

Your impact in 2023

Everything you read about here is possible thanks to you and others giving to conserve the places and natural systems Maine communities love and depend upon. Your 2023 donation helped protect habitat for wildlife, build the coast's resilience in a changing climate, and foster connections among the state's 80+ land trusts and other partners working together to make sure all people in Maine have access to land and water. Thank you!

Learn more about your impact at mcht.org/2023-impact.

New places conserved in 2023

The **17** new places conserved in 2023 comprise a total of **1,253** acres (that's about the size of the total land acreage of Portland) and include **13.5** miles of shoreline (that's the distance from Rockland to Lincolnville).

Lands cared for in 2023

Our stewardship staff monitored and cared for a total of **45,095** acres (that's about the size of Deer Isle and Stonington combined), including maintaining over **100** miles of trail (that's about the distance from Brunswick to Bangor).

Partnership projects from 1970 – 2022

In addition to conserved land under our care, MCHT has worked with partners to conserve hundreds of places throughout Maine. In 2023, **10** of the 17 new places conserved were partnership projects.

The Maine coast is a world treasure worth caring for. We're on a mission to ensure it's healthy, working, beautiful, and open to all.

Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT) is a nonprofit land conservation organization protecting and caring for vital coastal lands. We're partnering with individuals, organizations, businesses, and communities to conserve iconic islands, critical wildlife habitat, coastal watersheds, water access sites, downtown greenspaces, and beautiful places for people to explore. Our Land Trust Program supports and strengthens Maine's entire land conservation community of over 80 land trusts.



Acres Conserved with Partners



Coastal Islands Protected



Preserves Open to the Public



Miles of MCHT Trail



Wells
Chloe March of Hampden, Maine worked with Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve in 2023 on projects inventorying species, researching and removing invasive species, and assisting in research and data collection.
Supported **11** conservation interns working for land trusts throughout the state.



Yarmouth
At Cousins River Fields and Marsh, we added over a quarter-mile of hardened, wide trail and other infrastructure to support accessible community use, including a new parking lot, signage, and picnic benches.
Built nearly **6** miles of new trail and maintained over **105** miles of trail and **50** campsites across the coast.



Brunswick
Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust was one of ten land trusts across Maine awarded funding through the L.L.Bean Maine Land Trust Grant Program administered by MCHT. The \$10,000 they received will complete a long-awaited trail re-route at the Cathance River Nature Preserve.
Distributed **\$65,000** to **10** land trusts throughout the state through the L.L.Bean re-grant program.



Phippsburg
In Phippsburg, we worked with a generous landowner to conserve an access site for local clambers and diggers.
Added **6** new MCHT preserves and expanded **2** existing preserves.



Alna
We contributed to a Midcoast Conservancy project protecting 12 acres on the Sheepscot River. Protecting and restoring coastal rivers helps build resilience in a changing climate and has an outsized impact on the health of the Gulf of Maine.
Completed **4** projects to advance our Rivers Initiative.



Rockport
At Erickson Fields in Rockport, we worked with partner organizations, volunteers, and members of our Teen Ag Program to grow and distribute fresh vegetables in the Midcoast to increase food access for Mainers in need.
Donated over **14,000** pounds of fresh produce from Erickson Fields and **2,500** pounds of hamburger from Aldermere Farm.



Rockport
Mama Satin cares for her little one after giving birth. At Aldermere Farm Preserve, a new barn and visitor center now houses the world-class herd of Belted Galloway cattle.
Welcomed **18** Belted Galloway calves at Aldermere Farm Preserve (in the new barn!)



Bernard
At Kelley Farm Preserve, Peg and Laura Lee grew food in a community garden plot, one of 53 plots offered across two preserves on Mount Desert Island.
Coordinated over **70** events and programs for community members and conservation colleagues, reaching over **4,200** people. Held more than **200** events for more than **700** donors and volunteers.



Johns Island
MCHT closed on the purchase of Johns Island and acquired nearby Black Island and Sheep Island. All three of these preserves are in Casco Passage and open to the public.
Acquired **3** more coastal islands, now MCHT preserves.



Harrington
This 59-acre property includes salt marsh, forested wetlands, and wading bird and waterfowl habitat and contributes to salt marsh protection efforts in Pleasant Bay.
Completed **6** land projects to advance our Marshes for Tomorrow Initiative.

Donations by the numbers

4,245 people gave to MCHT in 2023, with **919** giving for the first time. Welcome to MCHT! We're so happy to have you.

381 people gave monthly, which helps us be more proactive and strategic in our conservation work. We're grateful to have **964** people giving at *The President's Circle* level, and **228** donors age 50 and under supporting this work as members of MCHT's Next Wave.