

ISLAND HERITAGE TRUST

The Conservation Land Trust of
Deer Isle and Stonington, Maine, and Surrounding Islands



Volume XIV, No. 2

Spring 2005

Gateway Project is within reach

Members recently received an update on the Campaign for the Gateway, with \$894,568 left to raise for the combined goals of land protection, stewardship, and executive director's salary funding. The Campaign Committee is planning a variety of summer fund raising events, and meanwhile, the Site Planning and Stewardship Committees have been developing initial outline plans for the new properties with the goal of seeking broader community input soon.

We are all pleased with the traditional

use of the Causeway Beach last summer, and there is no intention to change that in the near future, but we are hoping to grade the approaches from the state road and to provide parking across the road for extended use by fishermen and kayakers.

The shores of the recently-acquired northern 3/5 of Carney Island will be open for low impact day use. Pocket beaches are an easy

paddle from the Causeway. Because our grants from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and North American Wetlands Conservation Act were appropriately for



PHOTO BY KEN CROWELL

Age of discovery – Alex and Sasha Zemruski enjoy a winter walk through Barred Island Preserve with friend Asia Eaton.

protection of wildlife habitat, the interior of the island will be off limits and visitors are asked to respect the private ownership of the southern part of the island.

Plans for the small point at the turnout on the Little Deer Isle end of the Causeway have been submitted to the Deer Isle Planning Board. Some brush might be cleared to open the view of Carney Island and the water. The point has

been named Bowcat Overlook to commemorate the site where the schooner Bowcat ran aground in April 1859. The point provides vistas of nearby waters and islands that are immortalized in the books, especially *Time of Wonder*, of the

late Robert McCloskey.

Directly across the road from the Causeway Beach is a 4.5 acre parcel acquired by the Trust last summer. Like Carney Island, the Beach, and the adjacent 22-acre property, this parcel was part of the 100-acre Nathaniel Scott farm identified on the 1792 survey map at the Deer Isle Historical Society. We envision renovating the former

Ranga Kennel building with various "green components" for energy efficiency. The building could serve as a center for the entire Scott's Landing preserve with summer office, museum, gift shop, and toilets. Museum displays will include natural history, ferry memorabilia from the Scott family, and native artifacts from the site's first inhabitants who named it Egge-

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When shore access is lost, so are traditional ways...

The Island Clam Committee has a busy schedule again this year. We have already done three 15 x 30 reseeded plots at Gray's Cove in Deer Isle, better know as Reach Beach, and three more at the Oceanville Bridge in Stonington as well as a coastal clean-up in Webb's Cove. We have continued our efforts to revitalize the Deer Isle Causeway with more reseeded. Maine Sea Grant marine biologist Dana Morse and IHT joined us at the end of May to try out some new experimental methods for our best seeding cove!!!

Some of these new ideas will be the first of their kind to be tried in the shellfish industry. We are very excited to introduce them to the Causeway, to watch the results, and record the data to see what we get.

The Clam Committee would like to express how grateful we are for the access we have to the water. We want to open any lines of communication to further that cause to obtain more access and build good relationships. When access is lost, so are our traditional methods of harvesting. More people are driven to using skiffs and canoes from public launches and the weather is just not always safe enough to do that. Not all days are fit for boating. For any suggestions you have to help or



Clamming on the Reach – Trustee Lee Fay helps Ginny Olsen sort clams at a recent re-seeding.

PHOTO BY ANN HOOKE

to allow access on your property, please contact Virginia Olsen 367-5871 or Kathleen Billings 348-2708. It will be greatly appreciated.

Proposed mussel lease

There is an application in for a 50-acre, ten-year mussel lease from Great Eastern Mussel Farm in Greenlaw's Cove in Deer Isle. We have grave concerns with this lease and what the inter-tidal dragging will do to the environment. The dragging causes the soft mud to stir and become roiled up and cloudy. The mud closes the clam holes that enable them to feed. Silt from dragging could settle on top of the clams enough to suffocate them.

The birds feeding in these areas face the same problems with muddy water. So as you can see, our

concerns are great and we are watching the proceedings very carefully.

Thank you for the opportunity to address your readers. I hope you all have a wonderful summer and remember: Eat Local Clams!

Virginia Olsen, Clam Committee

Editor's note: Once the Dept. of Marine Resources has a site dive this summer, it will hold a public hearing on Deer Isle. The proposed site is west of Campbell Island, where IHT has a conservation easement, and east of the Shore Acres Preserve. Great Eastern has a mussel farm in Mud Cove off Stinson Neck. They plan on planting seed mussels in the spring and fall and harvesting for a month.

