

# Year in Review

*For the members and supporters of Mass Audubon*



ANNUAL REPORT  
**2013**





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Mass Audubon works to protect the nature of Massachusetts for people and wildlife. Together with more than 100,000 members, we care for 35,000 acres of conservation land, provide school, camp, and other educational programs for 225,000 children and adults annually, and advocate for sound environmental policies at local, state, and federal levels. Each year, our statewide network of wildlife sanctuaries welcomes nearly half a million visitors of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds and serves as the base for our work. To support these important efforts, call 800-AUDUBON (800-283-8266) or visit [www.massaudubon.org](http://www.massaudubon.org).

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## Dear Members and Friends,

This year we have had the privilege of stepping forward to lead Mass Audubon into the future as its new President and Board Chair. In keeping with Mass Audubon's enduring commitment to results-driven collaboration, the leadership transition has gone smoothly. For this we express our gratitude to our Board, staff, members, supporters, and friends, as well as former President Laura Johnson and previous Board Chair Jonathan Panek, who served as patient mentors and trusted sounding boards.

One of the themes of our first year on the job has been "Fresh Eyes." Inspired by the comprehensive orientation that Henry received into the multifaceted work of Mass Audubon during his first five months as President, he presented a "Fresh Eyes Report" to the Board in June. Two of his observations are particularly gratifying and reassuring. The first is that Mass Audubon is in fundamentally sound condition; we have been and remain a vibrant, dynamic, and well-run organization—something you'll see reflected in the stories about Our People, Our Places, and Our Progress in the pages of this Annual Report. The second is that Mass Audubon's three-part mission of **Conservation**, **Education**, and **Advocacy** remains entirely appropriate and uniquely positions us to address the challenges and opportunities that Massachusetts faces in the 21st century. Henry and the Board also endorsed an energetic effort to "pivot out," engaging even more people in our mission, successes, and aspirations for the future, and addressing the very real impacts of climate change.

Taking the helm of Mass Audubon has been an exhilarating and humbling experience. We are so profoundly grateful to all of you for the myriad ways you support this organization, from providing financial support, to volunteering thousands of hours at our sanctuaries across the Commonwealth, to simply being enthusiastic about the need to protect our natural heritage.

You are the heart and soul of Mass Audubon, and we are committed to working tirelessly to meet your expectations.

Thank you,

Henry Tepper, *President*

Jared Chase, *Chair*





Our website had **1,408,861** visitors—a **23.9 percent increase** over last year.



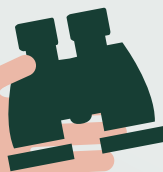
Our membership grew to include citizens from all **50 states** and **11 countries**.



Our sanctuaries provided a home for **159 state-listed endangered species**.

## 2013 by the numbers

We worked with **14,040** volunteers who dedicated **139,500** hours of **service** to tasks such as welcoming visitors, maintaining our properties, and monitoring wildlife.



Mass Audubon's largest fundraiser, Bird-a-thon, celebrated its **30th anniversary**. Thirty teams **raised more than \$189,000**.



We led **22** *Shaping the Future of Your Community* programs and to date have helped **160 communities** protect natural areas and minimize negative impacts resulting from development.



Our **17** day camps and our overnight camp, Wildwood, hosted a record **9,087** camper sessions.

We protected **416.5** acres of land: **190.5** acres directly and **226** acres with the assistance of our conservation partners.

We conducted **7,779** nature-based education programs for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities across the state.



# Our People

*Loyal members, dedicated volunteers, talented staff, generous donors, and enthusiastic program participants make Mass Audubon a vibrant conservation community.*

Allens Pond intern Phoebe Quinn leads a group of Eco Explorers to the shoreline to investigate.



## Future Leaders

Each year a small group of college students travel cross-country to pursue their passion for the environment at Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary in Dartmouth. Working up to 40 hours a week throughout the summer, these dedicated interns monitor coastal wildlife species, conduct educational programs alongside Mass Audubon teacher-naturalists, and help with sanctuary outreach and events.

Allens Pond staff recruits, trains, and works with the interns to provide opportunities that challenge them to be independent thinkers, as well as function as part of a team.

“A big reason we create these internship opportunities is to support young people, particularly at a local level, to become future conservationists,” notes Sanctuary Director Gina Purtell. “We want to

develop knowledgeable, environmentally minded individuals who may someday want to work for Mass Audubon or one of our conservation partners.”

