

For Immediate Release

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Blue Hill Heritage Trust Receives Grant for New Trail Guide

Blue Hill Heritage Trust has received a \$5,000 grant from the Maine Land Conservation Fund of the Maine Community Foundation to aid in the production of a trail guide for the Blue Hill Peninsula. The guide is being developed in partnership with Maine Coast Heritage Trust and The Conservation Trust of Brooksville, Castine and Penobscot. It will include trail maps, as well as information about and directions to 25 different properties on the Blue Hill Peninsula that are owned or managed by the three organizations and are available for public use.

Blue Hill Heritage Trust (BHHT) and its partners have developed a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities to meet the growing public demand from residents and visitors for places to walk for both exercise and recreation. These trails also help support the tourism sector of the local economy. BHHT itself now manages over 14 miles of trails on properties throughout the Peninsula, including the heavily used Blue Hill Mountain trails. BHHT also has several new trail projects in the works and is actively seeking volunteers interested in trail construction.

While information about these trails is currently available from each organization, the new guide is intended to be an easy and comprehensive source of information about local hiking trails as well as water access points and several islands available for public enjoyment. The trail guide will be produced in time for the summer season and will be available for purchase at the Trust's office and various local outlets.

Blue Hill Heritage Trust is a community-based, membership-supported non-profit land conservation organization founded by local residents in 1985 to help conserve land resources on the Blue Hill Peninsula that have special scenic, recreational, ecological, agricultural or cultural significance. For more information about the Trust, the trail guide, or volunteering, visit the Trust office at 258 Mountain Road, Blue Hill, call 374- 5118, view their website at www.bluehillheritagetrust.org or find them on Facebook.

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