

ANNUAL REPORT | FISCAL YEAR 2016

790 Aquidneck Avenue, Middletown, Rhode Island 02842 401.849.2799 www.aquidnecklandtrust.org



Aquidneck Land Trust



Dear Aquidneck Land Trust Friends,

All of us have a special natural place we like to return to, or an outdoor experience that we frequently remember. On Aquidneck Island, we don't have to travel far for such connections to a natural landscape. Perhaps you have experienced a place so quiet you would never know that a major roadway was less than a half mile distant, or enjoyed an uninterrupted vista of farmland and

forest, rolling down to the sea, despite being on an island bustling with nearly 60,000 people.

This is possible thanks to you and the work of ALT's seemingly tireless staff. Together we have protected over 2552 acres in the past 26 years. We have created the longest trail system on the island, protected ecological gems of magnificent forests, practiced good stewardship of productive farmland, and served all islanders with the protection of the single most important resource: fresh water.

In the past year alone we have protected an additional 32 acres of land, including watershed lands, prime agricultural soils, and a future waterfront park site; continued to expand our stewardship program to cover this increasing portfolio of land conservation; and revitalized and refocused our long-term strategy. This year we saw the addition of new staff and board members who bring refined tools, sharp vision, and abundant energy to ALT each day.

And yet there is so much more work to be done, as the last of the open spaces fall onto the drafting board of future development. Economic growth is important, but the key to smart growth is protecting our spaces, landscapes and vital resources. ALT's supporters, members, and friends are the vanguard of preservation, conservation and stewardship of our island home.

We face one of our greatest challenges and opportunities to date. Spruce Acres Farm is a 23-acre gem in the middle of other ALT protected lands. You are probably already familiar with this special place, which has been nurtured under the watchful eyes of the Deveau family for over 50 years. You may have cut your own Christmas tree or found the perfect holiday wreath on this beautiful property. A few hundred feet off East Main Road, the sound of traffic disappears as you walk past 30-foot former Christmas trees to a meadow in the watershed, straddling the Portsmouth-Middletown line. You find abundant signs of deer, fox, and coyote, and see many winter birds seeking shelter in the evergreen branches of the conifers.

Spruce Acres Farm is a golden opportunity for ALT both for its conservation value and its visibility to the public. Its central position is ideally located as a place to meet, enjoy nature trails, demonstrate good stewardship practices, and even establish community gardens on the prime agricultural

STAFF

Charles B. Allott, Esq.
Executive Director

Martha Curley
Finance Director

Alex Chuman
Stewardship Director

Laura Freedman Pedrick
Development Director

Gretchen Markert
Communications & Outreach Manger

Julia Coll
Development Assistant

Meghan Harris
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soil. Spruce Acres could create meeting spaces for the Land Trust and other non-profit environmental groups, and perhaps even become a future home for ALT itself.

With the Aquidneck Land Trust, and your support, all future generations of Aquidneck Islanders can come to know the magic of another very special conserved place: Spruce Acres Farm.

Thank you.

Jameson Chace, Ph.D., Board of Trustees, Chair

Dear ALT Friends and Supporters,

As I wish Jim Chace a fond farewell as board chair *extraordinaire* it is with a sense of loss of voice of one of the great visionary environmentalists on Aquidneck Island. He will obviously remain in the community and I daresay remain as an ambassador for the mission of ALT. Yet it's not the same thing. Voices like his make Aquidneck Island special. Jim could have chosen anywhere to settle down with his family and teach. He chose to come back to where he grew up. So many great, inspirational people choose to live on Aquidneck Island at least part of the year, many of whom I didn't know until I stepped into this position. What I find so refreshing is the fact that most know that there is an obligation that goes along with the pleasures of living here. We all must take care of this home of ours. It is also with a sense of renewal that we ring in the new Board Chair, Taylor Rock. Taylor has grown into a fantastic board trustee before our eyes at ALT. I have no doubt he will bring his usual passion and vigor to this new position of leadership.

Spruce Acres Farm (SAF) will play a big role in this year's fundraising activities. Never have we been called upon to raise so much money in such a short period of time. However, I feel that we have the staff, volunteers, and supporters to do it! I hear from some people that SAF will distract us from our mission of time-sensitive land conservation. While there are future benefits of moving our operations to the land we conserve, the highest value is in securing a publicly accessible natural open space that will provide key land and water assets to ALL of Aquidneck Island - forever.



