



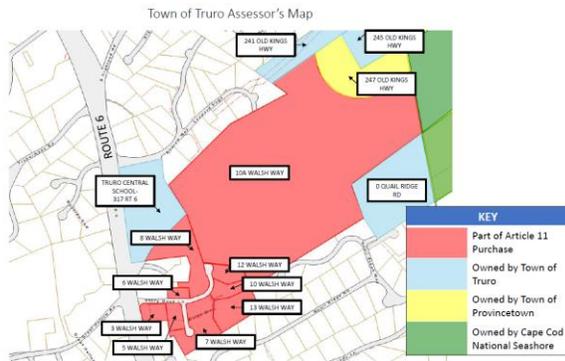
NEWSLETTER

Summer 2019

Truro Conservation Trust, P.O. Box 327, North Truro, MA 02652
www.TruroConservationTrust.org

Joint Town-TCT Project

The citizens of Truro, at Annual Town Meeting (ATM) on April 30th, voted overwhelmingly to approve a Warrant Article authorizing the expenditure of \$5.1M for the purchase of approximately 70 acres of land (map attached) currently owned by the Walsh family.. The approved ATM Warrant Article cited open space, housing, and recreation as potential categories of use for this expansive property



Your Truro Conservation Trust ("Trust") is partnering with the Town on this significant project. We funded the requisite appraisal and participated in the purchase negotiations with the sellers. At the ATM, your Trust announced its financial support of \$500,000 towards this purchase. The Town will provide the remainder of the funding through existing financial resources and the offering of municipal bonds.

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Twine Field Trails

Late December of 2017, the Truro Conservation Trust purchased 10 acres of land from a developer who had planned on building 10 houses on this property. With the persistent efforts of the Truro Conservation Trust, friends and neighbors of Pond Village, and many other land lovers of plants and animals who live here, this parcel was saved from development.

Currently, cut trails are being covered with bark mulch and benches installed. The picture below shows Volunteers from AmeriCorps spreading mulch. The trails (map at end) will be for residents and guests to enjoy this unique natural area. This parcel has an upland meadow and is home to many butterflies, Bobwhite Quail, Eastern Box Turtles, and a host of other wildlife. We hope you have the opportunity to enjoy these trails.



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Truro Conservation Trust

P.O. Box 327
North Truro, MA 02652

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Trustees

Fred Gaechter, Chair
Tony Hodgin, Vice Chair
Phil Smith, Treasurer
Bob Daglio, Secretary

Tom Bow
Brian Boyle
Guillermo Chang
Valerie Falk
Amanda Reed
Meg Royka
Irma Ruckstuhl
Karen Tosh

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It's only mid-year and this has already been an exciting year for your Trust.

As you know, our mission is to acquire and maintain open space in Truro to protect the environment that we live in and the character of our community that we so love and enjoy. With your encouragement and support we have experienced multiple consecutive years of success with our mission, as measured by the many land acquisitions over this period. This mission is one of the components of community sustainability – maintaining and enhancing our quality of life for current and future generations.

It's in this context that we have reached out and responded to other organizations and citizens with missions and interests also related to sustainability.

The three current projects that are highlighted in this Newsletter are active examples of that approach. For the Walsh property project, we are working with the Town of Truro to acquire a large tract of land for potential multiple components of sustainability, including, but not limited to, open space, housing, and recreation. For the Corn Hill project, we are partnering with the Center for the Arts at Castle Hill to protect another bay front property and to preserve an historic building that can also be used for summer artists' residence and art events and classes. For the Memorial Trail we are working with friends and neighbors to remember others and to create in their name another opportunity for all of us to walk with/in nature, a pastime recognized by experts as important to our physical, mental, and social wellness.

We feel good about all of these collaborative projects and, as always, depend on your support to make them a reality.

In the second instance – the Corn Hill project, we are committing all donations resulting from this Newsletter's appeal and the on-site event announced herein, to this project. We hope that you will be generous in your support and that you will attend our September 14th joint event, with Castle Hill, at the 42 Corn Hill Road property.

We also hope that you all have a wonderful summer and fall in Truro and have the opportunity to enjoy the Trust's trails, particularly the new trails at the Twine Field property in North Truro, all made possible by your previous donations.

To make it easier and more convenient to donate to the Trust, we have added a "Donate" button on our website. In addition, we have made a number of updates to the website to bring the content up to date.

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14th, 2-4 PM

The Truro Conservation Trust is planning a terrific event that you will not want to miss. The venue is the Bunker Cottage at 42 Corn Hill Road (see photo), right next to Corn Hill Beach in Truro. There will be refreshments, soft drinks and wine, and a sumptuous array of appetizers and tasty tidbits. A live art auction will be held, featuring renowned Truro artists Robert Cardinal, Kenneth Hawkey and Castle Hill's own Cherie Mittenhal.

