

GEORGES RIVER LAND TRUST

YEAR IN
REVIEW

2023

OUR IMPACT IN 2023

293 acres of new land conserved

35 miles of trails improved for public use

45 interventions for habitat protection

*100 hours of nature-based
art experiences for kids*

*We protect the nature that shapes
the local character of the
Georges River Watershed.*

LARRY HILLS, PHOTOGRAPHER

Dear Friends,

Trail walks with our members always nourish our spirits. Something special happens in our conversations when we're outside, putting one foot in front of the other. We notice more together. Complaints about the world vanish in a shared appreciation for the nature surrounding us.

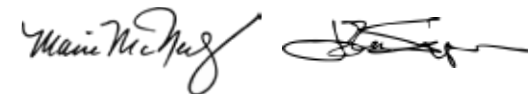
That's why we're enthused about a new movement that's gathering steam. It calls on us to not only become "carbon neutral" but also "nature positive." Natural climate solutions are available to us right now, but they're often overlooked. Undisturbed forests, wetlands, and meadows can lock away carbon dioxide and help prevent flooding. It's why in 2023, we permanently conserved 293 acres of open space.

A nature positive approach also means enriching our biodiversity. A surprising assortment of helpers enhanced our habitats last year. Volunteers joined us to uproot invasive Himalayan balsam; mercenary beetles fed on the Japanese aphids killing our hemlock trees; and hungry goats ate the overgrowth of poison ivy and bittersweet.

To encourage a daily connection with nature, we improved public access on 35 miles of our trails. We installed over 500 feet of boardwalk to make muddy, wet trails more accessible. We re-routed our popular but eroding Ragged Mountain Trail. We constructed a sturdy new bridge on our Rockland Bog Trail off Route 90 to restore access to a 7-mile trail.

We're enrolling future generations of nature enthusiasts through enriching art experiences at the Langlais Art Preserve. Last year, we reopened after-school and summer programs for kids.

In 2024, we're offering even more opportunities to bring you closer to nature, close to home. We hope you'll participate in our efforts to protect our local nature and improve the quality of ALL life in our extraordinary watershed.



Marie McNeely and Julia Sampson
The Georges River Sisters



DUNHAM EASEMENT



RAVENSWOOD EASEMENT

NEW LAND CONSERVED

GRLT now has 5,069 total acres of land conserved and permanently protected for generations to come.



ROCKLAND BOG EXPANSION

Thanks to generous landowners, we now hold conservation easements on 3 beautiful parcels and raised the funds to expand the size of our Rockland Bog to 560 acres.



CHASE EASEMENT

TRAIL TRANSFORMATIONS

ASH POINT PRESERVE



BEFORE: Wet, Widening Trail



AFTER: 200 ft. of Boardwalk and Deck

RAGGED MOUNTAIN TRAIL



BEFORE: Eroding Trail



AFTER: Trail reroute

ROCKLAND BOG TRAIL, RTE. 90 BRIDGE



BEFORE: Washed out Oyster River Bridge



AFTER: New Bridge with restored access to a 7-mile trail

WE'RE NATURE POSITIVE



Goats eating poison ivy and bitterweet



Beetles feeding on hemlock woolly adelgid

We halt the loss of nature by increasing the health, abundance, diversity and resilience of habitats.



Uprooting invasive Himalayan balsam



GETTING CLOSER TO NATURE THROUGH ART

The Langlais Art Preserve offers a consistent slate of programs for local kids that encourages them to develop their own forms of creative expression from the nature that inspires them.





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Thomaston Conservation Commission
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Langlais Art Preserve Advisors

