



Mass Audubon

Annual Report

2016

For the members and supporters of Mass Audubon



SPECIAL LAND EDITION



Mass Audubon protects 36,500 acres of land throughout Massachusetts, saving birds and other wildlife, and making nature accessible to all. As Massachusetts' largest nature conservation nonprofit, we welcome more than a half million visitors a year to our wildlife sanctuaries and 20 nature centers. From inspiring hilltop views to breathtaking coastal landscapes, serene woods, and working farms, we believe in protecting our state's natural treasures for wildlife and for all people—a vision shared in 1896 by our founders, two extraordinary Boston women. Today, Mass Audubon is a nationally recognized environmental education leader, offering thousands of camp, school, and adult programs that get over 225,000 kids and adults outdoors every year. With more than 125,000 members and supporters, we advocate on Beacon Hill and beyond, and conduct conservation research to preserve the natural heritage of our beautiful state for today's and future generations. We welcome you to explore a nearby sanctuary, find inspiration, and get involved. Learn how at massaudubon.org.

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Connect with us



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A century ago, Mass Audubon established its first wildlife sanctuary. Since then, we have added hundreds of properties that have become extraordinary statewide resources to connect people with nature. Our sanctuaries provide protection for native plants and animals, locations for important scientific research and ecological management, and places where people from all walks of life can explore, learn, have fun, and relax.

Why we choose to protect any individual parcel of land is unique: to help protect a particular species, such as terrapin turtles on Cape Cod; to expand our sanctuary borders, such as at Fieldstone Farm in Princeton; and sometimes, like at Tidmarsh Farms in Plymouth, to provide access to nature in a new neighborhood or community. The land protection “ride” is as wonderful and wild, at times, as the land itself.

Massachusetts is home to a complex mosaic of landscapes and associated habitats, often rich in biodiversity. It takes an equally complex mix of techniques to acquire and steward land. When we consider our work in the context of conserving habitats that help to address the impacts of climate change, it creates new urgency for our efforts and pushes us to seek innovative conservation strategies and tools. This report highlights a number of success stories and the methods we used to protect over 1,200 acres this year—a high watermark for recent years!

Looking back, one thing is clear. Mass Audubon could not do this work without the support, inspiration, and energy we receive from our members, donors, volunteers, and community and government partners. We thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you at a wildlife sanctuary. There's sure to be one close by waiting just for you!

Jared Chase
Chair, Board of Directors

Gary Clayton
President



440
terrapins

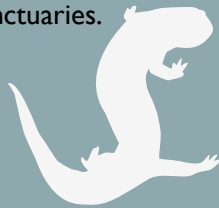
hatched from the two-acre Terrapin Cove in Eastham, which Mass Audubon and the town recently protected from future development. That's 92 more hatchlings than last year.

287%

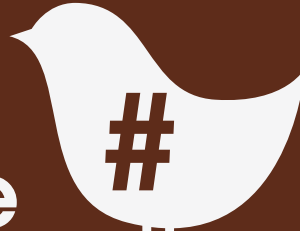
increase of land protected
by Mass Audubon in FY2016, as
compared to the previous year.

**20 out
of 21**

amphibian species
in Massachusetts can be
found at Mass Audubon's
wildlife sanctuaries.



By
the



NUMBERS
2016

75%

of the 1,538 total
native plant species
in Massachusetts can be
found at Mass Audubon's
wildlife sanctuaries.

12,000
new members

joined Mass Audubon this
year—an all-time high.



87%

of Massachusetts dragonfly
and damselfly species

can be found at
Mass Audubon's wildlife sanctuaries.

10,000
campers

attended one of Mass Audubon's
18 day camps and Wildwood
overnight camp.

600
bobolinks

successfully fledged from
farms around New England
thanks to the innovative
Bobolink Project, which raised
money to pay farmers to
delay haying their fields.