Over the years, some interns have returned to Allens Pond after graduation to serve as volunteers or seasonal staff. All have shared positive feedback on the profound impact these internships have had on their professional and personal growth.

One Allens Pond intern, Phoebe Quinn, went back to school for an additional year to pursue a double major in environmental studies and history.

“This internship was a life-changing experience; I grew in ways I didn’t know possible,” says Phoebe. “The things I learned at Allens Pond are priceless to my future as an environmental educator. I cannot thank the staff enough for trusting me with this amazing opportunity and for being so kind and helpful.”



Phoebe Quinn and Brett McBride of OCEARCH



Allens Pond volunteer Kevin Lamothe with interns Josie Ryan-Small and Amy Patterson

## Extraordinary Volunteers

Volunteers are an integral part of our wildlife conservation efforts at Mass Audubon. Over the last five years, more than 650 volunteers worked tirelessly to help us produce *Breeding Bird Atlas 2*—



*Breeding Bird Atlas 2* volunteers dedicated more than 40,000 hours to research across the state.

a report that enables us to understand where our birds breed and how their populations are changing.

These intrepid volunteers, known as “Atlasers,” racked up over 40,000 hours in the field, collecting data from across the state. Their superb skills and dedication uncovered the secrets of even the most

elusive birds. In fact, one volunteer, Barbara Spencer, was dubbed “the bittern whisperer” by Joan Walsh, Director of Bird Monitoring, for her ability to find members of this reclusive and well-camouflaged marsh species. Says Joan, “She would look at a map, point to a spot, and say, ‘I’ll see one there,’ and then hike cross-country—and sure enough she’d find a bittern.”

For Barbara, Atlas 2 fieldwork was her major interest and occupation for the last half decade. “I knew how important getting new atlas data for the state was,” she says. “Acquiring new blocks to explore and census data was a great satisfaction for me.”

This year we celebrated the dedication of Barbara and her fellow Atlasers by presenting the group with a Mass Audubon “A” Award, which recognizes those who further the cause of conservation and environmental protection, and who broaden public awareness of the nature of Massachusetts.

Mass Audubon thanks the Atlasers—and our 14,040 volunteers across the Commonwealth—for their remarkable commitment to protecting the nature of Massachusetts.

## Enviro Mentors

In 2012, Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary partnered with Morris Elementary schoolteacher Julie Nelson, and the Lenox and Berkshire Historical Societies to implement *Iron Ore and Orioles*, a series of classroom lessons about the history of iron and glass production in the Berkshires and the influence of those industries on wildlife.

Lessons culminated in an all-day field trip that included a visit to Pleasant Valley, where students hunted for 19th-century land-use artifacts such as limestone, pyrite, and the ruins of a lime kiln. Other stops included the Berkshire Historical Society’s Arrowhead Museum, where the group viewed iron tools, and the Lenox Furnace site, where they saw remnants of glass manufacturing along the Housatonic River. Students also learned about orioles, birds

that nested along rivers used by area manufacturers for power supply, and how their populations fluctuated with industrial growth. Other creatures of study included the spotted turtle, the New England cottontail, and the Atlantic salmon.

Pleasant Valley Education Coordinator Gayle Tardif-Raser, who helped develop and coordinate the curriculum, was

enthusiastic about its results. “It’s great when we can tie natural history to local history and build relationships within the community. Students came away with an understanding of how people have influenced the landscape and some of our wildlife.”

This program, funded by the Lenox Educational Enrichment Fund at Berkshire



L to R: Secretary Richard K. Sullivan Jr., EEA; Ursula King, Secretary’s Advisory Group on Energy and Environmental Education; Pam Resor, Massachusetts Environmental Trust; Julie Nelson, Morris Elementary School; Gayle Tardif-Raser, Mass Audubon; Mark Sylvia, MassDOER Commissioner

Taconic Community Foundation, recently received an “Award for Excellence in Energy and Environmental Education” from Massachusetts’ Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA).

Mass Audubon is proud of the supportive role we play with teachers across the Commonwealth.



# Our Places

*From Boston to the Berkshires, we preserve habitats and provide places where people connect with nature, have fun, and enjoy the outdoors.*

The nature center at North River Wildlife Sanctuary in Marshfield

## A Place for Everyone

Ten-year-old Declan Nagle recently discovered the joys of birdwatching. Fortunately for Declan, he lives on the South Shore—a region known for its wide variety of habitats and birding opportunities. Like many of us, he hits the trail with binoculars in hand, excited to explore. But Declan faces a challenge that most of us on the trail don't; he has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair.

