



GLT & NRLT members track song birds during 2013 hike on VLT land

In July 2013 the GLT, Northern Rivers Land Trust and Greensboro Conservation Commission sponsored a hike on the Vermont Land Trust's Mud Pond parcel in North Greensboro. VLT's Dan Kilborn and Vt. Audubon's Kristen Sharpless showed some 25 hikers how different logging techniques create varied habitat for song birds. They explained how species differ in their preference for forest canopy, midstory and understory. Among birds the group heard were the veery and black-throated blue warbler.



Audubon's Sharpless & VLT's Kilborn (r) enlighten GLT/NRLT hikers.

GLT, NRLT and GCC to sponsor summer hike to Mud Pond & Black Hills

Acknowledging Greensboro's contribution to the Vermont Land Trust's Black Hills easement, this year's summer hikers will visit the former Stegner property in North Greensboro, slog to the eastern shore of Mud Pond, and continue to the Irwin Memorial over the Glover line, below the Black Hills. All are welcome. The hike will be moderately strenuous.

Stopping at the Orange/Stegner cellar hole, hikers will consider where a plaque in memory of Greens-boro author Wallace Stegner might be placed.

The date of **Tuesday, July 22, starting at 10:00 a.m.**, has been tentatively set. We will car-pool from the Town Offices. Posters in the village will confirm the timing.

Vermont's moose specialist addresses GLT 2013 meeting

Describing how Vermont's Fish and Wildlife Department measures the state's moose population, wildlife biologist and moose specialist Cedric Alexander spoke at the GLT's July 2013 annual meeting. He noted that moose hunting had been introduced in 1993, when F&W determined the herd had increased to the point where it was beginning to impede forest regeneration, especially in the Northeast Kingdom (NEK).

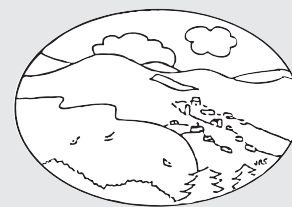
Greater numbers of permits were issued starting in 2004, when moose density of 3+ per square mile in the NEK had reached nearly double the target level. The density has now been reduced, and the department expected around 200 animals to be taken by holders of the 355 permits plus 50 archery permits issued in 2013. (By November 6, hunters reported taking 220 moose.)



Cedric Alexander explains moose biology to GLT members.

Pete's Greens conserves land in Craftsbury

Pete Johnson of Pete's Greens, the four-season vegetable farm begun in Greensboro, purchased the 245-acre former Ryan farm on Route 14 in Craftsbury and conserved it with the Vermont Land Trust in February 2014. Pete expressed his pleasure at "acquir(ing) some beautiful fields adjacent to our home farm... We're pleased that this land will be used for agriculture for generations to come."



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Visit our website at www.greensborolandtrust.org

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This issue is dedicated to the memory of Prof. Lacey Baldwin Smith, noted teacher, author, Greensboro citizen and fervent supporter of land conservation in our town, who passed away in September 2013.

GLT Annual Meeting, Monday, July 28

All are welcome at our annual meeting, scheduled for **Monday, July 28, at 7:30 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. Following a short GLT business meeting, GLT trustee Rick Yeiser will chair a panel on Caspian Lake's feeder streams. Speakers from Greensboro and the state's Agency for Natural Resources will discuss the ecology of the wetlands and streams that feed the lake, and consider what steps may be called for to protect it from siltation and pollution. The panel will follow up on a report recently presented by Yeiser to the GLT board.

Circus Smirkus grants 21-Acre easement to GLT on Breezy Ave. summer camp

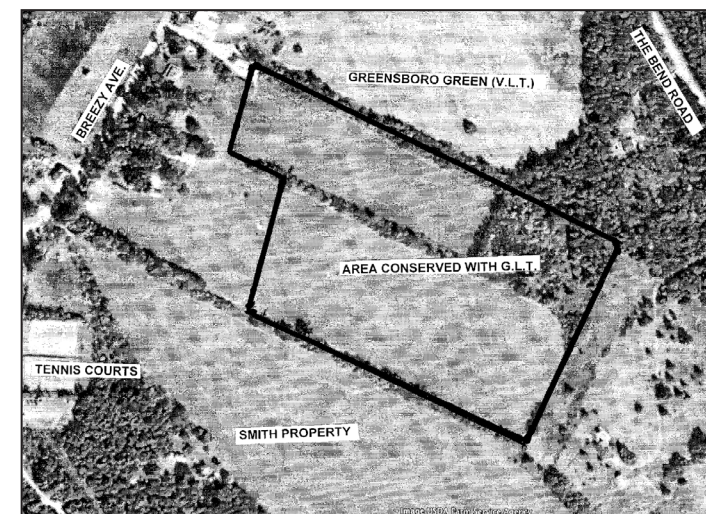
During the past year, Circus Smirkus obtained the necessary approvals to establish a permanent summer camp at the intersection of Breezy Ave. and Country Club Road (see aerial photo). After years of moving its camp around the state on rented pre-mises, the Circus raised the necessary funds to purchase Sig Lonegren's property and establish tents and dormitories there and on 3+ acres donated by the Lacey Smith family on condition of a GLT ease-ment. The camp is scheduled to open next year.

