



The Newsletter of the Frankestown Land Trust, Inc.

Spring 2023

Biodiversity: A biologist's view

The word biodiversity – a contraction of biological diversity – entered our lexicon in 1985 and soon became a household term. In essence, it refers to all of life on Earth in all its varieties—from ecosystem diversity, to species diversity, to genetic diversity. It includes plants, animals, fungi, and microorganisms.

Scientists estimate that there are 8.7 million species on Earth (not including bacteria), but only 1.2 million species have been identified and described. This means most species – about 86% of land species and 91% marine species – remain unknown to us. Beyond giving us food, fuel, shelter, and medicine, biodiversity provides critical services such as pollination, pest control, nutrient recycling, water purification, oxygen production and greenhouse gas capture. Biodiversity also has aesthetic and cultural value. Moreover, species have intrinsic, inherent value that is independent of their value to humans.

Why are we losing biodiversity so fast? It's unsettling to find that 80% of ecosystem services we depend on for survival have been degraded by deforestation, overexploitation, pollution, invasive species and climate change. Unfortunately, many species will disappear before we even know of their existence, what the late Harvard biologist E. O. Wilson described as "a silent hemorrhaging." The extinction rate today is about 100 times higher than the natural extinction rate.

According to the United Nations, we are experiencing "the greatest loss of life since the dinosaurs...one million plant and animal species are now threatened with extinction, many within decades."

So, what's causing this biodiversity crisis? Loss of habitat on land and overexploitation at sea are the primary reasons. Other factors include climate change (a looming major threat), pollution (including pesticides and excess nutrients), and invasive species. Worldwide, the biggest reason for

habitat loss is the conversion of critical natural ecosystems to agricultural lands.

Loss of habitat

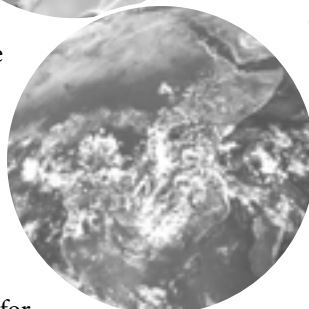
Have we taken over too much of the planet? Humans have appropriated over 75% of the Earth's land leaving about 20% to hold our wealth of biodiversity. It's a bit startling that humans and their livestock make up 96% of all the mammals on Earth, with meat production the leading cause of global deforestation. Researchers project that if the expansion of agriculture continues at the current rate, by 2050 more than 17,000 species of mammals, birds, and amphibians will lose habitat—many by as much as 25-50%. Similarly, an estimated 40% of all the plants on earth are threatened by habitat loss, again, primarily due to agricultural expansion.

The solution? According to researchers, we need to change farming practices, shift to a healthier diet (with less red meat consumption), reduce food waste, and increase crop yields. Food loss, which occurs before food reaches the consumer, and food waste make up half of the annual greenhouse gas emissions of the whole global food system. In the United States, 40% of the food we buy goes uneaten.

Overexploitation

Overexploitation is the unsustainable harvesting of wildlife faster that it can replace itself. Overfishing, overhunting, and overharvesting all lead to a decline in biodiversity. In the sea, industrial fishing fleets have caused the decline of large fish populations. As a result, commercial fishing fleets are trawling deeper in the ocean disrupting food chains and physically damaging habitat.

A Biologist's View Continued on page 6



A Letter from the Chair

May 2023

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

A wise old friend would often admonish me with the phrase: “Well Larry, everyone’s different.” The admonishment usually came after I had complained about someone. After duly recognizing my lapse in tolerance, I could sincerely reply: “Thank goodness for that!”

What a boring world it would be if we all shared the same skillsets, liked the same food, music, activities or clothing, had identical values, or shared just one culture. What’s more, it’s been shown that diversity makes human groups more creative, more effective, and more resilient.

While our current FLT all-volunteer Board of Directors could use a little more diversity in age range and gender balance, it does encompass individuals with diverse interests, attitudes, and aptitudes. Some of us have a wide knowledge of plants and animals and their interactions in various ecosystems. Others are well versed in the details of conservation easements. Still others are adept at grant writing.

In asking Dennis Rodier to join our board, we’ve been fortunate to find someone who not only brings a passion for land conservation and the out-of-doors to the role, but someone who has dived into learning the intricacies of our operations, while significantly upping our technological expertise. (Check out his bio below).

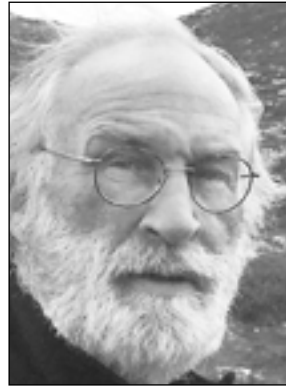
Also in this issue:

- We sum up the U.N. convention on biodiversity in Montreal (Page 3).
- Longtime FLT board member and aquatic biologist, Dr. Barry Wicklow, weighs in on the importance of biodiversity (Page 1).
- We set the date for our Annual Meeting on June 15 (Page 8). We will be meeting in-person this year, but only to conduct necessary business, so folks can attend the program on Native History in the Town Hall.

Within this newsletter, you will also find our membership drive envelope. Annual membership fee is \$25 and confers voting rights for two adults per household. Membership fees cover most of our annual operating costs, which our all-volunteer board does its best to keep at a minimum.

As much as I enjoy Winter, I also look forward to the changing of the seasons. I hope you are finding ways to get out and enjoy Spring, whether recreating, gardening, observing wildlife, or just chilling (warming?).

Larry Ames, Chair of the Francestown Land Trust



Dennis Rodier Joins FLT Board

The Francestown Land Trust is pleased to announce that Dennis Rodier has joined the FLT Board of Directors.



Dennis brings experience as an executive in high technology, with a background in both electrical engineering and business. A resident of Francestown since 1986, he has a great love of the outdoors and enjoys hiking, biking, and skiing. Dennis has been an active supporter of FLT conservation and easement efforts. He is committed to environmental and historical initiatives and previously served on the board of the Old Meeting House of Francestown, where he led building restoration projects.



Trail maps of the Rand Brook Forest, Schott Brennan Falls Reserve, Crothed Mountain and Miller/ Dinsmore Brook Conservation Area, as well as the Francestown Wildlife Action Plan map can be downloaded from francestownlandtrust.org

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Join our email list to learn about our upcoming events. Contact us at info@francestownlandtrust.org to be added to this list.

Recognizing the importance of biodiversity for the future of our quality of life on the planet, the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), was held in Montreal, Canada this past December. The international meeting brought together governments from around the world to establish goals in support of the 2050 vision for biodiversity.

Biodiversity is vital to the health and resilience of ecosystems, the biological communities of interacting organisms vital to sustaining life, including human life, on our planet. (See *Biodiversity: A biologist's view*, page 1)

Declining biodiversity

One way to measure biodiversity is by counting the number of species in any given community and using various sampling techniques to quantify the population of each species. Larger animals are easier to census and can be tracked over time through efforts like the Living Planet Index (LPI), which tracks 38,427 populations of 5,268 species. Smaller creatures, such as invertebrates and microbes, are much harder to quantify. While not all populations in the LPI are in decline, the average change in population size is a decline of 69%.

Declines in biodiversity are mostly due to human activity, whether deliberate or incidental. The primary cause is conversion of wild land to agriculture, which drives an estimated 30% of biodiversity decline globally. For example, forests contain some of the richest concentrations of biodiversity on the planet and deforestation for conversion to agriculture destroys these complex ecosystems. The second biggest impact comes from unsustainable use of natural resources for things like food, medicines, and timber, which drives around 20%. Climate change and pollution make up the third most significant direct driver of biodiversity loss, about 14%. The full effects of climate change, including rising temperatures, changing weather patterns, and ocean acidification, are still just becoming clear.

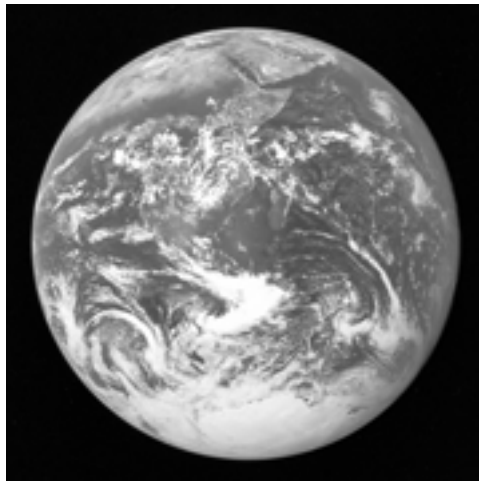
Invasive alien species, again primarily due to human activity, account for another 11% in biodiversity decline.