LAND Conservation List

This Annual Report highlights just some of Mass Audubon's many land conservation efforts over the past year. The following summary details the 12 projects in fiscal year 2016 that culminated in protecting 1,234 acres of important habitat. Mass Audubon now permanently protects more than 36,500 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. We are grateful for the conservation community—generous individuals, foundations, families, businesses, communities, and public and private partners—which makes this work possible.

Land Protected by Mass Audubon within the Past 12 Months

Total Acres Conserved within
the Past 12 Months 1,234 acres

Land Under Mass Audubon Stewardship as of June 30, 2016

Acres Owned by Mass Audubon 30,191.3

Acres under Mass Audubon
Conservation Restrictions 5,662.9

Total Acres of Conserved Land 36,779.2

Gifts of Sanctuary Land

Mason Phelps Estate

Whetstone Wood Wildlife Sanctuary, Wendell • 228.7 Acres

This estate gift capped off a 55-year effort by Mason and Ina Phelps to create a large landscape of conserved land in the north Quabbin region to be managed in perpetuity as wildland. These parcels were a longstanding priority for protection and were also designated as Critical Natural Landscape in the BioMap2*. The Whetstone Wood Wildlife Sanctuary, now the largest Mass Audubon wildlife sanctuary in Massachusetts, will be managed explicitly to minimize human impact and gain knowledge about wildlands stewardship in the years to come.

Cora Nunnally Miller Revocable Trust

Cold Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Otis and Sandisfield
255.13 Acres

Conveyed to Mass Audubon upon the passing of longtime Mass Audubon supporter and Berkshire conservationist Cora Miller, these properties comprise rich mesic forest, early successional habitat, and frontage along the Farmington River. For more information about this property, see page 10.

Dudley D. Williams III and Judith B. Williams

West Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary, Plainfield • 100 Acres

The protection of this land, made possible by the generosity of longtime friends of Mass Audubon, had been a longstanding priority for Mass Audubon at West Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary. As part of a corridor linking the sanctuary and the Kenneth Dubuque State Forest, this protected land will make the larger protected landscape more resilient to the adverse impacts of climate change by creating a more diverse and complex habitat.

Patricia Reder

West Branch Wildlife Sanctuary, Heath • 50 Acres

This land, just west of Greenfield, includes frontage on the West Branch of the North River, an exemplary cold-water stream that is of growing conservation interest. This generous gift also protects high-quality mesic forest, an unusual forest community that includes a number of state-listed rare and uncommon plant species.

Heirs of Mitchell T. Wolak Estate

Rough Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary, Rowley • 4.75 Acres

The Wolak Estate parcel was a longtime identified protection priority and designated as Core Habitat in the BioMap2*. Incorporating these 4.75 acres into the existing sanctuary provides important opportunities for the migration of salt marsh as sea level continues to rise in the coming years.

John and Janet Fuller

Stony Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Norfolk • 6.4 Acres

Longtime friends of Mass Audubon donated their historic house and 6.4 acres of land immediately adjacent to Stony Brook Wildlife Sanctuary in Norfolk. A Conservation Restriction, held by the Metacomet Land Trust, also protects this land added to the sanctuary. To learn more about this transaction, see page 10.



- Sound Finances
- Ethical Conduct
- Responsible Governance
- Lasting Stewardship

Purchases of Sanctuary Land

Fieldstone Farm LLC

Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, Princeton

264 Acres

In one of its most ambitious and complex land protection projects, Mass Audubon teamed up with the Princeton Land Trust and a host of conservation partners to protect Fieldstone Farm, an iconic 268-acre former dairy farm near the center of Princeton. Ultimately, Mass Audubon retained 21 acres for addition to the sanctuary, protecting a vulnerable and scenic ridgeline. For more information see page 9.

Patten Hill Farm Trust

High Ledges Wildlife Sanctuary, Shelburne • 167 Acres

The conservation-minded owners of Patten Hill Farm sold 167 acres of forest abutting High Ledges Wildlife Sanctuary at a generous bargain sale to Mass Audubon, in partnership with the Franklin Land Trust. A longstanding priority for protection, the property's high-quality forest, beaver ponds, and streams enlarge the sanctuary's area of protected contiguous forest and rank high on a number of statewide indicators of ecological and scenic value. For more information see page 8.

Gifts of Conservation Restrictions

City of Northampton

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Northampton • 17 Acres

Mass Audubon and the City of Northampton continued a longstanding conservation partnership by protecting 17 acres of woodland just west of Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary and adjacent to the city's Rocky Hill Greenway property. The parcel is part of a group of properties that comprise an important wildlife corridor between Arcadia and the open lands in the western part of the city. This area has been the focus of several collaborations between Mass Audubon and the city in recent years.



Cold Brook Wildlife Sanctuary

Purchases of Conservation Restrictions

Town of Eastham

Eastham • 1.6 Acres

In a successful partnership effort, Mass Audubon, the Eastham Conservation Foundation, the Town of Eastham, and the Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts collaborated to protect this relatively small but important diamondback terrapin nesting site located in Bee's River Marsh. For more information see page 5.

City of Attleboro

Attleboro • 80.3 Acres

Continuing the partnership with the City of Attleboro and the Attleboro Land Trust (ALT), Mass Audubon and ALT assisted the city's efforts in holding a Conservation Restriction on an abutting 80 acres. The property contains a vast segment of Thatcher Brook, has extensive high-quality wetlands, and links Attleboro Springs Wildlife Sanctuary to a large, undeveloped, semi-protected property owned by the city, enhancing the ecological value of this extensive natural area.

Thomas and Steven Richardson and the Attleboro Land Trust

Attleboro • 60 Acres

In a series of transactions, Mass Audubon facilitated the creation of the Deborah and Roger Richardson Nature Preserve with the Attleboro Land Trust, the City of Attleboro, and the Richardson brothers. These 60-plus acres of field, forest, and wetlands include a segment of Chartley Brook, a major conservation focus in the city, and anchor one end of a 350-acre natural area that the land trust and city hope to conserve in the future.

**Authored by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species program, BioMap2 guides strategic conservation by focusing land protection and stewardship on the areas that are most critical for ensuring the long-term persistence of rare and other native species and their habitats, exemplary natural communities, and a diversity of ecosystems.*

massaudubon.org/land



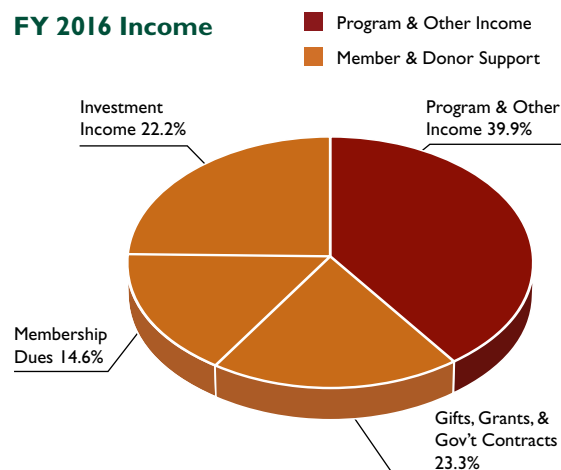
Deborah and Roger Richardson Nature Preserve

Fiscal Year 2016 Highlights

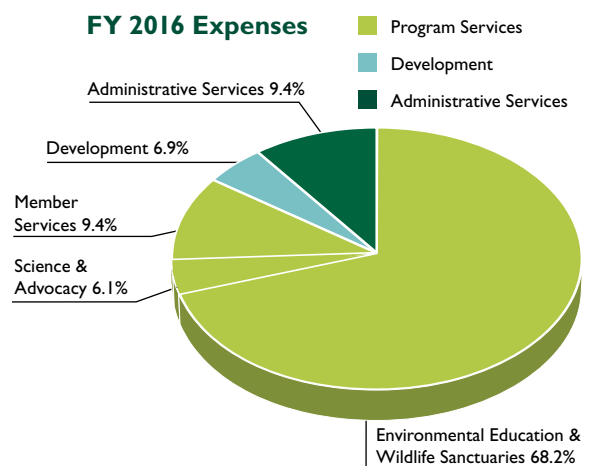
- We celebrated 13 years of a balanced budget and exceeded targets in all income categories, making this the strongest financial year in our history.
- 125,000 loyal members helped us reach an all-time high in membership participation and income.
- Kids and adults participated in 176,000 mission-based programs and events, which resulted in a record-setting year for earned income.
- We earned a 4-Star Rating from Charity Navigator, reflecting our excellent financial results and governance practices, for the fourth year in a row.
- 12,947 gifts and grants from generous individuals, foundations, corporations, and government partners combined to make this one of the strongest fundraising years in our history.
- Enhancing our educational facilities and protecting additional land attracted \$3 million of contributed income.
- \$6.4 million received from bequests and legacies will provide for long-term sustainability.

Mass Audubon recognizes with deep gratitude the members, staff, volunteers, funders, and key partners who helped us achieve these milestones. You have bolstered our resources and strengthened our resolve to advance conservation and overcome the many challenges facing our natural world.

FY 2016 Income



FY 2016 Expenses



Operating Results

	FY 2016	FY 2015	FY 2014
Gifts, Grants, & Government Contracts	\$5,470,959	\$4,565,385	\$5,028,713
Budgeted Unrestricted Bequests*	250,000	250,000	250,000
Membership Dues	3,582,643	3,438,887	3,396,060
Program Income	9,945,453	8,923,077	8,087,826
Investment Income	5,435,892	5,333,001	5,092,132
Other Income **	(-176,399)	497,714	(-272,966)
Total Operating Income	\$24,508,548	\$23,008,064	\$21,581,765
Environmental Education & Wildlife Sanctuaries	\$16,723,590	\$15,869,428	\$14,990,052
Science & Advocacy	1,494,644	1,386,833	955,064
Member Services	2,293,414	2,330,142	2,173,549
Administrative Services	2,293,602	2,174,490	2,245,987
Development	1,703,100	1,246,882	1,216,866
Total Operating Expenses	\$24,508,350	\$23,007,775	\$21,581,518
Operating Surplus	\$198	\$289	\$247

* An additional \$3,434,683 was received in unrestricted bequests in FY 2016. These critical funds are added to a Board reserve fund, which is available for special investments such as land purchases, energy conservation, all-person accessibility, and major building repairs.

** Income received as restricted operating funds being transferred to a subsequent fiscal year.

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.



Terrapin Crossing

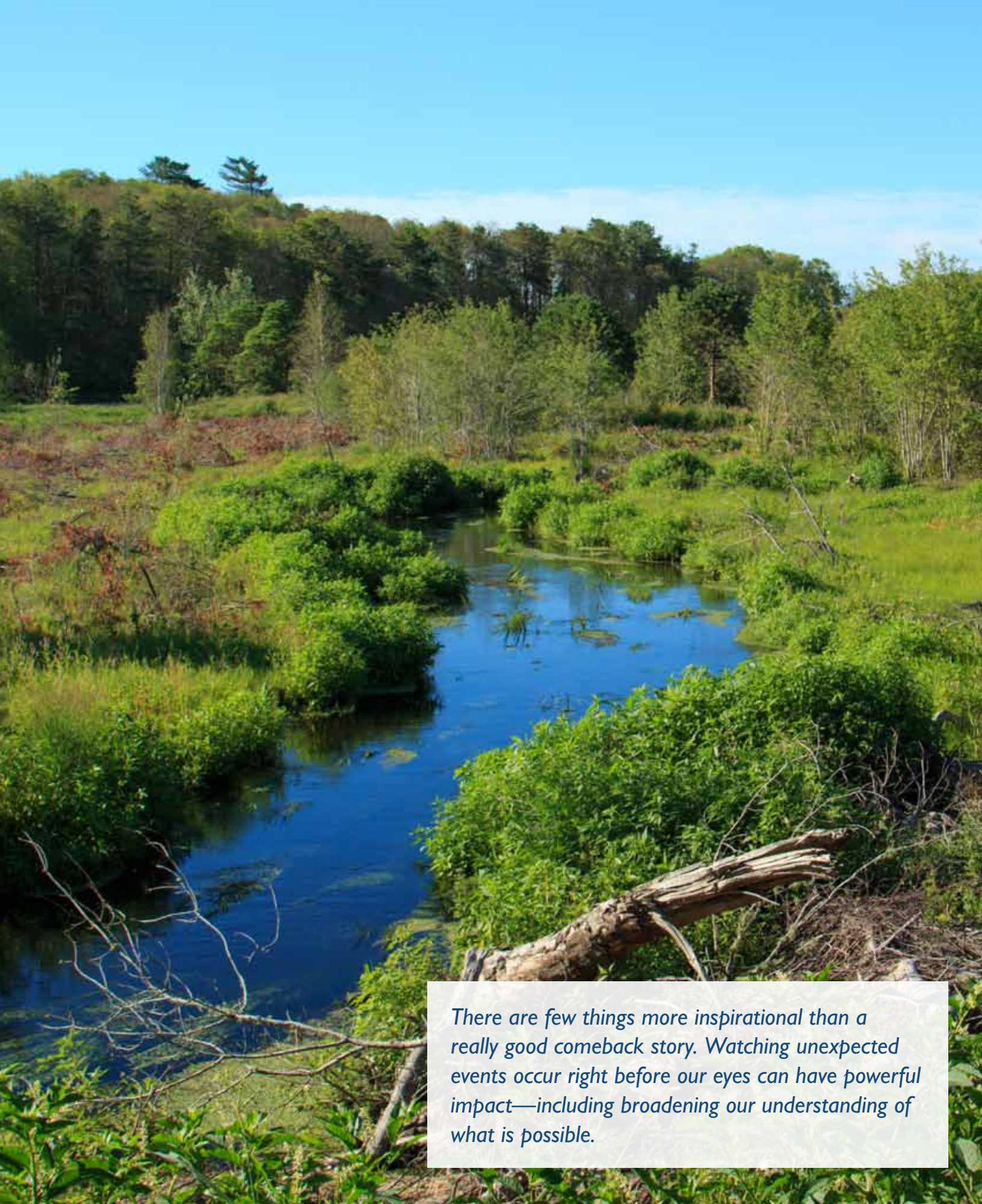
At times, protecting a small pocket of land can have an outsized conservation impact. This past summer, Mass Audubon's quest to permanently protect Terrapin Cove in Eastham came to a successful conclusion. The Town of Eastham, which had previously acquired the property, recorded a Conservation Restriction (CR) on the 1.6-acre property located at the edge of Eastham's Herring (Bee's) River salt marsh, to be co-owned by Mass Audubon and our local land trust partner, the Eastham Conservation Foundation.

Terrapin Cove's future had been in jeopardy: the landowners needed to sell, and they graciously agreed to a bargain sale for conservation. Mass Audubon partnered with the town of Eastham, the Eastham Conservation Foundation, and The Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts to raise the funds. Town residents strengthened these efforts by voting for Community Preservation Act funds, and donations from generous individuals put us over the top.

The final step was the CR, a tool that conservation organizations use to protect land when owning it is not possible by permanently restricting its use. This CR enables Mass Audubon to continue managing this critical nesting spot for diamondback terrapins and ensures that the property remains in conservation use forever.

Terrapin Cove is already living up to its name: this year, 440 terrapins hatched from 41 nests. That's 92 more terrapin hatchlings than last year, and all from the conservation of just 1.6 acres of critical habitat.





There are few things more inspirational than a really good comeback story. Watching unexpected events occur right before our eyes can have powerful impact—including broadening our understanding of what is possible.

Nature Makes a Comeback at Tidmarsh Farms

Such an unlikely spectacle is taking place at Tidmarsh Farms in Plymouth. The 600-acre property once hosted a sea-run, cold-water stream, multiple pristine upwelling springs, and a diversity of habitats, plants, and animals. Beginning in the 1880's, the property was transformed into a massive cranberry farm. The changes were significant. Many dams were constructed to manage the flow of water for agriculture. The meandering stream was straightened and partially filled to serve its new role as an agricultural channel. And the diverse landscape was transformed into a monoculture of commercially cultivated cranberries.

For those who assume that you can't get nature back once it is gone, what has transpired at Tidmarsh in recent years, and what will unfold in the years to come, is nothing short of inspiring. The property's owners, Evan Schulman and Glorianna Davenport, and their children decided to raise several million dollars to undertake an ambitious ecological restoration of the property. Working in close partnership with the Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration, led by Project Manager Alex Hackman, they oversaw the largest freshwater wetland restoration ever attempted in Massachusetts. With the assistance of ground-penetrating radar, the once pristine cold-water stream was re-established. More than a dozen dams have been removed, enabling the new stream to flow unimpeded to the sea, and fish such as alewife have already returned

to the stream's headwaters for the first time in more than a century. In addition, the original diversity of the landscape has been restored, with at least six distinct habitat types present once again.

Scientific monitoring of the restoration will be facilitated, in part, through a promising partnership with the Living Observatory, a new non-profit entity, which will work with academic institutions and others to integrate science and technology in the study of Tidmarsh's recovery. This partnership has great potential to yield exciting citizen-science

opportunities for sanctuary visitors, as well as research possibilities for Mass Audubon scientists.

Mass Audubon is currently striving to raise the significant funds needed to purchase the newly restored Tidmarsh property and establish a staffed wildlife sanctuary in Plymouth for the first time. In doing so, a trail system could allow visitors to learn about the site's evolving ecological restoration, and

enjoy the amazing views and wildlife. Interpretive signage might highlight emerging habitats as part of the property's trajectory of healing and change. Visitors could also monitor the site online via an embedded network of low-power sensors. Ultimately, the dynamic Tidmarsh landscape will provide much-needed hope and optimism in a climate-changing world. Nature is making a real comeback at Tidmarsh!



To learn more and to support the Tidmarsh campaign, visit massaudubon.org/tidmarsh.

Patten Hill Farm

Expanding High Ledges Wildlife Sanctuary

High Ledges Wildlife Sanctuary is breathtaking. Spanning nearly 630 acres, this sanctuary in Shelburne features west-facing views overlooking the great bend in the Deerfield River. High Ledges also has a variety of wildflowers, including yellow lady's slipper orchids, which thrive in the sanctuary's chalky soils. The original sanctuary—some 400 acres—was a gift from Dutch and Mary Barnard in 1970. Since then, more than 200 acres have been added through seven separate gifts and purchases.

Patten Hill Farm, adjacent to High Ledges, is a spectacular 230-acre mountaintop property with dramatic views north to Vermont. This farm's woodland, comprised primarily of mixed hardwood, pine, and hemlock forest with dramatic ravines and streams, is an extension of the contiguous forest and rare species habitat that make High Ledges so ecologically valuable. It is also an important piece of the landscape puzzle—essential for protecting the integrity of the sanctuary.

Five couples bought the Patten Hill Farm property together in 1968. Mass Audubon stayed in touch with them over the years, and then three years ago, the three remaining families asked for our help planning the future of the property. They wanted to protect the farm, generate funds to maintain the property, and leave the core of the property to the next generation. After many months of discussion, the owners agreed to sell the most ecologically important 167 acres to Mass Audubon for well below market value.

Thanks to the landowners, the generous support of the local community, Mass Audubon members, private foundations, and state grant funds, Mass Audubon was able to acquire this property this past June in order to preserve its beauty and ecological integrity forever.





Fieldstone Farm

Enriching Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary

This year, the Princeton Land Trust, the Town of Princeton, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and Mass Audubon teamed up to conserve Fieldstone Farm in Princeton. One of the oldest farms in Princeton, tended by the Smith Family since 1944, it has been a top priority for protection by both Mass Audubon and the town.

The spectacular and highly visible property, adjacent to Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, boasts expansive fields, beautiful stone walls, and a diverse mix of forest, meadow, streams, ponds, and wetlands. The land, which received the highest rating in the Massachusetts Scenic Landscape Inventory, provides habitat for moose, bears, porcupines, bobcats, fishers, and birds—many of which are rare and state-listed endangered species. In addition, the wetlands are classified as a Surface Water Supply Protection Area, protecting the City of Worcester’s drinking water.

Thanks to more than 175 individual donors and foundations, including support from Secretary Matthew Beaton and the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the Town of Princeton, and the City of Worcester, Mass Audubon secured \$3 million to permanently protect more than 180 acres, of which 22 will be added to Mass Audubon’s Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary. The Town of Princeton Conservation Commission and the Princeton Land Trust will own the rest. Another 60 acres—the agricultural core of the farm—was acquired for future protection and transfer to a local farmer.



A Conservation Legacy

Cora N. Miller was a strong woman known for her sparkling wit and sharp intellect. She had a passion for champion whippets, horses, gemstones, travel, the University of Georgia, and the rolling hills and mountains of the Berkshires, to name a few. She was quietly generous with people, animals, and charities. She also possessed a steadfast commitment to land conservation.

In collaboration with Mass Audubon's Land Conservation team, her foresight and generosity created a remarkable legacy. Through numerous financial gifts for land protection, gifts of land, and her own property, including one subject to a retained life estate, Cora helped assemble what is now Cold Brook Wildlife Sanctuary. Its 1,000 protected acres in Otis provide a critical link that connects large



tracts of conservation land in the Berkshires and includes such breathtaking scenery as Cold Brook—the sanctuary's namesake—which fronts the Farmington River, as well as scenic and beautiful freshwater ponds and lakes, woodlands, fields, and wetlands.

In concert with her gifts of land, Cora left a final gift to fund the start of the Cold Brook Wildlife Sanctuary

Endowment Fund. This gift will help provide for the long-term stewardship of the sanctuary. Once we install signage, build trails, and prepare it for public visitation, Cold Brook Wildlife Sanctuary will be another Berkshire Sanctuary gem, where Mass Audubon can showcase its leadership in land and habitat protection, teach visitors about the sanctuary's ecology, and share the wonders of the outdoors with the children and families of western Massachusetts.

A Home for Stony Brook

When Solomon Blake built his home on the Stony Brook in Norfolk in the late 18th century, he could never have imagined that one day it would fuel environmental education. But that is exactly what happened thanks to the foresighted generosity of Janet and John Fuller. John's step-grandmother and ardent conservationist, Agnes Bristol,

grew up in the Solomon Blake house and gave some of her property to Mass Audubon to create Stony Brook Wildlife Sanctuary; other family lands became the Bristol-Blake State Reservation. Ultimately she passed the home to John and Janet, who are longtime friends and supporters of Mass Audubon, with John serving on the Board for many years.

When Janet and John decided it was time to leave their home, they made the generous decision to deed the property to Mass Audubon. The gift was made with the



understanding that the proceeds from the sale of the house would create an endowment that would support education programs at Stony Brook in perpetuity, and that the majority of the property's lot would be added to the sanctuary. But it didn't stop there. The Fullers and Mass Audubon worked with Historic New England, the regional heritage organization,

to secure a preservation restriction on the house that will ensure its historical character is well-documented and protected into the future. The house also carries a Conservation Legacy Agreement which guarantees that a small percentage of the home's future sales will be added to the sanctuary endowment each time the property is sold.

Complicated? Yes. Worth it? Absolutely! Thanks to the Fullers' generosity and creative protection tools, Stony Brook Wildlife Sanctuary will continue to thrive and introduce visitors to the wonders of the natural world.

Celebrating 100 years of Wildlife Sanctuaries

On April 9th, the 100th day of the year, Mass Audubon welcomed more than 5,000 visitors across the state—a mix of longtime members and first-time visitors—to celebrate the centennial of our wildlife sanctuaries. They went for guided bird walks, met friendly farm animals, and joined fun, hands-on nature activities with their kids. As always, our goal is that each visitor learns—many for the first time—to appreciate nature in a new way.

This is what it's all about. Our wildlife sanctuaries and nature centers embody our commitment to species protection and biodiversity, and to sharing our knowledge and passion for nature with the people of Massachusetts. And it all began a century ago, in Sharon.

In 1916, the Moose Hill Bird Sanctuary was established when

Dr. George W. Field offered his estate to Mass Audubon to attract both birds and the people who love them. The hope was that this first sanctuary could be used as a model to establish others across the state. One hundred years later, we've realized that dream and expanded it in ways those first pioneers could never have imagined, with dozens of wildlife sanctuaries to explore, from the Berkshires to the Cape and Islands, and more in the works.

The Sanctuaries 100th Celebration was a tremendous success, both in reminding members what they love about Mass Audubon and in welcoming and encouraging newcomers to experience the wonders our wildlife sanctuaries have to offer.





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, 2015 and June 30, 2016. We are pleased to recognize the leading contributors and express our gratitude to our more than 100,000 members. Please note that this does not include membership dues except at the \$750 level. For gifts of land during this period, see page 2-3.

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 2015:

Ayco Charitable Foundation
The Boston Foundation
BNY Mellon Charitable Gift Fund
The Cape Cod Foundation:
A Community Foundation
Combined Jewish Philanthropies
Community Foundation of New Jersey
Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts
Essex County Community Foundation
Fidelity Charitable
Fleet Charitable Gift Fund
Greater Kansas City Community Foundation
The New York Community Trust
Santa Barbara Foundation
Schwab Charitable Fund
Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program

Leadership Friends Program

Including individuals and individuals giving through foundations

Founder's Circle: Platinum

\$25,000+

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\$10,000–\$24,999

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Founder's Circle: Silver

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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What do you get when you combine wonderful food, a great band, and gorgeous views?

The Summer Soirée! This fabulous, first-of-its-kind event at Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary in Barnstable brought together over 100 generous people and raised funds to support critical education and citizen-science initiatives. Thank you to all the attendees, sponsors, and chefs who made the evening a success. Look for your chance to go next year!

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Wild Thing 5k Supports Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary

An unusual kind of wild thing showed up in Lenox, MA. No fur or feathers, but lots of feet! More than 200 runners ran the inaugural Wild Thing 5K in support of our efforts in the Berkshires. Olympians may have gone for the gold in 2016, but our runners went for green!

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Celebrating 10 Years of Statewide Volunteer Day

Caring for our land takes a lot of work. Thankfully, we get a lot of help year in and year out from dedicated volunteers across the state. This year, 627 volunteers pitched in at 19 different sanctuaries to help make our 10th annual Statewide Volunteer Day a huge success.



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Broad Meadow Brook Celebrates 25 Years

The 25th-anniversary celebration at Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary in Worcester took place in June. Topping off the day was the announcement of the successful culmination of the \$2.74 million capital campaign, which included the dedication of the new, "net-zero" environmental education center named in honor of Barbara Fargo, a Mass Audubon Honorary Board and Council Member.



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