The Circus has agreed to conserve two-thirds of its land by donating an easement to the GLT, and the Greensboro Development Review Board made that a condition of its approval. The conserved land has long been hayed, and its agricultural use is now assured in perpetuity. The parcel abuts the 30-acre Greensboro Green, owned by the Vermont Land Trust, thus creating a 50-acre expanse of conserved land near the center of town.

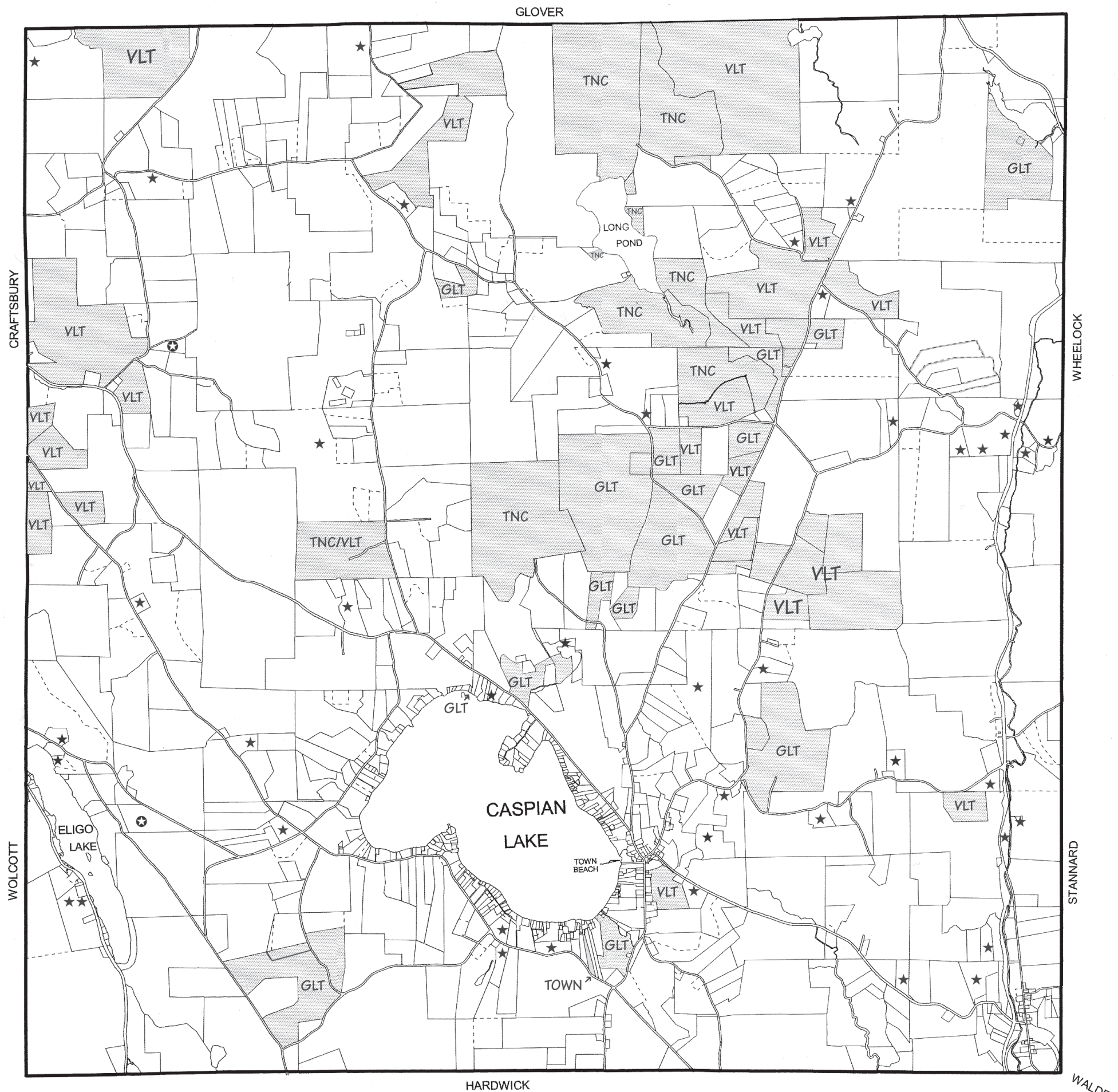
With Greensboro Town and GLT help, VLT conserves Black Hills tract

In September 2013, the Vermont Land Trust closed on a working forest conservation easement for 1,700 acres of prime forest in Glover and Greensboro. The Greensboro portion comprised the 189-acre parcel once owned by author Wallace Stegner. The 1,500 acres in Glover contain the Black Hills, a prime feature of the Barr Hill and North Greensboro landscape.

