



fall

The purpose of the Falmouth Conservation Trust is to permanently protect field, forest, shoreline, and wildlife lands; to maintain the historical character and natural beauty of Falmouth; and to educate its citizens regarding the values of donation, stewardship, and enjoyment of protected lands.

bugs begone — the woods await your visit

Nature will bear the closest inspection. She invites us to lay our eye level with her smallest leaf, and take an insect view of its plain.
— Henry David Thoreau

Welcome to Pleasant Hill Woods!

A “grand opening” event on a glorious Sunday, October 22 was hosted by the Pleasant Hill Neighborhood Association (PHNA) and the Falmouth Conservation Trust. This newly-marked 15-acre woods can be accessed from Allen Avenue or from Ledgewood Drive.

A walk, led by local landscape gardener and naturalist *Ellen Klain* and forester *Steve Gauthier*, brought out residents of all ages. Trails have been opened up and blazed with blue, yellow, and orange markings. There are red tags throughout the woods marking various plants and other natural items of interest.

Six Years of Hard Work and Fundraising Celebrated

Originally, the town purchased this land on agreement that the PHNA would raise half the purchase price. The Falmouth Conservation Trust worked closely with PHNA: organizing fundraising by providing the umbrella non-profit status and holding funds, making all contributions tax-deductible; recommending appropriate funding sources; and providing a limited match to monies as well as expertise in preservation.

From an art show created by neighborhood children and auctions at summer picnics to raffle tickets, the Pleasant Hill Neighborhood

—cont. on pg. 5

Ellen Klain (center) talks about the the ledge in Pleasant Hill Woods and what to look in these woods.



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Annual Meeting Focus

Annual Meeting of the Falmouth Conservation Trust
Wednesday, November 8, 7 pm
Falmouth Congregational Church Community Hall

Please join us for the Annual Meeting of the Falmouth Conservation Trust

- Speaker: *Jeff Pidot*, chief of the natural resources division at the Maine Attorney General's Office
Sorcerer's Apprentice: The Case for Conservation Easement Reform
- Friend of Conservation Award presentation to *Robert Shafto*, outgoing chair of the Falmouth Conservation Commission (and former president of the Falmouth Conservation Trust)
- Recognition of the *Falmouth Conservation Commission* for their leadership in community action and efforts in significant conservation and habitat protection
- Recognition of outgoing/retiring Trustees
- Business: proposed name change: from Falmouth Conservation Trust to Falmouth Land Trust



**Join
with the
Falmouth
Conservation
Trust...it's your
community**

There are a number of ways for Falmouth residents to get involved in the Trust's work.

■ **Stewardship**

Become a steward of a preserved property working with others to maintain and care for the land.

■ **Community Relations**

Work with others developing community events such as walks, hikes, and exploration.

■ **Community Events**

Join in spring clean-up of Trust-managed properties, nature forums, and other community gatherings.

■ **Participate in Nature Walks**

The Trust is looking for biologists, geologists, local historians, etc., who are interested in leading nature walks and sharing their knowledge with the community.

■ **Learn about Your Neighborhood and its Resources.**

For more information, please call Judy Adelman at 781-3085

or

**email:
judyadelman@hotmail.com.**

grassroots efforts prevail

conservation commission honored

At its annual meeting in June at Gilsland Farm Audubon Center, Maine Audubon recognized the *Falmouth Conservation Commission* for their outstanding support of Maine Audubon's mission to conserve the state's wildlife and wildlife habitat.

The Falmouth Conservation commission was named the 2006 Conservationist of the Year, Maine Audubon's annual award to an individual or group who has made a significant contribution to wildlife conservation in Maine.

Thanks in part to the commission's testimony about Falmouth's positive experience mapping and protecting vernal pools — small, seasonal water bodies that are the basis of a healthy forest ecosystem — this spring the Maine Legislature voted almost unanimously to enact new rules that give the pools regulatory protection. Maine department of Environmental Protection commissioner David Littell calls the new rules "the most significant new wildlife habitat rules of the past decade."

Vernal pool protection is just one of the commission's recent conservation achievements. This past year, the commission updated the town's 15-year-old open space plan, inventorying and ranking for conservation value all town-owned lands and identifying three large areas of undeveloped habitat ripe for permanent conservation.

It also created a new subcommittee to address invasive species, which threaten native wildlife, and helped the town adopt a new subdivision ordinance so high-value natural resources can be identified early on and protected.