Biodiversity conservation goals

With our human impact exacerbated, not only by the number of people on the planet (8 billion as of November 2022), but also by

U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity

Protecting life on our planet



our rising per capita consumption, it's up to us to take action to conserve biodiversity on the planet.

The most recent Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal, lays out four long-term goals:

- The first is to maintain, enhance, or restore the integrity, connectivity, and resilience of all natural ecosystems by 2050; halting human induced extinction of known threatened species, while reducing the extinction rate of all species and maintaining genetic diversity within populations of both wild and domestic species.
- The second goal is for biodiversity and the contributions of natural ecosystems to be valued, maintained, and enhanced by achieving sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations by 2050.
- The third goal is to ensure that the benefits from the use of genetic resources and traditional knowledge of these resources are shared fairly and equitably and substantially increased by 2050.
- And finally, poorer and less developed

countries must be provided with adequate means of implementing these goals through financial resources and technical and scientific cooperation, as well as with access to and transfer of technology, to progressively close a \$700 billion/year biodiversity financing gap.

To achieve these goals, the conference established a set of 23 shorter-term targets, including 2030 targets for restoring 30% of degraded ecosystems and effectively conserving 30% of terrestrial and inland and marine and coastal waters.

Also included are targets for ensuring management actions that reduce human induced extinctions, such as: ensuring the use, harvesting and trade of wild species is sustainable, safe, and legal; eliminating, minimizing, reducing and/or mitigating the impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity and ecosystem services; reducing pollution risks and impacts; minimizing the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity. Other targets address meeting people's needs through sustainable use of resources, benefit-sharing, and providing tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming of goals.

While the goals and targets are not legally binding, it is significant progress that biodiversity and natural ecosystems are being valued and threats to them recognized. Implementation of the policies and measures proposed through government actions will be essential to protect biodiversity, but individuals can play a vital role through the conscious choices about the food we eat, products we buy, and services we use.

References & Resources:

Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Framework
<https://royalsociety.org/topics-policy/projects/biodiversity/human-impact-on-biodiversity/>

The Living Planet Index
https://www.livingplanetindex.org/about_index

Convention on Biological Diversity
<https://www.cbd.int/article/cop15-cbd-press-release-final-19dec2022>

Larry Ames

Fall 2022: Becoming Wolf

This past November, I was one of 63 attendees treated to an engaging presentation on the Eastern Coyote by Chris Schadler. A noted canid ecologist and founder of the NH Wildlife Coalition, Chris has years of experience researching and lecturing about coyotes.

She explained how the Eastern Coyote is a hybrid species: 8-30% Eastern Wolf and 60-80% Western Coyote; and how its adaptability has allowed it to expand its range to essentially all of the Eastern U.S. We learned that coyotes typically live three or four years in the wild (although they have been known to live up to 17 years in captivity). They grow to 35-62 pounds, which is larger than the Western Coyote, and about two-thirds of the population live in packs, with a single male and female mating pair and their offspring at the core.

Interestingly, coyotes have a remarkable ability to self-regulate their population to match their environment and Chris was able to show how hunting paradoxically leads to an increase in the coyote population. She also explained why the myth that a significant portion of the coyote population is coy-dog is incorrect.

A knowledgeable speaker with a wonderful sense of humor, Chris used her passion about coyotes to teach us all to successfully co-exist with this remarkable predator.

Greg Neilley

Spring 2023 : Pollinator Party!!!

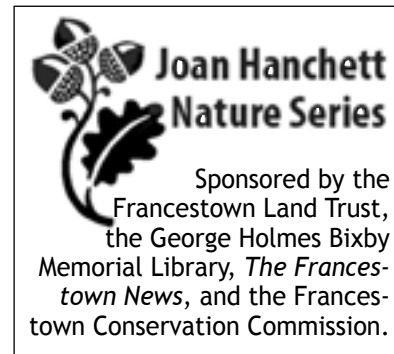
On March 30th, 45 attendees were treated to a dynamic presentation on pollinators by Slater Roosa from NH Audubon's Massabesic Center in Auburn, NH.

