



SELT everlasting

NEWS FOR OWNERS OF LAND PROTECTED BY A CONSERVATION EASEMENT

FALL 2024

Changing Seasons

Happy fall SELT landowners!

I hope you had a wonderful summer and are enjoying all the beauty that a New Hampshire autumn has to offer. To start, let me share some big news: my husband and I welcomed our first child into our family last month!

As a result, unsurprisingly, you won't see me on properties monitoring or at SELT events for a few months. I plan to be back to SELT-world in January. In the meantime, if you need anything please don't hesitate to reach out to Debbie Goard (deborah@seltnh.org) or Katie Bates (katie@seltnh.org).

I also wanted to take a moment to thank all of our landowners who took the time to join Katie, Debbie, and me this year on monitoring walks. These walks allow us to strengthen the relationship between SELT and our landowners while simultaneously working together to be proactive about what you hope to accomplish with your land.

Communication is key - and in-person communication while walking your beautiful land is even better! Not only is it great to strengthen the relationship between SELT and our landowners, but, together, we can be proactive about the interaction of what you hope to accomplish with your land and the parameters of the conservation easement deed.

And I know I speak for all of us on the easement stewardship side of things when I say it's just really nice to catch up!

Thank you for your continued partnership and I look forward to re-connecting to the world of SELT in 2025!

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For all the latest workshops, presentations, and field trips view the SELT events calendar at:

seltnh.org/events

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Pollinators Are a Good Investment

Pollinators are all the buzz these days – and with good reason! For landowners, the pollinating class can keep your ecosystem healthy and in bloom.

Honeybees, butterflies, birds, bats – these are just a sample of pollinators that can play a role in enhancing your lands and improving the greater ecosystem. Not only can increased pollinator activity and habitat improve the scenic beauty of your land, they can also boost plant and wildlife diversity and draw in beneficial insects, some of nature's best pest control.

Unfortunately, we are seeing decreasing pollinator numbers due to a number of factors, including habitat fragmentation and loss, exotic, invasive species that are outpacing native pollinator flora, and widespread use of pesticides. Over 80% of all flowering plants rely on animal-assisted pollination to reproduce, but we're losing 9% of our insect bio-mass worldwide every 10 years.

But there are ways you can play a role in keeping pollinators busy in our region. Here are a few land management techniques that will make your property pop for pollinators (courtesy of Pollinator Pathways NH):

When mowing fields for butterflies, know that the peak of lepidoptera reproduction occurs between May and October. The later you mow the better, and if you can, limit mowing to twice a year. Forgoing the lawns in favor of swaths of wildflowers takes less time, less fossil fuel, and less water.

When planning for pollinators, consider trees! Many trees and shrubs are "keystone" plants for pollinators. Approximately 30% of our lepidoptera species use trees as their larval host plants. Oaks are the superstars, supporting over 500 lepidoptera species. Other important pollinator supporters: cherries, willows, birches, and poplars.

Native plants don't require fertilizer, which can cause nutrient runoff into water bodies. Many native plants are excellent at nitrogen fixation, can sustain wildlife, and provide host and nectar plants for pollinating species.

Incorporate different canopy layers by planting trees, shrubs, and different sized perennial plants.

Five-acre patch cuts with 30, 60, or 100% overstory tree removal increase bee abundance. Patchy exposed ground with ample sun exposure is ideal for ground nesting bees.

Use the least toxic pesticides possible!



For more information about pollinators and creating pollinator-friendly environments visit these resources:

- www.wildlife.nh.gov/wildlife-and-habitat
- www.sare.org/resources/managing-alternative-pollinators

NH Tree Farm Promotes Sustainable Forestry

Founded in 1950, the NH Tree Farm program “promotes the growing and harvesting of renewable forest resources while protecting the environment and increasing public understanding of the benefits of productive forestry.”

For landowners to participate in the program, you need to own a minimum of 10 acres of land and have a written forest management plan completed by a licensed forester, which is being followed to sustainably manage and maintain the forestland. SELT currently has six properties enrolled in the NH Tree Farm Program.

If you are interested in learning more about NH Tree Farm please visit their website at: www.nhtreefarm.org.



SELT's Burley Farms in Epping is a certified Tree Farm.

Congratulations Phil Primack, NH Tree Farmer of the Year

On September 28, Eli's Woods in Epping was buzzing with conversationists and forestry aficionados, all gathered to celebrate the annual New Hampshire Tree Farm Field Day.

Phil has included this 100+ acre property in a retained life estate, a legal arrangement where SELT formally holds future ownership, but Phil is able to enjoy and steward the property as his own until he is gone or unable or unwilling to care for it.

For nearly half a century, Phil has managed this land, shepherding it as a “multi-aged” forest, strategically using commercial timber harvests and forest stand improvements to foster a diverse woodland.

In addition, Phil has intentionally managed the land to promote wildlife habitat through canopy openings.

All of this taken together made Phil a worthy recipient of the Tree Farmer of the Year Award.

Your Voice Wanted for the NH Wildlife Action Plan Survey

Our friends at the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department want to hear from you! The Nongame and Endangered Species Program, in collaboration with other divisions within the Department, and other state agencies and organizations, has been working on the 10-year update of the New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan.

The Wildlife Action Plan is a blueprint for conservation in the state, helping NHFG and its many partners to prioritize conservation projects and work towards NH's most important wildlife conservation goals.

The 2025 Wildlife Action Plan update provides New Hampshire Fish and Game Department the opportunity to collaborate with its partners and engage the public as they work to identify new, up-to-date conservation actions and tools.

Your input is crucial to a successful 2025 New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan. Let your voice be heard and help to protect New Hampshire's wildlife and wild places by taking the Wildlife Action Plan revision survey.

Please visit this link to take the survey:

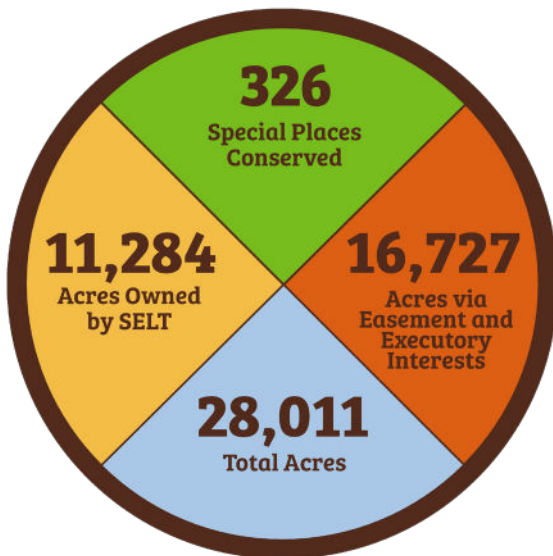
<https://tinyurl.com/NHWildlifeActionPlanSurvey>



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As of August 2024

To contact SELT, please call 603-778-6088 or email info@seltnh.org. To update your contact information, please contact Amanda Ellms at amanda@seltnh.org or 603-658-9480.

SELT Everlasting is published twice a year and is the Easement Stewardship newsletter of SELT. Written and edited by Amanda Ellms and Dave Johnson.

Thinking of Selling Your Land?

More and more conserved land is selling – meaning there is a whole new generation of landowners who need to understand what a conservation easement is and the associated privileges and responsibilities.

SELT can help make your sale smoother by working with your realtor to properly inform buyers about your conservation easement. Once you've decided to sell and have selected a realtor, please have them call us.

We will provide an electronic packet of information to incorporate in your disclosures and can answer questions from buyers.

Once you've scheduled a closing, please remember to give us the required notification of transfer of title in accordance with the terms of the easement.