Gateway Project

Continued from page 1

moggin, "place of the fish weirs." From the center, walking trails will extend to the beaches on Eggemoggin Reach. IHT also hopes to have handicapped access from Old Ferry Road, all subject to clearing various logistical hurdles and raising sufficient funds. Applications have gone to the Planning Board, advice has been sought from our wise Code Enforcement Officer, and conversations have commenced with neighbouring property owners.

The last available piece of the old Scott property, 22 acres with 1800' of shore, was offered by a Scott descendent to IHT a year ago. We have had the months since filled with negotiations, challenges, and slow progress in our effort to protect this property for future generations. This is the site of the former ferry that linked our island to the mainland, a dairy farm, the North Deer Isle post office, and a stopping place for Native Americans centuries ago. In late February, a conservation buyer, a sup-

porter of IHT who saw the unique opportunity to protect a historic property with marvelous potential for public access to the water, came to us with a proposal to help us purchase the land at a reduced price. The board has gratefully accepted this generous offer, and we are hard at work to raise the funds needed to fulfill our part of the purchase in late September. We believe that the protection of this historic waterfront property will be a significant legacy, and we hope for your support and your ideas.

President's Letter

Our work is dependent upon visionaries on many levels

Lengthening days, unfolding foliage, nesting birds, green bursting forth from the earth – signs of the awesome energy of life and movement toward the future.

It is often in hindsight that we realize how dependent we are on the foresight, the optimism, the vision of others, from the founders of our country to the first directors of IHT. Our Trust was organized in 1987 “in response to the growing statewide concern about managed growth, especially along the coast, where increasing development pressures on the land and skyrocketing property values are creating major changes in traditional life and work styles and land uses.” President Rowan Wakefield wrote, in spring 1989, “The world, the coast of Maine, and the Island Heritage Trust seem to be going

through a great transition... We are not sure where the world is heading, but there are some optimistic signs that the forces of good may be gaining. We are less sure

“Out on the islands that poke their rocky shores above the waters of Penobscot Bay, you can watch the time of the world go by, from minute to minute, hour to hour, from day to day, season to season.”

**“Time of Wonder,”
Robert McCloskey 1957**

where the coast of Maine is headed as the forces of preservation struggle to find some satisfactory accommodation with those of development.” How true this still is today, and how fortunate we are for the vision then!

The work of IHT, guided by our Mission Statement and 2004 Strategic Plan, is dependent upon visionaries on many levels, upon the support and optimism of our members, the dedication of our 100+ volunteers who serve in capacities from greeters in the office to time-consuming trustee and committee positions. Our community benefits from the donations of land preservation agreements as easements, from the work of volunteer stewards for the properties, and this year from the generous vision of a conservation buyer who will help us to complete the last stage of our Gateway Project.

A wonderful initiative of the past year has been breakfast gatherings of representatives from island nonprofit organizations, from churches, the Grange, Evergreen Garden Club, American Legion, Opera House, Historical Society, PERC, Island Nursing

Home, IHT, and others, hosted by the Healthy Island Project. We have found common ground in our missions and have been enlightened and enabled by dialogue and cooperation. Communication – listening first – is important, and follow-through is critical. One manifestation of our conversations has been the establishment of an IHT fund to receive donations specifically to augment our voluntary payments to the towns in lieu of taxes (federal

and state laws determine tax-exempt status.). Another has been the decision to have our summer intern work with other island organizations. Our island culture is unique. It is not immune to the outside forces changing the world and we need to work together for the future.

We invite you to join us at our Annual Meeting on July 20 when we will have a multimedia presentation by poet Marnie Reed Crowell and photographer Ann Flewelling and a talk by anthropologist, historian, and IHT trustee Dr. Bill Haviland.

We always invite your questions and your ideas, and we appreciate your support.

Jean Wheeler



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ISLAND HERITAGE TRUST

Mission Statement

The mission of the Island Heritage Trust is to conserve significant open space, scenic areas, wildlife habitats, natural resources, and historic and cultural features that offer public benefit and are essential to the character of the Deer Isle area.



2005 Spring and Summer Walks & Talks

Sponsored by Island Heritage Trust,
Stonington and Deer Isle Conservation Commissions
For information, reservations, and changes, call 348-2455

Sat. June 11 🐾 **Spring Wild Flowers and Ferns.** Led by Sally Rooney. Meet at Shore Acres parking lot at 9 a.m.

