

2022 Squam Rock Land Trust Annual Meeting Follow-Up

Thank you to everyone who attended the annual meeting and participated in the question and answer session. Thank you also to those who have communicated with us or volunteered help since the meeting. The Trustees appreciate your questions, feedback and offers of assistance.

These are the immediate actions being taken by the Trustees to address safety, security and land management items:

Safety/Trees:

An arborist is currently being engaged to address required tree work on Walnut Street.

Security:

Signs: New signs have been erected at the main beach entrance and at the Walnut Street entrance. They clearly state that the property is private and access is restricted to shareholders and beach card holders only.



Guards: Our guards are working hard to ensure that shareholders and beach pass holders present their beach passes before entering the beach. They are also doing rounds on the beach asking for passes. Please cooperate if you are asked.

Our guards have been instructed to ask for **the actual physical beach card**. In order to avoid awkward situations, we are asking all members to make sure that someone in each party has the actual card (no photos or copies.) If you are joining a party that has already presented your card, or if you have the card and are expecting other guests, please tell the guard.

Please help us to maintain and improve security by continuing to bring your pass with you. Guards report a marked decrease in the number of people attempting to enter the beach without passes - it's working! Thank you!

Beach Access:

Accessibility issues have been prioritized. The Trustees are considering various means to provide safer, easier access to the beach. Unfortunately, any solutions that involve bringing in or building a ramp with a railing (and other hardscape options) must be approved through the Gloucester Conservation committee. This may slow installation, but we are working on it and will have something in place as soon as possible.

Land Restoration and Management Plan:

The Committee and Trustees will develop and share a more comprehensive plan before any major work begins. As part of this initiative, they will be undertaking further research and assessment around highest priority needs, best methods and sequencing. The Trustees will be further reviewing the Trust's financial standing so we can be confident about the Trust's ability to support short and longer-term plan actions.

In the meantime, visitors to the property may encounter consultants or other professionals in the course of assessments, investigations and due diligence (such as wetland flagging.) Please leave any flags, tape or stakes you see undisturbed. Thank you!

Communications:

If you would like to receive ongoing email notifications with news on the Squam Rock Land Trust, and haven't provided a current email address, please do! It helps our efforts on behalf of the shareholder community if we can get news to you quickly and periodically.

Send it to: squamrock@comcast.net

What to Watch for in August:

August is the month when Tree Swallows gather in increasing numbers as they feed to build up their fat reserves in preparation for their long flight south. But you don't need to go to Plum Island to see them. This spectacular phenomenon called "staging" can

often be observed from the Pasture. Look for the kinetic swooping of these lovely birds.



The endangered Monarch butterfly is also on the wing in August, beginning its flight South. They rely on Milkweed as their sole source of nutrition. We have a stand of Milkweed in the south meadow area and are allowing it to spread.

A flock of Semipalmated Plovers has been seen on Lighthouse Beach daily since last Sunday. Their migration south peaks mid-month. Enjoy their skittering at water's edge and their often plaintive calls.