Thanks to new accessibility features added to several of our sanctuaries, this challenge does not pose the obstacle it once did—something Declan and his family discovered during a recent visit to our Daniel Webster and North River wildlife sanctuaries in Marshfield.

At Daniel Webster, Declan and others who use mobility devices can now explore nature along the Fox Hill Trail, which has

been resurfaced to meet accessibility guidelines. Visitors of various abilities can also now access the sanctuary's wildlife observation blinds, which overlook a shallow pond, where green herons hunt and turtles sun themselves amid the cattails.

At North River, a beautifully landscaped, sloped walkway now provides an inviting entrance to the nature center's reception area, gift shop, and "Discovery Room," where guests can view the sanctuary's active bird garden and see Fowler's toads morph from tadpoles to toadlets in the spring. Outside, an accessible loop trail and boardwalk that wind through mixed forest and fern glen have been added.

These enhancements, completed in 2013, would not have been possible without assistance from a team of local AmeriCorps volunteers, who have brought us closer to our goal of connecting everyone with nature.



Declan Nagle experiences the Nature Play Area at North River.



AmeriCorps volunteers complete the new accessible trail.





The George Robert White Environmental Conservation Center at Boston Nature Center in Mattapan

Once an abandoned landscape and the site of the Boston State Hospital, the 67-acre Boston Nature Center in Mattapan has

connecting people with nature by opening its new Pathways to Nature Preschool.

Making strides in a community farther north, Joppa Flats Education Center opened its doors in Newburyport in 2003. At that time, the sanctuary's main offering was adult birding programs, something its proximity to Parker River National Wildlife Refuge naturally lent itself to. Today Joppa Flats also leads numerous programs for all ages and educates current and future leaders through their teacher training, College Intern, Birder's Certificate, and Young Naturalist programs.

Staff members are also making an impact abroad with the sanctuary's Certificate Program in Bird Ecology, a course that educates Belizean naturalist guides and teachers about the fundamentals of ornithology, bird conservation, and leadership.

## A Place for Growth

This year Mass Audubon celebrates the tenth anniversaries of the **Boston Nature Center's George Robert White Environmental Conservation Center** and the **Joppa Flats Education Center**. The transformation at each of these sites—both physical and programmatic—and the impact they continue to have within their communities is truly astounding.

evolved into a thriving wildlife sanctuary and environmental education hub. Thanks to the dedication of many supporters, it has become a place for outdoor exploration in one of Boston's most densely populated neighborhoods; a community resource that provides nature-based education to children, adults, and families; and a living classroom for tens of thousands of students each year. In 2013 the sanctuary marked a decade of

## A Place for Wilderness

Following their move to Concord in the late 1950s, Mason and Ina Phelps became Mass Audubon members. After attending several natural history programs at Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary in Lincoln, the couple began to think about creating their own private wildlife sanctuary.

They searched extensively before deciding on a sparsely populated section of Franklin County. After expending a tremendous amount of time, energy, and personal funds to acquire and protect more than 1,000 acres around the Whetstone Brook watershed, the Phelps teamed up with Mass Audubon to assemble what is today known as Whetstone Wood Wildlife Sanctuary—a 2,500-acre conserved landscape managed



Ina and Mason Phelps

exclusively as wildland. Here, fishers, bobcats, moose, and many other forest-interior species roam an undisturbed landscape of forest and wetlands.

But the sanctuary is more than a haven for wildlife; it's projected to play a valuable role in blunting the impacts of climate change. Whetstone Wood's vast, forested landscape

will continue to absorb greenhouse gas emissions and store carbon. Additionally, the sanctuary links Quabbin Reservoir Watershed lands with more than 30,000 acres of protected land in


central Massachusetts, creating a "land bridge" for wildlife that may need to relocate as a way of adjusting to changing climate.

What began as one couple's vision has become an invaluable community asset. Sadly, Ina Phelps passed away in March of 2013. However, the lifelong work of her and her surviving spouse, Mason, will have a lasting impact.



# Our Progress

*Through conservation, education, and advocacy, we work together to inform, engage, and inspire our citizens to protect the nature of Massachusetts.*



Helpers install the lining for a vernal pool.

## Protecting Through Partnership

Named for its uniquely shaped feet, which it uses to dig, the eastern spadefoot toad is the rarest member of the anuran family (frogs and toads) in Massachusetts. Increasing human disturbances have led to the destruction of many of the vernal pools these toads rely upon for breeding habitat. As a result, the once-widespread animal is now listed as threatened in Massachusetts.