Sat. June 11 🐾 **Birds and Bird Calls for Beginners.** Led by Diane Walker. Held at Holt Mill Pond Preserve (park and meet at Island Medical Center) at 8 a.m. Rain date Sunday June 12.

Sat. June 18 🐾 **LUPINE FESTIVAL.** Visit the Island Heritage Trust and Conservation Commission booths at the Odd Fellows Hall in Stonington 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sat. June 25 🐾 **Common Trees of Deer Isle.** Walk led by Max McCormack at Shore Acres Preserve, (Greenlaw District Road in Deer Isle). Meet at 9 a.m. If you wish, you may bring twig & leaf samples of your own trees about which you would like to learn more.

Wed. July 6 🐾 **A Look At Deer Isle's Indian Heritage.** Talk by Bill Haviland, retired archeologist and Deer Isle historian. Held at 7:30 p.m. at the Sunset Parish House (just south of Sunset Post Office).

Thur. July 7 🐾 **Points on Deer Isle's Ancient Canoe Routes.** Walk led by Bill Haviland. Meet at Deer Isle-Stonington High School parking area at 9 a.m. Trip will include visits to Caterpillar Hill, Causeway Beach, Mariner's Park, the Carrying Place, Marsh Bridge, and the Settlement Quarry. Rain date: Fri. July 8.

Tues. July 12 🐾 **Taking Care of Our Islands.** Marine Biologist Natalie Springuel of the Maine Sea Grant Program presents a slide show to discuss how islands off Deer Isle and Stonington are monitored and protected and how you can help. Held at 7:30 p.m at the Sunset Parish House (Just south of Sunset Post Office).

Fri. July 15 🐾 **Care and Culture of your Small Woodlot.** Talk by Max McCormack, retired professor of forestry. Held at Sunset Parish House - 7:30 p.m.

Sat. July 16 🐾 **Care and Culture of your Small Woodlot.** Walk led by Max McCormack, retired professor of forestry. Meet at Sunset Memorial Garden opposite Sunset P.O. at 9 a.m. Back by noon.

IHT ANNUAL MEETING & PROGRAM

Community of Christ Fellowship Hall, Wed., July 20, 7 p.m.

Archeologist Bill Haviland will present
Before and After William Eaton: Scott's Landing Through Time.

Multimedia presentation of Scott's Landing organized by
poet Marnie Reed Crowell and photographer Ann Flewelling.

Thur. July 21 🐾 **Tour Merchant Row Islands.** Join Maine Coast Heritage Trust members as they tour islands in Merchant Row with picnic provided. Depart at 10 a.m. and return at 1 p.m. from Old Quarry Charters. \$30 a person with RESERVATIONS NECESSARY. Call 348-2455.

Thur. July 21 🐾 **Life in the Rocky Inter-tidal Zone.** Marine biologist Bob Knowlton will talk about the ecology of the Rocky Inter-tidal Zone. 7:30 p.m. at Sunset Parish House.

2005 Spring and Summer Walks & Talks



Forester Max McCormack makes a point during a recent "Common Trees of Deer Isle" walk. (Photo by Ann Hooke)

Fri. July 22 🦋🦋 **Explore the Rocky Inter-tidal Zone.**

Evening low-tide walk led by marine biologist Bob Knowlton. Come rain or shine. Meet at 6 p.m. at Deer Isle–Stonington High School parking area. Wear knee or hip boots. RESERVATIONS NECESSARY: Call 348-2455.

Thur. July 28 🦋🦋 **Water Quality on Deer Isle.** Liz Petterson of Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation will lead a discussion on surface and ground water quality, non-source pollution, and water supplies on Deer Isle. 7:30 p.m. at Sunset Parish House.

Thur. Aug. 4 🦋🦋 **Annual Polypod Island Picnic** – Meet at Polypod Island for a picnic at 11 a.m. High tide is 10:30 a.m. Rain Date is Friday, August 5.

Sat. Aug. 6 🦋🦋 **Migrating Shorebirds of Deer Isle.** Meet at parking area across from Sunset Parish House at 9 a.m. Led by Chip Moseley and Ken Crowell. Extra binoculars available. Rain date: Friday Aug. 7.

Mon. Aug. 8 🦋🦋 **Kayak around Carney Island** Meet at Causeway Beach at 10 a.m for a trip around Carney Island and the Bowcat region.

