



NEWSLETTER

SPRING/SUMMER 2022

SERVING LOVELL, STONEHAM, STOW, AND SWEDEN, MAINE



A Bird's Eye View

INTRODUCING THE KEZAR CORRIDOR LANDS

Over the last few years, GLLT was approached by three different landowners, each of whom had a deep personal desire to conserve their lands for the benefit of the natural community but also with the enjoyment of the human community in mind. It happens that those three properties were adjacent parcels that together encompass lands that include some favorite areas for many outdoor activities year-round.

As the pieces came together, a once-in-a-lifetime project was revealed. The combined properties, which we call the Kezar Corridor Lands, will incorporate the three parcels, and will preserve in perpetuity a remarkable

summit view, beautiful woodlands, and valued wetlands that include brooks, riverfront, an underground aquifer, and a special pond.

The roller coaster weather of the past winter has shown us again the unpredictable changes that are affecting our region. Looking forward, it will be more important than ever to consider ways to plan for a future with very different weather and land-use conditions. Conservation of our open lands is one tool for that future.

Protecting the plant and animal life in a watershed assures water quality, defends against the impacts of extreme weather, and helps keep natural systems in balance. And conservation

also provides our community with public access to recreational lands for the traditional outdoor uses that we value in our region.

Our community is fortunate to share this place with people who both recognize the importance of conserving lands, and are willing to share their valued lands with us.

We are grateful to them, and to all of our community, for supporting our work today and helping us plan for the future.

Thank you,

Jill Rundle, President

Kezar Corridor Lands 360° drone
above Patterson Hill
Photo: ©Michael Paul Snyder

Here Comes **the NEXT BIG** **THING**

Erika Rowland, Executive Director

Bigger is sometimes better, and there are decided benefits if we are talking about land conservation; particularly with regard to GLLT's current land project, which is speeding toward completion.

The Kezar Corridor Lands, located in the northeast corner of Lovell along the Waterford and Sweden town lines, was offered to the land trust by three different owners of adjacent parcels who all were determined to protect their lands for perpetuity. The property is the largest contiguous land acquisition project in GLLT's history and an increasingly rare opportunity in the

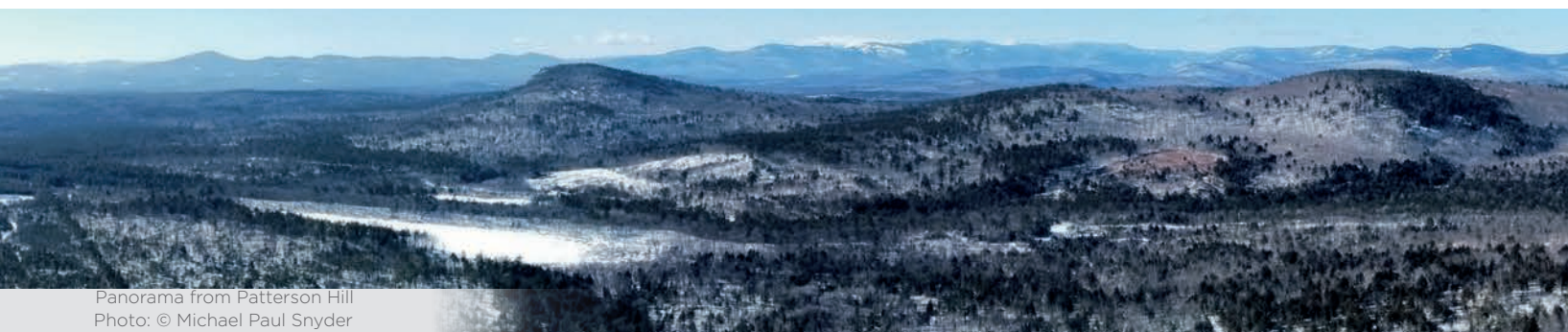
southern reaches of Oxford County in southern Maine. At 1,310 acres, the project will include forested uplands critical to the water quality of the significant wetlands, and connectivity for wildlife. The properties of the three separate landowners that make up the Kezar Corridor Lands have it all, or, in land trust lingo, the project offers a "full suite of conservation values."

The list of features starts with the entire shoreline of Dan Charles Pond. The 20-acre pond is recognized as important wading bird and waterfowl habitat by the state of Maine's Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (IFW), which is evident during spring and fall

migrations. Other recognized waterfowl habitat is located in areas of open-water wetlands along Kezar River and Patterson Brook.

The river and brook, both identified by IFW as native brook trout habitat, flow through the Kezar Corridor Lands. The Kezar River extends for nearly 2 miles through hemlock ravines and open, seasonally flooded wetlands, connecting with 378 acres that extend along the southernmost stretch in an area already conserved by GLLT and owned by another conservation organization, Maine Woodland Owners. Patterson Brook, a tributary of Kezar River, meanders in and out of the

Conserving 1,310 acres in the Kezar River Corridor



Panorama from Patterson Hill
Photo: © Michael Paul Snyder

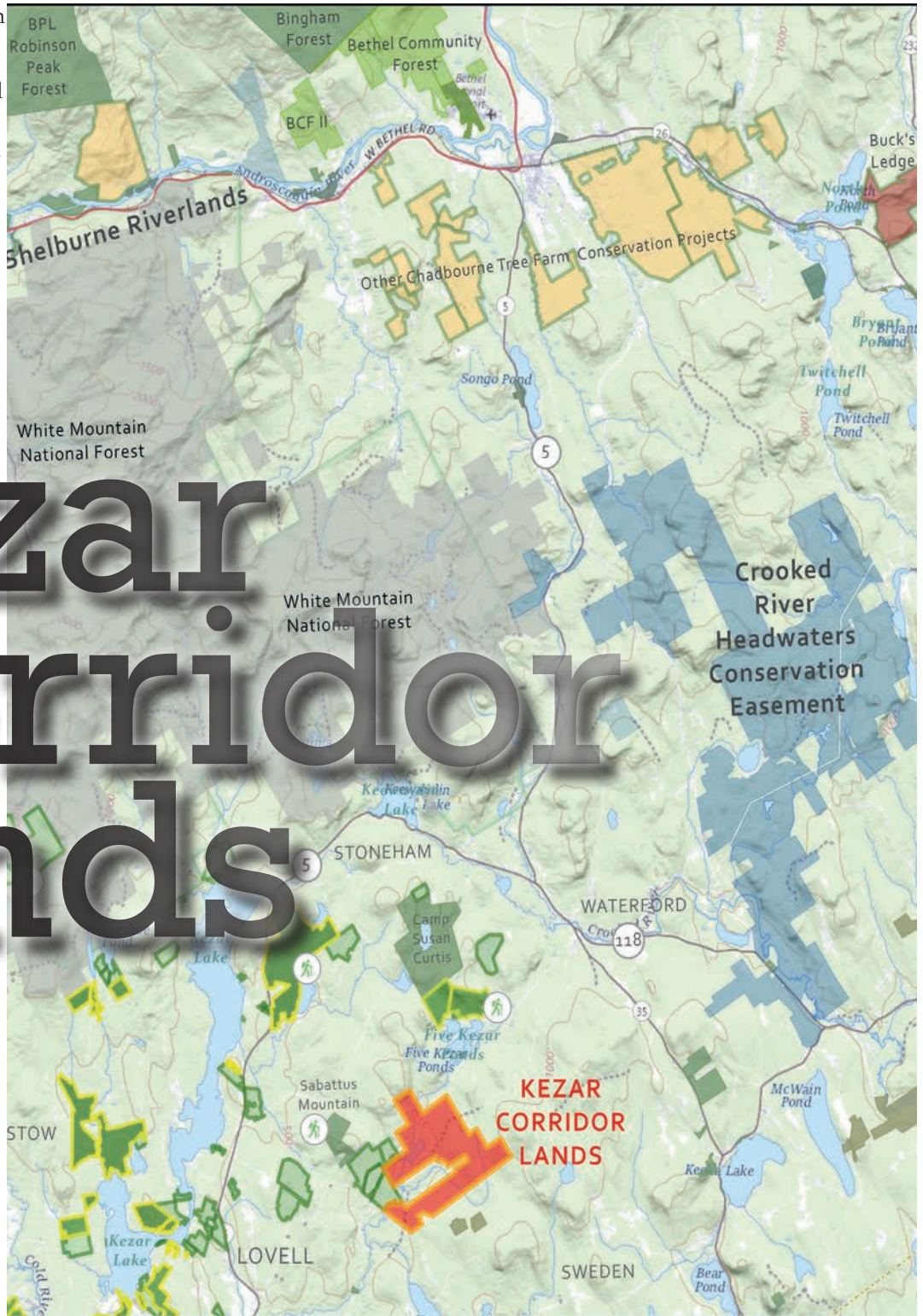
properties, for over a mile within the conservation project area. One steep stretch includes a series of small falls and a natural 'waterslide.'

While the Kezar Corridor Lands have an agricultural past – and a more recent history of forest management – mature hemlock, white pine, and oak trees grow on over 200 acres surrounding the pond, river, and brook. Much of this area represents deer wintering habitat valued by the animals and by Maine's IFW and local hunters.

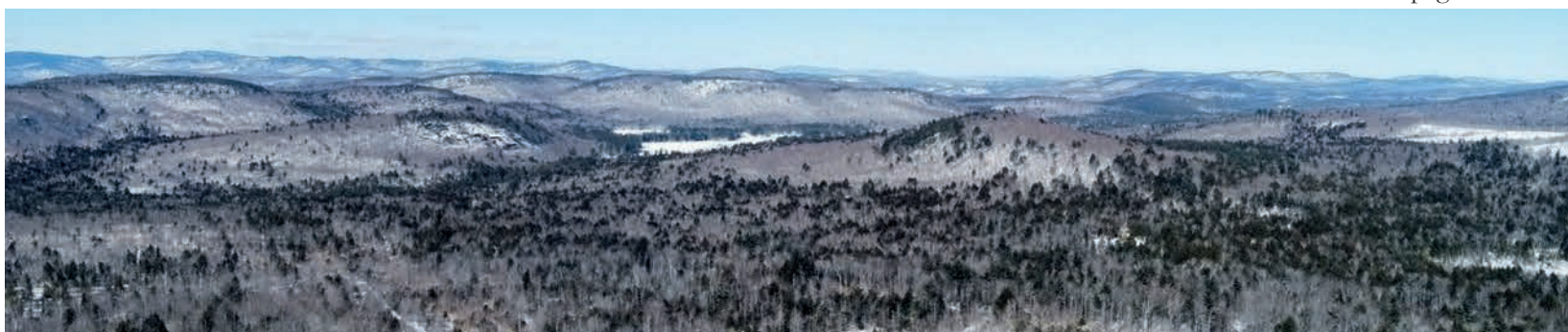
Kezar Corridor Lands

Also an attraction to deer and other wildlife, a patch of 'ancient oaks' is rooted on the southern slope of Patterson Hill, supplying acorns for over a century, or maybe two.

There's more. If outdoor recreation is your thing, there is an extensive menu of options at Kezar Corridor Lands. Gravel-surfaced, seasonally maintained town roads form a network through the property, with



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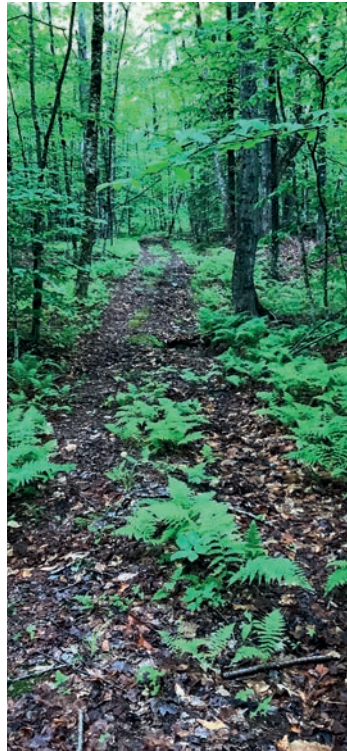
sections serving the local snowmobile club during the winter and the ATV club when it's warmer and drier. If you prefer to travel by foot or ski or snowshoe, there is plenty of off-road room to roam across a landscape that extends from the lowlands along the river into the surrounding hills. The view from Patterson Hill captures it all.

atmosphere and storing it in all parts of the trees, leaves, wood, and root systems, where it will stay for centuries. Context is everything. The activities on adjacent lands have an impact on conservation lands. Large conserved areas provide unfragmented habitat for wildlife with extensive home ranges

acres, Upper Saco Valley Land Trust's Dundee Community Forest at 1,172 acres in Jackson and Bartlett, NH, and the Sebago Clean Waters/Mahoosuc Land Trust's very recent conservation easement on 12,300 privately owned acres in Albany Twp).



Patterson Brook Waterslide
Photo: Erika Rowland



Woods Road
Photo: Erika Rowland



Patterson Brook Falls
Photo: Erika Rowland

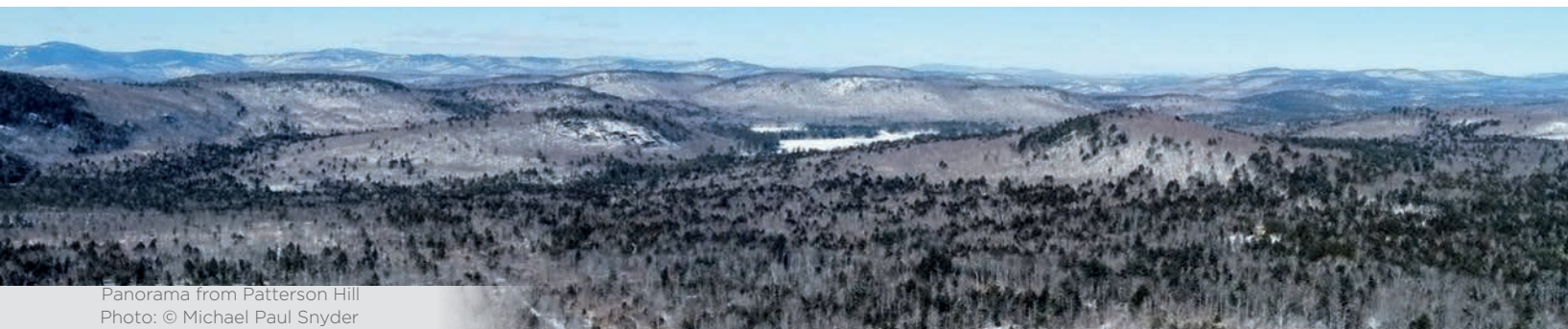


Hemlock ravine Kezar River
Photo: Erika Rowland

Less tangible but equally important are the water quality and climate change benefits. Water and watershed health are critical no matter what your vantage point. Maintaining forested watershed helps to protect the aquifer that extends under the length of Kezar River. The forest slows water flow on the surface to reduce flooding to the river as it flows through the village of Lovell, and to moderate sediment and nutrient loads harmful to aquatic life. And the more forest we have, the better for pulling carbon dioxide from the

(see "Otterly Wonderful" in this issue), connectivity to other conserved lands, and provide buffers against outside influences. Not that we are vying to keep up with the neighbors, but the Kezar Corridor Lands purchase is following a regional trend in landscape conservation. These are some of the other big deals going on around us: Mahoosuc Land Trust's Shelburne Riverlands along the Androscoggin River to the north at 880 acres, Loon Echo Land Trust's Tiger Hill Community Forest in Sebago at 1,400

Community forests are also an emerging theme in conservation, and GLLT hopes to work with the community to shape the Kezar Corridor Lands in a way that balances multiple human uses with maintaining the ecological values. We plan to ask the community to participate in planning, and to donate time and funding for the many elements of the project that will need investment for perpetuity. Stay tuned for opportunities to support this amazing project and to join us in envisioning its future. ■



Panorama from Patterson Hill
Photo: © Michael Paul Snyder

Our 2021 GLLT summer intern Returns for a college thesis project with our Tuesday Trackers

(Bates College campus life just couldn't measure *up!*)

Emily Carty, GLLT 2021 Summer Intern

Returning to the Lewiston campus after a summer working as a GLLT intern, I missed the hands-on learning and close-knit community of the land trust summer program. So, as I thought about my upcoming thesis project – a requirement for senior anthropology majors such as myself – I devised a plan to incorporate the intern experiences into my degree requirements.

Focusing my interest on working with naturalists, I reached out to the GLLT team, who generously set me up with the Tuesday Trackers program; a group that meets every other Tuesday to practice identifying animal tracks and scat. Since then, I have hit the trails twice a month with the group to look for signs of Maine's non-human inhabitants; exploring evidence left by animals, identifying tracks and scat, and observing changes in the natural world.

The goal of my study is to look at how amateur naturalists perceive, interact with, and connect to the natural environment. The project falls under a subfield of anthropology known as environmental anthropology, which investigates the relationships humans have to their environments. More specifically, my project seeks to contribute to growing bodies of research that address

relationships between humans and other species in an effort to move toward a more sustainable future.

The methods for my fieldwork include not only tagging along with the Tuesday Trackers to see how they interact with wild species, but also participating myself to gain first hand experience on what it means to become an amateur naturalist. Furthermore, I have had the opportunity to learn from, chat with, and even interview a group of dedicated naturalists, led by GLLT's own Maine Master Naturalist and Education Director, Leigh Hayes. As I learn both with and from the Tuesday Trackers, I have been able to look deeper into how becoming a naturalist teaches one to think about and interact with the natural world.

I have been working with the group since January. While I am not yet finished, I have already learned multitudes about Maine's non-human inhabitants, as well as what it means to be an amateur naturalist. I am so lucky to have the chance to work with such a welcoming and enthusiastic group. I'm looking forward to sharing my completed project in April, and want to sincerely thank GLLT and the Tuesday Trackers for this wonderful learning opportunity! ■



Tuesday Trackers outing
Photo: Leigh Hayes

Come out for a weekly trail run with us!



**ROCKS AND ROOTS
RAMBLERS**

**EVERY THURSDAY at 5:30
MAY UNTIL FALL**

SIGN UP FOR E-MAIL UPDATES
FOR RUN LOCATIONS: GLLT.ORG

The Forever Work of Land Conservation

Stewardship, part one:

Conservation Easements

Rhyan Paquereau, Stewardship Manager

Stewardship is the constant of land trust work. For some folks the word brings to mind building trails, maintaining viewpoints, and clearing blowdowns; for others, it is as unfamiliar as a hoatzin.



Hoatzin in Amazonia
Photo: Jill Rundle

While stewardship is most commonly associated with trailwork, it is actually the umbrella term we apply that encompasses the many key functions and activities of a land trust, requiring areas of expertise ranging from communication skills and legal fluency to ecology and chainsaw safety.

There are two main branches of stewardship operations in a land trust: the stewardship of “fee” properties – those that are owned by GLLT – and the stewardship of conservation easements held by GLLT on private lands. Both types come with distinct responsibilities. In this “part one” article, we will focus on stewardship of conservation easements on privately owned lands. In our next newsletter, we’ll take a look at what goes into stewarding our fee properties, many of which include trails, parking areas, kiosks, and beautiful views.

Conservation easement properties remain in the hands of private landowners. With all conservation land the care of the natural world is foremost, but with easements the land trust must make certain that the limitations that have been agreed to

are respected. When an owner places a property under a conservation easement, some of the use rights are voluntarily given up (the legal term is “extinguished”). We may think of property ownership as providing a “bundle” of rights for how it can be used; the right to build a house and driveway, the right to harvest trees, the right to create a pond, and more. Conservation easement owners have agreed to limit the uses of their property in ways that protect important ecological, scenic, open space, or other features now and for the future.

The conservation easement is a permanent legal agreement that documents the limits of use and is recorded at the registry of deeds. The terms of the agreement, what’s permitted and what’s not, are monitored and enforced by a qualified land trust or state agency. Most importantly, conservation easements “run with the land,” meaning that they are in place in perpetuity, regardless of who owns the land in the future. GLLT, as the easement holder, is legally responsible for upholding easement terms and making sure the conservation values are

protected *forever* or til the end of time as we know it, whichever comes first. This is the stewardship role of the land trust.

Conservation easement stewardship includes three major functions: annual monitoring, administering notices, and approvals for permitted activities. It can also include taking action to address compliance issues with easement terms.

The land trust communicates with the landowner and visits the property each year to ensure that the terms of the conservation easement are being followed. The visit is also an opportunity to speak with the landowner, to document changes to the property, to inspect the boundary line markings, and to identify any issues. As Robert Frost’s neighbor famously said, “good fences (or clearly marked boundaries) make good neighbors.”

The land trust also works with landowners on activities that they plan to undertake on their property. Landowners may do many things without needing to notify the land trust, but GLLT must confirm that the landowners exercise only reserved rights, especially in cases where the



Conservation easement lands on Long Meadow Brook
Photo: Rhyan Paquereau



Conservation easement lands on Long Meadow Brook
Photo: Rhyan Paquereau

activity may significantly change the property (either permanently or temporarily). This annual work takes staff – and sometimes attorney – time to review easement terms (each one is different!), gather details, communicate with the landowner, and keep careful records about the process. For example, if an easement allows for the construction of a house on a certain part of the property and the landowner notifies GLLT and shares house and site plans, GLLT reviews the plans with

respect to the easement terms. If the construction project aligns with the easement, the plans are approved and the land trust periodically checks in on progress, and updates its records when the project is complete.

Lastly, GLLT is legally bound to enforce the terms of easements in situations where activities do not comply. Partnering with landowners is the backbone of productive stewardship so violations to the terms of an easement do not occur often and are

usually minor misunderstandings. In most cases, solutions can be found by working together. On rare occasions, major easement violations seriously damage conserved resources and can lead to costly legal battles. Thankfully, this has not happened in our service area.

Conservation easement stewardship, particularly annual monitoring visits, is designed to conserve ecological, scenic, and other values that offer public benefit and reduce the risk of violations. What we've shared is the tip of the iceberg of the work involved, but, at its core, easement stewardship is building good relationships and lines of communication with easement owners. Easement landowners are critical stakeholders in local conservation because of their commitment to protect their property's conservation values.

Contact us at info@gllt.org if you'd like to learn more about the ins and outs of conservation easement stewardship or are interested in considering one for your property. ■

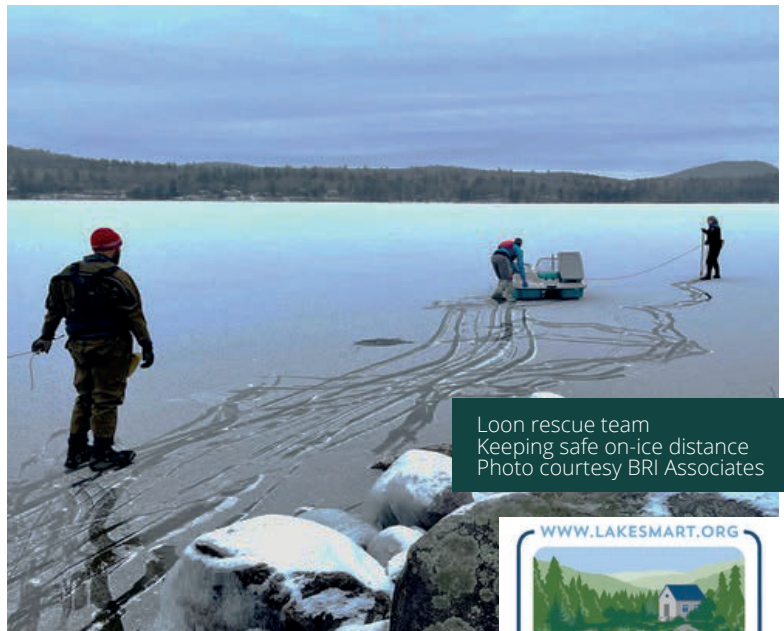
 **News from the KLWA** Rick Pilsbury, President

KLWA Looks Ahead After a Busy Winter.