We learned that there are seven groups of primary pollinators... Can you name them all before you read further?

Butterflies and moths, you already know, and bees and wasps, of course, but did you think of beetles and flies, and, oh yes, hummingbirds! Specific species within these "Super Seven Pollinator Groups" are extremely busy at work for us in New Hampshire, moving pollen among the plants across the seasons.

According to the United States Department of Agriculture, about 80% of all flowering plants and over three-quarters of the staple crop plants that feed us rely on animal pollinators. Pollinator populations are, however, on the decline for reasons such as habitat loss, the introduction and spread of invasive plant species, the misuse of pesticides, and disease.

BEES amount to 20,000 species worldwide of which 4,000 are native to the U.S. and an estimated 200 are native to New Hampshire. They are certainly the most



well-known type of pollinator. Our native bees are solitary and do not form large colonies. About 70% are ground nesters; the remaining 30% nest in cavities. Native bees are imperative to most pollination and agriculture in the Northeast, including blueberries and cranberries. New Hampshire's wild bees include over 70 species of sweat bees, 30 species of leafcutter and mason bees, 5 species of carpenter bees, and 10 bumblebee species.

BUTTERFLIES, with 80 species in New Hampshire, pollinate many types of wildflowers as they feed on nectar. They do seem to prefer flowers with "landing pads" or that have a flat-top. The caterpillars of most butterflies have a specific host plant (like monarchs and milkweed). The federally endangered Karner Blue butterfly (NH's state butterfly), depends on wild lupine to survive. One exception is the relatively common Eastern Tiger Swallowtail which is not plant selective.

MOTHS, with 2,200 species, far outnumber the species of butterflies in New Hampshire. But since they are nocturnal fliers, we don't tend to notice them as much as they sip nectar from fragrant night-blooming flowers. An exception

is the hummingbird moth, which flies during the day.

WASPS are pollinators, too. Many wasps have golden hairs on their head and thorax which trap and move pollen from flower to flower. These beneficial insects hunt garden pests like grasshoppers and feed on nectar from flowers like the swamp milkweed in the Summer. They live solitary lives, and do not defend territory or build nests like their paper wasp cousins do. The infamous yellow jacket is an invasive species and not a pollinator.

FLIES, which number 110,000 species worldwide have 16,000 species native to the U.S. In New Hampshire, pollinators include horseflies, blow flies, hover flies, and yes, the mosquito!

BEETLES represent the largest number of species, topping off at 350,000 worldwide and 30,000 in the U.S. Pollinators in New England include the ladybugs, goldenrod soldier flies, and the lovely common eastern firefly, which lights up our Summer evenings.

BIRDS are the only vertebrates among the "Super Seven" pollinators. The ruby throated hummingbird is New Hampshire's lovely representative. Beautiful and so welcome in our gardens, it sips nectar from tubular flowers, collecting pollen on its head feathers and bill before moving onto the next bloom. The hummingbird is considered as efficient a pollinator as the honeybee.

Slater suggested that the best way to successfully invite pollinators into our yards is to "think like a pollinator!" What we do matters, and he suggested the following ways to support pollinators:

- Ditch the chemicals and insecticides that kill pollinators.
- Reduce your lawn and let some of it go to meadow—"make your yard like a National Park."
- Resist the urge to weed.
- Provide varied habitat for nesting and foraging, such as brush piles and leaves.
- Put off fall clean-up, leaving it for as late in the Spring as you can stand!
- Plant native flowers, shrubs, and trees to provide food for pollinators.

Joan Hanchett Nature Series
Continued on page 6

Be a Backyard Steward— Start a Pollinator Garden

Dr. Cathy Neal, Extension Professor and Specialist in nursery and landscape horticulture with the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, points out, “the interest in helping pollinators has been astounding, there are literally hundreds of pollinator gardens and habitats that have been installed in New Hampshire in the last few years.”