To address this, Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary in Barnstable has partnered with the U.S. Forest Service, The Center for Wetlands and Stream Restoration, and Grassroots Wildlife Conservation to create four new breeding pools on Cape Cod. The sanctuary is also working with local schools to implement a first-of-its-kind “translocation” project, giving this species the head start it needs to survive.

Early-stage tadpoles are collected from a breeding site in Barnstable and brought



A student records her observations.

to nearby classrooms, where students in grades 1 through 12 feed and care for the growing spadefoots in a controlled environment. Later, the developing toadlets are released into newly created vernal pools at Ashumet Holly Wildlife Sanctuary in East Falmouth, where they can mature into adult toads. The unique citizen science project includes a classroom presentation on spadefoot toads and a field trip to Long Pasture, where students learn field census and monitoring techniques.

“This is the most novel, hands-on teaching experience I’ve had with my students in some time,” says Falmouth High AP Biology Teacher Christine Brothers. “The students feel empowered, learning that they can really make a difference in a local conservation project.”

Ongoing project monitoring has revealed hopeful results; over the last four years, more than 9,000 spadefoots have been successfully raised and released.





Curt Spaulding, EPA New England Administrator; Ken Kimmell, MassDEP Commissioner; Stephanie Elson, *Shaping* Project Director; E. Heidi Ricci, Mass Audubon Senior Policy Analyst; the late Ira Leighton, EPA New England Deputy Regional Administrator

## Shaping the Future

This year marked an important milestone for Mass Audubon's *Shaping the Future of Your Community* program, which received a prestigious Environmental Merit Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for its "significant contributions to environmental awareness and problem-

solving." Presented annually, the Merit Awards recognize outstanding environmental advocates who are leaders in preserving and protecting our natural resources.

In 2009, Mass Audubon created

the *Shaping* program in response to sprawling land development patterns. Recognizing that most land use decisions are made at the local level, the program provides workshops, resources, and technical assistance to citizens and municipal officials. The focus is on helping people protect their communities' most precious natural areas while guiding development to

locations where impacts are minimized. *Shaping* has helped communities update open space plans and revise zoning to protect forests, farmlands, water supplies, river corridors, recreational trails, and wildlife habitat. It has also helped communities adopt the *Community Preservation Act* (which funds land conservation, historic preservation, and housing) and the *Green Communities Act* (which supports local energy-efficiency and renewable-energy sources).

We are honored to have won this prestigious award, and we are thankful to our many partners who support the *Shaping* program. Special thanks to Mass Audubon Honorary Director Judy Samelson whose vision and underwriting of *Shaping* have been crucial to its success.

## Connecting Through Technology

Environmental educators often have a paradoxical relationship with technology. On the one hand, we may feel the urge to wrestle a variety of gadgets from our youth and get them outside, while on the other we recognize technology as a powerful tool for engagement.

Children today live in a world where digital technology is all around them; they are accustomed to experiencing, generating, and manipulating information through devices and applications. Rather than viewing "screen time" as an antithesis to nature, Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary in Lincoln has chosen to embrace its potential. With it, the sanctuary hopes to enhance people's understanding and appreciation of nature and inspire conservation.

To that end, Drumlin Farm staff members are working with a variety of educators, classroom teachers, and researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to design technology-based teaching tools that make environmental education and STEM (Science, Technology,

Engineering, Mathematics) learning more accessible. By leveraging handheld devices, Geographic Information System (GIS) software, Global Positioning Software (GPS), video, and science-based applications, the sanctuary will provide experiences that augment—rather than detract from—the natural world.

Once implemented, the ability to seamlessly flow between data and observation (virtual and real) will allow sanctuary visitors and students to see the world through many lenses: field scientist, land planner, even wildlife!



Lowell students use handheld computing technology to record field data for conservation research.



# Land Protection Summary

Mass Audubon permanently protects more than 35,000 acres of land across Massachusetts, providing important opportunities for people to experience the wonders of nature firsthand while also safeguarding a wide range of habitats and native species. This year, with the support of generous individuals, families, businesses, communities, and public and private partners, we protected 416.5 acres of important habitat and land for people across Massachusetts. A special thanks to key partner organizations and municipalities that are listed here in **bold**.