The Falmouth Conservation Trust is also pleased to honor the members of the Falmouth Conservation Commission, who have served on this town board over these past several years. From wetlands protection, lake phosphorous loading, to open space and wildlife delineation, members of this commission, as well as the subcommittee volunteers, have lobbied for those key values named by Falmouth residents to be of most importance to quality-of-life in this community.

The commission's pro-active work with the Town Council has resulted in ordinances that are both protective of habitat and balanced for development.

At its annual meeting Wednesday, November 8, The Falmouth Conservation Trust is pleased to present *Robert Shafto* with its *Friend of Conservation* award. The FCT also recognizes the *Falmouth Conservation Commission* with the *Neighborhood Conservation* award for its community action and efforts in balancing conservation and development in our community.

exciting news

after 20 years — victory for vernal pools

Why Care About Vernal Pools?

Vernal pools are small water bodies that typically fill up in the fall or spring, and dry by mid-summer. They contribute significantly to biodiversity by supporting an abundance of plants and amphibians, including wood frogs and salamanders, which are food for other animals. But because of their small size, vernal pools are highly vulnerable to loss from filling and development. Wetland protection laws often leave them unprotected. Small, wooded wetlands are the most at-risk wetlands in the U.S. according to U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Need more info or help determining if you have significant wildlife habitat on your property? Call the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) at (800) 452-1942, or visit www.state.me.us/dep/blwq/docstand/nrpa/vernalpools/index. To buy vernal pool guides or other wildlife reference materials, visit Maine Audubon's Nature Store or call (207) 781-2330.



112th legislative summary

wildlife habitat protected

- LD 1981, Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 335: Significant Wildlife Habitat, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection, passed as amended.
- LD 2090, Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 10: Significant Wildlife Habitat, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, passed as amended.

Significant wildlife habitat is protected under Maine's Natural Resources Protection Act. It comprises a variety of wildlife habitat that provides food, shelter, and, in some cases, breeding areas. Last year, at the Maine Legislature's direction, Maine's departments of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Environmental Protection adopted rules that define and protect significant habitats. The Legislature has now modified and approved these rules.

The rules will help protect:

- *Significant habitat for Maine's waterfowl* (including wild ducks, geese, and swans) and wading birds (including herons and glossy ibis). It provides stable water levels year round and supports numerous plant and wildlife species not found elsewhere.
- *Significant habitat for coastal shorebirds* (such as sandpipers and plovers). It includes mud flats and wetlands where birds nest and feed, and migrating birds stop — or "stage" — to accumulate enough body fat to complete nonstop flights over the ocean to South America. Such areas are susceptible to degradation from disturbance, development, and environmental contaminants.
- *Significant vernal-pool habitat* for a number of Maine's threatened and endangered species (spotted and Blanding's turtles, for example) and other wetland-dependent

species (including moose, mink, raccoon, herons, ducks, and turtles).

The rules themselves define significant vernal pools, high- and moderate-value waterfowl and wading bird habitat, and shorebird nesting, feeding, and staging areas. Whether a vernal pool is significant, and therefore subject to regulation, is determined by the number and type of pool-breeding amphibian egg masses in a pool, or the presence of fairy shrimp, or use by threatened or endangered species.

Significant vernal pool habitat consists of a vernal pool depression and a portion of the critical terrestrial habitat within a 250 foot radius of the spring or fall high water mark of the depression. An activity that takes place in, on, over, or adjacent to a significant vernal pool habitat must meet the standards.

Vernal pool significance must be determined and documented by someone with experience and training in either wetland ecology or wildlife ecology and who is qualified to identify and document a significant vernal pool. The rule also articulates habitat management standards for significant

vernal pools. These must be followed to the greatest extent practicable and include: no disturbance within the vernal pool depression; maintain a minimum of 75 percent of the critical terrestrial habitat as unfragmented forest with at least a partly-closed canopy of overstory trees to provide shade, deep litter and woody debris; maintain or restore forest corridors connecting wetlands and significant vernal pools; minimize forest floor disturbance; and maintain native understory vegetation and downed woody debris.

Permit applicants have options. First, the applicant could have a field determination of the significance of a vernal pool during the identification period.



Charting Maine's Future

Brookings Report Summary
commissioned by GrowSmart Maine

**"We're optimistic about Maine's future."
Maine is poised for a renewal ...if we act now.**

- The new economy favors Maine.
- Our population is growing again.
- The economy is diversifying.
- The Maine 'brand' is gaining in value.

Sustainable growth won't happen unless we fix some of the problems we face.

- Our state's economic development work is unfocused.
- Good, new jobs are just taking root.
- Our work force isn't ready for tomorrow's jobs.
- We tax and spend too much.
- We're squandering our small-town landscape.

Here's what we need to do:

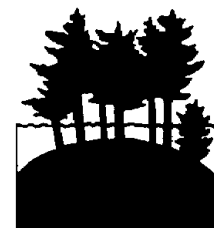
- Strengthen our brand by safeguarding our small town, rural character.
- Make a few large investments.
- Streamline government to finance investments and tax cuts.
- Charge tourists more.
- Find new ways to work together.

Here are Brookings specific recommendations:

- Invest in Maine's heart and soul:
- Create a permanent Maine Quality Places Fund
- Invest in Maine's resourcefulness and creativity
- Create an Innovation Jobs Fund
- Streamline government to reinvest and cut taxes:
- Create a Binding Government Efficiency Commission

Help Maine communities plan for the future:

- Provide funds for towns and cities to shape their future
- Provide incentives for towns to cooperate regionally
- Remove regulatory barriers that thwart common-sense growth in older communities.



—cont. on pg. 4

Private vs. Public Conserved Lands

The Falmouth Conservation Trust (FCT) works with landowners interested in maintaining and preserving their properties in their current state.

In some instances, properties are acquired through purchase, gift, or easements which have had active public usage prior to the acquisition. The Trust looks to maintain such status.

In other circumstances, FCT acquires land that has been private and the owner's request that it be left private.

The Trust values conserving both of these types of property and focuses its efforts on conserving land in accordance with the property owner's wishes.

conservation glossary

Bargain sale

When a landowner sells a property to a government entity or a nonprofit organization for less than fair market value, the transaction is called a *bargain sale*.

The difference between the sale price and the fair market value is considered a charitable donation. As a result, the owner can receive an income tax deduction or a reduction in estate taxes.

A bargain sale is a useful tool when the property owner faces a large tax liability for selling the property due to a long-term capital gain or a large estate.

Conservation easement

A conservation easement is a way for a landowner to permanently protect the environmental value of his or her land while continuing to own it. It is a legal agreement between a landowner and a government agency or nonprofit organization that permanently limits development of the land.

Even if an owner sells the land or passes it to his or her heirs, the conservation easement remains in effect. By donating a conservation easement, a landowner may qualify for a variety of tax incentives. These include reduced property and estate taxes, as well as having the easement classified as a charitable gift for income tax purposes.

Land donation

Some landowners, who would like to see their property become a park or other open space amenity, simply donate the land to a local government, such as a park district. Sometimes they donate part of their land and keep the rest.

When owners donate land they receive a tax deduction for the value of the donation. The donation also reduces or eliminates the owners' real estate taxes, depending on whether they donate all or part of their property. And since they no longer own the donated land, it is exempt from estate taxes.

Life estate

A life estate enables a landowner to sell his or her property to an agency such as a forest preserve district, yet to be able to continue to live on it.

Upon the owner's death, the full title of the property transfers to the forest preserve district.

A life estate is useful when a district has acquired all but one or two parcels of land, and the remaining targeted property is where an elderly person lives. He/she does not want to move, but is interested in having the land become a park in the future. If the parcel will complete the park but is not essential to its current development, the district could buy the land from her subject to a life estate.



**INVASIVES!
YUK!**

Top left is shown the berries of the burning bush. Hopefully, you'll not find them on sale at any local nurseries. Look for native bushes. Skillings, Allen, Sterling & Lothrop, O'Donals, and Estabrooks are well-versed and well-supplied with



native plants. The bittersweet (another invasive), below left, with its bright orange berries, can now be found throughout most Maine woods.

habitat cont. from pg. 3

Should an applicant wish to proceed outside of that identification window, the applicant could use the permit-by-rule procedure. • Inland waterfowl and wading bird habitat is an inland wetland complex and a 250-foot-wide zone surrounding the wetland complex. The determination of whether the habitat is high to moderate value is based upon the wetland type, wetland diversity, wetland size, interspersion, open water, and documented use.

• Tidal habitat is a tidal habitat that has documented outstanding use by waterfowl or wading birds or use by a rare species of waterfowl or wading birds. Four habitat types that are considered as potential high or moderate value include: aquatic bed habitat, reefs, emergent wetlands, and mudflats. An activity that takes place in, on, over, or adjacent to a high and moderate value waterfowl and wading bird habitat must meet the applicable standards.

These standards are: avoidance, minimal alteration, no unreasonable impact, and

compensation. High- or moderate value shorebird nesting, feeding, and staging areas include a 250-foot-wide zone surrounding those areas. A feeding or staging site qualifies as significant shorebird habitat if either of the following criteria is met, as determined by an individual with experience or training in wildlife ecology: number of observations and/or number of shorebirds. An activity that takes place in, on, over, or adjacent to a high- or moderate-value shorebird nesting, feeding, and staging area habitat must meet the applicable standards.

These standards are: avoidance, minimal alteration, no unreasonable impact, and compensation.



presenting pleasant hill woods

—cont. from pg. 1



Susan Howe (right) welcomes residents to the opening of Pleasant Hill Woods



Steve Gauthier shares highlights about Eastern Pine growth in Maine woods.

Association successfully raised \$60,000. The **Robert S. Blake family** made a very generous contribution to the Pleasant Hill Woods in memory of Mr. Blake, a former Allen Avenue resident. Volunteer time and contributions totaled \$12,500 as in-kind efforts.

In recognition of the enormous neighborhood efforts and focus over six years, Town Council recognized at its February 27 meeting, released all 15 acres to the Falmouth Conservation Trust and Pleasant Hill Neighborhood Association.

Thanks to work of Eagle Scout candidate, **Craig Lakin**, a crew of scouts and parents provided initial trail preparation and markings, totaling almost 300 hours of work. **Skip Varney**, of Falmouth Parks and Recreation, worked with **Susan Howe** and **Steve Wyman** on the easement from Daniels Way, one of the two access points. **Sally Barrows**, **Karen Lukas**, **Solange Leborgne**, **Steve Wyman**, **Joe Wroblecki**, and **Susan Howe** have been the hard working steering committee of PHNA. Stewardship of the property includes a map box and maintenance of the trails. Anyone interested in participating should contact Susan Howe at 879-0798 or Solange Leborgne at 878-0758.

So Take a Walk

The Pleasant Hill Woods holds almost the same wide variety of natural habitat as does woods five times its size; all within easy walking distance and within a busy residential neighborhood.

Parking can be found near the Ledgewood Drive powerline on Ledgewood Drive. Walk up the power line trail and, at the 5th pole, look for the sign "Pleasant Hill Woods." There is a map marking three loop trails, signposts noting specific Maine natural habitat throughout the woods, and bridges over wet area.

Access from Allen Avenue requires parking on Allen Avenue and walking down Daniel's Way. As with all trail accesses, please remember to respect private property. Also remember that it's fall and wearing orange would be a good idea. When walking near private property with your dog, please be a good neighbor and clean up after your best buddy. ENJOY!



Work Day crew takes a break on a granite bench dedicated to Robert S. Blake, created and donated by Bob Blake, eldest son. (front row, l. to r.): Linda Blake Carville (daughter), Dave Foss (Blake neighbor), Al Carville (son-in-law), and Dot Blake (Robert's widow); (second row): Judi Blake Mosier (daughter), Brian Libby (grandson), John Brautigan (State Rep), Susan Howe (PHNA), Steve Wyman (PHNA Steering Committee), Austin Blake (grandson), Tom Blake (son); (third row): Ron Blake (son), Ed LeBorgne (PHNA), Bob Blake (son).



take a hike, lke!

When visiting any local parks, woods, or trails, here are a few "rules of the road" to remember:

- If you are accompanied by your dog, please remember to clean up after it.
- Dogs need to be under control in the woods — sharing the trails could be porcupine, moose, deer, fox, other hikers, bikes, and/or the occasional horse.
- When walking in autumn, it is always a good idea to wear something of blaze orange. Though hunting is prohibited near schools, it is allowed in the Blackstrap Hill Preserve and along many of the power lines.
- If you're headed out alone, let a friend or family member know where you've gone and when you think you'll return home.
- Carry some minor first aid kit with you: an antiseptic, band-aids, wrap material, any allergy medicine for insect stings, and a whistle.
- Respect abutters' property. Some access points require walking through private properties that provide easement entrance.
- Off-road parking areas do exist for Blackstrap Hill Preserve (off Blackstrap Rd.), Wilshire Community Forest (off Hurricane Rd.), Community Park (within the park), Nature Preserve (along Rte. 88).
- Dress appropriately and be prepared to cross wet areas.
- Enjoy, but please don't pick the wildflowers — they may not reappear.
- Don't eat the mushrooms.
- Walk quietly and look closely — Mother Nature always has a surprise or two up her sleeves!

take a walk!

blackstrap hill preserve

Be sure and enjoy the marked waterfall trail at Blackstrap Hill Preserve (BHP) this fall. With the amount of rain recently, it should make for a refreshing walk.

