inflow on the marsh, eliminating environmental conditions that favor this plant.

To maintain the beauty and wonders of our natural world in the Gulf of Maine watershed, salt marshes deserve our careful and mindful stewardship.

Lois Winter is a conservation biologist and outreach specialist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Gulf of Maine Coastal Program.

Lois has also advised the board of Friends of Scarborough Marsh and participated in restoration and protection projects.

* Editors note: FSM and our partners now estimate that more than 150 acres of Scarborough Marsh is covered with Phragmites.

Are you doing your part to limit the spread of Phragmites?

Don't use chemical fertilizers. Substitute natural products like compost or organic fertilizers and test your soils first to see if you even need them. If your lawn doesn't need the nutrients, it just becomes runoff.

Use environmentally safe cleaning products that don't contain phosphorus or other toxic chemicals.

Monitor and maintain septic systems for leaks and overflows. Repair problems promptly.

Check and repair oil or other leaks and take batteries and excess motor oil to auto shops for proper disposal.

Use a commercial car wash or direct the flow of water into grass clippings or gravel. Never let it flow into the street gutters or storm drains.

Irrigate slowly and deeply so water soaks into soil. Avoid runoff; it wastes water and contaminates nearby water bodies!

Use biological methods and traps to reduce insects, weeds and fungus instead of toxic insecticides and herbicides. Plant native plants in exposed soil areas.

Don't harvest Phragmites for use in floral arrangements or other craft projects. And definitely don't use it to build or camouflage hunting blinds.



Commemorative Marker for Cascade Brook Project

The Cascade Brook Restoration Project was a complex restoration project that was finished in 2004. More than 50 people gathered to dedicate the completion of the Cascade Brook project. Under sunny skies and a cool breeze attendees listened to the partners describe the time, money, and effort that went into the year-long project. Restoring this marsh has taken hard work and cooperation, and all of the partners, including the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Ducks Unlimited, the Conservation Law Foundation, Restore America's Estuaries, the Friends of Scarborough Marsh, Maine Corporate Wetland Restoration Partnership, S.W.A.M.P., Inc., Great Meadow Farm, Reed and Reed, Normandeau and Associates, and Northern Ecological Services can be proud of their achievement. Now a handsome

commemorative stone and plaque marks the site of this momentous achievement by all the partners.

Three restoration projects have now been completed (Seavey Landing, Cascade Brook and Millbrook) and several others (Libby River Upstream, Nonesuch River, and Lower Libby River) are in the planning stages.

Libby River Salt Marsh Restoration Project

The Friends of Scarborough Marsh and restoration partners have developed designs and found funding to respond to problems in the 150 acre Libby River site where a significant tidal restriction exists due to an undersized road culvert on the Black Point Road (Route 207). Additional site features include many natural tidal pannes and pools, several hundred feet of old road berms, and more than twenty seven acres of invasive plant species *Phragmites sp.* Agricultural lands, forested uplands and wetlands, and residential developed land adjacent to this area convey freshwater runoff to tidal areas, further altering salinity levels upstream and resulting in a significant loss of high tidal value habitat characteristics.

The Libby River tidal marsh once supported a suite of species – plants, invertebrates, fish, shorebirds, wading birds and waterfowl – that depend on this high marsh habitat. The decline of the Libby River tidal marsh clearly has many natural and manmade causes. The resulting negative cumulative

impacts to the tidal habitat creates ideal conditions for the spread of non-indigenous plant species, such as *Phragmites sp.* This plant species reduces plant and animal biodiversity and can dominate large areas of marsh such as the twenty seven acres already found upstream of Black Point Road.

To eradicate phragmites and restore the ecological function of the saltmarsh, project partners will improve the hydrologic conditions to what may have been historically found at this site area. Two additional culverts will be installed and a new channel connection will be excavated in order to restore tidal flow and increase salinity upstream. Consideration will also be given to the need for additional *Phragmites sp.* control measures as necessary to remove persistent stands of phragmites upstream. The restoration effort will also include pre- and post-restoration assessments, a close review of tidal hydrology model data analysis to ascertain potential private property impacts, benchmark tide data collection, design alternative analysis, cost effectiveness and will emphasize community outreach.