“You can turn your yard into a productive pollinator habitat by supplementing your existing garden with pollen- and nectar-rich flowers and larval host plants, each plant you include in your garden enriches the local food web,” she says. Another advocate for adding a pollinator garden to your yard is Hilary Chapman, Education Specialist at the New Hampshire Audubon Society. She celebrates the idea that “even a tiny backyard plot can support local pollinators; your yard, no matter how small, can make a difference.”

For those of you who are already well-versed in this adventure, good for you! For those of you who haven't yet tried it and might be interested, read on! First, there is a tremendous amount of information and guidance available in books and on the web to help you get started, including pollinator plants in your garden or on your property. It's not an exact science and there can certainly be a lot of “art” in the design of your garden, but the premise is simple: include plants anywhere in your yard or garden that are attractive to any of the “Super 7” pollinators. These pollinators are on a mission to collect food in the form of nectar and/or pollen and while some are selective in the plants they seek and some are generalists, we want to do all we can to offer up an attractive yet nutritional offering. Just in case you're not in the know, those seven groups of pollinators include species of butterflies and moths, bees and wasps, beetles and flies, and the one non-insect, hummingbirds. And who wouldn't want to attract more hummingbirds to their yard!

Plant a mix

Although it seems logical that native pollinators prefer native plants, there are plenty of non-natives that pollinators can make good use of. Many woody flowering

shrubs and trees, both native and non-native, provide significant sources of pollen and nectar, especially if they flower at a time of year when there are few other plants in bloom, such as: early in Spring or late in Fall. As Cathy Neal clarifies, “Bees can't tell if a plant is native or not. For example, red and white clover are not native, but they attract a large number of bees. The most effective pollinators are generalists. They will forage on a lot of different plants.”

When selecting what plants you want to include, consider selecting for the most impact. Be sure to include a mix of wildflowers, herbs, shrubs, and trees. Diversity, as we all know, is a wonderful thing. When deciding which plants to offer to your pollinators, consider providing a sequence of long-lasting blooms that will sustain pollinators from early Spring to late Fall. Plant in groups or clumps as they will attract more pollinators than single



scattered plants and keep in mind that most adult butterflies generally feed in the sun, so sun loving plants are a good choice. And remember, in addition to supplying blooms with pollen and nectar for adults, host plants also provide larval food for newly hatched caterpillars. Again, variety is the key; for example, not all Swallowtail butterflies have the same preferences; the Monarch butterfly caterpillar likes milkweed; and the Spicebush Swallowtail caterpillar likes spicebush!

Leave leaves be

As you've likely heard, we are encouraged to not only let a portion of our Fall leaves sit over the Winter, but also to not rake them all up first thing in the Spring. Leave them be long enough to provide protection for emerging larvae. Douglas W. Tallamy, author of “Bringing Nature Home,” advises to “let caterpillars develop into adult butterflies and moths by replacing lawn and cement underneath trees with natural plantings.” His research shows that 94% of moths drop off their host trees

as they enter the third stage of development. They land under the cover of leaves, bark, and soil to pupate into cocoons, emerging as adults the following Spring. In the typical yard, most cocoons are exposed to weather, natural predators, rakes and leaf blowers. So, go slowly in your Spring cleanup! Another consideration when caring for your pollinator plants is leaving some open areas and bare ground showing as most native bees nest underground and need access through garden mulch.

Establish a no-pesticide zone

The most important pollinator-friendly thing you can do is to stop using toxic pesticides in your garden. “While some insecticides are directly toxic to bees, others—such as those in a class called neonicotinoids—may cause chronic behavioral or reproductive problems in bees,” Neal says. “Some plants in the garden center may have been treated with these systemic insecticides, which can last for many months and make the entire plant toxic to insects that feed on it. Pesticide residue from neonicotinoids has been found in pollen and nectar of bedding plants.”

Look for pesticide-free, locally grown, native plants when shopping for plants in Spring and move to non-insecticide methods for controlling pests.

Think like a pollinator

Enjoy selecting plants that you like, for their shape and texture, their color and blooming time, while keeping the importance of planting for diversity in mind. Factor in the idea that bees typically like white, blue, purple, and yellow flowers and hummingbirds love red tubular flowers.

Additionally, we are encouraged to have fun, to keep a watch on our garden, and learn which plants in our own garden are the most visited by bees and other pollinators!

