

# Barrington Land Conservation Trust

## Looking at Sea-Level Rise in Barrington

As a coastal community, Barrington has many areas threatened by climate change and the impacts of sea level rise. State officials predict coastal waters to climb between 1 and 5 feet by 2100. Erosion, flooding, and loss of marshland are expected to accelerate and in some places the changes are already happening.

The pressure on the shoreline has been ongoing for 200 years. So far, Rhode Island has lost more than half of its salt marshes to development. State agencies, universities and conservation groups like the BLCT are looking at ways to preserve and protect the remaining coastal wetlands and in some cases help them migrate inland.



Storm Tools: Five feet of sea-level rise and a 50-year storm flood Barrington.

Former BLCT board member Sandra Wyatt has attended several state-sponsored workshops and is working with the Town Council, Planning Board and other local groups to raise awareness and increase planning efforts.

Several online maps are available for municipal planners, property owners and conservation groups to see and prepare for the impacts of sea level rise:

**SLAMM Maps** The state Coastal Resources Management Council created online maps showing where coastal wetlands might migrate inland or shrink. The maps look at 1, 3, and 5 feet of sea level rise. Barrington is likely to see significant marsh loss along the Palmer River and Hundred Acre Cove. Marshes also look to migrate inland in the Sowams Road area and portions of the Wampanoag Trail. These are non-regulatory maps but helpful planning tools for conservation and future development. Look at your neighborhood at [www.crmc.ri.gov/maps/maps\\_slamm.html](http://www.crmc.ri.gov/maps/maps_slamm.html)

**StormTools** shows maps of projected coastal flooding by combining storm surges and sea level rise. It looks at 1, 2, 3, and 5 feet of sea-level rise matched with 25, 50 and 100-year storms. It is also a non-regulatory map intended for planning. See your neighborhood at [www.beachsamp.org/maps/stormtools/](http://www.beachsamp.org/maps/stormtools/)

**Shoreline Change** maps look at coastal erosion between 1939 and 2003. The maps will soon be updated to reflect erosion until 2014. Future maps will show projected erosion by 2050 and 2010. See the maps for Barrington at [www.beachsamp.org/maps/shoreline-change-maps/](http://www.beachsamp.org/maps/shoreline-change-maps/)



Visit the Barrington Land Conservation Trust online at [www.BLCT.org](http://www.BLCT.org) and on Facebook



## Save the Date - Annual Meeting

June 8, 7 p.m. Library Auditorium. Doreen Schiff will present with her students at St. Luke's School on their study of Annawamscutt Creek.



Land Trust board member Charlotte Sornborger recently gave a presentation on endangered species as part of a learning project with 5<sup>th</sup> grade science students at Hampden Meadows School. Charlotte and the students discussed the diamondback terrapin and the terrapin monitoring project that Charlotte has managed at the Rayner Wildlife Refuge on Hundred Acre Cove since 1990.

## Enjoy the Open Space

We have an ambitious roster of projects and events – please come join us. To receive email updates, please contact Helen Tjader at [helen@acornnsolutions.com](mailto:helen@acornnsolutions.com) or 401-480-8329. Additional spring project dates will be set for Veterans Memorial Park, Currier Park, Sowams Woods, and Tall Cedars..

**Veterans Memorial Park** Join us for an ongoing weekend and weekday series of projects in support of the Town's grants to improve the trails. Projects will vary with weather conditions and grant progress. All projects will meet at the double trailhead kiosk just inside the entrance on the eastern side of Veterans Memorial Park. Park in the Town/Y parking lot or within the park once the gate opens for the season.

Wednesday, March 11 10 a.m. to noon – Blue Trail and Litter Cleanup

Wednesday, March 18 10 a.m. to noon - Project Scouting

Wednesday, April 15 10 a.m. to noon – Sign Post Prep

Sunday, April 19, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. – Trail Work

Monday, April 20, 9 a.m. to noon (vacation week) – Trail Work

Tuesday, April 21, 9 a.m. to noon (vacation week) – Western side, English Ivy Removal

**Sowams Woods** Wednesday, April 22, 9 a.m. to noon (vacation week) Invasive Plant Work and Trail Paint

**Osamequin Nature Preserve with Barrington Garden Club** Wednesday spring project series - 10 a.m. to noon: April 8, May 13 and June 10 Sunday, April 12, 1 – 3 p.m.

Projects will include trail maintenance, invasive plant management and cleanup.

**Under the Sap Moon – Sowams Woods – Friday, March 6, 6:30 p.m.** Savor the end of winter with a walk under a (nearly) full and rising moon. Learn about moon naming and celebrate 8 years of protection at Sowams Woods with maple treats. Easy pace to explore the nighttime woods while looking for spring.

## Welcome to the Board – Norm Dudziak

We are pleased to welcome Norm Dudziak as our newest member of the board. Norm maintains nine BLCT properties along or near the Palmer River. He also created the BLCT Facebook page. He is an environmental engineer and a certified invasive plant manager, as well as a Frog Watch volunteer. Norm volunteers regularly for the RI Natural History Survey, including running a BioBlitz team called the Litterbugs, which searches for tiny fauna living in leaf litter. BioBlitz is an annual 24-hour event, held in a different part of RI each year, in which teams of volunteer scientists and other community members work together to find and identify as many species of any kind of organism as possible in a defined area.

Norm is also on the program committee of the 2015 Northeast Natural History Conference being held in Springfield, MA in April and is seeking to increase participation by Rhode Islanders. Norm lives on Washington Road with his wife Damaris Rohsenow.



### THANK YOU

**Thanks** to all of our **Fall 2014 Volunteers** who worked on trail projects at Pic-Wil, Osamequin Nature Preserve, Sowams Woods and Veterans Memorial Park: **Saundy Patrick, Dan Horne, Sandra Wyatt, Bob Read, Tim Faulkner and family, Marcus Paiva, Rich McKay and Helen Tjader.**

**Congratulations and thanks** also go out to **William Stockheader and Boy Scout Troop 6** on his trail work at Vitullo Farm for his Eagle Scout project.

**Congratulations also to Matt Schryver** on completion of his Eagle Scout project at Mussachuck Grove. Each year Boy and Cub Scouts contribute hours of stewardship work throughout our town thank you!

Thank you to **Heather McLeod and Bruce Ruttenberg** for their gift in memory of Russell Field, Jr.

Thank you to **Patricia and Stephen Lang** for their gift in memory of Tim Sweetser.

### Clip-out Membership Form

### Board of Directors

Make Check Payable To:  
 Barrington Land Conservation Trust  
 Mail To: PO Box 324, Barrington, RI 02806-0324

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Membership Categories

Life Member	\$1,000	___ I'd like to volunteer
Benefactor	\$500	
Conservator	\$250	___ I'd like information
Patron	\$100	on donating stock
Sponsor	\$50	
Family/Friend	\$35	
Other	----	

Ginger Brown, Co-President  
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 Tim Faulkner, Vice President  
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 Patti Cerilli, Treasurer, Finance  
 Peter Burke, Stewardship  
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 Melissa Horne, Acquisitions & Planning  
 Rodney Jacques, at large  
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 Amy O'Donnell, at large  
 Beth Rondeau, Recording Secretary,  
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