The purpose of this fund raising event is to enable the Truro Conservation Trust to purchase the Bunker property and cottage. The land will be conserved in perpetuity as open space. Castle Hill will offer artists residency in the cottage while taking or teaching art classes. Their artistic experience will no doubt be enhanced by the magnificent bay view location.

We will be sending out another reminder notice in August, but please mark your calendars now, as this event is not to be missed. Please join us in what will be another unforgettable experience by The Truro Conservation Trust.



Photo by James Walczak

Memorial Trail

Your Trust has embarked on a project to develop a memorial trail on two Trust-owned properties on Tom's Hill. This is a joint project with friends and neighbors of Warren Hassmer and Bob Hayward and will include two engraved stones and a bench in their memory.

As you'll recall from a previous Newsletter, Warren and Bob resided in the neighborhood for many years, lovingly maintained a fabulous garden, were lifelong advocates of "living gently" on the land and protecting the environment, and, were also active in the Trust's acquisition of these two properties for open space. Bob predeceased Warren; on Warren's passing, approximately \$750,000 was bequeathed to your Trust and to each of three other non-profit organizations that they supported.

The trail will wend its way through the two contiguous properties in a southerly direction, over a topography and around floral species representative of the area, to an impressive viewpoint (see attached photo) overlooking the marsh and wetlands of the Pamet River and Harbor and an osprey pole placed several years ago by the Trust, the Audubon Society, and neighbors. It is at this viewpoint that the bench and engraved stones will be placed in memory of Warren and Bob.

This project will proceed during the coming winter with, hopefully, completion for spring of 2020. We thank Warren and Bob's friends and neighbors for their assistance in planning and implementing this project and, of course, Warren and Bob for their financial and environmental support.



Joint Town-TCT Project (Cont.)

The Trust donation and the use of existing financial resources will result in the bonded amount being significantly below the full purchase price and, thereby, a lesser tax burden.

A citizen Committee will be formed by the Select Board, to seek public input and to recommend appropriate uses for the acquired 70 acres. Recently, as a precursor to the Committee's formation, the Town sponsored a public meeting to seek citizen input on potential uses for the property and the formation and membership of the Committee. The meeting was well attended and offered significant input for consideration as the project proceeds. Your Trust participated in that session and will be an active participant in the continuing public process. The front 10 acres of the property includes several cottages (see photo), some habitable, others requiring significant refurbishing for habitation, if so desired. The use recommendation for the property will require an additional vote of approval by a future Town Meeting.

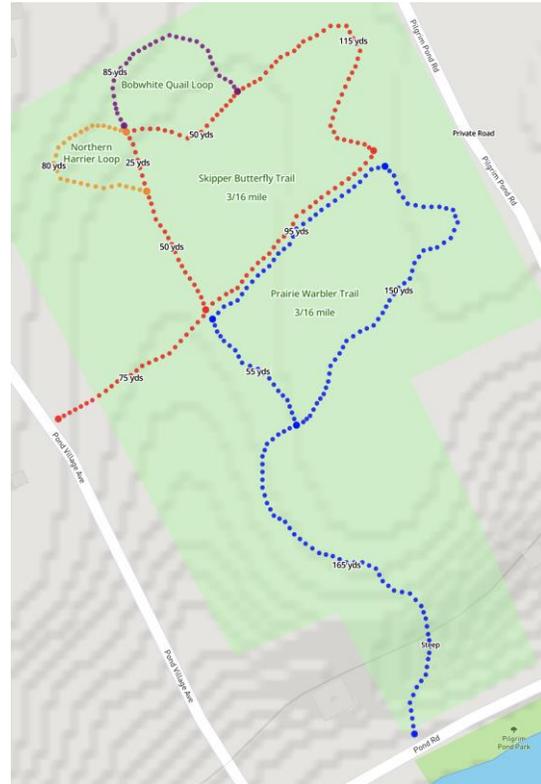


It was readily understood and expressed at ATM and the recent public meeting that an appropriate portion of the property should be maintained as open space under the stewardship, and potential ownership, of your Trust. This is an exciting project that has been in the works for a considerable period of time and will take an additional amount of study and time before the usage plan is

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agreed. Your Trust has had an eye on this land for decades. It is great to see it progressing towards uses advantageous to Truro, its citizens, and the environment.

Twine Field Trails (Cont.)



The Annual Meeting of the Truro Conservation Trust will take place at 42 Corn Hill Road at 1:15p.m. Saturday, September 14. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to present a report to members on the status of the Trust, to honor donors to the Trust, and to hold the election of Trustees. The Nominating Committee recommends each of the following individuals for a five-year term on the Board of Trustees: the re-election of Fred Gaechter, and the election of Karen Tosh; however, any member of the Trust may submit a petition signed by ten (10) members of the Trust nominating a candidate or candidates to the Board. Attendees may park at the left side in the Corn Hill Beach parking lot and walk to the site at 42 Corn Hill Road. All are welcome.