

EHLT Board of Directors for 2014

At the 1/10/2014 EHLT annual meeting members re-elected Bob Ballek and Pete Govert, and newly elected Barbara Pokorny and Sarah Gworek to the 2014 EHLT Board of Directors.

Barbara E. Pokorny moved from Niantic to East Haddam 7 years ago. Drawn here by the quiet, the beautiful wooded terrain and many inland waterways, Barbara is interested in maintaining and preserving these and other open space, and sharing its charms with others, particularly children. An avid birder, Barbara is also interested in gardening and is a former docent at the Connecticut College Arboretum. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing, practices as a family nurse practitioner, and holds appointments to the adjunct nursing faculty at various universities in Connecticut.

Sarah Gworek grew up in East Haddam and lives on the old family tree farm. She graduated from UMass, Boston and Castleton State College in Vermont and has worked as an emergency nurse for many years. She is a past member of the East Haddam Ambulance, former board member of East Haddam Land Trust and is a former cooperator with the CT Coverts Project. In her spare time Sarah enjoys kayaking, gardening and sharing her wry sense of humor with co-workers and friends.

For bios on the remaining board visit www.ehlt.org, About EHLT, EHLT

Directors and Founders. At a subsequent meeting, board members elected officers. Your 2014 EHLT Board of Directors consists of President, Rob Smith; Vice-president, Pete Govert; Treasurer, John Matthew; Secretary, Joene Hendry; and Directors Jane Anderson, Bob Ballek, Sarah Gworek, Barbara Pokorny, Dot Millen, Gail Sharkey, Sarah Thurmond, and Lynn Wilkinson.

This Board meets monthly and welcomes suggestions and questions through the Contact EHLT tab at www.ehlt.org, by mail to EHLT, PO Box 122, East Haddam, CT 06423, or by speaking to one of us directly during one of the upcoming EHLT Events listed at www.ehlt.org.

Equipment Wish List

EHLT's Stewardship workers - the hardy volunteers who forge and maintain trails on all EHLT preserves - recently used a borrowed Stihl BR600 Backpack Blower while creating a new 1.25 mile trail. Because of the attributes of this machine, the trail work was greatly expedited and the tedious job of raking thousands of feet of trail was all but eliminated. Use of this light-weight but powerful machine will greatly facilitate EHLT trail maintenance and other stewardship activities. As a result, EHLT hopes to purchase a backpack leaf blower. If interested in helping with this purchase or donating a machine, please contact President Rob Smith at 860-608-6811.

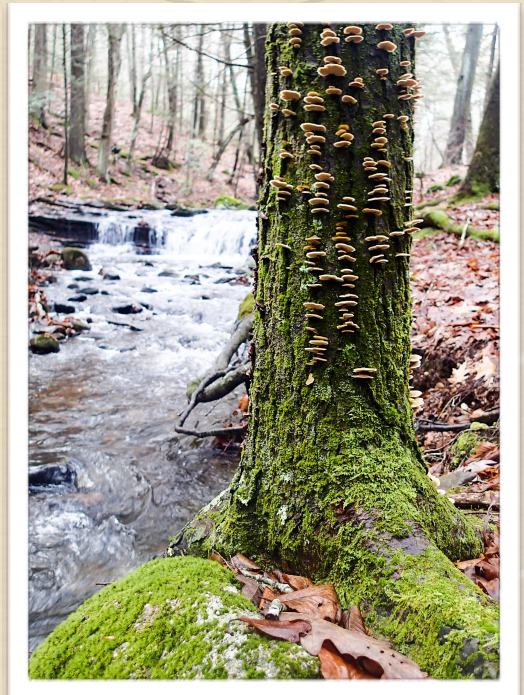


Postal Customer

EAST HADDAM LAND TRUST
P.O. Box 122
East Haddam, CT 06423
www.ehlt.org



EAST HADDAM LAND TRUST NEWSLETTER



Tree Fungus in Devil's Hopyard during a brief winter thaw

Winter 2014



EAST HADDAM LAND TRUST

Capital Campaign 2014

East Haddam Land Trust has big plans in 2014. We've embarked on a major fundraising campaign to improve our ability to preserve land. Our campaign goal is \$250K over a three year period. Our early fundraising activities have already secured \$100K, getting us over one-third of the way towards our goal.

Why is it important to donate now?

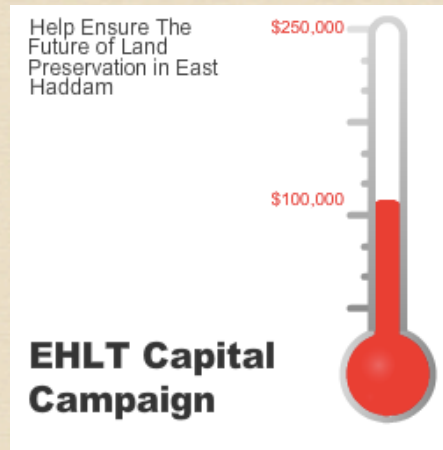
- East Haddam is in an important moment of time - land prices remain relatively low allowing donated dollars to go a long way.
- EHLT's previous land preservation - the purchase of land and a conservation easement for Hidden Valley Farm (Bogan Property) - plus financial support to the Town for Hatch Lot and Roaring Brook Preserve (formerly and respectively the Pages and Zeiller properties) - significantly depleted EHLT's coffers.
- Important parcels are becoming available, increasing the chance to create long greenways and hiking trails. These properties may not be available tomorrow.

It is vital to be positioned to move quickly when important properties become available. We are committed to this cause. Beyond preserving land, EHLT is committed to maintaining public access

trails on currently protected properties and continuing our long-standing mission of outreach and education through hikes, paddles, community events and the Anita Ballek Scholarship Fund.

This is why we ask you - our members - to support this capital campaign. We know you care deeply about preserving East Haddam's unique and historically significant landscapes and waterways.

With your support EHLT can continue the work it began in 1979 - ensuring a beautiful future for our very special town. If you are interested in making a pledge to our Capital campaign, please send an e-mail to president@ehlt.org, membership@ehlt.org, or drop a note to us at PO Box 122, East Haddam, CT, 06423



Winter Hike

If you have not taken in the unique beauty of a winter woodland, wetland, or open-space walk you are missing quite a treat. Forests of leafless trees allow for clear views to distant vistas. Snow cover and clear blue winter skies highlight the bark texture and branch structures of hardwood trees. Rock outcroppings and boulder fields hint at the geological past of our region, while old stone walls provide clues to past agricultural use.



Lichen dots stones of Hammond Mill Dam remnants

You'll witness many types and shades of lichen clinging to tree trunks and boulders, the bright greens to reddish-browns of mosses, copper-colored beech leaves and the deep brown hues of oak leaves still clinging to branches, and the deep green shades of evergreen trees and mountain laurels.

Tracks left in snow reveal favored deer paths, where mice scurry atop and tunnel under the snow, trees that squirrels feed under, logs bobcats use to watch for prey, and whether fox or fisher or coyotes have recently visited. The crisp winter air carries calls of hawks or eagles soaring overhead, overwintering birds flitting from tree to tree, and the sound of woodpeckers pounding out an insect meal.

Even short walks on one of East Haddam's open spaces parcels will invigorate the senses and, remember, cold winter walks are tick-free.

The Ninth Annual Land Trusts' Photo Contest

This year's photo contest has been delayed to accommodate some organizational changes. Information regarding these changes will be announced by June 2014, but the deadline for photo submissions has been set as October 31, 2014. Keep taking great photos and watch for future updates via the Donate or Get Involved, Photo Contest link in the sidebar tab at www.ehlt.org.