



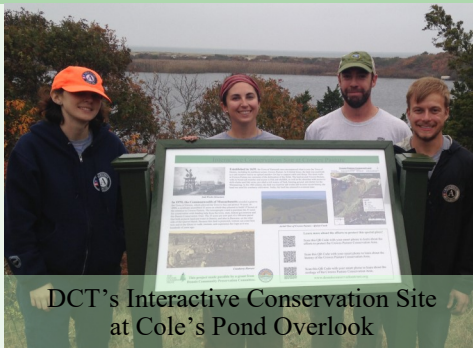
www.DennisConservationTrust.org



Discover Dennis with the DCT

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DCT's Interactive Conservation Site
at Cole's Pond Overlook

The Dennis Conservation Trust is a not for profit, member supported organization working to protect open space, water resources and wildlife habitat within the Town of Dennis.

SUCCESS PROTECTING SCARGO LAKE



Photograph taken by Zygote Digital Films

Visitors and residents alike agree that Scargo Lake is one of the Town's true treasures. In the spring of 2015, the Dennis Conservation Trust was approached by the owner of the largest unprotected piece of land along Scargo Lake. Her desire was to sell an 8.15-acre portion of the property – including approximately 100' of pond front – to the Town of Dennis and the Dennis Conservation Trust.

This was a rare opportunity to purchase a pristine parcel of land that will preserve the ecological integrity and the natural vista of the eastern shore of Scargo Lake.

From determining lot lines to identifying funding sources, the process to purchase the land was delicate and complex. But this was not DCT's first time partnering with Dennis on land preservation. Our cooperative efforts go back to the time of Save the Crowe and Bass River Park.

We are proud to report that on March 31, 2017, the Town of Dennis officially purchased the property. The Trust's share was \$300,000 and the Town contributed the balance of \$600,000 through Community Preservation funding. The DCT will hold a conservation restriction on the property, further protecting it.

We are grateful for our relationship with the Town administration and staff, especially Town Administrator Elizabeth Sullivan, the Department of Natural Resources, and the members of the Community Preservation Committee and many community members who supported our effort.

A LANDMARK AGREEMENT



A Conservation Easement granted by the Dennis Conservation Trust is believed to be the first of its kind in the Eastern United States. The DCT voted in November 2016 to create a partnership with the Native Land Conservancy, Inc. (NLC) that will provide NLC formal access to DCT's 250 acres of conservation lands in northwest Dennis. The Cultural Respect Agreement (CRA) enables NLC a right of entry to the marsh and upland margins owned by the DCT along Chase Garden Creek. The CRA is modeled on similar easements in California between natives and non-native property owners for access to sacred sites.

According to the Agreement, NLC may conduct cultural practices, such as traditional spiritual ceremonies, seasonal celebrations, offerings, and cultural education/



The DCT and NLC Members at the signing ceremony.

interpretation for its members and invited guests "to honor the native peoples' association with the property" over thousands of years. The Chase Garden Creek area was a traditional place of gathering, ritual, ceremony, and foraging by the indigenous people of Cape Cod, notably



Wampum beads given to the DCT by the NLC.

the sachemships of the Wampanoag Nation recognized in a 1670 atlas at Mattacheese and Nobscusset. DCT and NLC have also committed to sharing the lands' story

with the general public at least once a year. The DCT thanks Ramona Peters, NLC founder and president, and Mark Robinson, Director of the Cape Cod Compact of Conservation Trusts, for all of their hard work on this significant agreement. We are proud to be the first land trust on Cape Cod to complete a CRA.

The Native Land Conservancy, Inc. (NLC) is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the natural and cultural resources, habitats, ecosystems on lands generally in the Northeast region.

Over 3 Acres Protected Near Swan River



View of Swan River from the property.

An important wildlife corridor along Swan River has become even more significant with the DCT's recent purchase of 3.5 acres of land on Swan River Road. For several years, the Dennis Conservation Trust was in communication the Cronin and Cunniff families with the goal of purchasing their land in West Dennis for conservation purposes. The property is a combination of upland, brackish

marsh, and saltmarsh. While one possible use of the land was to build a single-family home, the DCT was committed to protecting the property, as an additional structure would be detrimental to natural resources found there.