Left to right: Laura F. Pedrick, Gretchen Markert, Meghan Harris, Chuck Allott, Martha Curley, Julia Coll, Alex Chuman

We must protect this threatened land before it is developed into 20 new homes. Just come out with me for a walk on the trails. Past the sturdy barn and the old tree farm office . . . past the two track road and out to the open lot in the back. The stress of life melts away here. You can no longer hear the road, just the hawk overhead ... the rustle of the trees. Sit on the old oak bench and spend a moment to take it all in. That is what this project is really about.

Come take a walk!

Charles B. Allott, Executive Director

OUR MISSION

To preserve and steward Aquidneck Island's open spaces for the lasting benefit of the community while connecting people with the land that defines the island's natural character.

OUR VALUES

The Aquidneck Land Trust believes that we must take a holistic approach to land conservation if we are to help our island community achieve a sustainable future. Therefore, ALT works to protect a number of natural resource types that we depend upon as a species (wildlife habitat, agricultural land, water resource areas, outdoor recreational space, scenic vistas, etc.). In this work, ALT is guided by its values: Integrity; Environmental Consciousness; Embracing Community as a Partner; Respect and Stewardship of the Land; and Volunteerism. ALT was founded as a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization in 1990.

OCTOBER

2015

ALT organized a panel of non-profit experts as part of its “From Grass Roots to Great Things – Developing Sustainable Community Organization” conservation speaker series event at Salve Regina University. Attendees learned how to develop and establish capacity for a grassroots organization from the ground up.

ALT welcomed new Development Director Laura Freedman Pedrick to the team!

Executive Director Chuck Allott presented a workshop at the Land Trust Alliance’s National Land Conservation Conference, known as “Rally,” in Sacramento.



DECEMBER

2015

ALT finished a conservation easement donation agreement on 14.75 acres of the Wild Moor Estate off of Hammersmith Road in Newport, the first of three land deals in a three-week span. The deal protects significant portions of the property, which has extremely high biodiversity and a rich cultural history.



NOVEMBER

2015

ALT held its annual Race for Open Space 5K Run/Walk on the Sakonnet Greenway Trail. The family event included over 300 people running and walking on the trail.

ALT’s Stewardship Director, Alex Chuman, joined RI Families in Nature on a long walk along the Sakonnet Greenway Trail on November 21.



JANUARY

2016

ALT closed on the Arnow property at bargain sale, 12.49 acres of open land off of Howland Avenue in Middletown. The property has prime soils, open field, including a section where local cricket games are held, and woodland habitat, expanding the Sakonnet Greenway connection of protected open space further to the south.

In collaboration with the Town of Portsmouth, ALT closed on the Mount Hope Park coastal property in northern Portsmouth, located on a 1.4 acre peninsula close to the Mount Hope Bridge, where the Town now has fee ownership and ALT the conservation easement. After renovation and repair, the site is planned to be a community waterfront park for passive recreation.



FEBRUARY

2016

Our 26th Annual Meeting was held at the Mainstay Inn. The crowd was at full capacity and celebrated ALT's achievements from the previous year and reviewed its future goals.

ALT took part in Newport Health Equity Zone Creativity Lab, a day-long event focused on getting ideas and community input to better health equity in Newport's North End and Broadway neighborhoods.



MARCH

2016

Executive Director Chuck Allott presented on land conservation at the annual RI Land and Water Summit, a gathering of over 300 local land trust and water professionals.

Throughout the month of March, ALT's Stewardship Director presented to environmental science classes in all three public high schools on local watershed conservation and local water issues on Aquidneck Island, using an interactive watershed model.

Stewardship Director Alex Chuman presented to multiple groups including Portsmouth Garden Club, National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, and University of Rhode Island's masters program on local open spaces and conservation issues.

ALT continued its Growers' Market presence with a monthly table through the winter market at Newport Vineyards.

APRIL

2016

On April 2, Executive Director Chuck Allott and Stewardship Director Alex Chuman presented ALT's farm planning work to a large crowd at the Aquidneck Community Table Food Summit 3.

In partnership with Clean Ocean Access, ALT was a part of Watershed Weekend, Salve Regina University's Service Plunge. Students helped clean up the Bailey Brook Watershed, one of the sources of drinking water on Aquidneck Island.

ALT installed the first free rain barrel at a Portsmouth residence, part of a planned rain barrel giveaway/installation program to foster awareness on what homeowners can do to conserve water and reduce stormwater inputs on their property.

Executive Director Chuck Allott participated in the Land Trust Alliance annual Advocacy Days in Washington, D.C., where he discussed pertinent land conservation issues with the RI state delegation.

