



The Heron

Fall-Winter 2008

The Newsletter of the Mattapoissett Land Trust, Inc. • www.mattlandtrust.org • E-mail: info@mattlandtrust.org

Stalking the Wild Terrapin

by Tom Richardson

“We’ve found them in all of the estuaries in Wareham,” reports Don Lewis. “There are some in Sippican Harbor in Marion, there are some in Aucoot Cove, and there are some in the Mattapoissett River, where we’ve found some nests near the YMCA. They have occasionally nested in Dartmouth in Allens Pond. We suspect there might be a population on West Island, but haven’t confirmed it yet.”



The “them” that Lewis, a turtle researcher who works with the Massachusetts Audubon Society and other groups, is talking about are diamondback terrapins, elusive and fascinating reptiles that inhabit the coastal waters of southern New England, yet go largely unnoticed by even the most careful observer. Diamondbacks are the only estuarine turtle in North America and possibly the entire northern hemisphere, spending most of their lives deep inside coastal marshes and estuaries. They range from Cape Cod to Florida and along the Gulf Coast to Texas. Once considered a delicacy, diamondbacks were heavily hunted and sold commercially in the 1700s and 1800s, but are now protected in most states. Only Maryland still allows the hunting of terrapins, and only then during a short season.

Here in Massachusetts, diamondbacks are listed as a “threatened” species (each state has its own designation system), with the turtles in more developed areas under more pressure. “On the SouthCoast where human development has been more intense and of longer duration than, say, the Outer Cape, we have altered the coastal ecosystem in ways that have severely impacted terrapin habitat,” says Lewis. “Within the SouthCoast region, I would assess their situation as critically pressured and on the verge of extirpation in some of our more

developed estuary systems, such as Sippican Harbor and Mattapoissett River. They may have been completely eliminated from New Bedford Harbor and the Acushnet estuary. But then again, we thought they had been extirpated from the Taunton River system, yet we found a few—a small residual population—in Assonet Bay in Freetown a couple of years ago.”

These days, the biggest threats to terrapins in New England are habitat destruction and egg predation by skunks, foxes, dogs, raccoons and opossums, all of which are very good at sniffing out turtle nests. Juvenile terrapins also face a host of threats once they emerge from the nest and enter the marsh. For the first seven to eight years of their lives, the slow-growing turtles must do their best to elude a gauntlet of predators, from herons and gulls to striped bass and eels. That helps explain why only one in 250 terrapins survives to maturity.

The good news is that once a terrapin reaches “hockey puck” size, almost nothing eats it, and terrapins can live for a very long time. No one knows exactly how long, but there’s evidence suggesting that they can live up to 80 years. That longevity is both a blessing and a curse, as it makes local populations susceptible to crashes. “You may see a lot of adults in a certain area, and so the population looks healthy, but if there’s no recruitment, when the adults die off the population in that area is gone forever,” Lewis explains.

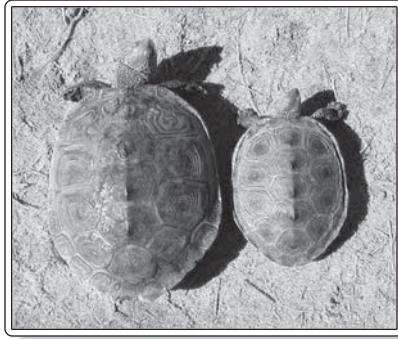
According to Lewis, the Mattapoissett population of turtles is very small, possibly close to extinction.

“There aren’t a lot of recruits (young turtles) entering the population and not a lot of successful nesting. That’s why we’re so interested to hear about new sightings.” If someone reports a turtle, Lewis will come out and inspect the area and protect any nest sites with wire-mesh enclosures to keep out predators. In some cases he will relocate the nest to a safer site.

Many people ask Lewis why he doesn’t simply transplant turtles from one area to another to increase a depleted population, but this doesn’t work in the case of terrapins, as individuals from different populations vary genetically. Like many marine turtles, terrapins are also genetically “programmed” to return to the nesting area where they were born, so a transplanted turtle might not be able to nest in the new environ-

Continued on Page 2

ment. “However, we can boost a local population simply by getting people to report sightings, so that we can find and protect the nests,” points out Lewis. “And don’t worry about identifying the turtle correctly; we’ll figure that out when we get there and look at the area.”



