



The Daily Bagaduce

Making Headlines since 2017



Written by Colby Lacasse



A Brief History of BHHT

Blue Hill Heritage Trust is a nationally accredited non-profit organization determined to conserve land of importance on the Blue Hill Peninsula. Their mission statement is “To conserve in perpetuity land and water resources that support the long-term health and well-being of the natural and human communities on the Blue Hill Peninsula.” They are a membership based land conservation organization founded in 1985 by Blue Hill Peninsula Residents. They have conserved all types of land including forests, blueberry fields, beaches, and almost entire mountains. Blue Hill Heritage Trust is an incredible organization with incredible members, including Chrissy Allen, the fabulous employee who led 8th graders on 3 wonderful hikes that were all part of the Bagaduce watershed. A watershed is an area or ridge of land that separates waters flowing through rivers, basins, or seas. The watershed is important because it is a significant part of the ecosystem on the Blue Hill Peninsula. It is an important habitat for many animals and plants.



Ferry Landing

Ferry Landing is A Beautiful property on the Bagaduce Estuary. It was put under conservation in 1990. It was conserved for a multitude of reasons. It was a very important habitat for all of the animals and plants surrounding and in the property. It was also a very important cultural site. 2 islands off of the property in the lake played a pivotal role in The Underground Railroad. In the early 1900's a man named Cunningham Limeburner made a ferry so people could get across the river. Before the ferry people had to go all the way around the river and the trip could take more then a day. Limeburner's ferry took oxes and sheep across the river in 15-30 minutes. He ran the ferry almost everyday until he died. I thought this property was beautiful. The hike was very interesting and the view of the Bagaduce river was stunning. I would love to sometime go back and take the hike again to really enjoy all of the scenery.



All Photos by Colby Lacasse

Weinland

Weinland is another wonderful property, not actually on the Bagaduce River, but is in the Bagaduce Watershed. It was obtained in the merger with TCT in 2014. It ways conserved in 1997 by Helen Weinland, who donated in her parents name Richard and Virginia Weinland. Virginia was born in 1912. When she turned 60 she was given a camera for her birthday. Ever since that day she became so good her photos were featured in Auto Bahn field guides, a large tour guide agency. She i people to study the outdoors and led tours up into her 90's. Virginia was an incredible woman. Weinland was 32.4 acres, but a 6.8 acres were added to the property making the total acreage 37.2 acres. The trail is 1 mile long. I really enjoyed this hike. It was my favorite out of the three. I loved all of the moss, lichen and other cool parts of nature we saw. My favorite part was when we walked through a moss field. It was really incredible.



Cooper Farm

Cooper Farm is located on Catepillar Hill in Sedgwick, Maine. It was purchahed in 2001 and is 134 acres, Maine Coast Heritage Trust and Island Heritage Trust helped purchase the property, but it is owned by BHHT. They are working right now to conserve the rest of Catepillar Hill. They need 600,000 dollars to purchase 30 acres of the land. Cooper Farm was protected because it was in the Bagaduce watershed, it has one of the best views in Maine, it is an important wildlife habitat, has enormous blueberry fields, which anyone is allowed to harvest by hand for free, it is an important cultural site for the First Nation and Penobscot Nation People, and it overlooks Walker Pond, which used to be one of the largest ice harvest places on the east coast. Cooper Farm was absolutely breathtaking. The view coming up the Hill was to die for. The walk was very interesting. It stared in a blueberry field and we walked into the woods and back out onto a dirt road. This was certainly a fantastic hike.