ALT manned a booth at Salve Regina University's Earth Day Fair.

ALT's role as a leadership organization in Newport Health Equity Zone was renewed for Year 2 of the project. ALT will continue to serve as a leader on open space and health issues.

Portsmouth Troop 82 Scout Peter Fiaschetti completed his Eagle Project with ALT, improving the Sakonnet Greenway Trail with 100 much-needed cedar directional arrows.

The Town of Middletown hosted Sanne Kure-Jensen to talk about composting basics and advice, part of ALT's Conservation Speaker Series.



MAY
2016

ALT's stewardship department kicked off the 2016 conservation easement monitoring season. Each year ALT monitors its 80+ conservation easements across 76 properties via site visits with staff and volunteers to ensure the terms in these agreements are being kept and the land remains as open space.

ALT and the 6th grade class of St. Michael's Country Day School held their annual cleanup together the afternoon of May 11, cleaning trash from the 45-acre ALT-conserved Kempenaar Valley in Middletown.

ALT joined the many vendors at the outdoor Aquidneck Growers' Market on Saturday, May 14th at Newport Vineyards. Our monthly appearances at the AGM provide great opportunities to connect with island residents and visitors who care about preserving local farms.

Our annual Trolley Tour season kicked off on the 19th with a lively group of long-time supporters and new faces. Participants rode a vintage-style trolley bus to ALT's Sakonnet Greenway Trail entrance at The Glen in Portsmouth, followed by a stop at Sweet Berry Farm in Middletown, another ALT-conserved property and passionate supporter of our mission, for complimentary refreshments.

For the third year running, ALT hosted a very well-attended Herb Walk on the 21st at Island Community Farms in Middletown, led by Jessyloo Rodrigues of Parcel Apothecary.

ALT's Merritt Fund distributed \$7000 in small grants to eight grassroots organizations for various conservation projects ranging from community garden construction to a new dog park. Since 1999, the Merritt Fund has distributed small grants annually to community groups.

Derek Hallett of Newport Boy Scout Troop 3 completed his Eagle Scout project on the Sakonnet Greenway Trail. Derek and the Scouts trucked 5 tons of crushed stone via wheelbarrow to address mud issues on the trail in Portsmouth.

On May 26th, we presented our 2016 Environmental Leadership Award to Sofia Taylor of Portsmouth High School at the school's graduation awards banquet.

The Board of Trustees and ALT staff had a full weekend strategic planning summit with nationally known land conservation consultants, Solid Ground Consulting. The Board and staff discussed future goals and plans to shape ALT's next strategic plan.



JUNE
2016

In partnership with Wag Nation, ALT hosted its first "Tails on the Trail" dog walk on June 1, touring the southern section of the Sakonnet Greenway Trail from Newport Vineyards in Middletown. These walks will take place twice a month during the summer and fall.

On June 6th, the final public meeting of the Newport Open Space Partnership was held with an audience of over 100 people. ALT is one of the five leadership partners on this project to develop a comprehensive plan for Newport's open spaces, trees, and parks with community input.

ALT continued its monthly appearances at the Aquidneck Growers' Market, adding new supporters to our membership roll.

One of ALT's trustees hosted an intimate cocktail reception for the top sponsors for this year's Fiesta Verde gala on June 12. As a preview of our annual July fundraiser, the theme was "A Taste of Cuba" and featured a Latin dancing demonstration.

ALT hosted its annual Landowner and Volunteer Appreciation Party at Pennfield School in Portsmouth on June 16. ALT is very appreciative of our conservation partners and volunteers!

ALT's committed Trustees and Advisors came together for our annual Joint Board Meeting at Spruce Acres Farm on June 28. Getting everyone together in one space is a tough task, so it was a great opportunity to catch up, share ideas, and get the ball rolling on upcoming projects.

The Newport Health Equity Zone, of which ALT is a leading collaborator, hosted "Spring Into Summer," an afternoon of fun family-friendly activities at Newport's Florence Gray Center. ALT was present with a table where we handed out buttons, stickers, and Aquidneck Island Outdoor Maps.

On June 30, ALT hosted its second Trolley Tour of the 2016 season.



JULY

2016

On July 11, ALT participated in a green infrastructure showcase in Providence for work with the Green Infrastructure Coalition, where staff explained our planning initiatives to donors and stakeholders.

On July 18, ALT held its annual golf tournament at Newport National Country Club in Middletown, RI. This summertime fundraiser brought golfers together for a memorable and gorgeous sunny day of play on a beautiful ALT-conserved property.