Located in a neighborhood of small residential lots, the parcel is flanked on the north, south, and west by 3 acres of open space owned by the Dennis Conservation Trust and the Town of Dennis. Protecting this additional property maintains the wildlife corridor along the River – home to important plant and animal species, including smooth cordgrass, deer, and migratory terns.

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs awarded a \$75,000 Conservation Partnership Grant to the DCT towards the \$150,000 purchase price. On March 28, 2017, the



The DCT receiving the \$75,000 from Secretary Matthew Beaton, along with Rep. Tim Whelan.

Dennis Conservation Trust sealed the deal and the land is now protected forever. As is often the case, this successful land purchase resulted from cooperation and collaboration among the DCT, the State, and private, conservation-minded individuals.

Years from now, when you and your future generations walk the natural paths and places of Dennis, take pride in knowing that your continued efforts preserve them.

Volunteer Spotlight

DCT volunteers. What would we do without them? The Dennis Conservation Trust is grateful for all the volunteer support we receive. The countless hours they contribute in property monitoring, land management, and event preparations make the Trust successful. In an effort to recognize their hard work, we are creating the Volunteer Spotlight section of our newsletter.

For the inaugural Spotlight, we are highlighting a volunteer who goes above and beyond to help out the DCT. William (a.k.a Bill) Creighton has been a volunteer for many years. Bill came to the Cape in 1969 and worked for the Cape Cod Times as a Newspaper Compositor. He started volunteering with the DCT as a Land Steward for our 1.5- acre property along Route 6A and Paddocks Path. On any given day, you will see Bill caring for the land and picking up litter along the roadside. Bill also assists the DCT with event set-up for our Auction, and in managing other properties.



Bill Creighton working hard at the DCT's property along Paddocks Path.

Bill also dedicates his free time to volunteering as a driver with the Dennis Council on Aging, caring for flags and markers with the Dennis Veteran's Grave Committee, and serving with the local VFW. The DCT is very fortunate to have Bill on the team. Thank you Bill!



Are you interested in volunteer opportunities with the DCT?

Join the DCT on the third Monday of each month from 1-3PM for land maintenance projects. Activities include but are not limited to trail maintenance, litter pick-up, and sign installation.

Call 508-694-7812 or email at katherine@thecompact.net for more information.

Gratefully Remembering Muriel Hanger



Muriel in her sitting room.

Many people remember Muriel Hanger as a town historian who was active in the Dennis community and a stalwart conservationist. She was also a long-time supporter of the Dennis Conservation Trust.

After Muriel's passing in December 2016, the Dennis Conservation Trust was honored to receive the generous gift of her 1812 homestead on Beach Street in Dennis Village. This donation included the contents of both the house and barn.

Many Trustees and volunteers have worked tirelessly to prepare the buildings and furnishings for settlement.

After hosting an estate sale and donating the remaining items in the home to the Dennis Union Church Auction, the DCT is thoughtfully moving forward with plans to sell the house. Muriel's singular generosity will help ensure the Trust's financial stability and future land protection efforts for years to come.

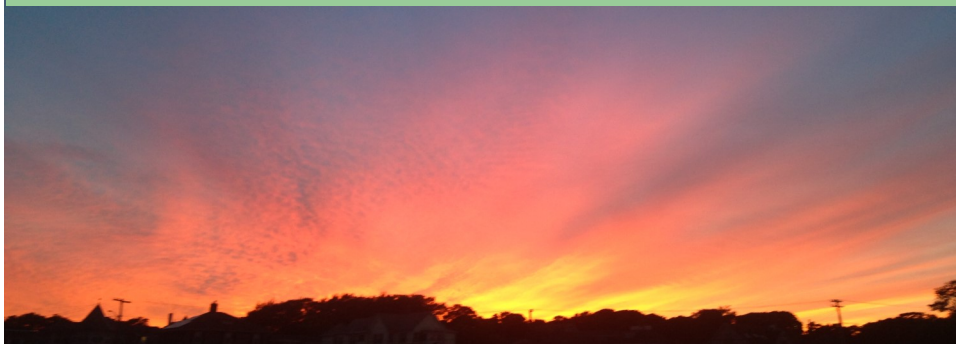


Muriel's beautiful home on Beach Street.