Partners *Libby River (Upstream)*

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Maine Department of Transportation
Scarborough Sanitary District
Portland Water District
Maine Inland Fisheries & Wildlife
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Ducks Unlimited
Maine Audubon
Friends of Scarborough Marsh



What's at Stake

The 3,100 acre Scarborough Marsh Wildlife Management Area is managed by Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. **Maine's largest and best known salt marsh**, Scarborough Marsh is recognized for its tremendous biological productivity, supporting **seven state or feder-**

ally listed threatened or endangered species and holding the distinction as the salt marsh with the greatest diversity of water-dependent birds statewide. Forming the basis of a **highly productive food web** that sustains many species, the marsh also adds to our economies—not only from **commercial harvests** but also through **tourism and**

hunting. Upland shorelines are buffered against erosive actions of open water, and the marsh protects low-lying uplands and shorelines during storms, and helps maintain **water quality, too**. We all can enjoy **superior recreational pastimes** including: fishing, clamming, birdwatching, paddling, walking, and more!

Trails & Land Conservation Update



Eastern Trail Alliance

Nearly eight years after the Eastern Trail Alliance was formed, the trail in Scarborough now spans nearly three miles, traversing the marsh from Pine Point Road to Black Point Road.

ETA and its members wish to thank the many organizations for supporting the trail across the marsh, including Friends of Scarborough Marsh, the Town of Scarborough and its wonderful staff, Scarborough Sanitary District, IF&W, Granite State Gas, and the Eastern Trail Management District.

Students on the south side of Scarborough can now walk or bike to the high school. Residents can visit their

friends across the marsh. Mothers can walk baby carriages across Maine's largest saltwater marsh, away from the fumes and dangers of busy streets. Maine Audubon visitors that patiently watched construction during 2004 while its programs were restricted from the marsh, can now explore north side of the marsh. Granite Gas has seen its gas pipe, once subject to high tide ice flows, now safely tucked way under the bridge above the high tide line.

What's next? Plans are now in the works for the construction of a 2.6-mile stretch from Pine Point Road to Old Cascade Road in Old Orchard Beach. A one-mile connection from the Nonesuch River to the South Portland Greenway at the Wainwright Athletic Complex is also being studied.

For more information about the ETA go to www.EasternTrail.org or call 282-1979.

Pocket-Size Eastern Trail Guide Now Available

The new spiral-bound ET trail guide has all new maps, two 50-mile loop rides, mileage along the existing route, local points of interest. It's available from Nonesuch Book Stores in Saco and Mill Creek, South Portland and from local bike shops. To order it on-line go to www.EasternTrail.Org. It's a bargain at \$10 plus \$2 S&H.

Land Trust Update

2005 proved to be another busy year for the Scarborough Land Conservation Trust (SLCT) as we took on several conservation initiatives to fulfill our mission of protecting and stewarding special open space areas in Scarborough.

In 2005, we completed one acquisition-the purchase of the six-acre Whitten property at Pine Point. The parcel was purchased subject to a life estate, which grants the seller the right to live in the house for the remainder of his life, after which the house will be removed and the land reclaimed as a natural area next to the Scarborough Marsh. We can now claim that the saying, "once it's developed, it's lost forever", has some exceptions! This parcel was protected in partnership with the Town of Scarborough through the Town Land Bond Fund, the Scarborough Land Conservation Trust and the Friends of Scarborough Marsh (FSM). Thank you FSM!

Early in 2006, SLCT was also granted a conservation easement on 58-acres of land along the Nonesuch River behind the Hunnewell Hill subdivision. In addition to being a beautifully wooded upland and wetland parcel, it maintains an excellent riparian buffer of benefit to

both wildlife and water quality between the existing subdivision and the Nonesuch River.

