

CONSERVATION, *together*



SELT

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



A NEIGHBORLY DAY *in* THE BEAUTYWOOD

In his poem *Mending Wall*, the immortal Robert Frost famously ended his poem with the line “Good fences make good neighbors.” There is certainly wisdom to this expression in a good old-fashioned Yankee context, but when I reflect on the year that was for SELT, I think I’m more of a Mr. Rogers guy: “It’s a beautiful day in the neighborhood – a beautiful day for a neighbor.”

That was the theme for 2022, the year that we moved into our brand-new home at The Nan and George Mathey Center for People and Nature at Burley Farms in Epping. The world of land conservation is all about cultivating relationships with neighbors: from the collaboration with allies and landowners for a conservation project to the interaction with abutters of our conserved lands to the myriad outreach programs, field trips and events, SELT is all about coming together as community to celebrate the beauty and benefits of nature – and protecting it for future generations.



Few experiences last year were more evident of this than TrailFest. What a wonderful way to welcome the community to our new home! Nearly 1,000 people came to Burley Farms for a day of food, family-friendly fun, and loads of nature-flavored activities and exhibits. To be on the ground that day, seeing the smiling faces and the excitement about the great outdoors up close was revelatory.

The Burley Farms and Mathey Center vision had been purely conceptual for so long; and that warm fall day it was all made real. TrailFest wasn’t the only example of our community congregating at Burley: we were thrilled to see so many of our most devoted SELTies come together in person for our Conservation Celebration and a special event honoring the Pratt Family and Nan and George Mathey. Many different field trips, presentations, and workshops used the Burley campus as an unforgettable venue; and the beaver pond, field, and woods of Burley were a hive of activity for children from Epping Elementary School as part of our ATLAS programming. All told, 35% of the programming held at SELT in 2022 happened on our brand-new Burley Farms campus.

As the specter of social distancing and quarantines fades, how fortunate are we to have such a green and gorgeous wonderland to welcome our friends? The answer: incredibly fortunate. Just as we are fortunate to have friends and neighbors like you.

Back to Mr. Rogers, who put it best:

*Neighbors are people who are close to us
And friends are people who are close to our hearts
I like to think of you as my neighbor and my friend*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sam Reid". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sam Reid

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cover: Sandy Goodspeed and Caroline Ruhm enjoy a winter excursion to Harvey’s Kennard Hill Forest. In 2022, SELT installed a new kiosk and parking area to welcome visitors to the property.

Back cover: Top: A walk through the Barkley property in Hampton. Bottom: An aerial view of the Killam easement in Atkinson.

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WHERE CONSERVATION *and* COMMUNITY MEET

HOME SWEET HOME AT BURLEY FARMS

March 2022. That was the first full month of our next chapter. As a team we had packed up our desks, grabbed some select furniture, and toted our voluminous files (conservation project paperwork is no joke!) to make the trip from Exeter to Epping. Since the move, the vision of Burley Farms and The Nan and George Mathey Center for People and Nature connecting people with nature has been more than realized!

Workshops, field trips, and kids' camps have blended with SELT events, partner use, and a steady flow of trail hikers, adding up to a vibrant campus of diverse audiences where users united in an appreciation of the great outdoors.

What awaits us? Much, much, much more!

Above: The Mathey Center was a hive of activity during TrailFest 2022.

BURLEY, BURLIER

THE CONSERVATION OF THE MATHES PROPERTY GROWS BURLEY FARMS IN A BIG WAY

Just before 2022 came to a close, SELT’s crackerjack conservation team closed on the Mathes project, a 129-acre tract now owned and protected by SELT, which runs along the Wild and Scenic Lamprey River. A long sought-after parcel – made even more desirable considering the ballooning development in southeast New Hampshire – the Mathes property brings with it a bounty of conservation and recreational potential.

The Mathes property contains nearly one mile of shoreline on the Lamprey River, a key drinking water supply recognized as a “High Priority Water Supply Land” by the NH Department of Environmental

Services (DES). Meanwhile, multiple species of common, rare, and even threatened wildlife call this land their home, and the hundreds of acres of unfragmented land (set within an undeveloped 1000+ acre expanse) provide thoroughfares for wildlife to travel unimpeded.

For the *homo sapiens*, this land has long been a destination for fishing, hunting, and exploration, which will continue with SELT’s ownership. And its adjacency to the Burley Farms campus allows for increased nature-based education and field trip opportunities through a unified 525 acres of SELT land along the river.





THE GEM

A UNIQUE PLACE, A GENEROUS DONATION, AND NOW A FAMILY FOREST IN THE HEART OF DEERFIELD

Charlie Moreno, licensed forester and long-time SELT partner, knew a natural treasure when he saw one. Bill Rix, one of Charlie's clients, had shared his interest in permanently protecting his 80+ acre property in Deerfield, which Charlie had managed.

"The Rix parcel has beautiful, pristine, lengthy frontage on the Lamprey River, with associated wetlands which are great for waterfowl and furbearing mammals," says Charlie. "In addition, it also contains a steep-sided bowl area with older growth forest, and, carefully managed pineland."

Indeed, this property checked so many boxes, this was truly an offer SELT couldn't refuse. Conversations between Bill and Duane Hyde, SELT's Land Conservation Director began in 2020, and the donation and conservation of the property was completed in December 2022. As per Bill's goals, the land will remain in its natural state, open to the public for exploration and hunting.

And that's how the Robert Rix Family Forest was born.

BLUEBERRY TOWN

STEWARDSHIP AT BIRCH RIDGE LOOKS TO BRING BACK A JUICY TRADITION

New Durham has a rich history with blueberries, from when the Abenaki people used fresh and dried blueberries for nutritional and medicinal value and exceptional flavor, to the robust commercial blueberry production that was woven through the twentieth century, particularly on the acres of Birch Ridge.

Today, the management of the 2,600 acre Birch Ridge Community Forest strives to connect the land to the community, with a special focus on bringing back the blueberry fields that once dotted the range.

Birch Ridge includes 33 acres of wild blueberries that need active management to survive and thrive.

To support these habitats, the SELT Stewardship team implemented a timber harvest to remove overstory trees and promote the blueberry understory as outlined in a land management plan created by the community.

“Our land management activities at Birch Ridge were designed to return blueberries to these areas, both for wildlife benefits and to give users something delicious to pick,” says Deborah Goard, Director of Stewardship and Land Engagement. “We look forward to seeing how the blueberries respond, and if they give us a glimpse of the historic Birch Ridge.”

Inset: A group of SELTies embarked on a summer blueberry hike at Birch Ridge Community Forest. CATHERINE ORLOWICZ





FRIDAYS ARE *for* FUN

SELT'S FOREST FRIDAYS GET THE LITTLES EXCITED ABOUT NATURE BIG-TIME

Forest Fridays have become a beloved staple of SELT's outreach program, featuring field trips designed specifically for young children and their families to get outside and get a full morning's worth of nature fun. Nobody summarizes the experience better than our parents:

"We love Forest Friday! Forest Friday offers a great opportunity for our littlest naturalists to become familiar, and fall in love, with the local forests around them. When we first started the program, my 4-year-old would shyly cling to me as we walked through the trees. Now, he runs ahead and leads the pack down a familiar trail, often yelling

as he goes, 'There's the fisher tree! That's where I saw the porcupine! This is where the mushrooms grow! I hope we see a beaver again!' Forest Fridays are helping to create the next generation of conservationists."

—KRISTI LOCKHART, NEWMARKET



2 farms conserved forever, owned and operated by the next generation of farmers.



3.2 MILES of wildlife corridors protected, connecting natural habitats and providing critical passage for birds, fish, and mammals.



45 field trips welcomed **780** attendees on SELT lands.

And **1,358** friends joined us for programming at The Mathey Center.

200+ frog eggs found by kiddos during the Forest Fridays adventures at Mast Road Conservation Area in Epping

218 SELT-conserved properties totaling **13,441** acres monitored by the stewardship department



the 2022 buzz



102,179 kilowatts of solar energy generated, the equivalent of 72.4 metric tons of CO₂ emissions saved.

19,800 data points collected with the High Efficiency Trail Assessment Process (HETAP) machine to measure trail conditions on four SELT properties



127 volunteers
3,993 volunteer hours

25,923 total acres conserved to this point

\$5,100,409 total project value of land conservation projects

SELT helped protect water sources that are part of town/city water systems that provide up to

9.5 MILLION

gallons of drinking water a day



VOLUNTEERS

made it happen

Volunteer Recognition

We are deeply grateful to the volunteers who supported SELT with their time and talent in 2022. The work we do is only possible because of their generous contributions! Do you want to get involved? Learn more at seltnh.org/volunteer.

JOHN AHERN
LEE ALEXANDER
HALEY ANDREOZZI
PHIL AUGER
LAURA BARONE
PETER BERGH
HAL BODWELL
CHARLES BRIDGES
DON BRISELDEN
LAURA BROOKS
HUNTER BROWNLIE
WILLIAM CAMPBELL
DARRYL CAUCHON
DEB CHAG
TOM CHAMBERLIN
ROB CHASE
DENNIS CHASTEEN
NORA CHIN
DAN CLAPP
MALIN CLYDE
PETER COFFIN
DAN COONS

KIMBERLY COTE
ANNE CROTTY
ASHLEY DAVIS
GREG DEVINE
REBECCA DIGIROLOMO
LORRAINE DRAKE
WENDY DUCHARME
MAGGIE EID
AMANDA ELLMS
KEITH EVANS
AMY FARNHAM
RHONDA FERNALD
NANCY FISKE
HEATHER FLEWELLING
EVE FRALICK
LIZZY FRANCESCINI
BECKY FRANKS
DENNIS GARNHAM
MICHAEL GELINAS
SANDY GOODSPEED
BRUCE GOODWIN
DEBBY GRUBBS

PAM HALL
REGGIE HALL
GEOF HARRIS
LESLIE HASLAM
KEN HOCHGRAF
ETOILE HOLZAEPFEL
MARC JACOBS
COLLEEN JARVELA
JOSH JENNINGS
DONNA JOHNSON
ZAKARIAH JOHNSON
TAMMY JORDAN
MIMI JOST
LAURIE KELLEHER
STEPHEN KENNEY
PEGGY KIMBALL
CHERYL KRANTZ
BARB KRESGE
BETH LAMONTAGNE HALL
ERNEST LANDRY
CAROLINE LAPLACA
BARBARA LATHROOM

JOSHUA LENT
RICHARD LEONARD
VANESSA LEVIN
ELLEN LOVEJOY
PHILIP LOVEJOY
JEFFREY LYONS
GARY MACLEAY
MARY MAGNUSSON
LINDA MAHONEY
ROSE MAHONEY
SCOTT MARION
JON MARTIN
SUE MAYOTTE
SUSAN MCCLURE
KAREN MERRIAM
AMANDA MERRILL
MATT MURPHY
DAVID MURRAY
SALLY NICKERSON
SHERRI NIXON
MANDY O'BRIEN
EAMON O'BRIEN

CATHY ORLOWICZ
BYRON PETRAKIS
VICTOR PIEKARSKI
JOAN PRATT
PHIL PRIMACK
SAMUEL REID
ROANNE ROBBINS
WALT ROY
RICK RUSSMAN
CAROLINE SAVAGE
PETER SCHWAB
JILL SEARL
SOFIE SELF
EDIE SHIPLEY
PAULA SINGER
LAURIE SMITH
DANELE SMITH
DAKOTA SNYDER
EDWARD SPEIDEL
JOSEPH ST. ONGE
ROGER STEPHENSON
CYNTHIA STIFTER

VJ STREHL
DENNIS THORELL
ALICE TONRY
DAVID TREAT
EMMA TUTEIN
NANCY VATISTAS
DAN VINCENT
JOHN WALLACE
RUSS WELDON
MARK WEST
HEATHER WHEELER
STEVEN WHITE
MIMI WHITE
KATE WILCOX
ALLEN WILLIAMS
LAUREN WINTERHOLER
ROBERT WOFCHUCK



SELT STAFF



A still evening at the Robert Rix Family Forest.

2022 Board Members

Sam Reid, President, Portsmouth
Pam Hall, Vice President, Portsmouth
VJ Strehl, Treasurer, New Castle
Brent Merriam, Secretary, Epping

Haley Andreozzi Deerfield
Peter Bergh Portsmouth
Don Briselden Exeter
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Bruce Goodwin Portsmouth
Reggie Hall Hampton
Scott Marion Rye
Joan Pratt Exeter
Eddie Shipley Brentwood
Laurie Smith Dover
John Wallace Barrington
Rob Wofchuck Brentwood

2022 Staff

Brian Hart Executive Director
Beverly Shadley Deputy Director
Duane Hyde Land Conservation Director
Deborah Goard Stewardship and Land Engagement Director
Allison Bolia Donor Relations Manager
Connor Breton Forest and Wildlife Habitat Manager
Kendall Bush Seasonal Communications Associate
Jenifer Dickinson Seasonal Steward
Jean Dill Database and Gift Entry Manager
Shaun Dillon Conservation Coordinator
Amanda Ellms Easement Stewardship Manager
Lizzy Franceschini Outreach and Education Specialist
Zoe Graves Outreach and Volunteer Manager
Yohann Hanley Trails and Community Engagement Manager
David Johnson Senior Communications Advisor
Jeremy Lougee Senior Conservation Project Manager and Farmland Coordinator
Kylee Noga Executive and Operations Assistant
Kassandra Pearl Stewardship and Outreach Specialist
Megan Woods Development Specialist

Let's Stay Connected

Visit seltnh.org to discover our work, download trail guides, sign up for field trips, volunteer, and become a member.



Facebook.com/seltnh



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A Mark of Distinction

The accreditation seal **AFFIRMS** national quality standards are met.



- SOUND FINANCES
- ETHICAL CONDUCT
- RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE
- LASTING STEWARDSHIP

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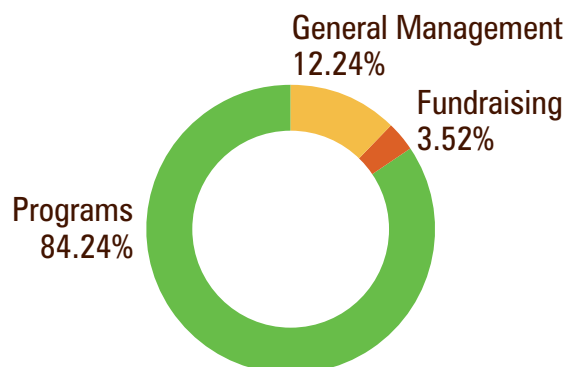
2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

This summary financial report is pending completion of SELT's 2022 audit and preparation of Financial Statements, to be prepared by the certified public accounting firm of Rowley & Associates, PC. Figures for 2022 are pending final review and subject to change. A copy of the complete Financial Statements for 2022 or prior periods is available upon request. Please contact Brian Hart, Executive Director, at 603-778-6088, or info@seltnh.org.

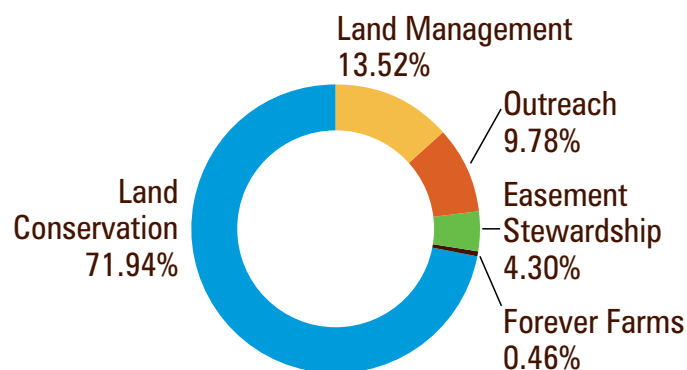
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

REVENUES	2022	2021
Operating		
Contributions	\$818,858	\$845,618
Membership dues	150,022	203,860
Special events	28,484	41,109
Interest and dividend income	198,914	87,471
Contracted services	4,648	5,025
Other	178,735	20,401
Forgiveness of Debt	–	169,500
Gain on sale of 4-6 Center St.	237,054	–
Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments	–913,727	555,100
Special Projects¹		
Contributions	5,071,029	5,075,796
In-kind services	8,691	11,282
Land and easement value	710,000	1,075,001
Total Revenues	6,492,706	8,090,163
EXPENSES	2022	2021
Operating		
Program		
Easement Stewardship	\$144,503	\$148,995
Forever Farms	15,419	\$0
Land Management	160,107	176,864
Land Conservation	263,503	270,238
Outreach	328,381	253,291
General and Administrative	488,170	453,147
Fundraising	140,197	131,270
Special Projects		
Land Management	294,083	107,997
Land Conservation	2,153,377	1,306,560
Total Expenses	3,987,740	2,848,362

2022 EXPENSES – ALL ACTIVITIES



2022 PROGRAM EXPENSES



Financial Footnotes

- ¹ Special projects include the acceptance of land or easements and the completion of significant land management projects such as trail construction.
- ² The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation holds and manages \$659,510 of the 12/31/2022 balance.
- ³ The reported balances include property specific funds as well as funds for general land management. The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation holds and manages \$114,321 of the 12/31/2022 balance.
- ⁴ Held and managed by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. SELT receives an annual distribution, based on the performance of the investments for a 20-quarter rolling average.

RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED FUNDS

SELT holds numerous funds that are donor-restricted or Board-designated for specific purposes.

FUND	Purpose	12/31/2022	12/31/2021
Mathey Center for People and Nature/JPC Farmhouse	To support the design and construction of SELT's headquarters and rehabilitation of the JPC Farmhouse at Burley Farms	\$412,576	\$2,139,759
Conservation Easement Stewardship Fund^{2, 4}	To cover the annual costs for stewardship and defense of all conservation easements held by SELT	2,677,495	3,630,680
Land Management Fund^{3, 4}	To support the long-term ownership, management, and stewardship costs of fee-owned properties of SELT	2,499,813	2,880,033
Lamprey River Land Protection Fund	To support land conservation efforts on the Wild and Scenic Lamprey River	198,177	270,344
Legal Defense Fund	To support the legal defense of all conservation easements, executory interests, and fee ownerships of SELT	344,225	368,756
Nature-Based Education Fund	To support SELT's nature-based education initiative in Epping and other communities	133,275	114,661
SELT Fund⁴	To support the mission and operation of SELT	109,614	131,825
Sweet Land Protection Fund	To provide short-term financing to purchase land or conservation easements	136,810	75,727
Strategic Land Conservation Fund	To support land conservation projects that protect drinking water, farmland, and living landscapes	733,952	998,754
Total		7,245,936	10,610,539