On July 23, ALT held its annual gala event, "Fiesta Verde," at Sweet Berry Farm, with a Cuban "Havana Nights" theme. The event featured a Cuban band, dancers, and food delicacies all under the backdrop of conservation land at the farm. ALT officially announced the effort to preserve Spruce Acres Farm at the event. ALT hopes to purchase the farm and building for a future home for the Land Trust. The event was successful, raising nearly \$100,000 for the Spruce Acres acquisition and another \$94,000 for general operations from our extremely generous supporters.



SEPTEMBER

2016

ALT was proud to welcome our new Office Manager, Meghan Harris!

Throughout September, Executive Director Chuck Allott led tours of Spruce Acres for neighbors interested in the project.

Two high school students from St. George's School in Middletown served as ALT interns for the fall semester.

On September 18, Salve Regina Professor and ALT Board Chair Jim Chace and his students led a bird banding demonstration at ALT-conserved Sweet Flag Preserve as part of our Walk and Talk series.

On September 22, ALT had its last Trolley Tour of the season, highlighting the many conservation lands in the Sakonnet Greenway corridor.

On September 26, ALT partnered with Land for Good and the RI Land Trust Council to host a workshop for landowners who would like to learn more about leasing land for farmers. A combination of landowners and young farmers looking for land to lease attended. Evaluations completed by attendees were overwhelmingly positive and multiple follow-up meetings resulted.

Portsmouth Troop 1 future Eagle Scout Zach Taylor completed his Eagle Scout project in the Oakland Forest Preserve, constructing bluebird boxes and a new trailhead kiosk.



AUGUST

2016

ALT was excited to welcome our new Finance Director, Martha Curley, to the team!

In mid-August, Stewardship Director Alex Chuman led three nature walks with the Martin Luther King Community Center's Summer Camp on the Sakonnet Greenway Trail.

Every Sunday in August, ALT opened the Memorial Tower at Miantonomi Park in collaboration with the City of Newport as part of Miantonomi Exploration Days. Over 500 visitors climbed the tower across the four days.

On August 18, ALT hosted another Trolley Tour of conserved lands on a beautiful summer's day.

On August 24, ALT supporters enthusiastically gathered at Spruce Acres for tours of the new project led by staff and board members.



Aquidneck Land Trust

conservation map

■ Protected Properties

1993	1. John J. Slocum Estate	2.40
1995	2. Pierce-Anthony Farm	16.37
1996	3. Town of Middletown Soccer Fields	13.98
	4. Sweet Berry Farm	77.57
1998	5. Perry Farm (incl. Newport Vineyards)	82.07
1999	6. Tibbetts Farm	33.25
2000	7. Oakland Forest & Meadow	30.10
	8. Hodges / Pennfield School	6.88
	9. 3S / Town of Portsmouth	48.07
	10. Peters Farm	49.65
	11. Farmlands, LLC	43.17
	12. Newport National Golf Club	299.42
	13. Nunes Farms	51.00
	14. Braman / Olaynack Farm	12.52
	15. Almy Pond Conservation Area	19.66
2001	16. Whitehouse Family	5.10
	17. Newport Country Club	3.33
	18. Cousens Farm	34.97
	19. Bally Machree Farm, LLC	8.16
	20. Greenscape, LLC / Braman's Meadow	10.55
	21. Webster Farm	38.22
2002	22. Sweet Berry Farm / Borges	6.38
	23. Almy-Thurston Farm	16.34
	24. Crystal Spring Water Company	39.66
2003	25. Alvarnas / Lacerda Farm	6.48
	26. Greenscape, LLC / North Farm	47.21
	27. Norman Bird Sanctuary / Third Beach	23.87
	28. Dockery Estate	12.57
2004	29. Commonwealth Farm	17.00
	30. Kempenaar Valley	45.80
2005	31. Clubhouse Partners, LP Preserve	1.18
	32. Harrison Farm	2.62
	33. Sullivan Preserve	14.90
	34. State of Rhode Island / Town Pond	45.55
	35. City of Newport / Miantonomi Park	29.78
	36. Silvia Farm	15.30
	37. Escobar's Highland Farm	74.98
2006	38. Elshant Preserve	5.45
	39. Vaucluse East Estate	128.79
	40. Water Reservoir Area	404.21
	41. Brown Preserve	28.76
	42. Sunset Hills	5.47
	43. Sweet Flag Partners	4.53
	44. Paradise Valley Park / Diocese	20.95
2007	45. City of Newport / Gooseneck Cove	58.00
	46. City of Newport / Morton Park	12.10
2008	47. Town of Middletown / Albro Woods	8.65
	48. Town of Middletown / Demery Memorial Park	6.24
	49. Peckham Farm	11.59
	50. Boulevard Nurseries	29.46
	51. Swan Farm	124.38
2009	52. Green Valley Country Club	126.37
	53. City of Newport / Braga Park	8.35
	54. McCormack Estate	2.29
	55. Valley Associates II	6.65
	56. Easy Street Farm	8.67
	57. Salve Regina University / Sulthome	1.14
2010	58. O'Neill	8.23
	59. City of Newport / Spencer Park	2.46
	60. City of Newport / King Park	8.05
2011	61. Rovensky Park	4.95
	62. Wicks Nursery	37.59
	63. Ocean View	0.70
	64. Dey	18.83
	65. Welch Farm	14.25
2012	66. City of Newport / Coggeshall School Park	0.87
	67. Corey / Sears Farm	28.69
	68. Crump	3.76
2013	69. Randall	10.65
2014	70. Town of Portsmouth / Reposa	4.26
	71. Faria Farm	10.51
	72. Norman Bird Sanctuary / Kenny	5.40
2015	73. St. Mary's Church	72.18
	74. Wild Moor Estate	14.75
2016	75. Arnow	12.49
	76. Town of Portsmouth / Mt. Hope Park	4.90