Maps for the trails are at the kiosk. Each of the trails are colored and the map shows estimated time for walking.

The Preserve can be accessed from the east side of Blackstrap Rd. at 369 Blackstrap (between Mountain and Mast Rds.). A six-car parking lot provides a good starting point.

A walking trail from the lot leads to a trail blazed with white markings that intersects with the Blue Trail loop (the "fern trail"), which connects into an old logging road trail system. The Yellow Trail ("lichen trail") can be reached from the blue trail, as well as the Red Trail or "river trail," which leads down to the west branch of the Piscataqua River.

BHP is now connected through to Wilshire Community Forest via the orange trail. Wilshire Community Forest can be accessed directly from Hurricane Rd.

Another Eagle Scout project early this fall has provided a number of additional bridges across many of the wet areas. **Jeff Rutter** of Westbrook, along with his parents **Bruce** and **Debbie Rutter** worked with **Alan** and **Darcy Donald** in placement and construction.

The Falmouth Conservation Trust especially thanks **Randy Lindberg** for his volunteer mowing of the access trail from the parking lot to entrance.



Jeff Rutter with his father, Bruce, work on one of the new bridges crossing wet areas.

BHP maps are located in a box on the side of the entrance kiosk.

From the Maine Audubon comes this list of things to look for in late fall as you and your family hike, bike, or walk some of Falmouth's protected and open spaces:

- Observe squirrels, chipmunks, and woodchucks eating nuts, seeds, and berries as they prepare for the winter months ahead.
- Look for sensitive ferns that have been hit by the season's first frost.
- Observe the change in foliage and which trees keep their leaves.
- Keep an eye on backyard feeders for the arrival of grosbeaks and juncos.
- Look for yellow-rumped warblers migrating.
- In the early-morning sky, look to the east for a bright band of stars. This is the constellation Orion, and it is the first sign of the approaching winter.
- Vine berries, woodland wildflower berries, and nuts ripen.
- Look in wet woodland areas for many varieties of mushrooms.
- Look for woolly bear caterpillars. Folklore says that the middle stripe of the woolly bear is an indicator of the winter ahead. A fat strip means a hard winter, a thin stripe means a mild winter.

What's in a Name?

Falmouth Conservation Trust or Falmouth Land Trust...

This proposed name change will come for discussion and a vote at the annual meeting, Wednesday, November 8, with the Board of Trustees approval.

learning corner

- **www.growSMARTmaine.org:** click on “educational briefs” and learn more about sprawl; its social, economic, and lifestyle effects; issues related to our farmlands and agricultural heritage; and how to get involved and make your voice heard.
- **www.cascobayestuary.org:** understand the overall importance of water quality and your own backyard. Click on ‘resources’ and then ‘links’ to find numerous organizations working for and enjoying our environment.
- **www.mainerivers.org:** learn more about efforts working for clean water and sustainable fish and wildlife habitat.
- **www.tpl.org:** The Trust for Public Land conserves land for people to enjoy as parks, gardens and other natural places, ensuring livable communities for generations to come.
- **http://invasives.eeb.uconn.edu/ipane/:** So how serious is this invasive plant problem in Falmouth and Southern Maine? How can the growth and spread of invasive species be controlled? What can the community do to help? Most specifically, we need to take care with what we plant in our own backyards. For more information and images in color or contact Toni directly at Toni.Pied@maine.gov.

Founded in 1982, the Falmouth Conservation Trust is a private, non-profit corporation funded by memberships and donations, which are tax deductible by law. Managed by volunteer trustees, the Trust engages members and volunteers in:

- stewardship of protected lands, which includes trail development and upkeep;
- education to the community about conservation through events and sponsored activities, often in collaboration with other community organizations;
- active involvement with neighborhood groups looking to keep open space in their area;
- dialogue with landowners to preserve and protect their land, while finding ways to provide economic reimbursement and tax advantages.