## Purchases of Sanctuary Land

	Acres	Municipality	Sanctuary
George and Jean Ferguson	8.14	<b>Barnstable</b>	<b>Barnstable Great Marsh</b>

This beautiful parcel of salt marsh and upland was purchased thanks to the generosity of George and Jean Ferguson through a steeply discounted sale. The land abuts previous gifts of land from the Ferguson family including 10 acres received in 2009 and an earlier land gift containing a residence, currently occupied by the Mass Audubon staff property manager. The land consists of important tidal marsh and diverse upland habitat fronting on Barnstable Harbor.

Estate of David Green	25.75	<b>Spencer</b>	<b>Burncoat Pond</b>
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The late conservationists David and Richard Green sold 77 acres of their family land on the shores of Burncoat Pond to Mass Audubon in three transactions between 2005 and 2009. This year David's family, wanting to complete this extraordinary conservation legacy, sold the final 26 acres to Mass Audubon. The property abounds in wildlife. A stream flows along the northern edge of a knoll clothed in pines and oaks, and then widens into a large beaver pond before flowing into Burncoat Pond. A conservation restriction (CR) was conveyed to the **Town of Spencer**.

Spring Street Realty Trust	31.17	<b>Marshfield</b>	<b>North River</b>
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Known as the Spring Street Woodlands, this blend of forest and wetlands nurtures the headwaters of picturesque Hannah Eames Brook, which flows gently eastward through the wildlife sanctuary before entering the North River. The Woodlands also directly abuts the sanctuary, helping to build a link to other nearby conservation lands. The property is identified as BioMap Critical Natural Landscape and was identified as a top priority for Conservation in the sanctuary's Land Conservation Plan.

Emilia Muljadi	0.50	<b>Nahant</b>	<b>Nahant Thicket</b>
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This purchase represents conservation of the last entirely undeveloped parcel in the vicinity of Nahant Thicket Wildlife Sanctuary and was made possible by a group of anonymous donors. The property contains a mix of wetlands and upland woods and functions as part of the natural area that make the Thicket so important as a resting and feeding area for migratory birds.

Gregg Whitney	82.00	<b>Wendell</b>	<b>Whetstone Wood</b>
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This parcel of high-quality forestland strengthens the connection between our Whetstone Wood Wildlife Sanctuary and a portion of the Wendell State Forest to the west. Such connections between Whetstone and other existing conserved lands is one of the most prominent themes underpinning the Sanctuary Land Conservation Plan for Whetstone Wood, located in the north Quabbin region of the state.

## Gifts of Sanctuary Land

	Acres	Municipality	Sanctuary
Anna Jaques Hospital	9.00	<b>Rowley</b>	<b>Rough Meadows</b>

The land gift came in two parcels—one parcel is entirely surrounded by sanctuary land and the other is located off Far Division Road (also known as “Professor Chandler’s Long Walk” trail), abutting a major portion of the sanctuary’s east side. This land has been identified as important to protect for the sanctuary and is located within an area designated as state BioMap and Living Waters Core Habitat, a state Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), and a Mass Audubon mapped Important Bird Area (IBA) where a salt marsh breeding bird census occurs.

La Salette	116.94	<b>Attleboro</b>	<b>Attleboro Springs at La Salette</b>
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Four years ago, **The National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette (La Salette)** permanently transferred management of this property to Mass Audubon for operation as a publicly accessible wildlife sanctuary, while retaining title to the land. This past year, La Salette concluded that ownership should be combined with stewardship responsibility and generously gifted title to the property to Mass Audubon. Visitors to Attleboro Springs Wildlife Sanctuary at La Salette will notice no difference with this change because the property has been operated as a Mass Audubon sanctuary since 2009.



Moose Hill Realty Trust	4.65	Sharon	Moose Hill
<p>Mass Audubon and <b>The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR)</b> worked collaboratively to protect 11+ acres of high-priority land abutting our nature center at the Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary and TTOR's Moose Hill Farm Reservation. TTOR holds a CR on this property while Mass Audubon now holds a CR on an adjacent 6.74-acre parcel of land now owned by TTOR (see below). The newly protected land is surrounded by hundreds of acres of conserved land and is located in the heart of Mass Audubon's Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary and TTOR's Moose Hill Farm. It is primarily deciduous forested upland with some wetland areas and is identified as BioMap Core Habitat and as a top priority for Conservation at the sanctuary.</p>			

