

# You are the force behind the numbers.

Here's an overview of what your 2018 gift to Maine Coast Heritage Trust made possible—and it hardly begins to cover it all. You are a part of protecting, in perpetuity, 27 new places along the coast, and caring for scores of public preserves.

If you want to learn more, and get the stories behind the numbers, please visit [mcht.org/2018-impact](http://mcht.org/2018-impact)

Thank you for all you do for the coast.

**465** volunteers pitched in **4,190** hours (that's **520** work days)

Volunteers helped replace bog bridging on Malaga Island Preserve.

**9** new preserves created

MCHT's newest and largest mainland preserve in the midcoast encompasses ecologically rich Weskeag Marsh—a great birdwatching spot!

## Making the Maine coast more resilient to climate change

Salt marshes provide shelter for countless species, clean water, and absorb carbon dioxide and storm surge—mitigating the devastating impacts of warming oceans and rising sea levels. MCHT has mobilized a coast-wide initiative to save Maine's salt marshes. In 2018, we presented at state and national conferences and provided local land trusts with critical information and tools to advance this effort. MCHT alone conserved 410 acres of high-priority marshland in 2018.

## Reconnecting Maine's rivers to the sea

When Maine's rivers are connected to the sea, sea-run fish can complete their life cycles, wildlife can get the food they need, fishermen can keep making a living from the sea, and recreational opportunities abound. MCHT is working with partners to reconnect and restore the health of three key coastal rivers—the Narraguagus, Orange, and Bagaduce. In 2018, MCHT was awarded a \$3 million grant from the Ram Island Conservation Fund of the Maine Community Foundation towards these efforts.

### Places conserved in 2018

2,980 acres conserved (that's over half the size of Camden Hills State Park) including 63,985 feet of shoreline (that's more than 12 miles)

### Places stewarded in 2018

37,000 acres monitored and cared for (that's nearly the size of Acadia National Park) including 90 miles of trail (that's the distance from Portland to Belfast)



Colleen Gruber



MCHT photo



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© Ken Wolsard Photography



Colleen Gruber

Members of Portland Community Squash cleaned the beaches of Clapboard Island East Preserve.  
**15** beach cleanups organized

## Land trust leadership by the numbers

**80** conservation organizations supported by MCHT's Land Trust Program  
**2,000** receiving biweekly updates from MCHT staff on the most important news in land conservation

**1,500** hours in Augusta lobbying, strategizing, and developing relationships with legislators on behalf of Maine's conservation community  
**32** other Maine land trusts and **30** towns assisted by MCHT field staff



Aaron Engelander

This year's Teen Ag Crew grew a record amount of food for their community.  
**28,600** pounds of food (that's **22,000** nutritious meals) grown on conserved land for hunger relief agencies, schools, and local businesses



© Jerry Monkman

Members of the Blue Hill Peninsula Nordic Ski Club spent a snowy Saturday out on the trails at Witherle Woods Preserve.  
Collaborated with **95** other Maine nonprofits and organizations

## Stewardship by the numbers

**7.5** more miles of trail  
**22** major invasive species removal projects  
**4** new visitor parking lots



Capa Bonanni

**28** joined us on a special field trip to Black Island Preserve in Frenchboro.  
**3,350** people connected to the land through field trips and public events

## Donations by the numbers

**3,190** made donations to MCHT, including **765** for the first time (record numbers all around)



Melissa Lee

Members of the Lubec Outing Club explored nearby conserved lands with steward Melissa Lee.  
**250** people (mostly kiddos) participated in ongoing and in-depth outdoor programs