



ANNUAL REPORT

ASHBY LAND TRUST

2014



The mission of the Ashby Land Trust is to preserve the natural resources and rural character of Ashby.

The Ashby Land Trust is a 501 c(3) charitable organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

Ashby Land Trust FY'14 Financial Results

	2014 Budget	2014 Actual	2015 Budget
Income			
Total Income	\$ 3,040.00	\$ 5,106.16	\$ 3,040.00
Expenses			
Administration Total	\$ 6,485.00	\$ 5,132.53	\$ 7,185.00
Accreditation Total (excluding filing fee)	\$ 4,250.00	\$ 1,362.53	\$ 4,850.00
Monitoring Total	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Member Services Total	\$ 145.00	\$ 610.08	\$ 150.00
Program Expenses Total	\$ 500.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 550.00
Expenses Total	\$ 7,130.00	\$ 6,142.61	\$ 7,885.00
Net Income	\$ (4,090.00)	\$ (1,036.45)	\$ (4,845.00)
Assets Total		\$ 19,293.70	

Board and Members



The Ashby Land Trust is an all volunteer organization, as strong as the membership and its active committed Board. All members are welcome to participate at all levels of the organization, including becoming members of the Board of Directors. Would you consider becoming an active part of the Land Trust? There are many ways you can participate – participating in hikes and events, helping organize special events, taking on special projects, increasing your financial contribution and joining the Board.

Alan Ewald, President
Jeanie Lindquist, VP
Doug Leab, Treasurer
Janet Flinkstrom, Secretary
Bob Leary
Michael McCallum
Sue Chapman
Sarah Berlinger

John Berlinger
Tom Mikes
Janet Morrison
Bill Arnold
Chris Ewald
Julie & Dave McIntyre

Wayne & Linda Stacy
Cec Snow & Clare Deucher
Matthew & Carol McKew
Florence Bryan
Robert Bertram
Ron & Teresa Airey
Garry & Dianne Baer
Bob & Betsy Higgins-Steele
Roberta Flashman
Lennart & Grace Swanson
Sussie Holzberlein
Tracy Robinson-Harris
Marion Stoddart
Lois & Bob Raymond
Scott & Ingrid Sweeney

James Piper
Donna Leonard
Deirdre Haynie &
Al Futterman
Wm Davis, Joan Jason &
Erik Stackhouse
Ken & Karen Brown
Bob Bedard
Oliver Mutch & Janice Miller
Anne & Mike Reggio
Evie & Garry Gleckel
Judith & Mark Sumner
Adam Art
Myra Chapman
John & Pat Bilotti

Arthur & Susanne Skolnik
Caryl M. Leeds
Christopher Allen
The Rourke Family
Al Crocker & Stephanie Cassano
(Jewell Hill Farm)
June & Brendan McNeil
Norm & JoAnn Pierce
Kathleen Panagiotes
Nancy Haines
Mount Grace Land
Conservation Trust
John & Vicki Mickola
Rebecca Walsh
Cedwyn & Martha Morgan



Summit view from
Blood Hill.



Join the monitoring
committee.



One of many
stonewalls in Ashby.

Ashby Land Trust Earns National Recognition

Accreditation Awarded by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission



January through April 2014 was an extremely busy time for the Land Trust. In January, we submitted our pre-application for Accreditation and were notified in February that we had met the requirements to submit the full application in April.

The application itself was over 40 pages with questions requiring explicit responses and supporting documentation for each. It was a tedious process, requiring over 200 hours of work. Jeanie Lindquist was the project lead overseeing the completion of the application, ably assisted by the Board and additional helpers: Alan Ewald, Michael McCallum, Janet Flinkstrom, Bob Leary, Sue Chapman, Amy Aubertin, Ken Brown, and Chris Ewald.

The Ashby Land Trust is pleased to announce that it has achieved land trust accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. The Ashby Land Trust is one of

only a handful of all-volunteer land trusts to be accredited, and is one of only 301 land trusts nationwide that has been awarded accreditation since the fall of 2008.

"The Ashby Land Trust's accredited status demonstrates our commitment to permanent land conservation that benefits the entire community," says Alan Ewald, President. "Our land trust is a stronger organization today having gone through the rigorous accreditation program."

"We founded the Ashby Land Trust because we loved our town and a rural way of life. We wanted to preserve enough land so that our children's children could have a chance for a similar life," said Jeanie Lindquist, the founding President of the land trust. "We're three quarters of the way to our land protection goals and accreditation is a solid step towards ensuring the trust's longevity."

"This round of accreditation decisions represents another significant milestone for the accreditation program; the accredited land trusts account for more than three quarters of the 20,645,165 acres currently owned in fee or protected by a conservation easement held by a land trust," said Commission Executive Director Tammara Van Ryn.

The Ashby Land Trust was founded in 1998 and works to preserve the natural resources and rural character of the town of Ashby, Massachusetts. To date, the land trust has worked with 18 conservation-minded landowners, the towns of Ashby and Ashburnham, local conservation organizations, and state and federal agencies to successfully protect over 1,500 acres of open space in Ashby.

Most recently, the Ashby Land Trust collaborated with the Nashua River Watershed Association and the Ashby Conservation Commission to protect 8 properties with working farms and forests through the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Legacy grant program.

Over the coming years, the land trust will be increasing its focus on

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The Ashby Land Trust was awarded accreditation this February and is one of only 301 land trusts nationwide that has been awarded accreditation since the fall of 2008.

Accreditation (continued)

promoting an outdoor lifestyle through recreational events and education. "We welcome new members who want to be a part of a local outdoors organization," said Ewald.

With only 11 accredited land trusts in Massachusetts, we are proud of our accomplishment and of our land trust. Our policies are sound, our implementation is effective and our base of volunteers is competent and committed.

We are looking forward to turning our attention back to the work we love to do – enjoying and conserving land in Ashby.

Monitoring

Monitoring is a yearly requirement on all the conservation restrictions. It involves walking the properties to verify that all the requirements under the restriction are being followed and that none of the bordering abutters have infringed on the property.

This past year the monitoring committee completed the monitoring of all our properties as required for Land Trust certification. The annual monitoring for the properties on which the Ashby Land Trust holds a Conservation Restriction includes the following:

- Morrison Property
- South Road Fields
- Arnold Property
- Wiita Conservation Land (Blood Hill)

A special thanks to Dan Ewald for his help on the Arnold Property and Doug Leab for both a long, snowy monitoring trek around the borders of Blood Hill and his accomplishment of marking the boundaries of the large Blood Hill Property.

Bob Leary

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Wiita Conservation Land (Blood Hill)

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