Female (L) and male Diamondbacks

What Lewis and his team of turtle researchers, which includes his wife Susan and several energetic college interns, look for when scouting potential terrapin habitat is a healthy, undeveloped marsh ecosystem bordered by shallow tidal flats and areas of sandy soil several yards above the high-tide line where the turtles can dig their nests. It’s important that the marsh perimeter be free of drainage ditches, roads or seawalls, all of which can prevent the turtles, and especially their young, from getting to and from the marsh.

Even though terrapins typically dig their nests during the day, timing their efforts around the high tide, when they don’t have to spend as much time exposed to terrestrial predators, they are rarely encountered by humans. Their nests, too, remain all but invisible to the untrained eye. “A terrapin nest is almost impossible to spot. It took us nearly 20 years to learn what to look for,” says Lewis, who does most of his fieldwork in Wellfleet, which boasts a robust terrapin population. June through mid-July is nesting season in the Northeast, and when terrapin-hunters are most likely to find evidence of freshly dug nest sites and turtle tracks. The best time to look for new nest



A young female Diamondback

sites—evidenced by a softball-size patch of damp or discolored sand—is in the early morning. Once the sand dries, the nest area blends in perfectly with the surrounding soil, as the turtles do an amazing job of smoothing out their work site.

Female terrapins in this region typically nest twice a year, once from early June to mid-June, and again from late June to mid-July. Incubation period is anywhere from 55 to 120 days, depending on how much sunlight the nest site receives.

As soon as the females deposit their clutch of 12 to 13 pinkish eggs and cover the nest, it’s back to the marsh, where their mottled shells help them blend in with the mud and weeds. During the day, terrapins feed on underwater vegetation, crabs, worms, shellfish and dead fish. Diamondbacks are adept scavengers, and have even been known to prey on the carcasses of whales that have washed up in tidal marshes.

Adult diamondbacks, which range from four to nine inches long, are occasionally seen swimming through marsh creeks or along the edge of shallow tidal flats, but mostly go

unnoticed. When Lewis and his team hunt for turtles during their annual monitoring excursions in the early summer, they head out at low tide, when the marshes have drained of water and the turtles are concentrated in the shallow tidal flats and basins. Their strategy involves wading in two feet to a foot of water while scanning the surface for the tiny black heads of the turtles. When a head is spotted, the turtle hunter sloshes over and attempts to scoop up the quarry in a crab net as it dives and flees over the bottom. The operation requires quick reflexes and a keen eye, as terrapins can propel themselves quite swiftly with their big paddle-shaped feet, and blend perfectly with the bottom. At the end of the session the turtles are weighed, measured and photographed. If the turtle is a recapture it will bear distinct markings that identify it; otherwise Lewis’s team will mark it with notches along the edge of the carapace.

Later in the year, the researchers watch the previously located nest sites carefully for emerging hatchlings. This is easier than it sounds, as the protective enclosures effectively trap the baby turtles until the researchers can help them on their way to the marsh. Terrapin hatchlings emerge from late August through mid-October. They leave the nest in daylight (they need the sun to “get their motors going,” says Lewis), crawling one at a time through a hole about the size of a nickel. “It’s like the scene in ‘The Great Escape,’ when the prisoners are darting out of the tunnel one at a time,” he chuckles. “The hole is just big enough for them to squiggle through. After they’re all out, the nest site caves in and looks like the surrounding sand. That’s why empty nests are hardly ever found.”

The exciting news for Mattapoisett residents is that diamondback terrapins are still living among us, maybe even right under our noses. But they need the help of people like Don Lewis—and you—if they are going to survive. If you have spotted a diamondback terrapin, or think you might have, call the Turtle Hotline, 508-274-5108. Also check out Lewis’s turtle website, www.turtlejournal.com, which has great photos of terrapins and other turtles, as well as short video clips.