First comes Daylight Savings time, then ice out, mud season, black flies and finally spring. Meanwhile, there's been plenty going on to freshen the routine and keep winter interesting, KLWA elected three new directors, saved five loons from a frigid demise and saw its new loon nesting platform design take hold in a broad area beyond the Kezar Lake Watershed. Also, and importantly, our final 2021 water quality data indicated we are maintaining our historically high quality levels.

New directors are Amy Crowe, upper bay, Mark Bernfeld, lower bay and Kathleen Birch, middle bay. We're now up to 14 Directors covering six water bodies. Please come meet them at the KLWA Annual Meeting July 20 at the Old Saco Inn. Details to follow.

The loon rescue on January 13 was dramatic due to thin ice and frightened birds. Much could have gone wrong but nothing did thanks to a fast response from KLWA loon experts Laura Robinson and Heinrich Wurm, as well as three volunteers from the Biodiversity Research Institute in Portland. The loons were rescued and transported to Avian Haven in Freedom, ME, for rehabilitation and release into the ocean, their normal winter habitat.



Loon rescue team
Keeping safe on-ice distance
Photo courtesy BRI Associates

While vigilance is our highest priority, should you encounter a loon in distress, don't approach it as loons are large, feisty, and have long, dangerous beaks. Instead call KLWA at 207-925-8020. ■



Otterly Wonderful!

the playful denizens of a wonderful winter waterland

Text and Photos: Moira Yip, GLLT Board Member

River Otters, *Lontra canadensis*, live all around us, but they are not easy to see. In summer, their dark coats are well camouflaged in the brown waters of our ponds and lakes, but in winter they stand out against the ice and snow. Let me introduce you:

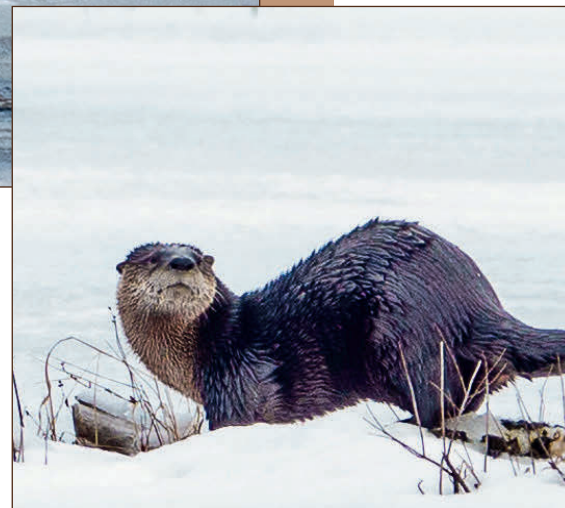


Up to five feet long including tail, otters are fierce hunters of fish, crayfish, and sometimes frogs, snakes, or even ducklings. This one has a good-sized catch:



The range of an adult otter is typically between 3 and 15 square miles, and they need access to connected waterways with healthy fish populations and that are not too widely separated. For exactly this sort of reason, GLLT places a high priority on both water quality and connectivity, terrestrial and aquatic, when it assesses lands to protect.

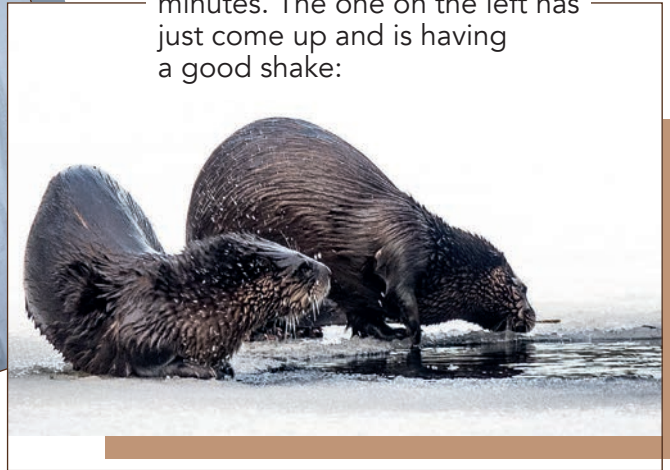
They are streamlined and graceful, and can swim at 6-7 mph, diving to 60 feet and swimming a quarter of a mile on one breath:



They roam along our waterways, from pond to pond, sometimes travelling long distances across country to the next body of water. Here in our watersheds the Heald Pond (Otter Rock!) population travels down Mill Brook, where some of these photos were taken, to Boulder Brook, and cross-country to Andrews Brook, and beyond. They also go upstream towards Bradley Pond. One pair were tracked through the January woods for 0.6Km, likely heading for another stream at least 0.4Km away, using their trademark technique of tobogganing on the fresh snow, and leaving these distinctive tracks:



They do not hibernate, which means they must hunt under the ice. They keep holes open as long as they can, just like seals, because they too are mammals and need to return to the surface to breathe every few minutes. The one on the left has just come up and is having a good shake:



The female gives birth to up to three cubs in late winter in a den that can be a hole in the bank, or even an old beaver lodge. The young stay with the mother till sometime in the following winter: this is a mother and last spring's offspring in December.

They were part of a group of three, possibly including a second youngster, but social groups can be larger and include unrelated helpers or other juveniles.



As winter progresses, the water level under the ice goes down, leaving an air pocket, and they can use this to breathe and avoid the need to break a hole through the ice. They are kept warm by a double-layered coat. The underneath layer is short, oily, and interlocking. The top layer has longer guard hairs. Frequent grooming, often by means of rolling around in the snow, keeps the coat well-oiled.

Otters have been seen on many other GLLT properties, including Charles Pond, John A. Segur Wildlife Refuge, and Kezar River Reserve. GLLT is proud of protecting waters and woods that provide the right kind of high-quality connected habitat for these skilled and elegant animals. ■

A fleeting spring song fest in FROG HEAVEN... the importance of a vernal pool

There's no music quite like the defiant chorus of the wood frogs, arising when the ice is barely off the vernal pools and the ground is still covered with patches of snow. Singing together, they sound like dozens of deliriously quacking ducks.

Their vocal prowess includes silence. As we approach, and they sense danger (or perhaps vibrations), they cut off their song together, as though directed by an unseen conductor.