The Whitten purchase and the newest Nonesuch conservation easement brings SLCT's total protected acreage to just over 1000 acres! We have come a long way since 1977! With this much acreage now under our supervision, we have turned much of our energies to stewardship. While we will always strive to take on important acquisition opportunities, SLCT is working especially hard to make our parcels accessible to the public with trails, signage, kiosks, and maps. Much of the improvements that are occurring at Libby River Farm, Sewell Woods and Fuller Farm are a direct result of the focused work of Marla Zando, SLCT's Stewardship Director hired in the Fall of 2005. Marla came to us from Vermont and has a background in environmental issues. Marla will again be coordinating a Fall 2006 Maine Conservation Corps project as SLCT is pleased to report that we've been awarded \$30,000 from the Department of Conservation's Recreational Trail program to continue the trail improvement work started last year.

SLCT is recruiting volunteers to help with stewardship so please contact Marla (mkzando@maine.rr.com) if you'd like to get involved.



And finally, at Meserve Farm, SLCT has recommenced renovation of the farmhouse and barns. We are looking forward to transforming Meserve Farm into an active, working farm through a competitive application process. SLCT is currently evaluating proposals that describe fruit and vegetable production, management intensive grazing operations and integrated crop-livestock enterprises. While not required, proposals for certified organic production systems have been encouraged. We expect that any future farm operation at Meserve Farm will develop into one that is truly community based.

In closing, I would like express my gratitude and appreciation for your continued support of our organization. I hope you will agree that we really are making a difference. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Laurene Swaney, President
Scarborough Land Conservation Trust

In the News...

Two Scarborough Marsh Restoration Projects Receive U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and FishAmerica Foundation Funds

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Gulf of Maine Coastal Program recently announced \$35,000 jointly awarded from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and FishAmerica Foundation to help implement two important salt marsh restoration projects in the Scarborough Marsh Wildlife Management Area.

On behalf of Friends of Scarborough Marsh, Gulf of Maine Coastal Program staff successfully applied for these funds that will provide partial funding for the restoration of the Nonesuch River section of the Marsh and for Phragmites management and control operations throughout Scarborough Marsh. Both projects will benefit native salt marsh plants and animals, including furbearing mammals, migratory, feeding and roosting

waterbirds, and fish ranging in size from mosquito-eating mummichogs and sticklebacks to sport fish like striped bass and American shad.

Both projects involve active coordination with a variety of federal, state and local partners, restoration contractors and environmental consultants. Partners include: Friends of Scarborough Marsh, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Gulf of Maine Coastal Program, Ducks Unlimited, Maine Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Maine Audubon, as well as environmental consulting firms and restoration contractors.

Nonesuch Salt Marsh Restoration

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/FishAmerica Foundation funds: \$15,000 (Total cost: \$126,000) This project will restore a 250-acre section of the Nonesuch River salt marsh, the largest sub-watershed within the 3,100 acres Scarborough Marsh Wildlife Management Area. Restoration work is designed to improve the hydrologic function and ecological vitality of the marsh by breaching an abandoned road in 15 locations; installing earthen ditch plugs in strategic locations to prevent excessive draining of

the salt marsh through the ditches; and controlling Phragmites with herbicide, followed by mowing and mulching of dead remains.

Invasive Species Control and Native Saltmarsh Habitat Restoration Project

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/FishAmerica Foundation funds: \$20,000 (Total cost: \$100,000) This project will focus on the removal and reduction of non-native and invasive Phragmites in sections of the marsh where sizeable patches pose the greatest threat of overtaking the Marsh -- such as Libby River, along Route 1, Prouts Neck and Stuart Brook. Specific distribution of funds will be based on highest priority needs and opportunities for positive impact. Partners propose to control Phragmites first and foremost, by addressing the causes of habitat degradation, which encouraged the establishment of the invasive plant in the first place. Therefore, prime control techniques will include replacing undersized culverts, breaching man-made berms and installing ditch plugs. In some cases, an approved herbicide will be selectively applied to Phragmites by a licensed applicator, dead Phragmites will be mowed and mulched, and excessive peat material or fill that unnaturally raises the surface of the marsh may be removed. Controlling the spread of Phragmites will help maintain native biodiversity of plants, fish and wildlife, and will help maintain the biological productivity of the marsh.