Tom Richardson is an avid fisherman, a writer and the Editor of Northeast Boating magazine. He lives in Mattapoisett with his wife and three children.

We would like to hear from you!

Whether your contributions come in the form of tax-deductible financial gifts or through volunteer services, your support matters! Your annual membership contributions support the operating expenses of the MLT. Mowing, inspections, forestry services, trash pick-up, legal and accounting advice are all part of what keeps the organization vital and growing. In addition, whether you are concerned about preserving the scenic beauty of Mattapoisett, maintaining its biodiversity, or fear the degradation of Buzzards Bay waters from septic systems and chemical run-off, there are many ways you can volunteer your time and services, allowing for the enjoyment and education of future generations. You can check out some of these opportunities on our website, mattlandtrust.org, or contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Jenny Mello at 774-377-3305.

To become a member of the MLT, renew your membership, or learn more about upcoming events, check out our website: mattlandtrust.org, or e-mail us at info@mattlandtrust.org. We would like to hear from you and welcome any suggestions or comments!

Who We Are: Some New Faces!

This season we've chosen to introduce a few of our newly elected board members: Ellen Flynn, Sandy Hering, and Charlie Radville. We are thrilled that they have agreed to join us and look forward to their valuable contributions over the coming year and years to come!

Ellen Flynn

I first came to Mattapoisett in 1967 when, at that time, my brother Peter F. Flynn, (now Superintendent of Schools for Freeport IL) was a teacher for the New Bedford Job Corp. at Fort Rodman, a federally funded program partnered with IBM, offering young people job skills. In 1970, I relocated here with my husband who decided to leave the corporate world to build boats for Alan Vaites boat yard. After several years of working in the Mattapoisett community as a teacher's aide at Center School, assisting at Peter Briggs Insurance, clerking for Donald Fleming's law office and helping to manage David Cameron Tool company, I returned to Poughkeepsie, New York to continue my education and work as a Librarian at Vassar College for 20 years and as Maître D for Cordon Blue Catering. Three years ago, I retired and came back to Mattapoisett to live and discover my creative talents by the sea. The Woman's club embraced me and now I serve as their Vice President. I have supported the MFP Library and work as a member of the Friends board.

It is a dream for me to be part of the Land Trust as I have always felt that the MLT mission to preserve, protect, and educate the public about natural resources and wildlife is a vital tool to saving our environment. My specialty is Ikebana, a Japanese Floral Art design. I am most delighted to serve on the board and work on the Education committee. My daughter, Cobey Trish, lives in Brooklyn NY and is a marketing executive in Manhattan, in addition to working in the theatre world.

Sandy Hering

As a new resident of Mattapoisett, my husband, Don Bamberger and I enjoy walking our dogs around Town and often on Mattapoisett Land Trust properties. My studies and degree are in Horticulture, giving me an avid interest in gardening, in our town's tree canopy, and in preserving native species and plantings, so when asked to contribute to the Mattapoisett Land Trust, I was happy to join and happy to volunteer. Since joining, I have met new people and found activities to share with new friends. I love to think that, through the work of the MLT we are creating a sustainable landscape for our future generations to enjoy just as I am enjoying them today!

Charlie Radville

I am a freelancer in communication art and design in Mattapoisett. I was born in Belmont, Massachusetts and grew up in Wakefield, Massachusetts. I hold degrees in Fine Arts and Industrial Design from Rhode Island School of Design in Providence. I worked for thirty years as designer and consultant in the field of specialized rehabilitation products. After leaving that field I returned to school to learn the new technology and software used in print, web and video production, resulting in a certificate

in "Digital and 3-D Design."

My wife Trudy and I moved to Mattapoisett in 1997 from Vienna, Virginia, attracted by the ocean and the open spaces. In my off hours I play guitar, garden and split wood for the heating season.

My involvement in MLT began with volunteer work cleaning up properties and providing design and layout for the MLT's Heron. I accepted a nomination to the MLT board after seeing the level of commitment MLT has shown in preservation of open space. My hope is to contribute my professional skills to the further development of public communication for MLT.

Harbor Days Highlights

by Martin Hudis

Every year, the MLT participates in Harbor Days festivities in order to increase our visibility within the community. And by all accounts, our Harbor Days 2008 activities were a success! Here are some highlights:

- A raffle organized by Brad Hathaway was added to the Harbor Day activities. The raffle raised over \$2,000 and was a big hit. There were 9 prizes, including two paintings donated by local artists (Mike Mazer and Priscilla Alden Hathaway), a Boston Harbor cruise on a tall ship for 80 people, a one year subscription to *Northeast Boating Magazine* and many great donations from area businesses.
- Sales of clothes and non-clothes items have grown over the four years both in number and revenue. This year aluminum water bottles and salty refrigerator magnets were added to shirts, hats, salty pins and decals. The revenue from these sales has grown by more than 25% per year.
- Julie Craig from Sea Horse Farm and the not-for-profit "Helping Hands and Hooves" provided horseback riding. Each of the past four years, Julie and Copper (the gentlest horse you'll ever meet!) have done the trail loop set up on the Munro property more than 135 times. The income from this activity is divided between the MLT and Helping Hands and Hooves. Thanks Julie for your continued support of the MLT!
- The MLT tent hosted the Nasketucket Bird Club which had great bird pictures and a list of walks scheduled by the bird club for the upcoming months. The bird walks started as a MLT activity and grew to a self-directed full fledged bird club with active members from many towns surrounding and including Mattapoisett and now hosts many bird related activities during the year. Mike LaBosiere (President of the Nasketucket Bird Club) has done an outstanding job developing growing the bird club.
- New members continue to join the MLT each Harbor Days.
- Special thanks go out to those individuals who volunteered their time during the Harbor Days festivities!

Property Updates

by Gary P. Johnson

MLT Receives 6-acre Donation

Supporters of our land protection efforts will be pleased to learn that our land holdings in July increased to 551 acres with the addition of 6.25 acres donated to the MLT by Mrs. Maryellen Shachoy. The parcel contains the access road to the water tower on Route 6 behind the Friends' Meeting House and both abuts, and gives easier access to, the property acquired in 1996 that surrounds the water tower.

Mrs. Shachoy's father, George E. Sullivan, originally acquired the parcel in the 1960's. Mr. Sullivan was a resident of Fall River who had a lasting love of Mattapoisett, having summered in the town since the 1940's. In honor of Mr. Sullivan, the parcel will be known as the George E. Sullivan Preserve – we intend

to have a dedication ceremony with a memorial bench after we have completed some stewardship work, probably in the late spring.

The property is largely upland forest of secondary growth white pine and white cedar and is bordered by traditional stonewalls. In addition to

providing access to the water tower property, it will also provide space for parking for those who would like to hike the Hiller Trail on the Martocci Preserve located on the opposite side of Route 6.



The view toward Route 6

We wish to thank Mrs. Shachoy for her generosity and hope that her gift will serve as an example to other landowners. A donation of land to the MLT can be a meaningful way to remember a loved one by preserving part of Mattapoisett for the enjoyment of others in perpetuity.

Brandt Island Cove "Doubly" Protected

Before the end of the State's fiscal year in June, the MLT was able to complete the sale of a conservation restriction (CR) to MassWildlife covering both the 107-acre Walega-Livingstone Preserve on Brandt Island Cove acquired in January and the 1.6-acre Ferreira Preserve on Anchorage Way acquired in 1994. By asking MassWildlife to hold the CR, now both the MLT and

the state hold responsibility to ensure that no development ever occurs on this property.

The sale of the CR does not mean that the property must remain completely "untouched". As part of the CR, the MLT maintains the right to create hiking trails and an observation tower/bird blind in the future. Also, if we believe that the property would be best served by logging some of the trees, we can do so after creating a forestry management plan. In short, the CR permits us to do everything we would like to do to protect the environment and to allow public access while ensuring that no one

will ever be able to destroy it in the future.

We would be remiss if we did not thank Joan Pierce, Land Acquisition Agent for the Department of Fish and Game, for all of the help she provided. Joan, an MLT member, was critical in leading us through the bureaucratic labyrinth to the final goal. We hope that her busy schedule will permit her to visit the Cove on occasion and appreciate the wild space that she helped protect in perpetuity.