Thur. Aug. 11 🦋🦋 **Deer Isle's Geological Heritage.** Geologist Doug Reusch discusses the critical and unique features of Deer Isle's geological heritage and what part it played in the formation of the earth. 7:30 p.m. at Sunset Parish House (Just south of the Sunset Post Office.)

Sat. Aug. 13 🦋🦋 **Visit Davis Farm Site and Tennis Preserve** – Visit and learn the history of Davis Farm, Toothaker Place, and Tennis Preserve with Matt Asbornsen. Tennis Preserve is 2.5 miles down Sunshine Rd., turn onto Tennis Rd. Meet at 10 a.m. at head of Davis Farm Rd. (0.2 miles on right after entering Preserve). Rain date is Sunday, August 14 at 2 p.m.

Sat. Aug. 2 🦋🦋 **Oyster Aquaculture in Long Cove.** Led by Danny Weed. Meet at 10 a.m. at Mariner's Memorial Park (Off Sunshine Rd.)

Sun. Aug. 21 🦋🦋 **Annual IHT Boat Trip and Picnic.** Meet at Old Quarry Ocean Adventures off Oceanville Rd. in Stonington at 10 a.m. Return from Stonington Harbor at 1:30. Call ahead for Reservations at 348-2455 by August 9. \$30 per person (Lunch included).

Fri. Aug. 26 🦋🦋 **Rejuvenating Our Coastal Spruce Fir Forests.** Forester Max McCormack will give a talk about how we can take care of this crucial island resource at Sunset Parish House at 7:30 p.m. (south of Sunset Post Office).

Sat. Aug. 2 🦋🦋 **Spruce-Fir Forest Walk.** Walk led by Max McCormack, retired professor of Forestry. Meet at Sunset Memorial Garden opposite Sunset Post Office at 9:00 a.m. Come rain or shine.

Sat. Aug. 27 🦋🦋 **Kayak Holt Mill Pond.** Led by Diane Walker. Meet at South Deer Isle bridge at 10:30 a.m. High tide 11:56 a.m. Rain date: August 31 at 9. High tide at 9:41 a.m. Bring your own kayak.

Wed. Sept. 14 🦋🦋 **Shore Clean-up of Wreck Island.** Meet at 9:00 a.m. Return by 2:00 p.m. Meeting location to be determined. Rain date: Thursday, Sept 15. RESERVATIONS NECESSARY: call 348-2455.

Thur. Sept. 29 🦋🦋 **The Gulf of Maine Sea Kayak Expedition** Witness the story of a 2002 five-month, sea kayak expedition through a slide show and talk by Natalie Springuel from the Maine Sea Grant Program. Held at Sunset Parish House at 7:30 p.m.



Message from the Executive Director

Perpetuity is now

At the recent Maine land conference, the title of one seminar was titled “Endowments: Because perpetuity is a long time.”

Like all land trusts in Maine, IHT faces high real estate values, scarcity of conservation land, and increasing costs of long-term stewardship as we seek to preserve the natural beauty we all cherish.

Perpetuity is indeed a long time but the costs of preserving land are here now and they are not all financial.

What are the financial costs of stewardship? The obvious costs are maintaining and monitoring the preserves, printing brochures, staff time to fund-raise and organize volunteers, replacing signs, and providing educational programs for island youth. As real estate pressure continues and conservation land is more attractive, land trusts are being sued by individuals and companies who want to challenge the validity of conservation easements. Although most of these suits fail, IHT will need to insure that funds

are there to defend our conservation interests.

Because of the generous support of our members and friends, IHT can undertake a major project like the Campaign for the Gateway to ensure that a landmark property like Scott’s Landing (undoubtedly the last of its kind) can be preserved. By using our resources to acquire this land, we incur additional stewardship expenses for parking, establishing a nature centre and museum, increasing our voluntary tax donations, and paying for maintenance of such a large public parcel.

Recent corporate scandals have now impacted politically and financially on land trusts. The Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation is considering Draconian reforms that would virtually eliminate all incentives for conservation easement donations. The Committee is reacting to published reports of abuses where developers and a

land trust sought easements for golf courses and other fraudulent applications. Some members of Congress would like to see land trusts given the same strictures as were applied to corporations in 2002 by the Sarbannes-Oxley Act designed to improve corporate governance.

“To waste, to destroy, our natural resources, to skin and exhaust the land instead of using it so as to increase it’s usefulness, will result in undermining in the days of our children the very property which we ought by right to hand down to them amplified and developed.”