Cathy Neal points out that “what insect pollinators you find on which flowers depends on both the anatomy of the flower (is it open and accessible?), and the insect (how strong is it? how long is its tongue?).”

Select flowers with abundant supplies of nectar and pollen. Spring-flowering bulbs may be the first pollen and nectar source for pollinators and the Dutch crocus may provide important food source in early spring for the earliest-emerging insects.

Garden *Continued on page 6*

A Biologist's View *Continued from page 1*

Sea turtles, dolphins, sharks and a variety of other animals, considered bycatch, are also jeopardized.

Changing the trajectory

Despite these trends, there are reasons to be optimistic. Last December, representatives of 188 countries gathered in Montreal, Canada at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference (See “U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity,” page 3). In a “landmark agreement” they adopted a Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) that would conserve and manage 30% of the world’s land and oceans by 2030. Each nation is required to report its progress on meeting the objectives with a national biodiversity plan. However, because the agreement is not legally binding, the probability of meeting all the targets is uncertain. (A summary of all 23 GBF targets can be viewed at <https://www.cbd.int/article/cop15-cbd-press-release-final-19dec2022>).

Additionally, in March 2023, after 20 years of negotiating, the United Nations Law of the Sea has been updated to include the high seas, those regions outside national 200-mile boundaries, which are threatened by overfishing and deep-sea mining. This agreement would help protect half the world’s surface in what has been hailed as a major victory for biodiversity and critical to protecting 30% of land and oceans by 2030.

What can you do to help? 1) Know where your food comes from and how it is produced; 2) Cut down on red meat consumption and reduce food waste; 3) Grow nature-friendly, pesticide- and invasive-free gardens; 4) Spend more time in nature to enhance a sense of well-being and connection with the environment; 5) Volunteer your time to groups that conserve land and protect biodiversity; 6) Donate to land conservation organizations.

Barry Wicklow

Joan Hanchett Nature Series *Continued from page 4*

Ask your nursery for neonicotinoid-free plants, as neonic chemicals are systemic and can poison pollinators when they feed on flowers.

- Offer a source of water and clean birdfeeders periodically.

Slater brought a collection of some of his “go-to” books which are listed below:

- *Bringing Nature Home - How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*, Douglas W. Tallamy
- *Nature's Best Hope*, Douglas W. Tallamy
- *The Northeast Primer - 35 Plants for an Earth-Friendly Garden*, Uli Lorimer
- *The Backyard Bird Sanctuary - A beginners Guide to Creating a Wild Bird Habitat at Home*, Alan Bacziewicz
- *Peterson First Guide on Insects - The Concise Field Guide to 200 Common Insects of North America*, Christopher Leahy

With Slater’s terrific slide show of colorful photos, his enthusiasm about the topic, and willingness to impart surprising facts, we all went home knowing that pollinators help plants get pollinated, provide food for birds that eat insects, and make our world a more vibrant place to live.

Hannah Proctor

Garden *Continued from page 5*

Many of the shrubs that bees and butterflies enjoy you may already have growing in your garden or your “south-forty.” They include: early Spring azaleas and pussy willows; the Spring/Summer highbush blueberry, raspberry and blackberry, fragrant sumac, common ninebark, inkberry holly, Winterberry holly, arrowwood, and cranberry bush; and the late Summer/Fall sweet pepperbush, Virginia rose, buttonbush, and panicle hydrangea

Blossoming trees, such as crabapple, red and sugar maples, hawthorn, mountain ash, and serviceberry provide pollen and nectar—and some also act as host plants for butterfly larvae. Fruit trees, such as apple, cherry, peach, and plum, need insect pollination to set their fruit. And even though many of the common trees around us, such as red maple, oak, wild cherry, horse chestnut, tupelo, and basswood, are wind-pollinated, bees and other insects use their flowers as food sources.

We are cautioned that while some annuals, including alyssum, cleome, zinnias, sunflowers, salvia and verbena attract pollinators, we should not allow them to make up the bulk of our pollinator garden. “Perennials have more high-quality nectar and pollen,” Neal says, so think carefully about annuals.”