Join the Mattapoisett Land Trust! Cut along the dotted line and mail in your support!

Membership Renewal *We only exist with your help!*

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Seasonal Address (if applicable) _____ City/State/Zip _____

- Membership Categories
- Individual \$30
 - Family \$50
 - Supporting \$75
 - Sustaining \$100
 - Friends of Salty \$5 (children under 12 years)
 - Benefactor \$250
 - Patron \$500
 - Founder \$1000
 - Corporate _____
 - Other _____

Please make your check payable to:

Mattapoisett Land Trust, Inc.

P.O. Box 31

Mattapoisett, MA 02739

MLT and Historical Society Children's Sundial Garden

by Ellen Flynn

The MLT and Historical Society Children's garden began as an idea to engage children in the creation of a beautiful space for herbs and flowers surrounding the existing Sundial, located on the north side of the Historical Society's Museum. We aimed to engage youth of Mattapoisett in learning about and growing herbs and plants, as well as investigating the scientific aspects of the Sundial.

Children and teens from local schools were involved in preparing the soil, planting and maintaining the herbs and flowers.

Herbs and flowers were chosen based on those indigenous to Mattapoisett. Some of these plants provided certain scents for the production of perfumes and soaps such as the spiced geranium, lemon scented geranium, and fresh lavender, which we were able to purchase locally.

Others were used for teas, cooking, and homeopathic remedies for medicinal purposes.

The many herbs planted included purple and green basil, dill, parsley, sage, and rosemary, thyme, oregano, wild and regular chives.

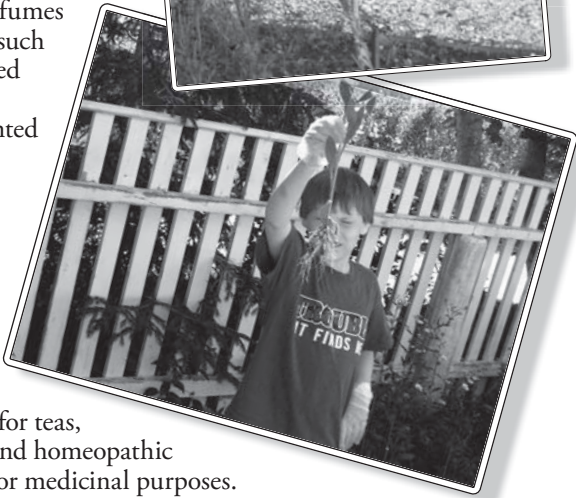
The few flowers planted were happily donated. The sunflowers by board member Don Cuddy, who also worked the soil and gave us fresh Mattapoisett organic compost. Mary Lalli of Mattapoisett donated tubular roots for the dahlias. We integrated some of the wild tiger lilies and black-eyed susans, with the Queen Anne's lace and local wild plants with ferns, columbine and coleus.

Guided by the garden captains, Ellen P. Flynn and Jane Frates (Mattapoisett resident and retired elementary school teacher), the crew consisted of Christine Hoffman, Mattapoisett resident and Wareham Librarian, her son Taylor Hoffman, and friend Nate Rocha, both, entering ORR high school this academic year, along with Laura Eklund,

also entering ORR high school and her friend Violet Folk. From Center School we had Freeman Bauer a second grader, who was most enthusiastic and hard-working. The McEntire children, Thomas from Center School and Mary Kate, from Old Hammondtown School were available for watering and weeding. All of the crew members and captains put forth a concerted effort to make this garden grow, starting at the late date of June 9, 2008.

This summer the "Dollhouse Museum" exhibit was geared toward children, viewing doll houses of generations ago with many exquisite antique toys. Once finished with the museum tour, the children and general public were then able to walk through and enjoy the Sundial garden.

While the MLT funded the purchase of plants for the project, we would like to extend special thanks to Bette Roberts and her board at the Museum for their support and encouragement. For next year, it is our goal to continue this project and pursue rare and endangered or threatened plants of Massachusetts for study around the Sundial. Anyone wishing to volunteer and add to our crew, it would be a pleasure to have you. You can contact board member, Ellen P. Flynn at 508-758-1312.