For more information, contact Lois Winter, Conservation Biologist/Outreach Specialist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Gulf of Maine Coastal Program (207-781-8364) or e-mail: lois_winter@fws.gov

Staddles, Bog Shoes, and Berms: Farming the Scarborough Marsh

Last May the Friends of Scarborough Marsh hosted a well attended public program on the early agricultural history of the Scarborough Marsh and how farming the marsh was part of an effort to keep young Mainers from going West. Historians Dr. Kimberly Sebold of University of Maine at Presque Isle and Rodney Laughton of Scarborough spoke about the agricultural history of the marsh. The program was moderated by Dr. Bruce Thurlow of Pine Point who has made a study of dikes in the Scarborough Marsh. Long-time residents Joe Lothrop and Warren Delaware also talked of their memories of the marsh, the now long-gone barns, the dikes, and the salt-haying.

Beginning in the early 1800s, settlers in Scarborough built dikes similar to those used in the Netherlands and Brit-

tany to control the amount of salt water flooding the marsh and thereby increase salt hay yields. In the 1870s, in a large-scale effort to improve agricultural production on the marsh, four dike corporations were approved by the state legislature and more than 1,000 acres of the marsh was diked, causing profound changes in the marsh landscape. Remains of dikes, hay staddles, and hay roads can still be seen in various parts of the marsh.

Scarborough Marsh was privately owned until the early 1960s when the state completed the purchase of 3,000 acres from 186 individuals, creating the Scarborough Wildlife Management Area, now overseen by Maine's Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife.

Funding for the purchase of Scarborough Marsh came from fees charged to hunters and fisherman.



Terrific Trio!!!

While many folks have given time, energy, and expertise or funds to help Friends achieve our ambitious goals, as in any voluntary effort of this magnitude, there are always those who give a bit extra or go above and beyond what might otherwise be expected. At this point it is appropriate to again recognize a trio whose support has been crucial to the sound progress we're able to report in these pages.



Our hats off to Roger, Phil, and Eddie! When you see one of these fellows, please join us in taking thanking them for so many jobs well done and their generous contributions to the rest of us and to Scarborough Marsh.

Roger Mallar

Roger Mallar, one of the founding members of Friends of Scarborough Marsh, has since its inception been one of its hardest working and most productive board members. Roger has accomplished countless tasks and contributed countless hours of volunteer time to making Scarborough Marsh a better and healthier place for all the rest of us, our children, and grandchildren. Often out leading the charge to make a project happen or often quietly working with a donor to accomplish a goal, Roger has been there getting things done. All of us who have worked with Roger have come to appreciate his direct and forthright manner, his attention to the details, his ability to set goals and reach them time after time, and above all his steadfast hard work and dedication.

After serving many years as treasurer and chair of the fundraising committee, Roger Mallar has set his sights on doing a little more hunting and fishing and a lot less paperwork! Roger's careful attention to detail and skills as a project manager were invaluable as he kept track of gifts and income from various grants, membership and charitable donations, and revenues from events as well as the outflow of funds for restoration and conservation project expenses.

For Roger, who has spent the past 30 summers at Bayley's Campground, the marsh is an integral part of his family. We're glad that he will have more time to enjoy it! Well done Roger, great job, and we THANK YOU!



Building Green: Your Home, Your Garden... Your Library

After more than thirty-six years of service as a Wildlife Biologist for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, our friend and colleague Phil Bozenhard will be retiring! In addition to serving as a technical advisor to the Friends, particularly on restoration projects, Phil obviously cared a great deal for the Scarborough Marsh. He was able to balance the management and protection of the southern Maine district's natural resources with the needs of the ever growing number of people wanting to use and enjoy those same natural resources.

Phil also wins kudos from the community for having been one of the few who advocated for rebuilding the Audubon nature center after a flood in 1998 caused extensive damage. Over the years Phil found creative ways to share the responsibilities and costs for maintaining this small but important education facility. With retirement we hope Phil has more time to enjoy the pleasures of the marsh.

Eddie Woodin

Friends of Scarborough Marsh wouldn't be able to function without the tireless efforts of its volunteers or the financial gifts of our supporters. Eddie Woodin not only offers his support financially, but also through personal involvement. He is one of those who makes things happen! Eddie's enthusiasm for birds and wildlife habitat conservation is well known—and contagious! Friends is very grateful to Eddie for inspiring others to join with him in supporting our restoration, conservation, and education efforts.