A vernal pool is a shallow, short-lived pond that fills with snowmelt or spring rain for at least several weeks most years, but has no major inlet or outlet, and no fish. The size typically ranges from one tenth of an acre to two acres.

Vernal pools are the preferred breeding locales for some amphibians, crustaceans, and insects because, without fish predators, reproductive success is more likely.

These short-lived pools are most often located in upland forests. Trees and vegetation provide shade and keep the water cool as spring temperatures rise, and the leaves and woody debris they drop break down to feed some

of the smallest organisms in the food web. The uplands also provide habitat for the emerging amphibians and salamanders,

providing food and shelter when they leave the pool after two weeks.

There are four indicator species in Maine that define whether a vernal pool is significant: wood frogs, spotted salamanders, blue spotted salamanders, and fairy shrimp. To be considered significant, the pool must contain 1 fairy shrimp; or 40 wood frog egg masses; or 20 spotted salamander egg masses; or

10 blue spotted salamander egg masses. This last is a species of special concern, meaning Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is trying to prevent blue spotted salamanders from becoming endangered or threatened.

Wood frogs are often the first to break winter's quiet, beating spring peepers by a few days or even a week. Male frogs start quacking their *wruck, wruck* love songs in hopes of attracting females. To us, the noisy calls say "Spring has sprung," but female wood frogs must hear it as "Let's get together."



wood frog amplexus



wood frog egg mass

The smaller male climbs onto the female's back, grasps her and she lays eggs as he releases sperm. Newly laid egg masses are ping-pong ball size but absorb water and grow to softball size. The tiny black embryo of each egg is surrounded by a perfectly round, clear envelope about 1/3 inch in diameter. A gelatinous blob can consist of up to 1,500 individual eggs and looks like a clump of tapioca. Clusters of egg masses tend to be located in one section of a pool and form a community that may cover an area as big as a truck tire.

In a few weeks the eggs hatch into brownish-black tadpoles. As they grow, their rounded tail fins become translucent with gold and blackish flecks of color. Their metamorphosis—or

Text and Photos:
Leigh Hayes, Education Director

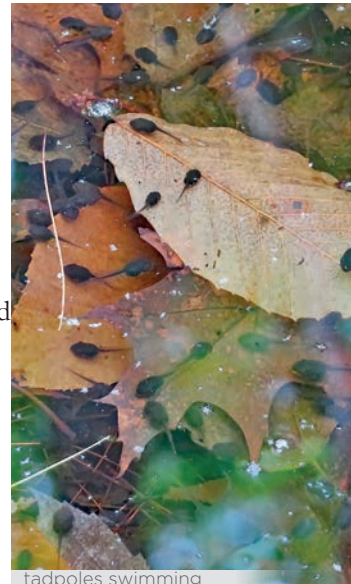
change to adult form—is complete by late June to early July; earlier if temperatures rise and the pool begins to dry out.

If present in the pool, male spotted salamanders deposit spermatophores, white, jelly-like packets of sperm, atop short pedestals. To me, they look like miniature

pieces of cauliflower. After a frenzied dance, the male encourages a female toward his spermatophore and she collects the sperm in her cloaca, where she internally fertilizes eggs. She will deposit up to 250 eggs in a gelatinous mass with individual eggs visible inside of it.

Both wood frog and spotted salamander egg masses contain a species of algae, *Oophyllia ambystomatis*. During

Since 2007, significant vernal pool habitat has been protected by law under the Maine's Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA): "Significant Vernal Pool (SVP) habitat consists of a vernal pool depression and a portion of the critical terrestrial habitat within a 250-foot radius of the spring or fall high water mark of the depression. Any activity in, on, or over the SVP or the 250-foot critical terrestrial habitat zone must avoid unreasonable impacts to the significant vernal pool habitat and obtain approval from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, either through Permit by Rule (a streamlined permitting process) or full individual NRPA permit."



tadpoles swimming



fairy shrimp

development, the embryos receive oxygen from the alga, which in turn draws nourishment from the embryo.

Blue spotted salamanders behave in much the same way as spotted salamanders, but their egg masses include from 1 to 30 eggs.

Fairy shrimp are crustaceans. These half inch forms swim on their backs and move eleven pairs of legs like a crew team in a rowing shell. Fairy shrimp only survive in clean water. And their life span is short, only about six weeks. The cool thing about them is that their eggs must dry out and freeze before they can respond to environmental cues such as reflooding to hatch. Some eggs may stay dormant for up to fifteen years. And they can survive being ingested by a predator and coming out in its scat. That said, since fairy shrimp need water to hatch, it's best if the scat lands in a vernal pool.

A vernal pool isn't just about frogs and salamanders and fairy shrimp. It's a place where the food chain begins with nutrients from leaf litter and other organic matter. Many invertebrates shred the leaves and take advantage of the fungi, microorganisms, algae and slime that accumulate there. Midges and beetles and mites and water striders and caddisflies are part of the scene. Even when the pool dries, flesh flies and American carrion beetles mate and lay their eggs upon any rotting tadpoles or other species that may not have metamorphosed.

In addition to being vital for the species I've mentioned, vernal pools are like stepping stones in the bigger picture of a forest corridor where other wildlife travel. Animals such as raccoons, deer, and bears visit pools to find food and water. Bats, waterfowl, and songbirds feed on the rich insect buffet in and around the pools, and find sheltered areas to roost and build nests. Snakes and other reptiles also benefit from the nutritious offerings. Without these corridors, the wildlife with which we share this space would be isolated and more vulnerable to drastic changes such as development and climate change.

Though the music doesn't last long in a vernal pool. the songs echo through the woodland in many other forms. But when breeding season is over, the frogs go silent until the next year's song fest. ■

Events!

We ask that you pre-register for programs as numbers may be limited. PLEASE NOTE: Registration for events will require you to complete a form with your name and email address – event location will be provided. You will find the registration forms on GLLT's website calendar: www.gllt.org/calendar. Be sure to check the website calendar often as events are subject to change and pop-up programs may be offered.

Saturday, April 16, 9:30am - noon

Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Bunny promises to hide eggs at Kezar River Reserve, Route 5, Lovell. Sponsored by GLLT/Lovell Rec. No registration necessary.

