

BOURNE CONSERVATION TRUST



Fall/Winter 2021

Early supplement to the
BCT Annual Newsletter

Note to our supporters and donors.

The amazing opportunity and huge effort to raise the funds to purchase the Baxendale Woods, along with the damage from the recent storm, has taken so much of our time we are going to delay publication of our annual newsletter and send it out along with our annual Donor Book, first quarter 2022. In the meantime, here is a BCT report on our year-to-date.

The Baxendale Woods

How do you define extraordinary success? Certainly one way is for the Bourne Conservation Trust to raise 3 million dollars in less than three months, from more than 400 donors, coupled with two generous matching grants, to forever preserve the Baxendale Woods. A cause for celebration of community response to support conservation stewardship!

The Trust's acquisition preserves an 18-acre parcel along Megansett Road in Cataumet, continuing a history that began in 1927 when Esther and Thomas Baxendale generously donated Amrita Island, the buildings and the surrounding property to Harvard University, followed by the Animal Rescue League, as a "perpetual memorial...to provide education on the care of wildlife."

During the spring of 2021, after being earmarked for development, the property suddenly became available and time was short to raise the funds necessary to secure its purchase. The response to our appeal was remarkable and we thank all who joined our effort to preserve this land. Achievements in land conservation are precious because they are timeless. They connect us to the future of generations to come.

The current closing date on this property has changed from the end of October to the end of November at the seller's request. At that



time, we hope we will have great news to share and a celebration to plan. Please watch Facebook and the BCT website (www.bourneconservationtrust.org) for updates as they become available. In the meantime, our Trail Meisters are hard at work on plans to make this beautiful land accessible and available for all.

MONEY MATTERS

It was amazing, the money you all so generously donated to purchase the Baxendale Woods. We cannot, however, forget our needs for unrestricted funds to cover the following:

- ◆ The balance due for the purchase of a lot at the corner of County and Shore Roads (\$225,000 is still owed on the \$325,000 purchase price). This property provides parking and additional open space for the Cataumet Greenway.
- ◆ Renovations at Spring Hill Farm:

- The interior of the barn is being upgraded so that this space will be available to the community for small events and meetings during our warmer months.
- The house is also being completely renovated from top to bottom, and will become the office/headquarters for the Bourne Conservation Trust.
- ◆ Last, but certainly not least, there are our normal annual operating expenses: property maintenance, electricity, phone, communications, legal services, etc.

Donations can be sent to Bourne Conservation Trust, Box 203, Cataumet, MA 02534. Online donations can be made by going to the website, www.bourneconservationtrust.org.

NEWS AND NOTES

The Dimmick Family Cut-Your-Own Christmas Tree Sale Is Back

After some time off to let the trees grow and mature, this time-honored family tradition will take place on Saturday, December 4, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Dimmick Farm, 1167 County Road, Cataumet. Please come and cut your own special Christmas tree. The Dimmicks donate all proceeds to the BCT, so huge thanks to them. Look for more details on Face Book and the BCT web site. Note: With the current USPS mail delays, if this mailing arrives after December 4, we hope many of you were able to attend, and again we thank the Dimmick family.

Lawrence Island

The BCT is the owner of a large portion of Lawrence Island, with an easement access route along the shore of Squeteague Harbor. This is a long-favored BCT walking trail for people and many of their dogs. With the pandemic, "traffic" has greatly increased, raising these concerns:

- ◆ Parking on Grasslands Lane has become a major problem. Residents of Grasslands are working with the Town of Bourne to delineate parking



The Trail Meisters

The end of October storm took a heavy toll on our walking trails, with so many damaged and fallen trees and branches. Here is a big pat-on-the-back to our Trail Meisters for their quick response and cleanup following the storm, and the quick reopening of our trails.

and no parking areas. They are also asking people not to drive on or turn around on their lawns.

- ◆ Dogs have also become a problem. Many are not leashed when let out of the car, they run free on private property, and often times their poop is not picked up and properly disposed of.

We want the island trail to remain open to dogs. To achieve this, ALL dogs MUST be leashed exiting the car, along the trail to the island, and when leaving the island back to the car. ALL POOP, along the trail and anywhere on the island, must be removed completely. Thanks to everyone for following these simple rules and maintaining this treasured walk for people and their pets.

REMINDERS

There is still time to enter the 2021 BCT Photo Contest.

Wanted: Pictures of animals, real, imagined, even mythical, taken by anyone, of any age.

Deadline: December 31, 2021 (email copies of original files with no reduction or manipulation to: bct.trails@gmail.com). Winners will be announced in the next newsletter.

There are still sections of the Spring Hill Farm fence waiting to be named.

Refer to the BCT web site for details.

In Closing

Once again, as 2021 draws to a close, thank you so much—donors, supporters, volunteers and Trustees!

Want to help?

Whether with the trails, at the farm, in the office, at a special event, or if you want to send a donation, please get in touch:

Box 203, Cataumet, MA 02534

508-563-2884

www.bourneconservationtrust.org

info@bourneconservationtrust.org

bct.trails@gmail.com



The Bourne Conservation Trust is tax-exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Within IRS guide lines, contributions and gifts may be tax deductible from your taxable income.

The trust's tax identification number (TIN) is 04-2767827. Please consult your tax advisor for more information.