A long-time birder, avid collector of bird art, and a frequent leader of Maine Audubon field trips and nature explorations, Eddie and his family currently reside on Grondin Pond, where a hallmark of their home is a garden teeming with plants and natural plantings that attract birds, butterflies, and other welcome native wildlife. Eddie is the owner of Woodin, Inc., of Portland.

Monday, May 22, 7 p.m.

Scarborough Public Library

Learn about the Library's plans to include green aspects in its renovation and expansion project. Danuta Drozdowicz of Fore Solutions (www.fore-solutions.com) and David Buchanan of Stillman Design (www.stillmandesign.com) will discuss green building and sustainable gardening.

Stewardship Update



“Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Scarborough Town Council, in Town Council assembled, does hereby recognize Saturday, April 22, 2006, Earth Day, as ‘Spring Cleaning Day for Scarborough Marsh and beaches’ and encourages all citizens to take part in this clean up of the Marsh and the beaches, and to care for them throughout the year.”
—*Scarborough Town Council*

Locations & Coordinators

Pine Point Beach:

Lynne & Ed Cleary
883-6887
(park and meet at town parking lot)

Cascade Falls Trail

Caryl Everett
282-1123
(park and meet behind Cascade Restaurant)

Pine Point Road and Ross Road

Bruce Thurlow
883-5445
(park and meet at Clambake Restaurant)

Scarborough Marsh Audubon Center to Dunstan Landing

Linda Woodard
781-2330 x 213
(park and meet at the nature center)

Eastern Trail (off Black Point Road)

Bruce Wakefield
415-1452
(park and meet at town pumping station .5 mile off Black Point Road)

Ferry Beach (off Black Point)

Jim Farr
883-2780

Higgins Beach

Scott Townsend
252-0720
(park on Bayview Avenue and meet at Pearl Street)

* ADULTS ONLY

Nonesuch River Marsh / Black Point Road

Maureen Kirsch
883-6918
(park at Black Point Auto)

Libby River Marsh / Black Point Road

Scott Townsend
252-0720
(park on Bayview Ave. in Higgins Beach and carpool)

Route 1

C.D. Armstrong
883-8028
(park and meet at Anjon's Restaurant)

To learn more or if your organization would like to provide volunteers, please contact Linda Woodard (781-2330) smac@maineaudubon.org.

Town Council Proclaims April 22nd as “Spring Cleaning Day”

The 2nd Annual Spring Cleaning of Scarborough Marsh and Beaches will be held on Earth Day this year, April 22, 2006. This year there are ten sites, from Pine Point to Black Point, for volunteers to gather and make a difference. For safety reasons, three sites are restricted to adults only. Traffic control will be provided by the town.

The event is a collaboration between the town and a number of organizations including the Friends of Scarborough Marsh, the Scarborough Land Conservation Trust, the Scarborough Conservation Commission, Pine Point

Association, Maine Audubon, Eastern Trail Alliance, Girl Scouts of Kennebec County, Scarborough Area Chamber of Commerce, Higgins Beach Association, Ecos (Scarborough H.S. environmental club), Saco Bay Trails, the Scarborough Garden Club, and the U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service.

We also would like to thank Stacy Kim of Rooks Communications who designed our wonderful posters.



Conservation Commission Report

The Scarborough Conservation Commission (CC) applauds the FOSM restoration work in the Scarborough Marsh, the completion of the Cascade Brook and Millbrook projects, and the upcoming Libby River and Nonesuch restoration. The Conservation Commission, a seven member volunteer group appointed by the Town Council, has been regularly reviewing and commenting upon projects before the Planning Board and report a raised awareness on a number of conservation issues. For example, encroachment into wetland buffers and has been an area of comment. The CC has seen a number of projects in which the Planning

Board, the Planning Staff, and developers have worked together to establish lot boundaries which do not include wetland areas and to provide permanent physical marking of wetland buffer boundaries. Other projects have changed plans which use or alter wetlands areas. The Commission has also been reviewing and support a proposed new Wetland Ordinance being developed by the Town of Scarborough's Ordinance Committee.