Saturday, April 16 through Friday, April 23

Earth Week Clean Up

Join us on your own time to pick up debris from Route 5 or any roadside in the GLLT towns of Lovell, Stow, Stoneham, and Sweden, or your neck of the woods, wherever that may be. Be sure to wear blaze orange. Send us a photo of you and the trash you gather and we'll add it to our Earth Week Clean-up Map.

Friday, April 22, 9:30am - noon

Honoring the Earth Hike

We'll hike along a GLLT trail that will take us around a small portion of the Earth, pausing at viewpoints to pay reverence to this place we call home.

Thursday, May 5, 5:30 - 7:00pm

Cinco de Mayo 5K Trail Run

On your hot chili mark, get set, and go at Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve, parking lot #4. \$12/pre-registration by May 1; \$15/day of registration. Sponsored by GLLT and Lovell Rec.

Saturday, May 7, 9:30am - noon

Fairy Shrimp Safari

We'll dip small containers into a vernal pool and try to determine who lives there. Rain boots highly recommended for this possibly wet adventure.

Friday, May 13, 6:30 - 9:00am

Feathered Friends Friday

Birding with GLLT docents. No experience necessary. We have field guides and binoculars.

Saturday, May 14, 9:30am - noon

Spring Ephemerals Hike

The window of time when early spring wildflowers start to pop through the forest floor is brief. With field guides and hand lenses, we'll search for these beauties.

Wednesday, May 18, 9:30am - 1:30pm

Charles to Charles, River to Pond

While the water is a wee bit higher than in the summer, we'll explore Charles River, Charles Pond, and Cold River via canoe or kayak. BYO boat and lunch.

Friday, May 20, 6:30 - 9:00am

Feathered Friends Friday

Birding with GLLT docents. No experience necessary. We have field guides and binoculars.

Friday, May 27, 6:30 - 9:00am

Feathered Friends Friday

Birding with GLLT docents. No experience necessary. We have field guides and binoculars.

Friday, June 10, 6:30 - 9:00am

Feathered Friends Friday

Birding with GLLT docents. No experience necessary. We have field guides and binoculars.

Wednesday, June 8, 9:30 - 11:00am

Seeing What Draws Your Eye Photo Walk

An informal walk along a GLLT trail with 5 stops for making images on phone or camera. At each stop we will share a photo or two, and look at the diversity of perspectives and interests that are caught by the group. How complete a "picture" of the site is created in this way?

Friday, June 10, 6:30 - 9:00am

Feathered Friends Friday

Birding with GLLT docents. No experience necessary. We have field guides and binoculars.

Saturday, June 18, 9:30am - noon

Charles Pond Hike

We'll bushwhack through the woods and beside the pond and Cold River as we get to know this space better.

Tuesday, July 5, 1:00 - 3:00

T-shirt printing

Jenn Ward of Fly Away Farm has created a block print of the 2022 GLLT logo. Bring your own T-shirt or purchase one from us and we'll help you print the logo on it.

Thursday, July 7, 9:30AM - noon

The Stone House Easement Story

GLLT's Executive Director Erika Rowland and Stewardship Manager Rhyan Paquereau will share the dynamics of a conservation easement as we hike on a privately owned property that is open to the public.

Tuesday, July 12, 5:00 - 6:00pm

mac-ro-pho-tog-ra-phy

Macro photography can be a fun and exciting way to capture images of small, everyday objects and present them in a larger format and in great detail. The plants, flowers, mushrooms and bugs that surround us take on a whole new life through a macro lens. Professional photographer Michael Snyder will share some tips, techniques and best practices for capturing macro images.

Wednesday, July 13, 3:00 - 5:00pm

Afternoon Stroll in the Shade

We'll follow a brook that flows beside



Hornet

Macro-Photo: © Michael Paul Snyder

the trail at one of GLLT's properties and enjoy the quiet and beauty it offers. Nature distractions will pull our attention and we will honor each one from dragonflies and damselflies to flowers by our feet.

Saturday, July 16

Lovell Old Home Days

Look for GLLT's float in the parade.

Tuesday, July 19, 5:00 - 6:00pm

Fungi Symbiosis VIRTUAL PROGRAM

Jimmie Veitch, co-owner of White Mountain Mushrooms, LLC, will share with us the diversity and ecology of mycorrhizae in Maine forests. Come learn about these vast

underground networks that weave the forest together beyond the individual lives of its inhabitants. He will also share methods of "spore printing" mushrooms and explain how this technique can be helpful for beginners interested in mushroom identification.

Wednesday, July 20, 9:30 - 11:30am

Poetry Workshop at Hewnooks

This nature-related experience will be led by poet Judith Steinbergh. She'll share some of her favorite poetry forms and then send participants off to be inspired by the natural world. Sponsored by GLLT, Hobbs Library, and Hewnoaks Artist Colony.

Thursday, July 21, 9:30am - noon

Charles Pond Flower Paddle

We'll explore the edge of the pond and river via canoe or kayak and learn more about floral species that like wet feet. BYO boat and PFD.

Wednesday, July 27, 5:00 - 6:00pm

Poetry Reading

An in-person reading with poet Judith Steinbergh, July 20 workshop participants, and anyone who would like to read a nature-related poem or listen to the creative works of others. Light refreshments served. Sponsored by GLLT, Hobbs Library, and Hewnoaks Artist Colony.

Thursday, July 28, 9:30am - noon

Rewilding Art

Led by artist and Hewnoaks Summer Manager Pamela Moulton, this multi-sensory, interactive experience where a treasure trove of materials, ranging from bedazzling sequined fabrics, to rhinestones, plastic frogs, and old fashioned curlers, will inspire participants to experiment and create individual textile sculptures that can temporarily become part of the interactive Rewilding installation at Hewnoaks. No sewing knowledge necessary and glue will be flowing!

Sunday, July 31, 3:00 - 7:00pm

Eastman Hill Stock Farm GLLT Annual Meeting

GLLT Annual meeting and tour of Eastman Hill Stock Farm buildings and grounds. Refreshments will be served. Numbers are limited so registration will be required.