When shopping for perennial plants, Neal advises looking for those close to the original species, as many cultivars have lost the fragrance, shape, or pollen and nectar content the pollinators need. “Try to think about what a bee may be looking for,” she says. “Some cultivars have lost the qualities bees make use of, so the safest thing to do is to stick close to the original flower form.”

Many of the culinary and medicinal herbs that people find useful are highly attractive to honey bees and some other pollinators, if allowed to bloom. Consider interspersing flowering herbs in your vegetable garden to invite pollinators in.

To draw native pollinators to nearby crops, as well as sustain the pollinators throughout the season, Cathy Neal has developed a wildflower mix specific to the Northeast for farmers and other landowners to use in establishing wildflower meadows. The flower mix includes golden alexander, wild columbine, wild lupine, and foxglove for early blooms; anise hyssop, black-eyed Susan, coneflower, milkweed, bergamot, coreopsis, and cardinal flower for mid-season flowers; and New England asters, brown-eyed Susan, ironweed, goldenrod, Joe-Pye weed, and closed or bottle gentian, for feeding the bees until frost.

Watch and enjoy!

Finally, we are encouraged to have fun, to keep a watch on our garden and learn which plants are most visited by bees and other pollinators.

No matter how big or small your pollinator garden, no matter how artfully (or not!) it’s designed, you can trust the heart and effort you’ve put into your pollinator garden to yield results. If you plant it, the pollinators will come!



Hannah Proctor

Thank you to all our previous year's donors!

The Francestown Land Trust is dependent upon, and deeply appreciative of, community support. Whether you are a Francestown resident, a neighbor in the region, or you just have a special place in your heart for our town and its wild places, we would like to express our gratitude to all who have supported us during this past year:

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 Christine & Thomas Tyrie
 Martine Villalard-Bohnsack &
 Charles Bohnsack
 Francie VonMertens
 Margaret Watkins**
 Tom & Alice Welden
 David Whipple
 Barry & Lois Wicklow
 Lisa Wilsher & Steve Chamberlin
 Harry Woodbury
 Robert & Patricia Zeamans

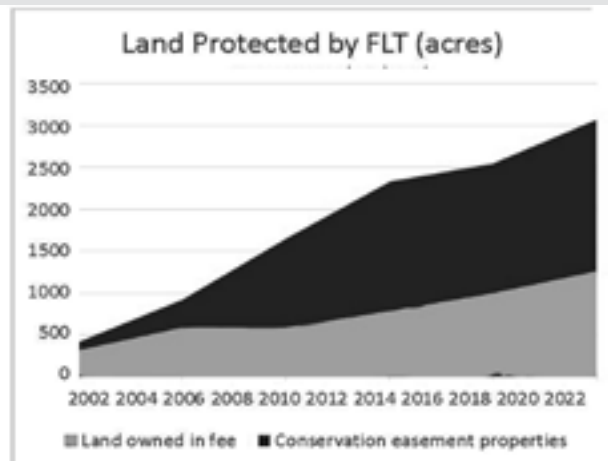
* In Honor of Bob &
 Linda Lindgren

** In Memory of Abigail Arnold



Currently, the Francestown Land Trust owns 1,258 acres, including the Rand Brook Forest and Schott Brennan Falls Reserve. All land owned by the FLT is open for public use. In addition, the FLT

holds 35 conservation easements helping to protect an additional 1,812 acres. With one Executory Interest, the FLT helps to protect a total area of 3,096 acres.





FRANCESTOWN
LAND TRUST

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Annual Meeting 2023

This year the Francestown Land Trust 2023 Annual Meeting will take place in person at 5:30PM on Thursday, June 15, 2023 at the Old Meeting House, Francestown NH

The meeting will be a brief business-focused one, so that members may attend a program on local Native American history beginning at 6:30PM in the Francestown Town Hall. Doors to the FLT Annual Meeting will open at 5:00PM for refreshments and a "meet & greet." The business meeting will begin at 5:30PM and include a report to members and the election of a slate of directors.

The meeting typically takes 20-30 minutes, after which all are encouraged to attend *12,000 Years Ago in the Granite State*, a program on the long presence of Native people in our region by Robert Goodby, Professor of Anthropology at Franklin Pierce University.

The program is sponsored by the George Holmes Bixby Library.