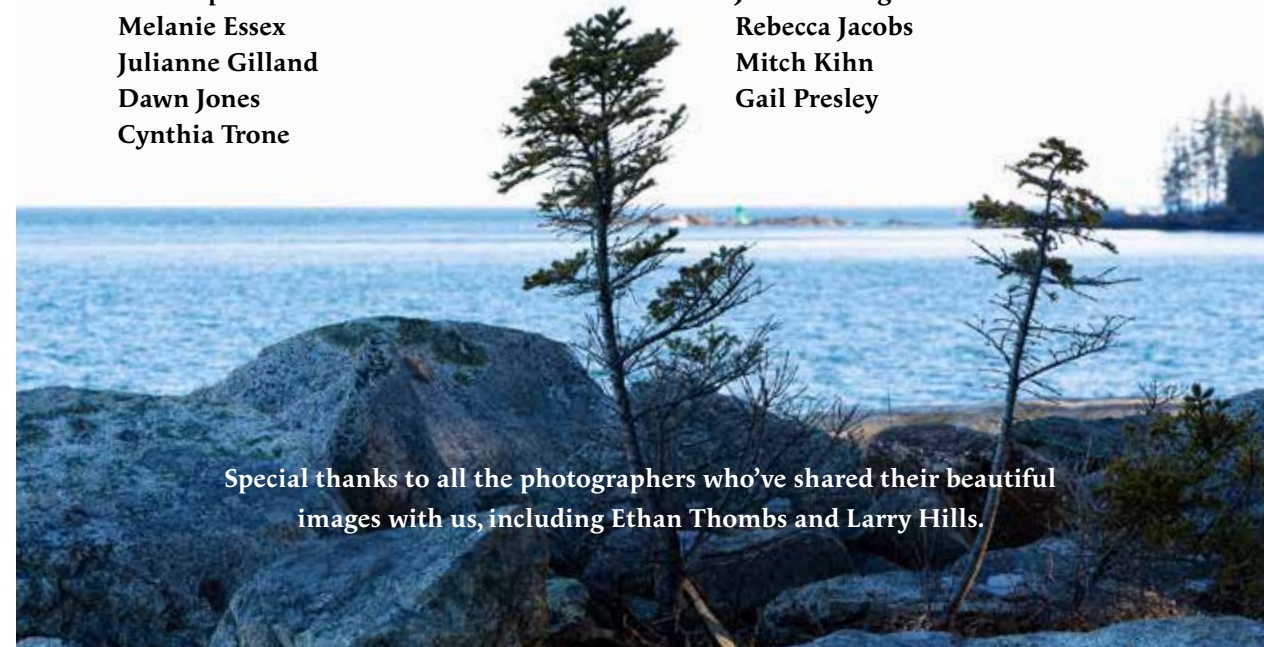
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Special thanks to all the photographers who've shared their beautiful images with us, including Ethan Thombs and Larry Hills.

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These extraordinary individuals have committed to a planned gift at a future date through a bequest, IRA, life insurance benefit, or a gift of real estate. We thank them for their significant demonstration of commitment to protecting the Georges River watershed.

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GRLT's conservation work is funded by the generosity of an engaged community through annual membership donations, grants, year-end gifts and specific gifts (e.g. Langlais Art Preserve).

The level of participation is a strong testament to the love we all share for the local nature of Mid-Coast Maine.

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●: **Watershed Patrons** (annual GRLT membership of \$25-\$999)

●: **Langlais Art Preserve Donation**

●: **Year-end Donation**



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 Deanna Smith ●
 Douglas Smith ●
 Joseph and Martha Linda Smith
 Karen Smith ●
 Karl Smith and Julie Canniff ●
 Owen Smith ●
 Robert Smith and Margaret Creighton ●
 Robert K. and Michele S. Smith
 Stephanie Smith
 Liz Snider ●
 Shane Snowdon ●
 Thomas Sofyanos and Margun Tepstad ●
 Anne and Tony Solley ●
 Joan Sommers
 Terra Soucie ●
 Dr. Denise M. Soucy ●
 Dan and Brenna Sowder ●
 Katrina Spear
 Mr. and Mrs. John Spencer ●
 Susan St. John ●
 Renny and Julie Stackpole ●
 Jason Starowicz
 Nancy Stebbins ●
 Gloria Stein and Ted Fraumann ●
 Jane and Adam Stein ●
 Robert Stenger ●
 Elizabeth Sterner ●
 Maureen Stewart ●
 Ashley Stinson ●
 Keith Stone and Steven Watts ●
 Karin Strong and James Ritter ●
 David and Peggy Stuart ●
 Richard Swain & Nancy Mattila ●
 Neale Sweet & Betsy Perry ●
 Pam Swing & Marty Plotkin ●●
 Kristen Sykes ●
 Edith Synnefakis
 Katie Syrett ●
 Robert and Beverly Tappan ●
 April Ylvisaker Tardiff
 Linda Tatelbaum & Kal Winer
 Martin and Lynne Taylor ●
 Paul Terranova & Nancy Eberle ●
 Jacqueline Terrassa
 Shelby Thomas ●
 Jon and Margo Thurston ●
 Richard Todd ●
 Mary Tolle ●
 Gabriel Tomasulo and Rebecca Taylor ●
 Matthew C. Torrey ●
 Allan and Kathleen Toubman ●
 Virginia Trask ●●
 Susan Tripp ●
 Cynthia Trone ●