Land Protected via Conservation Assists to Other Organizations and/or Agencies			
	Acres	Municipality	Sanctuary
Spencer State Forest Corridor	225.97	Spencer	Burncoat Pond
<p>Mass Audubon negotiated and purchased a corridor of land linking the recently protected Sibley Farm to Spencer State Forest, and conveyed it to the <b>Department of Conservation and Recreation</b> for permanent stewardship. The project secures a stretch of the Mid-State Trail and protects a high-quality mix of upland woods, marshes, ponds, and wooded swamps.</p>			

Gifts of Conservation Restrictions			
	Acres	Municipality	Sanctuary
Holly Cheever	6.58	Wareham	Great Neck
<p>A missing puzzle piece at the center of the sanctuary, the gift of this CR helps complete the vision of the <b>Great Neck Conservation Partnership</b> to create an area of nearly 300 contiguous acres of conservation land. Led by Mass Audubon, the Conservation Partnership also comprises the <b>Wareham Land Trust</b>, the state <b>Department of Conservation and Recreation</b>, and the <b>Town of Wareham</b>. The land is classified as Priority Habitat of Rare Species and BioMap Core Habitat.</p>			
The Lyman Family	16.00	Wareham	Great Neck
<p>As with the acquisition of the Holly Cheever CR (see above), the conservation of this land helps complete the vision of the <b>Great Neck Conservation Partnership</b> to create an area of nearly 300 contiguous acres of protected land. These coastal woodlands are classified as Priority Habitat of Rare Species and BioMap Core Habitat.</p>			
Moose Hill Realty Trust	6.74	Sharon	Moose Hill
<p>Mass Audubon and <b>The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR)</b> worked collaboratively to protect 11+ acres of high-priority land abutting the Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary Nature Center and TTOR's Moose Hill Farm Reservation. Mass Audubon holds a CR on this 6.74-acre parcel of land owned by TTOR, while TTOR holds a CR on a parcel of land newly acquired by Mass Audubon (see above). Until now, the land was the last remaining unprotected area surrounding the nature center at the heart of the Sanctuary.</p>			

## Land Protected by Mass Audubon within the Past 12 Months

Acres directly protected by Mass Audubon	190.5
Acres protected through assistance to other organizations/agencies	226.0
Total acres protected within the past 12 months	416.5

## Land Under Mass Audubon Stewardship as of June 30, 2013

Acres owned by Mass Audubon	29,824.0
Acres under Mass Audubon conservation restrictions	5,331.9
Total acres of protected land	35,155.9



# Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change

Addressing climate change is fundamental to our work in the 21st century.

“The three core strategies that we use to advance our mission—land conservation, nature-based education, and environmental advocacy—have become even more crucial against the backdrop of a warming planet,” Mass Audubon President Henry Tepper notes. “But from formidable challenges spring great opportunities,” Tepper adds, “and this is how our organization and its members shine.”

Guided by senior leadership, an organization-wide staff team, and the Board of Directors’ Climate Change Committee co-chaired by Nick d’Arbeloff and David Straus, Mass Audubon has developed a climate change program that is meeting this crucial priority of our Five-Year Strategic Plan.

The program’s four objectives include:

**Lead by example.** We’ve already met our 2014 goal of reducing our organization-wide carbon footprint by 50 percent.

**Leverage our advocacy expertise** at community, statewide, and regional levels to bolster adaptation strategies (e.g., building design, coastal infrastructure and development, protecting and restoring natural buffers).

**Push for climate change literacy** in the Commonwealth’s science curriculum frameworks and integrate it into our education programs.

**Revise our land protection and ecological management plans** in “climate-sensitive” ways such as securing large unfragmented landscapes and creating migration corridors.

“This great challenge presents us with a lens through which we will view all our work now and especially in the future,” says Climate

Change Program Director Loring Schwarz. “It also offers a great opportunity to make all our programs, projects, and initiatives as relevant as possible to as many people as possible.”

With all this in mind, Mass Audubon’s climate change program stresses practical, positive, and effective site-based solutions to a global problem that too often seems overwhelming.

We are galvanizing our educators to engage visitors in conversations and action-oriented lessons about climate change. Specifically, we’re explaining how global warming works; documenting sanctuary-level impacts such as changes in bird, insect, and plant populations; and suggesting practical actions people can take in their homes,

neighborhoods, and at civic levels.

Trained staff members are “educating our educators” to help promote these changes in our lesson plans.