THE POWER OF YOUR SUPPORT

With your financial support at any level, the DCT will confidently embark on the next 29 years with its mission to further preserve the natural beauty of our town.

Renew your membership online at www.DennisConservationTrust.org or mail your check to DCT at P.O. Box 67, East Dennis, MA 02641.



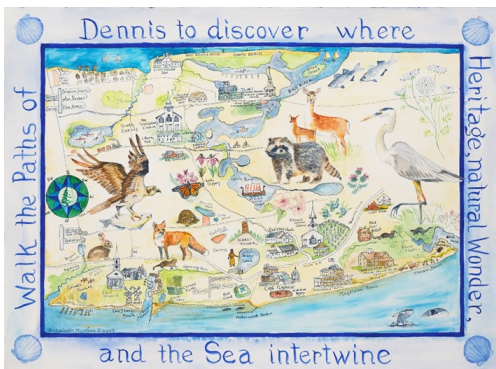
2017 Summer Evening

Well, you asked and we listened – this year’s Summer Evening promises to be better than ever. The DCT will host this year’s Live and Silent Summer Evening Auction at the newly-owned Dennis Inn at 25 Scarsdale Road, Dennis. The July 30 gala will introduce a few new additions, such as live entertainment from the **Hyannis Sound**,



Photograph from the Dennis Inn.

Cape Cod’s Finest A Cappella group, as well as “The Wheel of Wine,” and a special brew from **Devil’s Purse Brewing Company**. We’ve kept a few of our most treasured traditions, too, and will bring back **Kate’s Lobster Rolls**, and of course, we’ll have the **East Dennis Oyster Farm** shucking away! You can preview some of the auction items on our website. We are thrilled once again to showcase a custom pasta serving set from **Scargo Pottery**, a new featured piece from jeweler **Ross Copleman**, and of course, our premier **Golf and Travel Packages!** We hope you can join us for what we know will be an evening dedicated to having FUN in support of a cause we all believe in. To purchase tickets to the Auction, visit our website: dennisconservationtrust.org or call Katherine Garofoli at 508-694-7812.



Photograph taken by Image Tec.

But wait – there’s more!

The DCT is thrilled to offer you a chance to win an original Elizabeth Mumford watercolor painting, “Discover Dennis.” Only 100 chances will be sold, so don’t miss this rare opportunity! And, if you buy a raffle ticket for the painting, you’re invited to join us BEFORE the Auction for a Champagne Reception with

Elizabeth Mumford at 4:30 PM,

Sunday, July 30th at the Dennis Inn, 25 Scarsdale Road, Dennis.

Each chance to enter the drawing is \$100 and includes attendance to the private reception for you and one guest, plus your opportunity to win the original “Discover Dennis” Mumford watercolor. Each raffle ticket buyer will also receive a signed and numbered archival quality print.

If you would like to purchase a chance or two, go to our website:

dennisconservationtrust.org or call Katherine Garofoli at 508-694-7812.

DCT's Interactive Conservation Areas



The DCT's Interactive site at Old Fort Field Digital Films to produce a series of videos that will provide a closer look at the critical impact that conservation lands have, the history of the land, and how we are working toward future conservation.

The DCT is pleased to announce that the 5th installment of our Interactive Video Series will start production this summer. Once again the Trust is teaming up with Chris Simmons and Zygot

Last summer, the DCT installed the first of the Interactive Video Kiosks at Crowe's Pasture, Old Fort Field, Dorothy Connors Bell Conservation Land, and the Indian Lands Conservation Area. Each of these kiosks provides a series of QR codes easily activated by a smart phone to access a short video series about the location. For example, at the Crowe's Pasture kiosk, visitors can watch videos that show how the conservation land was acquired, describe the history and different uses of the land, and explain the important ecosystems and ecology of these protected areas.