Wednesday, August 3, 5:00 - 6:00pm

Would you like to see a dinosaur?

You don't have to visit Jurassic Park, just look around you! GLLT docent Bonny Boatman will share a multimedia presentation that will focus on the transition from awe-inspiring reptiles to the birds around your feeder. With her guidance, explore how the transition occurred and why. It is a fascinating journey.

Thursday, August 4, 9:30am - noon

Stream Explorers 101: A Treasure Hunt

Let's learn about Maine Audubon's Stream Explorers program. We'll get our feet wet as we turn over stones, search among submerged plants and check tree roots in the water with our hands and catch any detritus with a net. On shore, we'll examine the findings, and learn how to ID aquatic insects and macro-invertebrates. Finally, we'll determine which ones are sensitive, moderately sensitive or tolerant of water pollution or impaired water conditions. Sponsored by GLLT and Lakes Environmental Association.

Tuesday, August 9, 5:00 - 6:00pm

The Beauty of Our Wildflowers

Through her delightful photography, GLLT docent and board member Moira Yip will share many of the native flora of the Greater Lovell area, focusing on flowers rather than shrubs and trees. If you see only the summer flowers, this will be a chance to see those and all the ones you miss during the rest of the year.

Wednesday, August 10, 9:30am - noon

Pollinator Walk

GLLT staff and volunteers have planted a pollinator garden behind the office on Route 5. Check out the flowers, learn why they were chosen, and search for pollinators as they search for nectar and pollen.

Friday, August 12, 1:00 - 2:00pm

Would you like to see a dinosaur?

You don't have to visit Jurassic Park, just look around you! GLLT docent Bonny Boatman will share a multimedia presentation that will focus on the transition from awe-inspiring reptiles to the birds around your feeder. With her guidance, explore how the transition occurred and why. It is a fascinating journey.

Saturday, August 13, 3:00 -

Wild Light Art Show at Hewnoaks

Join the GLLT and Hewnoaks Artists Residency for a free-admission one-day art event that will showcase new and original artwork that celebrates the lands and waters in the Greater Lovell area. We seek to highlight the wonders of our natural world and invite creative engagement with the wilderness and woodlands through participatory arts experiences.

FMI visit hewnoaks.org

Location: Hewnoaks, Route 5 Lovell

Tuesday, August 16, 5:00 - 6:00pm

Maine Freshwater Fisheries

Fisherman Ed Poliquin will share his knowledge of the fish species we might see or catch in western Maine's streams, brooks, rivers, ponds and lakes. There might be a fishing tale or two told as well.

Wednesday, August 17, 9:30 - 11:00am

Journal Book Making Workshop

Local artist Molly Mains will share a simple sewing method and help participants assemble a basic book structure that they may use as a visual journal to house thoughts, poems, and drawings.

Thursday, August 18, 9:30am - noon

Meet the Ferns

Did you know that there are a dozen common ferns in Maine and GLLT's properties are home to most of them? GLLT docents Joan Lundin and Pam Marshall will introduce us to the different ferns and teach us a few tricks for future identification.

Tuesday, August 23, 5:00 - 6:00pm

Maps and Compass 101

What do you do in the woods when there is no cell service and your GPS is useless? Or your phone is damaged or battery dead? Learn how things used to be when a magnetic compass and a map were the tools of the trade for finding your way through the forest. Bring a compass if you have one. GLLT docents Bob Katz and David Percival will provide the maps and show us the way.

Wednesday, August 24, 9:30am - noon

Map and Compass 101 in the Field

With GLLT docents Bob Katz and David Percival, we'll bushwhack on a land trust property and apply the principles of using a map and compass learned during the August 23 presentation.

Tuesday, August 30, 7:15 - 9:00pm

Batty about Bats

Naturalist Sarah Davis Blodgett will help us better understand the lives of these small, furry, flying mammals as we watch and listen while several species emerge to feed at twilight. Insect repellent and flashlights or headlamps with red filters recommended.

Tuesday, August 31, 9:30am - noon

Woodland Wander and Exploration

Join us for a walk on private land with a range of habitats including wooded areas, wetlands, and beaver ponds. We will look at anything and everything we find, and talk about environmental and land management issues. It will be easy walking, but some spots may be wet.

Wednesday, September 14, 9:30am - noon

Hawk Watch Hike

We'll try to spot and count hawks

from a local summit as they begin fall migration. Sturdy hiking boots, water, a snack, and binoculars a must. Sponsored by GLLT and Upper Saco Valley Land Trust.

Thursday, September 22, 9:30am-noon

Bradley Pond Paddle

Let's welcome autumn by paddling this little pond nestled in the Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve. We'll explore this gem via canoe or kayak and take in the colors of the day. BYO boat and PFD.

Saturday, October 15, 9:30am - 1:00pm

Five Kezars Fall Hike

Foliage, foliage, foliage. Let's enjoy the view from Tom's Path and The Mountain summit as we take in the various colors around us. A science project or two might be part of the fun on this fall hike. Sturdy hiking boots, water, and lunch a must...

Friday, October 21, 5:00 - 7:00pm
(rain date Saturday, October 22)

2nd Annual

Jack-o-Lantern Hike

Kezar River Reserve will be aglow with pumpkins carved with Lovell Rec's afterschool Trailblazers. There might be a few ghoulies and ghosties along the route as well. Parking is across from the reserve entrance on Route 5. (No registration required)



Wild sarsaparilla
Photo: Jill Rundle

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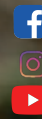
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JOIN US!

Greater Lovell Land Trust has been here through these unusual times, offering new environmental education activities, carrying out familiar programs with a compliant twist, and working hard to maintain trails and lands for all to enjoy and find renewal.

Please consider supporting our efforts. Visit gllt.org to donate and for other ways to join us in our work.



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207.925.1056
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"Lambkill" sheep laurel
Photo: Jill Rundle



We work with our neighbors, towns, and like-minded organizations to protect and preserve the ecosystems of the Kezar Lake, Kezar River, and Cold River watersheds for the benefit and enjoyment of the natural and human community today and as a legacy for the future. Our service area includes several municipalities including Lovell, Stoneham, Stow, and Sweden, Maine.

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