As in so much of Mass Audubon’s work, partnerships are key to our climate change initiatives, whether working with the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), The Nature Conservancy, and other conservation organizations, Massachusetts government agencies, and elected officials, or our friends and supporters. Partnering with the UCS, we’ve

developed educational posters and take-home cards (“How You Can Help” and “How Kids Can Be Cooler”) that are now placed at our nature centers. Both tools feature a number of simple but effective ways people can get involved.

And Mass Audubon’s wildlife sanctuaries are increasingly serving as climate change response laboratories, where lessons from our ecological management, educational initiatives, and outreach can be shared with local partners such as community-based land trusts.

Climate change may be bigger than all of us, but confronting this overarching environmental challenge in meaningful ways is not. Working together, we can make a difference.





# A Message from the Treasurer

In my first year as Treasurer, it is especially rewarding to report on the continued financial strength and stability of Mass Audubon in Fiscal Year 2013. The strong financial results shown below reflect solid collaboration between the staff and Board of Directors and our shared commitment to managing our finances in the most efficient and effective way. We honor the trust our contributors have in Mass Audubon by holding ourselves to the highest standards of financial ethics and transparency.

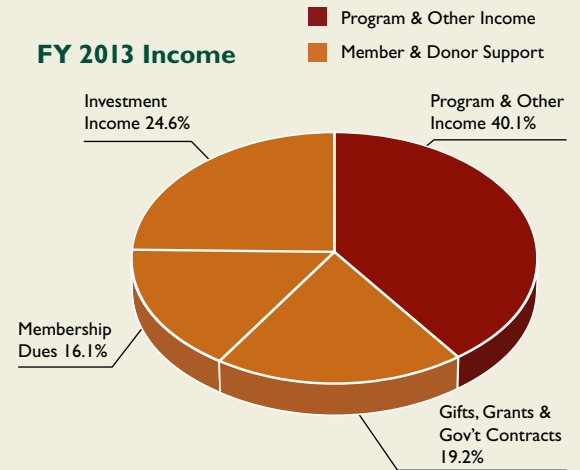
FY 2013 was the tenth year in a row that we successfully achieved our budget targets. Membership income and program income again exceeded all previous income records. The loyalty of our members, and the enthusiasm with which our visitors and program participants embrace our educational offerings, make these results even more meaningful. Thanks to the generosity of individual and institutional funders, income from gifts, grants, and government contracts was also robust. Finally, our investment income remains strong, thanks to the prudent management of our endowment guided by the Board of Directors.

The changes in our nation's economy and specific cost increases continue to challenge us, as they do for most nonprofits. Despite this, we kept our expenses in line with our budget due to solid discipline and excellent planning.

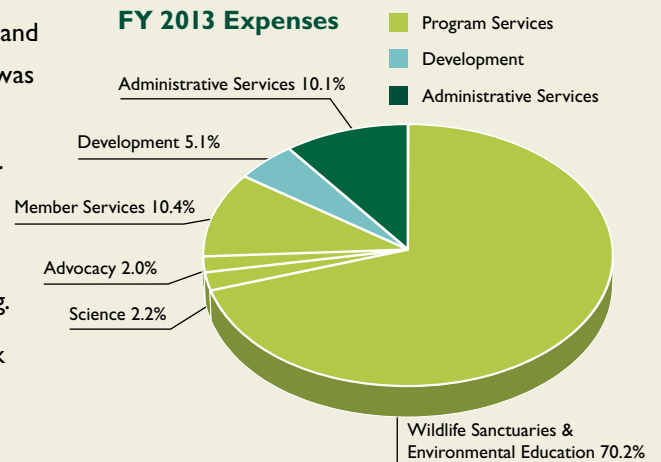
Sustaining a strong and stable Mass Audubon is a team effort, and we thank everyone who has played a role to help us hit a home run this year.

  
James Sperling, Treasurer

## FY 2013 Income



## FY 2013 Expenses



## Operating Results

	FY 2013	FY 2012	FY 2011
Gifts, Grants, & Government Contracts	\$3,998,660	\$3,772,906	\$3,749,781
Membership Dues	3,362,275	3,269,928	3,172,859
Program Income	7,614,366	7,052,026	6,888,743
Investment Income	5,142,365	5,081,280	5,124,347
Other Income	758,236	783,988	195,281
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>\$20,875,902</b>	<b>\$19,960,128</b>	<b>\$19,131,011</b>
Salary and Benefits	\$16,355,749	\$15,710,619	\$14,791,657
Non-Salary Program Expenses	5,344,488	5,002,178	4,873,839
Other Expenses	(575,263)	(503,623)	(301,275)
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$21,124,974</b>	<b>\$20,209,174</b>	<b>\$19,364,221</b>
Operating Deficit	\$(249,072)	\$(249,046)	\$(233,210)
Unrestricted Bequests	\$369,577	\$356,491	\$234,155
<b>Results Including Unrestricted Bequests*</b>	<b>\$120,505</b>	<b>\$107,445</b>	<b>\$945</b>