The DCT's Interactive site at Crowes Pasture

The newest Interactive Kiosks will include a series of videos that feature information about the importance of the salt marsh systems and ecology around Chase Garden Creek. This protected area along the corridor serves to keep our water clean and provides a healthy breeding ground for much of the ocean life that is crucial to the Cape's ecosystems. This includes over 39 acres



Photograph taken by Zygot Digital Films

surrounding the region's only commercial shellfish hatchery, saltmarsh, and coastal dunes protected through a major collaboration between the Town of Dennis, Town of Yarmouth, Dennis Conservation Trust, Barnstable County, The Nature Conservancy, and the State of Massachusetts.

The 2017 DCT Rubber Duck Regatta



Does your rubber duck have what it takes to win the \$1,000 first prize in the 2nd Annual DCT Rubber Duck Regatta? Can your personally-decorated duck earn the most votes for “Best Decked Out Duck“?

Find out on Saturday, September 16, when 2,000 numbered yellow ducks take to the waters along the bridge at the Sand Bar Restaurant on Lighthouse Road in West Dennis. This super-fun, family-friendly event kicks off at 11 AM, with activities like free face painting, duck whistles, and friendly competition, plus the "Decked Out Duck" contest!

The race will begin around 11:30 AM, followed by a lunch to benefit the DCT. Here’s how it works: Buy 1 racing duck chance at \$10 each or 3 racing ducks for \$25. You’ll get a number for each of your ducks. If your numbered duck crosses the finish line first, you win \$1,000. Second place is \$250; third place is \$100.



And they’re off! The 2016 Launch.

You can purchase ducks online at DennisConservationTrust.org, and on race day by the Sand Bar. Everyone can enter the "Decked Out Duck" contest, too! Purchase a large duck, decorate it, and enter the competition!



Keep your eyes open for our “Decked-out Duck” sponsor in various locations throughout Dennis. These sponsors are decorating their oversized ducks "to the nines" in hopes that you will vote for your favorite at the Duck Race! We will publicize a final list of locations on our DCT website.

2016 Decked Out Duck Contestants

DCT Items of Interest



DCT Trustees were among the “litter-picker-upper” teams on Dennis Appreciation Day, April 22. More than 75 individuals participated in a Town-wide cleanup coordinated by the Dennis Department of Public Works. 128 bags of trash and about 800 pounds of miscellaneous construction and demolition debris were collected.

Groups and organizations from across Cape Cod, including the DCT, AmeriCorps Cape Cod, the Center for Coastal Studies, IFAW, the Association to Preserve Cape Cod, and many, many others along with the Dennis Department of Natural Resources and the Dennis DPW co-sponsored the first-ever Dennis Natural Heritage Day at Johnny Kelley Park in South Dennis. Thanks to Hart Farm Nursery and



Board of Trustees
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Dorria Marsh
Paul McCormick
Connie Mooers
Edmond Nickerson
Paul Prue
Norman Taupeka
John Todd
Christopher Wadsworth



Garden Center, the DCT distributed free spruce and white pine seedlings to celebrate Earth Day, at Hart Farm Nursery and at Johnny Kelley Park.



Advisors
Dave Berry
Katie Clancy
Bob Laufer
Jim Wick

In Beauty I May Walk

In beauty may I walk;
All day long may I walk;
Through the returning seasons may I walk.

Beautifully will I possess again
Beautifully birds
Beautifully butterflies...

On the trail marked with pollen may I walk;
With grasshoppers about my feet may I walk;
With dew around my feet may I walk.

With beauty before me may I walk
With beauty behind me may I walk
With beauty above me may I walk
With beauty all around me,
may I walk.

In old age, wandering on a trail of beauty, lively;
In old age, wandering on a trail of beauty, living again...
It is finished in beauty.
It is finished in beauty.

Navajo Prayer





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