Teddy Roosevelt, 1905

Fortunately, The Land Trust Alliance has worked with land trusts nationwide (including IHT) to fashion Accreditation for land trusts while implementing its new Standards and Practices (See more at LTAnet.org).

Although Accreditation will give land trusts a “seal of approval” and continue to build public confidence in conservation work, it comes at a political and financial cost.

I urge you to contact your Congressman to have them oppose this measure and to share a success story about land conservation in Maine.

With all of our hard work and dedication, we can meet these many challenges without compromising the promise of perpetuity.

Mac Herrling

It’s HIP to walk a hundred miles!

It’s HIP to walk – especially a hundred miles! Healthy Island Project (HIP) and IHT teamed up last year to start Island Walkers, a program that features safe, year-round walking routes on the island. Walkers sign up, grab a log, pick one of 37 routes, and walk!

Given the challenge of walking on our Preserves, the trails are listed separately as “pleasure walks” for enjoying nature and walking more slowly. Those reaching a hundred miles are given a beautiful, bright yellow t-shirt designed by lo-

cal artist Larry Moffit. Diane Compton, Linda Glaser, Ann Hooke, Doug Haskell, and Judy and Gordon Rittmeyer have joined the 100-mile club and were given their t-shirt and a round of applause!

A student group of Island Walkers will be formed with the strong support of High School Principal Penny Wendell and athletic director Matt Larson. Contact Healthy Island Project at 348-6332 or IHT at 348-2455 to enroll.

Ann Hooke

Ways of Giving



Want to help IHT care for land in perpetuity?

Call 348-2455 to find out about trusts, annuities and non-cash assets.

Eagles nesting on Barred, Mark and Carney Islands

Once again, bald eagles are raising their young on Barred Island but this year new pairs have nested on the Causeway Beach side of Carney Island and on Mark Island.

Observers have a clear view of the nest on Carney from Causeway Beach. On Barred, the island and bar are closed until September. Volunteers and the IHT intern will have a viewing scope on the overlook this summer to share so visitors can observe the birds firsthand. The state Dept. of Inland Fish and Wildlife (MDIF&W) has provided a new sign depicting the life history of eagles on the trail just before the eastern beach. The Mark Island eagles were just observed in May by MDIF&W wildlife biologist Charlie Todd.

The adults were observed incubating in April – a little later than usual. Chicks were hatched in May. There are two chicks at Carney. The female does most of the brooding in the first two weeks and then the adults take turns brooding and feeding. The hatchlings are most



Eagle eye – Trustee and eagle enthusiast Lee Fay studies eagle behavior last summer with interns Mary Murphy and Oceana Castenada.

vulnerable in July and August when young birds may leave the nest prematurely. One adult is perched on the nest or nearby while the other is off fishing. The nestling will fledge in early August (last year it was August 7) to practice flying.

For a close-up of eagle life, Trustee Lee Fay recommends going to nu.com (Northeast Utilities System in Conn.) to see shots from a

live eagle web cam.

In addition to the birds on Carney and Barred, there are ones on Current Island, which is near the Trust's Polypod Island, and one on Shingle Island where the Trust holds a conservation easement.

Eight of nine eagle nesting areas in Deer Isle and all three in Stonington are actively nesting in 2005 (only the Beach Island eagles are missing).

New nest development reflects how IHT conservation efforts have aided habitat protection.

MDIF&W listed bald eagles as "Endangered" in 1978 after DDT contamination decimated the population. Because of Essential Habitat protection like that at Barred and Carney, eagles are recovering enough that they may be upgraded to a "Threatened" species next year.

Intern Mary Murphy wrote last summer, "I talked to people from all over the world and really put my new knowledge to use explaining why it is crucial for the eaglet to be undisturbed. People got a real thrill from observing the birds in the wild."

Ken Crowell, Lee Fay

IHT co-sponsors ATV awareness program

"At this time of year, ATVs are our biggest problem," Ed Davis told dozens of middle school students on April 15 at an assembly co-sponsored by IHT. Davis is regional safety coordinator for the Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

IHT, both island Conservation Commissions, and the Island Community Center sponsored Davis' speech about respecting natural areas, developing good landowner relations, and starting an ATV Club to promote rider safety. IHT trustee and Stonington Conservation Commission Chair Diane Walker worked to arrange this assembly.

ATVs or any motorized vehicles are not allowed on any Trust lands. However, Davis and Walker both told students that by forming an ATV club they could work with willing landowners to set up a trail that would be safe and not impact crucial natural areas. There are 70 ATV clubs in Maine.