\*Pursuant to Mass Audubon financial policies, unrestricted bequests are added to a Board reserve fund, which is available for capital projects (e.g. land purchase, energy conservation, all-person accessibility, and major building repairs) and other special Board withdrawals. However, accounting principles require that unrestricted bequests be reported in the operating fund. A complete copy of the audited financial statements is available upon request from Mass Audubon Vice President for Operations Bancroft Poor. Members should feel free to contact him at 781-259-2110 or bpoor@massaudubon.org with any questions about Mass Audubon's finances.



# Supporters

Mass Audubon gratefully acknowledges the individuals, foundations, corporations, and government agencies whose generous financial contributions and pledges provided critical support for our conservation, education, and advocacy efforts between July 1, 2012, and June 30, 2013. We are pleased to recognize the leading contributors and express our gratitude to our more than 100,000 members. For gifts of land during this period, see pages 8-9.



Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary's "Farm Ecologists"

## Symbol Key:

★ a Visionary – an individual who has provided \$2,500 or more in support for Mass Audubon's general operations or operating support for a particular sanctuary or program

✿ an individual who passed away this year

Every effort was made to accurately reflect each contributor. If you find an error in the list, please accept our sincere apology and contact the Development Office at 781-259-2123.

*We wish to thank the following gift funds and foundations, which recommended grants to Mass Audubon through donor advised funds and other giving vehicles during Fiscal Year 2013:*

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## Conservation for Generations

*Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary would not be all that it is today without the support of Judy and Tony King. The generous couple helped to establish the Worcester sanctuary, transforming it into a hub of environmental education and advocacy in central Massachusetts.*

*The Kings have passed on their conservation values*

*to three subsequent generations, including daughter Jennifer Paradee and her husband, Brad, who carry on the family love of nature.*

*"Mass Audubon has always been part of my life," says Jennifer. "When my daughter was young, I would take her to Broadmoor and Drumlin Farm. Now, I take our granddaughter there."*

*I am proud of what Mass Audubon does and I'm proud to be a member."*



## A Legacy of Leadership

*This year, Mass Audubon lost an inspirational leader and dear friend with the passing of Priscilla Bailey. The wife of Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary's founding director, Wallace Bailey, Priscilla played an instrumental role in helping the sanctuary to flourish. Upon her death, Priscilla bestowed us with the ultimate honor by*



*leaving her estate to Mass Audubon, which will endow Wellfleet Bay's ongoing conservation and education work on the Cape.*

*Bob Prescott, director of Wellfleet Bay, says,*

***"Priscilla was the 'First Lady' of our sanctuary for more than 50 years, and her legacy will live on in all that we do."***

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*Thoughtful gifts were  
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*MathWorks of  
Natick has a com-  
pelling Social Mis-  
sion: give back to the  
local communities  
where it operates  
and promote social  
and environmental  
responsibility.*

*The company  
has fully  
embraced this  
mission by  
becoming an  
active supporter*

*of our  
conservation  
initiatives on  
many levels.*

*It continues to  
provide financial and  
hands-on support to  
Mass Audubon with  
generous corporate  
contributions and  
employee volunteers  
who make a signifi-  
cant impact at our  
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*The following individuals have established a life income arrangement with Mass Audubon or have named the organization as a beneficiary in their will or estate.*

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Deborah C. Almy  
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## Everyday Heroes

Deputy Chief Allen Manley Jr. of the Westport Fire Department had a problem: barn swallows nesting in the middle of the station garage. Though the firefighters all agreed that the swallows were adorable, Manley was concerned about safety—so he sought our advice. Joan Walsh, Director of Bird Monitoring, helped him protect the nest and keep space for the firefighters' activities.

The Westport Fire Department's reward: the sight of four healthy young swallows fledging.

Henry H. Cutler  
Madeline C. Day  
Peter Dec  
William P. Densmore  
Sol Derewetzky  
Elizabeth Desaulniers  
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Donna DiCiaccio  
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