

THE WATER WEEKLY

On the coast of Maine



About the Editor

My name is Renee Amado, and I edited this week's edition of Water Weekly. I currently live in Blue Hill, Maine so I really enjoyed writing about my community. I hope you enjoy reading this week's Water Weekly as much as I did writing it!

All photos in this article are either taken by Molly Jennings or from the BHHT website.



Blue Hill students hiking on their field trip to Blue Hill Heritage Trust



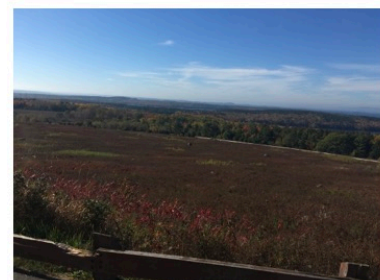
BHCS Blue Hill Heritage Trust trip

The 8th grade students at Blue Hill Consolidated school took 3 different field trips to Blue Hill Heritage Trust property. As an 8th grader myself, I had hoped to go on these trips, but was unable to due to the fact that I was in a different state at the time. Nevertheless, I love Blue Hill

Heritage Trust from previous hikes I have done, but I'm sure they were as beautiful as I've heard.



Some gorgeous views the Blue Hill consolidated school got to visit on their hikes





Water Sheds; Why they're important to the Blue Hill Community

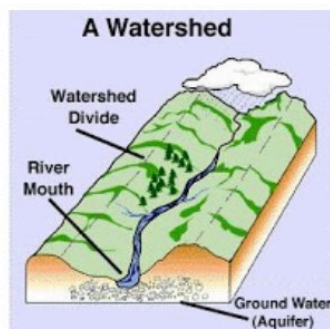
Watersheds are extremely important to the Blue Hill peninsula. So, what are they?

- Land that is pitched down hill towards a water source.

In this case, any land that is pitched downhill towards the Bagaduce River is considered a part of the Bagaduce Watershed.

Watersheds are extremely important to the ecosystem and can be affected very easily: if water from one or two parts of a watershed get polluted, that pollution can spread extremely fast, since everything in the watershed is connected.

All three of the hikes that the BHCS 8th grade students walked were apart of the Bagaduce Watershed.



This Photo is from <http://www.cornahogawed.org/euclid-creek/about-us/the-watershed>

First of All, What's Blue Hill Heritage Trust?

Blue Hill Heritage trust is a nonprofit land conservation located on the coast of Maine. It was founded in 1985 by residents of the Blue Hill peninsula. Blue Hill Heritage trust has protected nearly 10,000 acres! BHHT works to preserve our beautiful community; from the breathtaking views and forests to the gorgeous beaches. Now, BHHT is a membership-based organization that provides many free educational opportunities across the peninsula.

Blue Hill Heritage Trust's Mission: 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.



A few of Blue Hill Heritage Trust's beautiful properties





2) Weinland Nature Study Area

The second hike that the BHCS 8th grade took was in a 40 acre property in Penobscot. The forest in which this hike was in used to be known as the Condon forest. I did not get to go on this hike, although I have heard that this hike is just as beautiful as the rest. It is wooded with wetlands and granite outcroppings on a ridge to the west. It also has hard and soft wood stands. The forest was logged in 1970, so the forest is still developing, with vernal pools, young trees, and various ferns. There is also wildlife; such as deer, Moose, coyote, and ruffed goose.

This land was conserved in 1997 as a gift to the TCT from a private family, the Weinlands. Virginia Weinland led tours until she was in her 90s, so her daughter, Helen, bought the property and sold it to BHHT in honor of her parents, Richard and Virginia Weinland. The property was also conserved for students to get personal with it and learn from it. BHHT received this land in 2014.

1) Ferry Landing Preserve in Brooksville

The first hike that the BHCS 8th grade students walked was in Brooksville. This was a lovely one mile hike; there was a beautiful forest with the gorgeous fall leaves laying on the ground that crunched when you walked. The hike led to a wonderful view of the water, across it being another town named Castine. Our guide told us about the history and importance of Ferry Landing.

In 1775, a man named Cunningham Limeberger began to run a ferry from where we were standing in Brooksville to across the water to Castine. He started the ferry business because people in Brooksville who wanted to get to Castine had previously had to travel all the way through Sedgwick to get there. (see map below) Cunningham's ferry got people there in just 15 minutes! People could even take animals with them on the ferry. Cunningham Limeberger made \$15 dollars quarterly. His ferry ran successfully from 1775 to the early 1900s. Ferry Landing was preserved in 1990.



A view from Ferry Landing



3) Cooper Farm in Sedgwick

The last hike the BHCS 8th grade students went on was in a 134 acre property in Penobscot. It is part of a very popular tourist site, Caterpillar Hill. Although I did not go on this hike with my peers, I have been before and can describe what an amazing place it is. This amazing view overlooks open fields and forests, which are alive with color. I visited this view during an art class last fall, so I can personally describe how gorgeous this view is.

Blue Hill Heritage Trust conserved this property in 2001. It was a gift from the Gwynn, Casey, and Brown families. It was protected because of its wildlife, habitat, view, and blueberry fields. It has also been a major place for ice harvest in the past. This dazzling property is maintained by member support.

Blue Hill Heritage Trust wants to own the portion of Caterpillar Hill that they have not bought yet. Maine coast Heritage Trust and Island Heritage Trust teamed up to help raise money for this property, and they're teaming up again to buy the 30 acres of Caterpillar Hill that they do not own for \$600,000.