Education Committee Updates

by Diane Perry

One of the goals listed in our original bylaws of 1974 was that we would educate the public as to the responsible use of natural resources. Several years ago, we were fortunate to receive a bequest from the estate of long-time supporter Edith Shoolman that is targeted specifically toward programs for children. We are searching for creative ideas as to how these funds can best be spent and also what other education activities might be appropriate for the MLT.

This fall, Old Rochester Marine Biology students and their teacher, Lynn Connor, are traveling to Brandt Island to conduct water quality tests to investigate the area around Brandt Island Cove. Students began testing dissolved oxygen, nitrates and phosphates, turbidity, temperature, pH and salinity readings. In addition, students will investigate weather conditions using compasses, thermometers and the Beaufort scale. They will study organisms inhabiting the upper beach, wrack line, intertidal zone, and planktonic, benthic and neritic communities in the subtidal zone.

Trips like this give students a chance to extend their learning beyond the classroom setting, and to develop stewardship for the environments in their community. Transportation for these educational trips is funded by the MLT.

If you would like to serve on the Education Committee, or just have some ideas you would like to convey, please e-mail us at info@mattlandtrust.org or call 508-758-7849. We are eager for your input.

Climate Change, the MLT and You

by Paul Milde

The MLT believes that global warming due to human activities is a serious problem, one that threatens our mission to preserve natural resources and wildlife areas. Short-term effects include stress on native species and vegetation that are not adapted to a changed climate. Long-term effects may include inundation of our coastal properties.

The good news is that your support of the MLT is helping to mitigate the increase in greenhouse gases in two important ways: the trees and other vegetation on our properties absorb carbon and our ownership prevents the release of greenhouse gases that takes place when land is developed. Protecting land won't solve the problem, however; a solution requires that we change our actions and habits both individually and collectively.

Reducing ones carbon footprint in a climate like New England's can appear daunting. We thought that listing some ideas targeted at Mattapoisett might be helpful. Providing actual examples of what people have done may inspire others to take action.

Small Changes that Make a Difference.

These are all drops in the bucket, but enough drops can make a difference. Some of them will even save us money. All of them will take away some of the pressure to construct new fossil fuel energy plants and will help build markets for green products and power.

Compact fluorescent light bulbs. Yes. This is very easy to do and spending \$150 dollars now will save \$500 in a year, and more than two tons of CO₂. Calculation: A 15-watt compact fluorescent bulb will replace a 60-watt bulb. These cost less than \$3, and if used 3.2 hours per day will save 52.6 kilowatt-hours (kWh) and save \$10.00 of \$.19/kWh electricity per year. At this rate, a house with 50 such light bulbs will save about 2,632 kWh per year.

Energy Audit. Consider a comprehensive energy audit of your house. The audit will provide you with recommendations about everything from sealing windows and doors and adding insulation to replacing inefficient appliances. And while you might not opt to follow-through on all of their recommendations immediately, the energy audit will give you a plan for how to incorporate the changes gradually over years to come. (We know of at least one company, New England Energy Audit, that offers the comprehensive service in Massachusetts; there may be others.) You may wish to start with a self-assessment provided by the local utility company at the NSTAR website, www.nstar.com.

Drive less. Consolidate trips. Don't idle. Shop closer to home or have it delivered. Even if a product costs a few dollars more, you may save a greater amount on gas and car expenses to purchase it closer to home. Or ride a bicycle, or walk, for short trips.

Proper car maintenance. Keep the car in tune, clean air filters, properly inflated tires, and use synthetic oil. A clean air filter can improve mileage by up to 10%.

Some Bigger Changes that Can Also Make a Difference.

Most houses built before the late 1970's (much of Mattapoisett) are under-insulated, and even adequate insulation may have slipped or settled in walls. Blown-in insulation is relatively easy, especially on shingled houses, and may reduce heating costs by 25%. Cost ranges from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for a modest house. Saving 25% of a typical gas bill could be an annual savings of \$690 and more than 2 tons of CO₂. The savings in oil heat would be even greater.