ATV users have caused damage to the Holt Mill Pond preserve and other areas in recent years. Fragile soils and wetlands require years to recover from even moderate damage. The state has recently upgraded penalties for ATVers who operate their vehicles on private land without landowner permission.

School programs taking off; summer intern is hired

IHT's school outreach programs are taking off fueled by contagious enthusiasm from Deer Isle-Stonington School teachers, administrators, and volunteers.

In April, Trustee Lee Fay and Deer Isle middle school science teacher Mark Woida attended a

workshop on Teaching About Maine Birds at the Maine Audubon Society's Gilsland Farm Center in Falmouth. They will share the experience with other interested teachers. For the third year, 5th grade teachers Linda Weed and Linda Graceffa and their students

will visit Settlement Quarry and a rocky shore to enhance their study of geology and marine science.

Science teacher Ken Lantz' 8th graders will again learn about their heritage by visiting several preserves with IHT volunteers as guides. Ann Hooke visited teacher Judy Rhodes and her third-grade class to talk about geology this spring. For the final term, Ken Crowell is leading an elective on birds with school librarian Susan Guilford. Ideally, each grade will adopt a preserve and witness its seasonal changes.

The trust has hired Peter McGuire for its summer Intern. Peter is the great nephew of long-time Stonington resident Mary McGuire. The McGuire family founded the Deer Island Granite Company and later purchased Settlement Quarry. He is a freshman at Harvard College. In a news release, Jean Wheeler explained, "These positions are learning opportunities, providing practical fieldwork and helping island young people to define career plans while enjoying the connections with experienced stewards, land trust staff and dedicated volunteers." Both Peter and the Junior Stewards will work on outreach and stewardship by monitoring the eagle nest on Barred Island and elsewhere, managing the Walks and Talks programs, maintaining trails, and leading field trips for youngsters from the Island Community Center's Camp Kooky.

We welcome two new members to our Outreach Committee – Deer Isle resident Peggy Zembruski and Stonington resident Crystal Robbins.

Call the IHT office (348-2455) to volunteer your time for these projects or others

Josephine Jacob & Ken Crowell,
co-chairs, Communication and
Outreach Committee



PHOTO BY MAC HERRLING

Cruising through Merchants Row – Trustees Diane Walker and Ann Hooke look things over during an early spring stewardship visit.

How does the Land Committee select projects?

First, there must be a willing donor or seller. Often donors or sellers approach IHT. However, we are attempting to be more proactive about protecting land that is on our priority list.

A selected property must meet community needs to be consistent with our Mission Statement and Strategic Plan. We ask: "Is it adjacent to a current property?" "Does it protect freshwater or marine resources or wildlife habitat?" "Does it have scenic or recreational value?" Most importantly, "Does it offer public benefit?"

The Carney Island and Ranga Kennel property purchases insure protection for both the view from the Causeway as well as crucial habitat for fish and shorebirds. In last spring's survey, reported in the Fall Newsletter, members name top four priorities for conservation as: waterfront access for clamming and fishing, wildlife habitat, salt marsh, and natural areas.

The Land Committee works with

landowners and the trust attorney in drafting land preservation agreements and deeds of transfer for fee purchase. Agreements protect a wide range of resources, but because the grantor retains title, the land remains on the tax rolls.

Until the Gateway purchases of the past year, the Trust had only purchased Settlement Quarry and Polypod Island. IHT acquired all other owned properties through the generosity of public-spirited individuals and gifts from The Nature Conservancy.

The Land Committee is now working with landowners on a remarkable land gift that we hope to announce at the Annual Meeting. Unless agreements or easements allow public access, they are not publicized without the landowner's permission. Easements need not provide public access, but they must provide scenic, cultural, or ecological value for public benefit.

Ken Crowell and Dick Paget,
Co-Chairs, Land Committee

Land selection
runover

ATV runover

when shore access
runover

Editor's note: Once the Dept. of Marine Resources has a site dive this summer, it will hold a public hearing on Deer Isle. The proposed site is west of Campbell Island, where IHT has a conservation easement, and east of the Shore Acres Preserve. Great Eastern has a mussel farm in Mud Cove off Stinson Neck. They plan on planting seed mussels in the spring and fall and harvesting for a month.

photo captions
not used

photo washed out

ATV safety coordinator Ed Davis makes a point with middle school student Paul Murphy at a recent assembly. (Photo by Mac Herrling) Goes with ATV photo I sent.

Roger Griffith savors the fall weather at Shore Acres Preserve with some companions. (Photo by Pam Griffith)