Shellfish Conservation Committee Report

As reported in the Town's Annual Report, Peter Angis, Chairman of the Scarborough Shellfish Conservation Committee, noted the 2005 season

provided a better than average harvest, and this despite a record number of closures.

Scarborough flats were closed for more than six weeks because of “Red Tide” and yet another five weeks for flood closures. In all, license holders lost over 80 days of harvesting due to the closures. But license holders weren't idle—they put those days to good use volunteering on conservation projects, surveys, trash cleanups, local school presentations, and green crab predation projects. The coastal cleanups were very well attended and were also noteworthy because the more than thirty volunteers were able to clean a number of areas by boat, places where access is otherwise difficult or impossible, particularly by foot.

Friend-raising Update



Scarborough Marsh Day 2006

Earlier this winter the boards of the Scarborough Land Conservation Trust and the Friends of Scarborough Marsh, met informally to discuss future plans for the joint fundraiser held over the past three years.

The fundraiser committees have done great work and are ready for a well deserved rest. Many committee members have worked hard on this event for all three years raising a net of over \$120,000 (after expenses) for land conservation. Most of these hardworking and resourceful folks have asked for a breather and the committee is in need of new members. With that in mind the boards are planning a Scarborough Marsh Day for Saturday, August 12, 2006.

The group consensus was to try a new idea this year with several goals in mind. The vision for the new event will be to shift focus in 2006 from a "fund" raiser to a "friend" raiser. The purpose of the event will be to: foster awareness of Scarborough Marsh, recruit new volunteers for a 2007 fundraiser committee, and maintain continuity with our many regular sponsors and supporters.

What will this new event look like? On Saturday morning August 12th, a series of events will occur, in conjunction with Maine Audubon's annual "Snowy Egret Day," in and around the marsh culminating in a barbecue lunch at noon and entertainment by Scarborough's own "Maine Hysterical Society."

Possible events may include: early morning bird watching, guided canoe and walking tours, guided eastern trail short and/or long bike rides, a wellness group walk or fun run on the Eastern trail, geo-cache scavenger hunt, Historical Society talk, tours of the Libby River area land trust preserve or Mill Brook restoration project, water quality testing and clamming demonstrations, striped bass fishing lessons, to name just a few early ideas.

If you have any interest in leading an activity or helping in any way, large or small, please contact Linda Woodard (883-5100).



You Can Help!

New Treasurer Needed

After serving many years as treasurer and chair of the fundraising committee, Roger Mallar has set his sights on doing a little more hunting and fishing and a lot less paperwork! Roger's careful attention to detail and skills as a project manager were invaluable as he kept track of gifts and income from various grants, membership and charitable donations, and revenues from events as well as the outflow of funds for restoration and conservation project expenses. (See page 7 for more about

Roger's contributions to FSM.) In the interim while the board searches for a replacement, C.D. Armstrong will temporarily assume the treasurer's duties. Please contact C.D. at 883-8028 if you are interested.

Web Editor Needed

Have you got a talent for web design? Or would you be willing to learn? We are looking for someone who can give a few hours a month to help maintain our web site. Contact Stephanie Cox at 799-4012 if you are interested.

Your Legacy Gift Will Be Appreciated By Generations to Come.

Remember, your gift may tax deductible!! We're a 501(c)3 group. Contact C.D. Armstrong 883-8028 to make a gift or fill out our form on the back page to join!

Friends of Scarborough Marsh

Dedicated to the conservation, protection, restoration, and enhancement of the Scarborough Marsh watershed.

www.scarboroughmaine.com/marsh/

PO BOX 7049
Scarborough, ME 04070-7049

2006 Meeting Schedule

Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.
All are welcome to attend!
4/11, 5/9, 9/12, 11/14

Meeting location & directions:

Unless otherwise noted, all FSM meetings are held at the local office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) at 306 Route One, Scarborough (across from the Orion Business Park).

For more info, call C.D. Armstrong at 883-8028 or e-mail carmstrong@deeringlumber.com.