Tidbits

- Falmouth hosts numerous parks, open spaces, and trails. Learn more about them by visiting the Community Programs office at the Falmouth Town Hall.
- In addition to the Blackstrap Hill Preserve, the Trust also maintains other beautiful lands that are open to the public, like the Nature Preserve on Route 88 and the newly opened Pleasant Hill Woods, easily accessible from the Ledge-wood Drive power line.
- If you are interested in helping on any FCT properties, please contact Peter Farnum at 797-9728 or email at: pfarnum@maine.rr.com.
- Visit the FCT website: www.falmouthconservationtrust.org to learn more.



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Donald McCrann781-4090
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Looking for further information about land use conservation and places to visit?

■ Find out about the Presumpscot River Trail — visit the Portland Trails web site at: www.trails.org
There you will also find links to information about conservation, education, recreation, maps, and organizations involved in conservation and stewardship of various established and developing trails.

■ Visit the **Falmouth Community Programs** office at Town Hall, 781-5253 or www.town.falmouth.me.us



**Looking for a
Great Gift, a
Great Bargain, a
Collector's Item?**
*Falmouth Conservation Trust
t-shirts are available
in a natural cotton*
*(sizes S, M for children (at \$8) and S,
M, Lg, XLg, for adults (at \$12).*

HINT: WEAR YOUR BLAZE ORANGE!
As you walk the trails this fall, remember many properties allow active hunting. Be seen and be safe.

YES, I (we) want to become a member of the Falmouth Conservation Trust

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Address (winter) _____ (summer) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ contact email _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ annual dues.

Please make checks payable to “Falmouth Conservation Trust.” (Dues and contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law.)

- I would like to discuss preserving my land for the future in its natural state
- I would like to volunteer (advisors needed in ecology, soils, botany, wildlife, wetlands, etc., as well as land monitors, trail or maintenance stewards)

Annual Membership Categories			
Sponsor.....	\$500	Family	\$25
Patron	\$100	Individual	\$15
Business.....	\$100	Student	\$5
Sustaining.....	\$50		

This form may be mailed to: FCT, PO Box 6172, Falmouth, ME 04105

THANK YOU!

Conservation Easement Focus at FCT Annual Meeting

Jeff Pidot, chief of the natural resources division at the Maine Attorney General's Office, will keynote the Falmouth Conservation Trust's annual meeting, Wednesday, November 8, at the Falmouth Congregational Church.

Pidot has served in this position since 1990, taking one year's leave of absence in 2004-05 to work at the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. There, Pidot continued his studies about issues and needed reforms around conservation easements. He traveled the country for his research, as well as speaking and writing about these issues. Copies of his final report will be available at the annual meeting.

Titling his presentation, *Sorcerer's Apprentice: The Case for Conservation Easement Reform*, Pidot considers himself "both a critic and a believer in conservation easements, but have concluded that they need reform if they are to live up to their promise."

Coming to Maine in 1976, Pidot has worked in the natural resources, environmental, and land use areas of the law since that date. He served as director of the Land Use Regulation Commission for three years. This state agency has planning and zoning jurisdiction over that half of Maine that has no local government.

Pidot has been on the Board of the Kennebec Land Trust since 1989, and president for two of those years. He holds a BA from Princeton and a JD from the University of Pennsylvania.

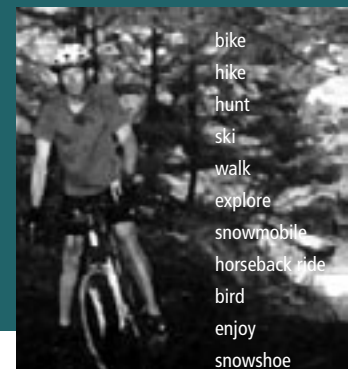
What is a Conservation Easement?
It is a voluntary agreement that allows a landowner to limit the type or amount of development on the property, while retaining private ownership of the land.
—(see glossary pg. 4)

There are numerous options to "keep green in your life."

- Become an informed voter; supporting candidates who will protect Falmouth's open space.
- Attend town meetings on open space issues; individual voices make a remarkable difference.
- Get to know your neighbors; the most important preservation efforts continue to be at the neighborhood level; become involved in your neighborhood association.
- Become a member of the Falmouth Conservation Trust (use the convenient envelope attached).
- If you own undeveloped land, consider land conservation with the Falmouth Conservation Trust. There are a number of tax advantageous options to consider. The Trust is ready to provide you and your attorney with full information and has an excellent history of working with landowners.

The Falmouth Conservation Trust is also available to work with community and neighborhood groups interested in land preservation and/or acquisition:

- providing education;
- guidance through the process;
- assistance with associated costs;
- sourcing alternative funding.



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