Louise Vadala ●
 Jill and Marcel Valliere
 Christi van Heek ●
 Lloyd Van Lunen and Margaret Wilson ●
 Candace Vancko
 Peter and Lee Vandermark ●
 Andrew Vaughan and Katie Rose ●
 Joy Vaughan
 Ann Velie & Tim Luehrman ●
 David Vickery ●
 Katie Wadsworth-Buckley
 Jean Wakem and Vicky Johnson ●
 Diane Walden-Rapalyea ●
 David Zella Walker ●●
 John Walker ●
 Peter Walker ●
 Bob and Ruth Wall ●
 Sondra and Andy Wallace ●
 Fred Wardwell ●
 David and Jane Warren ●
 Deborah and Peter Warren ●
 Derek Wasnock
 Bruce and Marion Waters ●
 Sonya Weaver ●
 David Weber
 Betsy Welch ●
 Robert and Katherine Wellen ●
 Jan and Laurie Werner ●
 Krisann West
 Janet Westervelt
 Anne Marie Weston ●
 Kathryn and George Stephens ●
 Debby Wheelock & Chuck Paine ●●
 Lance Whitney
 Wendy and Roger Wickenden ●
 Catherine Wiejaczka ●
 Jonathan and Lori-Ann Wilder ●●
 Trina Willey ●
 Pen and Bev Williamson ●
 Christopher Williamson
 Sally Ann and Edwin Williamson ●●
 Margaret Wilson and Joseph Gray ●
 Tim and Amy Wilson
 Samuel Winchenbach ●
 Susan Wind ●
 Mark Winkworth ●
 Paul Wisniewski ●
 Nancy Wissemann-Widrig ●
 Constance Wolfe ●●
 Donald and Jane Woodruff ●
 Beverly and David W. Worthington
 Joan Wright and G. Howard Robbins ●●
 Cynthia Wurst ●
 Dan and Heather Wyman ●
 John Young ●
 Ingrid Yurchenco
 Lisette Zinner ●

EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO ENSURE THE ACCURACY OF NAMES LISTED. PLEASE CONTACT US TO CORRECT ANY ERRORS IN OUR RECORDING.

BUSINESS PARTNERS

Our business partners provide ongoing support to our conservation and public access programs. We count on them year after year, to sponsor our conservation and trail initiatives and our fundraising events. Please support their businesses.

- Beal's Electric ●
- Black Parrot ●
- Brooks Trap Mill
- Camden Real Estate Company ●
- Cold Mountain Builders
- Concord Coach Lines
- Eastern Tire & Auto Service, Inc.
- First National Bank
- Frantz Furniture and Bedding
- Gemini Marine Canvas ●
- Good Tern Natural Foods Co-op
- Hannaford Bloomin' for Good Program
- Hatch and Sons Landscaping ●
- Hedgerow ●
- Lake St. George Brewing Company
- Legacy Properties, Sotheby's International Realty
- Lie-Nielsen Toolworks ●
- Lyman Morse Boatbuilding Company
- Mars Hall Gallery ●
- Museum in the Streets LLC ●
- O'Hara Corporation
- Penbay Estate Planning Law Center ●
- ReVision Energy
- Rock City Employee Cooperative
- Rolling Boat, Inc.
- Sara Gagan Design
- Sidecountry Sports
- TREEKEEPERS LLC - Johnson's Arboriculture
- Union True Value Hardware ●
- Viking, Inc. ●

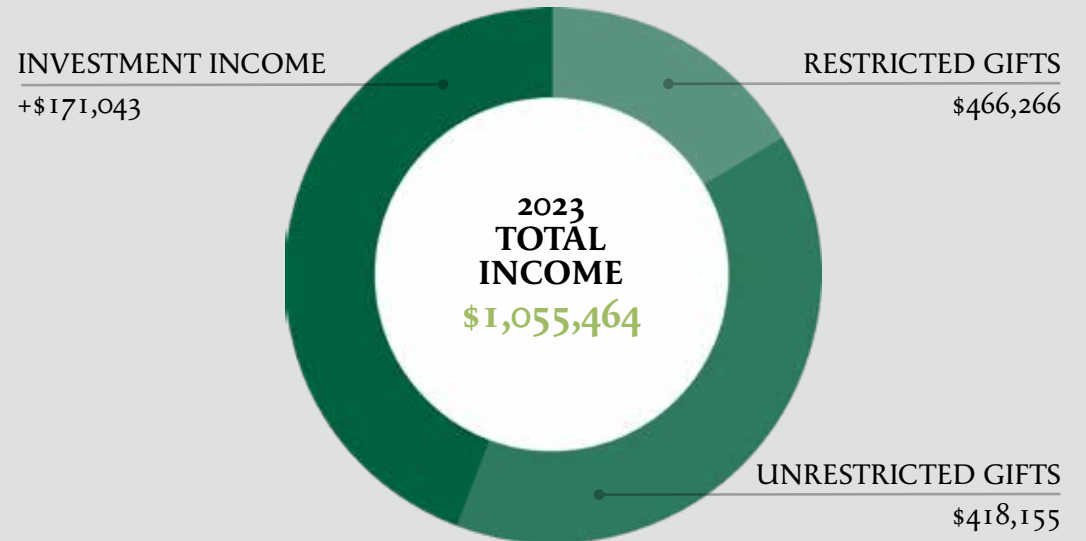
FOUNDATIONS AND PUBLIC AGENCIES

These foundations and public agencies provided funding for our efforts in 2023. We're grateful to receive ongoing support from many of them, year after year.

- AmazonSmile Foundation
- Ash Point Fund of the Maine Community Foundation
- Bafflin Foundation
- Bock/Hanaway Fund ●
- Colby College Museum of Art ●
- Davis Conservation Foundation
- Anonymous
- Fields Pond Foundation, Inc.
- Friends of Hartman Rock Garden ●
- Hobbs and Fish Ponds Association
- Kohler Foundation ●
- Land for Maine's Future Program
- Leg Up Foundation ●
- Maine Community Foundation ●
- Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program
- Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund
- Mid-Coast Audubon Society
- Middlecott Foundation Lion Fund ●
- Morton-Kelly Charitable Trust
- Northern Trust Company ●
- Paypal Giving Fund
- Quimby Family Foundation ●
- Raymond Family Foundation
- Ruth Foundation for the Arts ●
- South Thomaston Historical Society
- Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative
- The Carl Jud Foundation
- The Leon Lowenstein Foundation
- The Lunder Foundation ●
- The Wyeth Foundation ●●
- Trail Runners of Midcoast Maine
- Warren Fund
- William P. Wharton Trust
- Wyeth Foundation for American Art ●

2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

GRLT holds \$7,416,468 in assets.



GET TO KNOW THE PLACE YOU LIVE

What makes the nature in your neighborhood special? We'll give you a closer look at the typography and the ecology in your backyard.

You'll learn where your home fits in the larger mosaic of the watershed of the St. George River, and how you can help protect it.

Save the date in your calendar and bring a neighbor. We promise you'll leave having learned something new. For more details contact amelia@grlt.org.



2024 EVENTS

TOWN TALKS

LIBERTY / SEARSMONT

April 3rd, 6:00 PM

Liberty Community Hall

WARREN / UNION

May 22nd, 6:00 PM

Warren Town Hall Meeting Room

HOPE / APPLETON

June 20th, 6:00 PM

Hope Library

ROCKLAND

July 25th, 6:00 PM

Rockland Public Library

OWLS HEAD / SOUTH THOMASTON

August 7th, 6:00 PM

Owls Head Town Office

ST. GEORGE

August 22nd, 6:00 PM

St. George Town Hall



WEEKEND WALKS AND TALKS

FEBRUARY 10th, 9:00 AM

Winter Tracking Walk

Rockland Bog Trail, Rte 90

MARCH 23rd, 6:00 PM

Woodcock Aerial Display

Trolley Marsh Preserve, Warren

APRIL 20th, 1:00 PM

Vernal Pool Walk

Langlais Art Preserve, Cushing

MAY 18th, 7:30 AM

Early Bird Watching Walk

Rockland Bog Overlook Trail

JUNE 15th 9:30 AM

100 Acre Island Paddle

JULY 20th, 9:30 AM

St. George River Paddle

Thomaston Public Boat Launch

AUGUST 17th, 9:00 AM

Mindful Walk

Gibson Preserve, Searsmont

SEPTEMBER 7th, 9:00 AM

Wildlife Tromp

Appleton Preserve

OCTOBER 19th, 9:00 AM

Fall Foliage Hike

Ragged Mountain, Rte 17 Parking Lot

NOVEMBER 2nd, 9:00 AM

Mushroom Hunt

Pleasant Mountain, Rockport

DECEMBER 7th, 9:00 AM

Waterfowl Prowl

Ash Point Preserve, Owls Head



**PROTECT OUR
LOCAL NATURE**

Georges River Land Trust
P.O. Box B
Rockland, ME 04841

(207) 594-5166
info@grlt.org