Education Update



Great Blue Heron

Scarborough Marsh Audubon Center Opens for Season

Scarborough Marsh Audubon Center and store will be open to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekends starting Saturday, May 27 and seven days a week from June 10 through Labor Day. For the remainder of September, the center will be open on weekends.

The Audubon Center offers a variety of guided and self-guided walks on its nature trails, as well as canoe tours and rentals, natural history exhibits and a Maine Audubon Nature Store selling nature-related products, books and gifts.

This year the Center is putting together a book of poetry about the marsh—submissions from all ages are welcome!

Maine Coastal Waters Conference 2006

This all-day event on April 10th, hosted by the Maine Dept. of Marine Resources at the Samoset Resort in Rockport, will feature informative talks about issues of concern to those who manage, study and love the Maine coast. A morning plenary session will introduce attendees to the major conference themes, while afternoon breakout sessions will allow participants to delve into topics of interest in greater detail.

For more info, contact susan@greatgatherings.com or visit <http://www.maine.gov/dmr/coastalwaters2006/index.htm>

For a complete listing of programs, call (207) 883-5100 or visit us on the web at www.maineaudubon.org.

Canoe Tours Gliding through the marsh, you will be exposed to many marsh inhabitants, from the snowy egret to the mummichogs swimming in the water. A trained naturalist will show you marsh plants and even give you a taste of an edible one.

Full Moon Canoe Tours Experience the sights and sounds of marsh creatures under the full moon. Watch for black-crowned night heron along the bank or snowy egret flying back to a nearby island for the evening. We may even see a harbor seal or muskrat playing in the water.

Family Nature Walk: Mummichogs and Marsh Muck Explore the marsh for plants and animals through discovery-oriented, fun-filled activities that use all five senses.

Early Morning Birding The best birding is often early morning when birds are busy feeding. Look and listen for snowy egret, glossy ibis, herons, willet, sparrows and more. Birders of all levels and abilities are welcome to join.

Canoe Rentals Discover the meandering Dunstan River on your self-guided exploration of this unique habitat, the salt marsh. We'll provide a canoe, map and nature guide as well as life preservers and paddles.

Group Tours We can customize walking and canoe tours and other programs for groups.

Snowy Egret Day

Experience a full day of family fun, including a bird walk, an edible and medicinal plants walk (advance registration necessary), canoe tours, nature walks, a used-book sale, nature craft-making sessions, and more. There'll be special programs for children as well as displays and information about the marsh's unique ecosystem.

Saturday, August 12

9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Free admission, fee for some tours

No advance registration necessary

Conserving Maine's wildlife and wildlife habitat by engaging people of all ages in education, conservation and action.

MAINE 
AUDUBON



Annual Snowy Egret 5K Run/Walk

Start the summer off on the right foot by taking part in the annual Snowy Egret 5K Run/Walk in cooperation with Scarborough Marsh Audubon Center and Eastern Trail Alliance. The race starts at the center on Route 9 then follows the Eastern Trail to Peterson Field. A free 1K Fun Run for kids will start and end at the Pine Point end of the Eastern Trail. Get the whole family involved!

Sponsored by the Chiropractic Family Wellness Center. For a registration form, contact the Chiropractic Family Wellness Center at (207) 883-5549 or download a form from www.maineaudubon.org.

Monday, May 29, 2006

8:30 a.m. Kids' Fun Run

9 a.m. 5K Run/Walk

\$12/preregistration, \$15/race-day registration

Watershed Watch



The Future Depends on You

Friends of Scarborough Marsh, Scarborough Land Conservation Trust, the Conservation Commission, and Maine Audubon are all groups looking for volunteers. Whether you know a little or a lot, have a few hours or more to give – there is something meaningful you can do to make a difference that will benefit the community for generations to come.

It's easy to get involved and once you do, you'll see real progress. You'll see that you did make a difference, that you helped build a legacy.

The future rests with all of us, and we invite you to put your ideas and effort toward making the Scarborough Marsh watershed a better place for generations to come!

