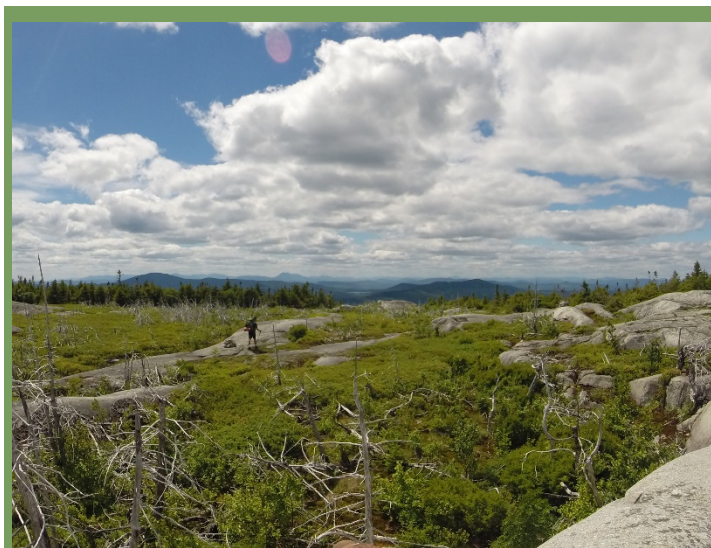


Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust



WORK TO DATE

- Almost 15,000 acres conserved
- 27.7 miles of the A.T. buffered
- 5 of Maine's 4,000-foot peaks protected
- Local trail access maintained

Along the Appalachian Trail in Maine.

Summer highlights

- New website and social media pages
- New Executive Director
- Orbeton Stream closing in late summer
- New trail on Saddleback Mountain
- Upcoming events/hikes
- Map giveaway

"...a realm and not merely a trail marks the full aim of our efforts." – Benton MacKaye

Summertime in the Mountains of Maine

We at the Maine A.T. Land trust hope you are enjoying your summer, wherever you might be spending it. Summer in Maine is a glorious time but we have been busy. We hired a new Executive Director and have refreshed our website at matlt.org. We encourage you to visit the site, sign up for our email newsletter and explore the Maine Appalachian Trail resources. You can read about some of our work and find out about natural features of the A.T. region in Maine. In our News

section you can find updated information about hikes we are planning (two in late summer/early fall) and dates for A.T.-related events in Maine. Rangeley will be having their annual Trail Town Festival on August 30th. Stop by our table to pick up a brochure and enter our map giveaway contest (more below). We will also be a featured non-profit at Portland Greendrinks in October.

More info at portlandgreendrinks.com

A Message from Maine A.T. Land Trust President, Bill Plouffe

After an exhaustive search, Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust hired a new executive director in March. Simon Rucker grew up hiking in the mountains of Maine and after living in New York City for ten years, he decided he wanted to settle in a place with clean air, tall trees and over 281 miles of Appalachian Trail to hike on with his wife and two children. He comes to Maine A.T. Land Trust from one of our partner organizations, The Trust for Public Land. In his project work

in New York, Simon saw first-hand how deeply development and incompatible uses can effect conservation land. Land along the Appalachian Trail corridor in Maine is largely unprotected. Under Simon's leadership we hope Maine A.T. Land Trust can help to conserve vulnerable lands for use by future generations. And we need your support!

Read more about our board and staff at matlt.org.



Maine A.T. Land Trust President Bill Plouffe with new Executive Director Simon Rucker.



Orbeton Stream in winter.

Orbeton Stream Facts

- Conservation Easement will be held by the State of Maine over lands owned by Linkletter Timberlands, LLC
- 5,495 acres of working forest with trail access for both motorized and non-motorized activities
- Critical ATV and snowmobile access is maintained over ITS 84/86

Orbeton Stream Project Closing in Late Summer

Orbeton Stream, a cooperative project with The Trust for Public Land, is ready to close in the late summer. **Maine A.T. Land Trust raised over \$60,000 for this project.** Nearly 5,500 acres of land will now be preserved for recreational opportunities like hunting, fishing, hiking and ATV use. The land will continue to provide sustainably managed forest products to contribute to the local economy. The Appalachian Trail runs along the western edge of the property and the Orbeton parcel will ensure that hikers on the trail will continue to enjoy the experience of remoteness of the region. Maine A.T. Land Trust first indicated the importance of this parcel as part of our High Peaks Initiative, a copy of which can be found on our website.

Why are Atlantic Salmon so important?



Orbeton Stream is one of a handful of places in Maine where Atlantic Salmon return to spawn after spending their adult lives in the ocean. The construction of the Edwards Dam on the Kennebec River in 1837 blocked this passage, and they disappeared from the Orbeton and Perham Streams just below the Appalachian Trail. The dam was demolished in 1999 and the Maine Department of Marine Resources began a reintroduction program. In 2013, for the first time in over 175 years, Atlantic Salmon from Orbeton Stream resumed their normal lifecycle.

Upcoming Events

Introduction to the High Peaks Hike on August 31st.

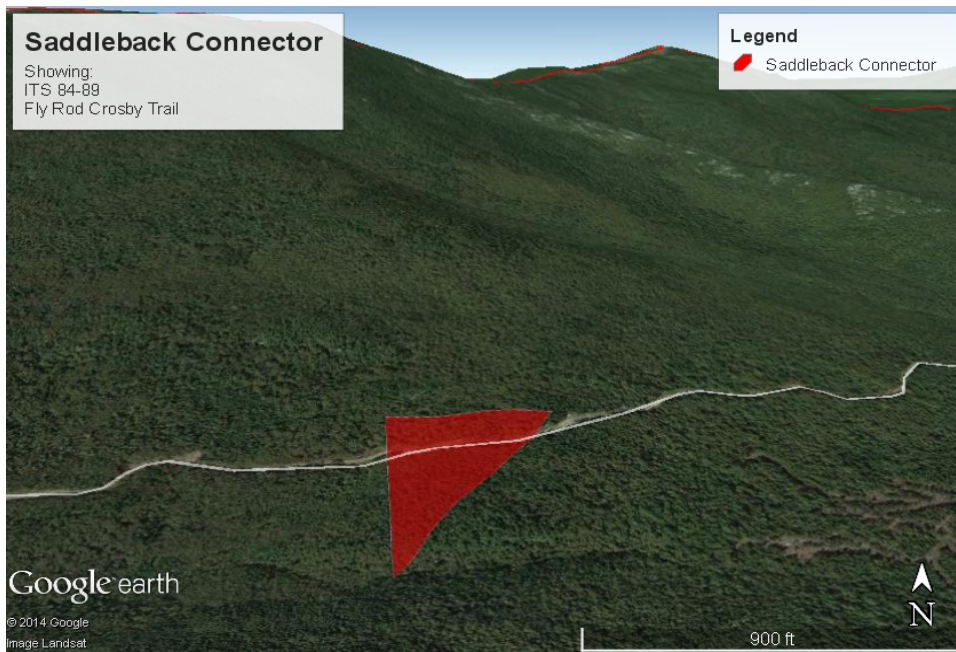


Maine A.T. Land Trust will be hosting a members-only hike called "Introduction to the Hike Peaks Region" on **Sunday, August 31st, at 9am**. The hike will be led by Carson Kinney, a landowner whose family has lived in Madrid since the early 1800's. Carson is a repository of local knowledge and knows more than just about anyone about the mountains that rise above his home. This hike will follow the Perham Stream Birding Trail which traverses Carson's property, and it takes about an hour at a leisurely pace. Accompanying him will be Kirsten Brown Burbank, Trustee of the Sandy River Land Trust and the driving force behind the creation of the trail. The hike is on level ground over fields and woods edge, so it is for all ages and all abilities. This hike is free to all members. To become a member, visit matlt.org and donate at little as \$1! More info can be found in the News section of our website or by contacting us.



Map Giveaway!

We're giving away copies of our 32.5" x 25.5" laminated maps! These high quality prints were created as part of our High Peaks Initiative. To enter, go to matlt.org and sign up for our email newsletter!



Saddleback Connector

The triangle pictured in the aerial map above is known as the Saddleback Connector because it is a lynchpin for trail access on the east side of Saddleback Mountain. The mountain runs in a southwest to northeast direction; to the west and the south are Rangeley, the A.T. trailhead off Route 4, and Saddleback Ski Area. To the east and north there is very little, if any, development. This is where the Orbeton Stream parcel and the Saddleback Connector are. The

connector is a portion of Maine A.T. Land Trust's Saddleback Mountain parcel which will be donated at closing to become a part of the State of Maine's Orbeton Stream easement. By donating the parcel, access over the Fly Rod Crosby Trail and ITS 84-89 (a major ATV/snowmobile route) will be maintained in perpetuity.

To read more about this parcel and the Orbeton Stream project visit www.matlt.org.

Redington Missile Defense Hearing on August 12-14

According to a notice published in the Federal Register, the Missile Defense Agency is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement regarding four sites for a potential Continental Interceptor Site. One of the sites is the Redington SERE facility in Redington Township (pictured at right). The Department of Defense has not made a decision as to whether or not they will actually construct a CIS at any of the sites yet, but we encourage all Maine A.T. Land Trust members to attend one of the

four public meetings to be held in Rangeley and Farmington. Maine A.T. Land Trust is concerned with the potential environmental impact such a site would have in the A.T. High Peaks area. Needless to say, we will be following the public process closely and we encourage you to do the same at the Missile Defense Agency website. *Please check http://www.mda.mil/about/enviro_cis.html for info. Updates will also be posted at www.matlt.org.*



Berry Pickers Trail

There's going to be a new trail up Saddleback Mountain in the near future. It will cross Maine A.T. Land Trust's Saddleback property and intersect with the Appalachian Trail just below the summit. We will provide updates as soon as we have news to share. *Check matlt.org for updates.*



Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust is currently working on three new projects! We hope to have more to share about these special places in our email newsletter.



Site of the Navy SERE Facility in Redington Township, showing the Appalachian Trail to the south of the base.

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The Appalachian Trail
is your trail!

A message from the Executive Director

One of the things Maine A.T. Land Trust wants to excel at is connecting with members. That's why we're doing our best to transition to our e-newsletter service. Printing a paper newsletter consumes precious resources that could otherwise be devoted to our land conservation activities – stewardship, acquisition and operating costs. There's also the ecological argument for an electronic newsletter: no paper, no carbon emissions, no chemicals. And then there's the practical angle: the same newsletter is available in .pdf form for easy reading anytime, and we can reach you immediately when you

subscribe to the email newsletter. This means more timely updates about our member events and Maine A.T. happenings. I encourage you to go to **matlt.org** to sign up in the News section. All you need to do is enter your email address and you're ready to go! You can unsubscribe at any time.

Kallin Family A.T. Hike

Board member David Kallin and his family have been hiking the A.T. since March. This is a remarkable feat for a family with two kids aged 10 and 8 years old! Equally remarkable is that fact that Dave has been keeping a trail blog where you can keep track of their progress. They will be entering Maine shortly for the hardest part of the trail, but they are happy to be on home soil.

Read more about the Kallin family at kallinfamily.com.



Summertime on the summit of Mount Abraham, looking towards Saddleback Mountain. Maine A.T. Land Trust is the easement holder for the ecological reserve pictured in the foreground. Member support helps us monitor the conservation easement to ensure that this important habitat just off the A.T. remains "forever wild".



Thank you for your continuing support of the Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust! Your donation supports our ongoing project work and allows us to continue operations, fund stewardship activities and protect land along the Appalachian Trail.

____ \$1,000 ____ \$500 ____ \$100 ____ \$50 ____ \$25 ____ \$10 \$____ (other amount)

Please make checks payable to: **"Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust"**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Your donation is tax deductible. Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

Guest Column – Paul Comtois, Landowner, Talks About Donating an Easement to Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust



The Appalachian Trail corridor just off Paul Comtois' land.



Aerial view of Paul Comtois' property, showing the Appalachian Trail in red running along the northern edge of the property. Flagstaff Lake and the Bigelow Preserve lie just to the west of the property.

While drinking coffee that November morning in camp, David Kallin and I decided to take a hike to view the property. My dad decided to stay in camp and seeing it was the third week of the Maine rifle deer season we donned our hunter orange and proceeded for a three-hour hike. During the hike David was willing to answer all questions I had regarding my donation of a Conservation Easement. He discussed how the process would be handled; the required steps each party would undertake and if everything went smoothly we might meet my requested closing on or before April 1st 2014. Seeing the legality and constraints that an Easement places on property, David instructed me multiple times to seek legal counsel to ensure my needs are met and protected. I hired the services of Attorney Sarah McDaniel from Westbrook Maine. Sarah's expertise is in Land Conservation Law and Conservation Easement Law. I was very satisfied with Sarah as my Attorney and would recommend her to anyone seeking help with a new or existing Conservation Easement.

The months of December 2013 thru February 2014 were filled with back and forth discussions as to the terms, definition of the terms and what specifically would and would not be allowed once the Easement was in place. The land Survey map was completed by the middle of January with a few minor changes regarding language used on the survey map. Beginning of March rolled around and the Easement was pretty much completed and a closing date was scheduled for 10:00am on March 25, 2014. Present at the closing was Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust President William Plouffe, David Kallin, Sarah and I. The entire closing process took just about one hour and was followed up with a wonderful lunch off-site with the four of us.

The main reason for placing an Easement on my property was that I wanted to maintain the current land use status I had employed for the last 23 years; maintain my home site, supply my camp with firewood and leave the rest to Mother Nature. As a hunter and a conservationist, protecting available land is very important to me. My little Alaska is now permanently protected from any future development. It will add serenity to that section of the AT Trail and the Bigelow Preserve.

If you own property abutting or in close proximity to the Appalachian Trail Corridor and are considering a Conservation Easement please contact The Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust (aka MATLT) located in Portland, Maine. If you are considering placing an Easement on your property, do your homework before hand. Know what you want and what you don't as far as activities on the land. What helped me out tremendously, other than having a great bunch of people working with me is that I knew exactly what I wanted to do with the property. Some items were added and others were modified. MATLT did not dictate the terms of the Easement. Rather they worked with me so that both parties were satisfied when this was completed.

I would like to extend a personal thank you to the following individuals and companies: William Plouffe, President, Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust; David Kallin, Attorney, Drummond Woodsum; Attorney Sarah McDaniel, Westbrook, Maine; Sackett & Brake Survey, Inc., Skowhegan, Maine.

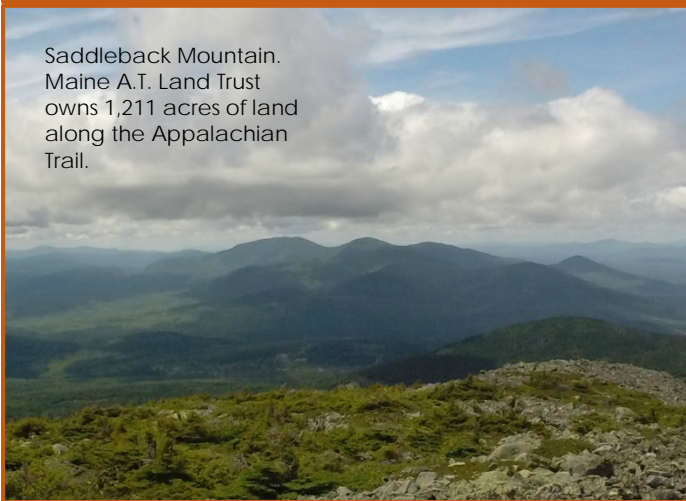
- Paul Comtois

Summertime in the Mountains of Maine

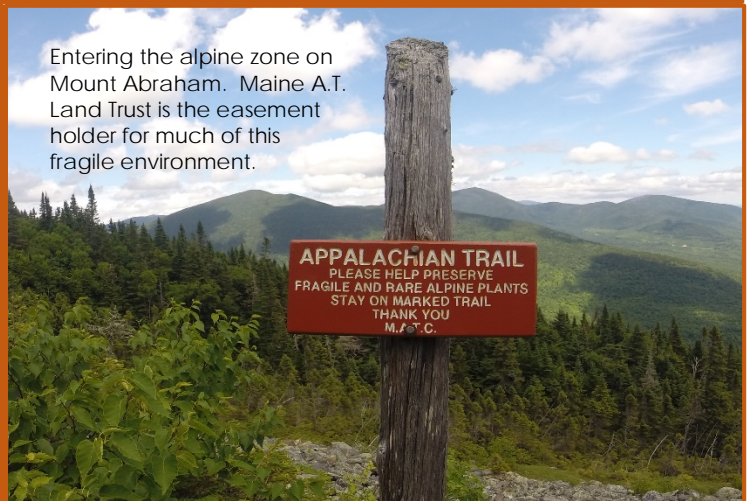
The Crockers, a Maine A.T. Land Trust project completed in 2013 with The Trust for Public Land.



Saddleback Mountain. Maine A.T. Land Trust owns 1,211 acres of land along the Appalachian Trail.



Entering the alpine zone on Mount Abraham. Maine A.T. Land Trust is the easement holder for much of this fragile environment.



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