The landowner, forester Rich Carbonetti, conducted a "bargain sale," meaning that he donated a portion of the easement value to VLT. The bulk of the cost was covered by a Freeman Foundation grant to VLT. The Greensboro Selectboard voted \$5,000 from the Greensboro Conservation Fund, while John and Francie Downing's Stony Point Foundation and the GLT each contributed \$10,000. The GLT's portion consisted of donations from 45 members.



Aerial photo of GLT easement (between black lines) on Circus Smirkus property. (Boundaries are not exact.)



About GLT

The GLT is a partnership of Greensboro- area people working together to ensure that, as Vermont steadily changes, important land in Greensboro is not lost to development forever. We help farm families conserve productive agricultural land for future generations, preserving not only our heritage but also our economic future. We protect forestland that supports a healthy wood products industry and sustains habitat critical for black bear, songbirds, deer, and other wildlife. We help to permanently protect irreplaceable fields, woods, and shoreline in Greensboro essential for recreation and scenic enjoyment. All this is done while recognizing the need for town planning that allocates portions of the landscape to residential and commercial uses.

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Conserving Your Land

Using legal tools called “conservation easements” or “grants of development rights,” we help landowners to voluntarily limit development while keeping the land open for forestry, farming, and recreation. The property remains in private ownership with the peace of mind that it is protected now and in perpetuity. The landowner decides whether to allow public access.

Easement donations qualify as charitable contributions for federal income and estate tax purposes, but do not necessarily reduce property taxes.

We work with landowners who love their land and want to see it conserved. The GLT buys and accepts gifts of development rights. Sometimes we share a project with the Vermont Land Trust, which receives funding from The Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, the Freeman Foundation, and private donors. But mainly we rely on funds raised from residents and friends of Greensboro.

We talk regularly with potential conservators, and incur expenses for appraisals, surveys, purchase of easements, and monitoring. You can help by sending your tax-deductible contribution to **GLT, PO Box 135, Greensboro, VT 05841.**

Feel free to call any trustee or Advisory Committee member with questions. Our website, www.greensborolandtrust.org, provides details and photos of conserved land, along with GLT’s annual financial report.

Town of Greensboro, Vermont

Our map of Greensboro illustrates the lands conserved by the Greensboro Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, the Vermont Land Trust, and the Town of Greensboro. It shows all residences constructed in the past ten years, and highlights two constructed in the past year.

Map key

Conserved areas, shaded green, comprise the following 38 parcels. Total conserved area amounts to 6.7 square miles (= 4,280 acres), or 18.2% of total town area of 36.7 mi².

1. GLT’s 16 easements, totaling 1,100 acres: Buckley, Dean, Downing, Edsall (two easements), Gray, Shaun & Darren Hill, Warren Hill, Kehler, Knox, Mann, McGrath (two easements), Perham, Pinkney, and St. Louis. Subsequent to the original easements, Dean, Mann, Kehlrs, Warren Hill and Perhams have acquired parcels conserved by previous owners, Sullivan, Grays, Buckley, Nancy Hill and von Hessert.
2. Long Pond Natural Area (767 acres) and Barr Hill Nature Preserve (254 acres), owned by The Nature Conservancy (TNC).
3. 30-acre “Greensboro Green”, 362-acre ex-Murdock property on Glover town line, and 30-acre ex-Brassknocker parcel on Craftsbury Road, owned by Vermont Land Trust (VLT).
4. Five VLT easements to which GLT contributed: York farm (260 acres); Shaun & Darren Hill farm (73 acres); Murdock homestead (150 acres), Lowell Urie farm (of which 145 acres in Greensboro); and Black Hills tract (of which 189 acres in Greensboro).
5. Nine other VLT easements: Shatney farm (313 acres); Shatney hayfield in Greensboro Bend (34 acres); ex-York homestead, now owned by Circostas (85 acres); Kehler property on Garvin Hill Rd. (37 acres); and five ex-Brassknocker parcels on Craftsbury town line, totaling 323 acres.
6. Barton Homestead Trust on Gebbie Road (VLT and TNC: 121 acres); and
7. Two 3.5-acre strips owned by the Town of Greensboro, one on Lake Shore Road donated by Currier & Dill, the other next to the town beach, purchased by the town with federal assistance.

■ ...Conserved land ★ Residence constructed in past 10 years ⊛ ...In 2013