Calculation: Typical yearly usage of 1,500 ccf (hundred cubic feet of gas) at \$1.84 per cubic foot. According to the EPA, one ccf will create 12.1 pounds of CO₂.

Replace Your Furnace. Especially old oil burners or gas conversion burners. Efficiency may be 60% or less and a new unit may boost efficiency to as much as 95%. Typical cost \$12,000. This could also save 25% or more of a typical oil or gas bill.

Roof mounted hot water heater. On an unshaded, south-facing roof, this can supply all of your hot water needs in the summer, and reduce the cost and carbon emissions even in winter in Mattapoisett. Hot water usage varies enormously, but a typical electric water heater will use 2,000 kWh in a year at a cost of \$380. If a third of this is saved, savings will be \$127 per year and 3.6 tons of CO₂. Typical cost is \$10,000 (after State and Federal rebates) for a system that will supply all your needs for about 6 months per year, and at least preheat the water for the rest.

Photovoltaic panels. The cost is still about \$10 per watt installed, which will offset about 1 kWh hour per year in this area. So the return on this investment is still only about 2% per year but this may soon improve.

A whole house ventilation fan can largely replace air-conditioning in our climate.



This solar water heater has been on Bob Gardé's roof for twenty years

Fly less. Flying typically uses about the same amount of energy per mile as a single passenger in an automobile, but the miles are vastly greater. If you have more than one person in the car, it will usually create less CO₂ per person than flying.

And if you're interested in learning more about the issues of climate change and reducing your carbon footprint, the website, realclimate.org, is an excellent source for authoritative information. It bills itself as "climate science from climate scientists", takes a non-political stance, and has a "start here" page for basic information.

Use Your Vote. Individual action won't be enough, however; cooperative action by local, state, national and international governments and agencies will be critical. You have a voice that can influence their decisions. Specifically, we should demand honest discussion from our elected officials and consideration of policies that will promote use of sustainable energy such as:

- renewable energy tax credits (subsidies such as the ones recently renewed to encourage the development of wind, solar, and other nonpolluting power)
- a renewable portfolio standard (requirements for utili-

ties to buy some percentage of renewable energy)

- a carbon tax so that the price of fossil fuels reflects the true cost

One final recommendation: When the problems seem too daunting, turn off the computer, switch off the lights, and take a walk on one of the MLT properties. You won't be contributing to global warming and the wonders of nature will recharge your inner batteries.

A Special Request...

In order to provide you with timely information on upcoming MLT events, the MLT is trying to assemble a database of members' e-mail addresses. You can provide us your e-mail address by simply heading to our website (www.mattlandtrust.org), clicking "Contact Us", and entering your e-mail address. We really appreciate it! (And we promise to maintain the privacy of your information, e-mailing you only with MLT updates!)

Honor Your Loved Ones

The following individuals or groups have chosen in the last six months to honor their loved ones through donations to the Mattapoissett Land Trust.

In memory of David Morse Clay:

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Allendorf
Norwood, MA

Nick & Thelma Bruno
Dedham, MA

Tom & Judy Clay
Bonita Springs, FL

Anne Coggins
Mattapoissett, MA

Claire F. Copeland
East Walpole, MA

Mrs. Wallace Duncan
Walpole, MA

Bill & Christine Dwyer
Concord, MA

Jane & Bob Forsberg
Westwood, MA

Dr. Gordon G. Goodband
Walpole, MA

Brad & Priscilla Hathaway
Mattapoissett, MA

John & Lisa Hill
Mattapoissett, MA

George & Jacqueline Hossfield
Mattapoissett, MA

Jon Gibbons
Lake Forest, CA

Mrs. Peter M. Kimon
Mattapoissett, MA

Judith Livolsi
Mattapoissett, MA

**Roslindale & West Roxbury
Kiwanis Club**

West Roxbury, MA

Polly Sammis
Bradenton, FL

Alberto & Marie Silva
Seekonk, MA

Jay & Eve Stoebel
Wellesley, MA

Maryann Touhey
New Bedford, MA

June White
Acushnet, MA

Mr. & Mrs. James White
Port St. Lucie, FL

In memory of Paul S. Munn:

The Antassawamock Club, Inc.
Mattapoissett, MA

Madelyn B. Fogler
Mattapoissett, MA

Brad & Priscilla Hathaway
Mattapoissett, MA

Gary P. Johnson & Luana Josvold
Mattapoissett, MA

Bernard & Elizabeth Klim
Mattapoissett, MA

Caroline & Peter Megan
Hampstead, NH

Caroline E. Richardson
Pembroke, MA

In memory of H. Potter Trainer, Jr.:
Raymond & Pamela Hilton
Barrington, RI

*Thank you for your generous contributions,
which will be used to further our mission of protecting the land and environment of Mattapoissett for generations to come.*

"Protected Spaces" Maps Available

Whenever we make a presentation to groups about our land protection efforts (including during Harbor Days) we use large maps that show all of the protected land in Mattapoissett. Over the years several individuals have inquired about how they could acquire copies of the map. Unfortunately we have neither the software to create the maps nor the hardware to print them – they are created for us as a public service by the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program in Wareham.

While we cannot create new maps for members, we can distribute the old maps after we have used them for our land protection activities – we prefer to recycle them rather than adding them to a landfill. To this end the Directors have authorized the distribution of the old maps to members in good standing on a "first come, first served" basis. We will keep a list of interested members and, as the maps become available, we will contact the member to arrange a delivery.

All of the maps are large, measuring 44" by 34". We have two different styles: one shows individual land parcels with an overlay of the "DEP Core Wetland Resources"; the other uses an aerial photograph of the town. Both have color grids that show land held by the MLT, other land trusts, municipal bodies, and the Commonwealth. To protect the maps for display purposes, we have one set laminated in plastic.

If you're interested in receiving one of the maps please contact a director, contact us by e-mail at info@mattlandtrust.org, or send a note to the MLT at P.O. Box 31. Let us know whether you would like "paper or plastic" and "parcel or aerial" and we will add your name to our list.

Everyone loves maps and with your own "Protected Spaces" map you'll be able to track our efforts as we try to protect some of what make Mattapoissett "special".



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Calendar — Fall & Winter Activities

All MLT Events are FREE and Open to the Public.

October 18th, 6-8pm Salty's Silvery Moon Soiree

On Saturday, October 18th, the MLT will host its second annual "Salty's Silvery Moon Soiree" at the Dunseith Gardens on Route 6. If you weren't able to join us last year, this is not an event to be missed! Geared toward families with younger children, we'll toast marshmallows and make s'mores, have some live accordion music, and a local storyteller. We look forward to seeing you there

Rain date: October 19th!

October 18th, 9am Brandt Island Cove Nature Walk: Harvesting the Fall Landscape

Certified Herbalist, Susan Mort will explore concepts, behaviors and practices of the Native Americans and early colonists as they would harvest the surrounding landscape for medicinal and nourishing plants, barks and roots. Meet on Anchorage Way, or carpool from Dunseith Gardens (Salty's home) at 8:45 a.m.

1st SATURDAY of the Month Work Days

Join us the 1st Saturday of each month for cleaning up the MLT properties and preparing them for winter. We'll meet at Dunseith Gardens at 1pm and then proceed to the property where work is most needed. Leaf rakes, leaf blowers and plastic trash barrels are especially useful in moving leaves and branches to the composting piles.

The Heron is published bi-annually by the Mattapoisett Land Trust. The MLT, formed in 1974, is a non-profit, tax-exempt charitable organization incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Its purpose is to preserve open space for the enjoyment of current and future residents of Mattapoisett, as well as to educate the public about the sound use of natural resources, and to work with other organizations having the same goals.

Our membership consists of annual contributors — our primary source of revenue — and a volunteer Board of Directors: Vincent Cragin, Don Cuddy, Ellen Flynn, Sandra Hering, Martin Hudis, Luana Josvold, Jenny Mello, Paul Milde, Paul Osenkowski, Blanche Perry, Charles Radville, Elizabeth Richardson, Johnna Tierney, and Gary P. Johnson, President.

The MLT is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. All contributions are fully tax deductible.

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