Contact Information

Friends of Scarborough Marsh
carmstrong@deeringlumber.com
CD Armstrong 883-8028

Scarborough Conservation Commission
c/o Town Clerk's Office 883-4301
Paul W. Austin [nonesuch@zwi.net]

Scarborough Land Conservation Trust
Laurene Swaney 883-4909
laurene@maine.rr.com

Scarborough Marsh Audubon Center
Linda Woodard 883-5100 / 781-2330
smac@maineaudubon.org

Eastern Trail Alliance
John Andrews 282-1979
jandrews@zwi.net

SAVE THE DATE!

Events & Special Programs

APRIL 9 Eastern Trail Alliance Amtrak Loop Ride - more details at www.easterntail.org/outings.html

APRIL 10 Maine Coastal Waters Conference 2006 at the Samoset Resort, Rockport. See page 10 for details.

APRIL 11th Friends of Scarborough Marsh Meeting 6:30 PM at the NRCS office, 306 US Rt 1 All are welcome!

APRIL 22—Earth Day! Scarborough Spring Cleaning Day 9:00-noon. See page 8 for details.

APRIL 24, 26, & 27 Volunteer Training, Scarborough Marsh Audubon Center. Lead nature walks. No experience necessary. For more info, call Linda Woodard (883-5100) or email smac@maineaudubon.org

MAY 22nd Building Green: Your Home, Your Garden... Your Library. 7:00 PM at the Scarborough Public Library. See pages 7 for details or contact the Library at 883-4723.

MAY 29th Annual Snowy Egret 5K Run/Walk Run to benefit the marsh. See page 10 for details.

AUGUST 12 Scarborough Marsh Day 9:00-noon & Snowy Egret Day Scarborough Marsh Audubon Center 9:30 AM—2:00 PM See pages 9 & 10 for details.

Public Meetings

FRIENDS OF SCARBOROUGH MARSH
April 11th, May 9th, Sept. 12th, and Nov. 14th
Tuesdays at 6:30 PM at the NRCS office, 306 US Rt 1
All are welcome!

SCARBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION
2nd Monday of the Month, 7pm, Town Hall (usually) For
agendas and minutes, call the clerk's office at 883-7778.

SCARBOROUGH LAND CONSERVATION TRUST
4th Tues day of the Month (usually)

Friends of Scarborough Marsh

PO Box 7049

Scarborough, ME 04070

www.scarboroughmaine.com/marsh/



Please Visit Us On The Web
www.scarboroughmaine.com/marsh
Friends Web Site Gets a Facelift!

Have you been to the web site lately? It's got a new look and it's the place to go to get all the latest news, information about how you can get involved with Friends of Scarborough Marsh and our partner groups. The site is maintained by volunteers and is hosted by Scarborough Public Library for her technical support and encouragement. Scarborough Crossroads is a cooperative venture providing web hosting, technical, and training resources.

Scarborough Marsh Progress Report

While produced by the Friends of Scarborough Marsh, this progress report highlights the good news from the many organizations and groups working on projects impacting the marsh. Written by many, edited by C.D. Armstrong and Stephanie Cox. Printed on recycled paper.

Pledge your support to this unique and bountiful natural resource—JOIN Friends of Scarborough Marsh.

Individual / Family Membership Levels

<input type="checkbox"/> Friend	\$ 25
<input type="checkbox"/> Partner	\$ 50
<input type="checkbox"/> Protector	\$ 100
<input type="checkbox"/> Visionary	\$ 250 or more

Corporate/Business Membership Levels

<input type="checkbox"/> Friend	\$ 50
<input type="checkbox"/> Partner	\$ 100
<input type="checkbox"/> Protector	\$ 250
<input type="checkbox"/> Visionary	\$ 500 or more

Name _____
 Address _____

 ZIP _____

Phone () _____
 Phone () _____
 Email _____

Enclose your check or money-order with this form and **send to:**
 Friends of Scarborough Marsh,
 PO Box 7049, Scarborough, ME 04070

Membership dues may be tax-deductible. Friends is a registered 501(c)3 group.

Restoration or Marsh Monitoring
 Land Protection
 Pollution Control
 Clean-Up Events
 Information & Education
 Fundraising
 Grantwriting
 Raffle Committee
 Other: _____

Volunteers and active members are needed!
 Please let us know how you would like volunteer: