



Belfast Bay
Watershed

BELFAST BAY WATERSHED NEWS



nearby (pictured above) and attached a block and tackle so the crew could hoist the logs across the stream.

The Crew then installed the bridge (see right) and planked it over, all in the hottest July on record. Thank you, Trail Crew! To join our illustrious Trail Crew, contact Bob Olfenbuttell at rolfenbuttell@me.com

Hills to Sea Trail Progress

The Hills to Sea Trail took a jump this summer, with a section added from next to the Waldo County Tech Center on Rt. 137 to the Bonne Terre Road.

The trail then runs half a mile down Bonne Terre, rejoins Rt. 137 briefly, and turns left onto Gurney Hill Road in Waldo. By November, we hope to finish the missing link to Frye Mountain.

The Trail Crew installed a bridge across Marsh Fork in July. This began with felling and shaving two large trees near the brook. Skip Pendleton climbed a tree



Jump in and Join Us Officially!

BBWC is engaging in a Membership Drive, from which we hope to gather many new members, and welcome back loyal longtime members. We are forging into new and bigger projects which require more funds, more help, more collaboration. The Hills to Sea Trail is a 45-mile connector of the county, needing signs, maintenance, and stewards. The Salmon-in-Schools program costs us \$800 to equip a school, plus ongoing educational and logistic expenses. And we have a list of new initiatives just waiting for your participation and financial endorsement!

Please visit our website or email cloechunn@gmail.com to join us in conservation and fun!

Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition

P.O. Box 152, Belfast, ME 04915

www.belfastbaywatershed.org

Evening Program Series

Once per month, a free public educational program is offered at the Belfast Free Library. Programs start at 6:30 pm.

Thursday, September 15 - "Get Out and Go Wild!"

Come watch and explore new and old hiking trails and preserves of Waldo County with Skip Pendleton and Cloe Chunn. Learn the progress of the cross-county Hills to Sea Trail, a long distance trail with agreements and help from over 60 landowners. Skip will give hints about how trails are made for maximum enjoyment. Maps will be available, as well as a new online tool for accessing trails and preserves.

Thursday, October 20 - Troy Howard Garden Project: How a Sustainable and Successful School Program has influenced US Education

Meet founders and successors who have created and run this effective form of education right here in our local school district. Hear from students involved in this kind of learning. Take home some garden produce or buy some seeds for next spring.

Thursday, November 17 - A Journey inside the Maine Woods National Park

Experience an extraordinary journey to one of the last, great, unprotected wilderness areas within the United States, the proposed 3.2 million acre Maine Woods National Park. The award-winning professional photography team of Lee Ann Szelog and Thomas Mark Szelog will personally guide you into the proposed park to experience and learn more about this fragile and priceless ecosystem.

Thursday, Dec. 15 - Eat your greens! The future of Maine's seaweed aquaculture

Mainers have been harvesting seaweed for over 100 years, and now this nutritious food source could become a serious export for Maine. Learn about new techniques in sowing, cultivating, and harvesting seaweed.

Thank you, Volunteers!

BBWC depends on volunteers for everything from evening programs to outings, educational workshops for teachers, school and homeschool instruction, civic projects like the arboretum and Community Conservation Corps, trail stewards and maps, ongoing research of anadromous fish, migratory and resident birds, and amphibians in the watershed, coaching local envirothon and cybermission teams, workshops and conferences, nature walks, salmon rearing and release, Earth Day activities, book discussion groups, permablitzes, and Penobscot Bay Stewards. Without our volunteers, we could not do all this! Thank you!!



Permaculture Project News

BBWC members were well represented at the August 6th “permablitz” work party at the Head of Tide Permaculture Project. Located on a small area of the Coastal Mountain Land Trust Head of Tide Preserve in Belfast, the Permaculture Project is an ongoing collaborative venture to transform overgrown former farmland into an educational resource demonstrating permaculture principles and sustainable forest farming techniques. Food for wildlife and humans in response to climate change are expected outcomes.

The evolving project is accomplished entirely by volunteers under the direction of Belfast Transition. The August 6th crew performed crucial maintenance tasks such as weeding and mulching installed plantings, as well as extending the wood chipped path accessing the site. To get involved, contact Susan Dexter at 435-459-0220 or nomadsusie@yahoo.com



Picnic Table Workshop in May

Students at Waldo County Technical Center built 4 heavy duty picnic tables, with materials organized and funded by BBWC, for Coastal Mountains Land Trust preserves. Three of the tables were installed at the demonstration workshop on May 5 at Head of Tide. The fourth will go to Meadow Brook Preserve in Swanville. Lee Stover, a Waldo sawmill operator, milled the native cedar and tamarack cut from his sustainable forest in Waldo.

Pictured below are WCTC students and their teachers, Lassie Henry and Holly Shue.



Outings

Outings are open to anyone interested. For more information or in questionable weather, call 338-1147.

Saturday, September 17, 10:00-2:00. Paddle the tidal Passagassawakeag River. Meet at the Belfast Boathouse to launch at 10:00. We'll have "High tea at high tide at high noon at Head of Tide." Return to Boathouse on falling tide. Bring boat, paddle, PFD, water, lunch (high tea), protection from sun, wind, rain.

Saturday, October 1, 10:00-12:00. Moss and Lichen Walk at St. Clair Preserve (Coastal Mountains Land Trust) on Knights Pond. Meet at the public beach at the end of Knights Pond Road in Northport. Roger Rittmaster and Cloe Chunn.

Saturday, October 15, 10:00-1:00. Hike a new section of the Hills to Sea Trail. Meet at Waldo County Tech Center, Rt. 137 in Waldo. Bring water, lunch, rain gear. 2 miles, hilly terrain.

Sunday, Nov. 13, 10:00-1:00. Hike the new trail at Mainstream Preserve (Coastal Mountains Land Trust) in Stockton and Prospect. Meet at 10:00 at the Irving Station in Searsport to carpool to the trailhead. Bring water, lunch, warm layers, rain gear. Wear sturdy boots and orange clothing.

Saturday, Dec. 10, 10:00-1:00. Hike the trail at Long Cove Headwaters Preserve in Searsport (Coastal Mountains Land Trust). Meet at 10:00 at Toziers Store in Searsport to carpool to the trailhead. Bring water, lunch, warm layers, and wear sturdy shoes (snowshoes or skis if snow.)

Saturday, January 14, 2017. 10:00-1:00. Snow outing with Cloe Chunn and David Thanhauser at their farm, 210 Oak Hill Road, Swanville. Come at 10:00 for XC skiing and snowshoeing. Potluck social at noon.

BBWC Board of Directors

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Did you know?

- Without BBWC, there would be no Little River Trail?
- No In-Town Nature Trail?
- Fewer outdoor school programs?
- and that BBWC provides nature/outdoor camp scholarships to kids who otherwise would not be able to go?

Come jump on board and help expand and strengthen our work in the community and watershed. Visit our website, call a board member, or email cloechunn@gmail.com

Mission: The Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition is a group of organizations and individuals working to support conservation and stewardship of natural, scenic, historic, and public access resources of the Belfast Bay watershed through research, community-building, and education.

To become a member or subscribe to the news, please visit our website: