



# MEDOMAK VALLEY LAND TRUST

*Your river · Your land · Your future*

FALL UPDATE  
2013

## MARTIN POINT WILDLIFE RESERVE EASEMENT

This summer Bob and Judy Zeitlin of Friendship signed Medomak Valley Land Trust's (MVLT) newest conservation easement. The beautiful 50-acre saltwater parcel on Martin Point in Friendship is traversed by a well-developed network of trails that will be open to the public for quiet non-mechanized daytime use, including hiking, birdwatching, and in the winter, cross-country skiing and skating on Crystal Pond.

The Zeitlins began expanding the trail system shortly after they purchased the property. The trails have always been shared with neighborhood residents, but the Zeitlins wanted to protect the property from further development and allow more people to enjoy the trail system. They approached MVLT to learn more about ways to conserve their property, and decided that a conservation easement was the best approach. "While it was the ocean and sailing that initially brought Judy and me to Friendship close to 30 years ago, we soon discovered the magical attraction of the woodland area behind our home" said Bob Zeitlin. "At some point we started building a network of trails to better access this wonderfully diverse, pristine forest environment, and later began inviting neighbors and friends



MVLT President, Charlie Witherell (left) joins Bob and Judy Zeitlin and Joan Ray (right) to cut the ribbon at the trail opening in August.

to share in the enjoyment of it as well. Establishing a conservation easement to forever preserve and maintain it seemed like the next logical step. The Medomak Valley Land Trust provided us with the encouragement and expertise to make this dream come true, and under the able and patient guidance of Joan Ray, their Land Protection and Stewardship Specialist, we have now dedicated 50 acres from the shore of Muscongus Bay to Crystal Pond to the creation of The Martin Point Wildlife Reserve. We invite others to share in the quiet beauty of this area for hiking, bird watching, cross-country skiing,

and snowshoeing....or just for a leisurely walk in the woods." Maps of the trails are available at the MVLT office and trailhead.

## SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL MEETING  
&  
HOLIDAY PARTY

FRIDAY, DEC 6TH  
6 - 8 PM

# MEDOMAK RIVER WATER QUALITY

Since January MVLT has been part of a water quality working group that has been investigating pollution issues in the Medomak River and estuary. Great progress has been made in identifying and remediating problems but there is still work to be done and there are opportunities for people to help at many levels.

We all have an impact on the watershed's health. Daily activities on our own properties, including how we care for our yards and dispose of waste from dogs and chickens, may seem unimportant, but these small actions can have a significant impact on water quality. Here are a few ways we can all help keep to keep the river clean:

## How YOU can help

- **install a rain barrel or garden** to capture and infiltrate runoff
- **plant trees and buffers** that can stabilize soils, filter pollutants and reduce runoff
- **landscape with native plants** that require less water and fertilizer
- **make your lawn low-input** by using the least amount of fertilizer, pesticides and water possible
- **properly dispose of pet waste**
- **maintain your septic system** have your system inspected and serviced regularly
- **volunteer to collect samples** MVLT is looking for volunteers to help take samples throughout the year

### Medomak Valley Land Trust 2013 Board of Directors and Staff

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## Legislators Visit Clarry Hill



From L to R: Bill Michaud, Rep. Ellen Winchenbach, Sen. Chris Johnson, Valarie Johnson, Susan Morris, Rep. Jeff Evangelos

In early November our local Maine legislators visited the Clarry Hill Trail with MVLT. It was a beautiful day and we could see out to Monhegan and across to Mount Washington. During our walk we had a chance to talk about the public benefits of conserved lands and all the many ways the land trust provides services to our watershed communities. The many conservation values on Clarry Hill (scenic views, wildlife habitat, working farmland and public access) offered a wonderful way to highlight this.

*Working for 20 years to preserve and promote the natural, recreational and scenic character and the traditional land uses of the Medomak River watershed for the benefit of the Medomak Valley and Muscongus Bay community.*

visit us online at [www.medomakvalley.org](http://www.medomakvalley.org)

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Medomak Valley Land Trust  
25 Friendship Street  
P.O. Box 180  
Waldoboro, ME 04572  
207-832-5570  
[www.medomakvalley.org](http://www.medomakvalley.org)