total conserved acres: 2,552.72





Founded in 1990, the Land Trust's first conservation easement was placed on the historic Slocum estate on Bellevue Avenue. Since that time, the Land Trust has conserved over 2,550 acres with many landowners. We gratefully thank these very special individuals, families, businesses, neighborhood associations, municipalities, and other government agencies who have partnered with us to preserve and steward their land in perpetuity. Their vision for the future, and appreciation of the past, leave a priceless legacy for all to enjoy.

Anonymous (2)
 Lewis Arnow
 Friends of Almy Pond
 Mr. and Mrs. Daniel J. Alvarnas
 Edythe Anthony
 Muriel Anthony
 Armory Revival Company
 Manuel J. Borges
 Mrs. Jean I. Braman
 Joe Brito, Jr.
 Carolann Brown
 James F. Carlin
 James Chadwick
 City of Newport
 Clubhouse Partners, LP
 Corey/Sears Farm
 Denys and Margery Cousens
 Henry and Andrea Crump
 Crystal Spring Water Company, The Scott Family
 The Dey Family
 The Dick Family
 Joe and Kristal Dockery
 Jan and Michelle Eckhart, Sweet Berry Farm
 The Elshant Family
 Louis Escobar
 Roberta Faria
 The Faria Family
 Farmlands, LLC
 Farmscapes Holdings, LLC
 Greenscape, LLC
 Green Valley Country Club, Inc.
 Mrs. Samuel M.V. Hamilton
 Diana Harrison
 Mr. and Mrs. F. James Hodges, Jr.
 The Kempenaar Family
 Joe Lacerda, Jr.
 Marcella McCormack
 Town of Middletown
 Middletown Main, LLC
 Middletown Open Space and Fields Committee
 Katherine M. Murphy
 The Nature Conservancy
 Newport Country Club
 Newport National Golf Club/Realty Financial Partners
 John and Paul Nunes, Newport Vineyards & Winery
 Newport Water Department
 Norman Bird Sanctuary

Larry and Mary Nunes, Anna Flaherty, and Edna North
 Peter Olaynack
 Donald and Helene O'Neill
 Bill and Barbara O'Reilly, Bally Machree Farm, LLC
 The Peckham Family
 The Pennfield School
 The Perry Family Partnership
 Manuel Peters, George Peters, and Marie Ney
 Town of Portsmouth
 The Preservation Society of Newport County
 RI Agricultural Land Preservation Commission
 RI Department of Environmental Management
 RI Water Resources Board
 Peter and Ann Randall
 The Reposa Family
 Carol Rodrigues and Nancy Cleasby
 Saint Mary's Church
 Salve Regina University
 The Silvia Family
 Mrs. John J. Slocum
 John J. Slocum
 F.M. Sullivan
 Sweet Flag Partners
 George Thurston
 David R. Tibbetts
 U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation
 Service (NRCS)
 Valley Associates II
 van Beuren Family
 Katherine and Michael Waters
 Mr. and Mrs. James Webster
 Charles R. Whitehouse
 The Wicks Family
 Wild Moor, LLC

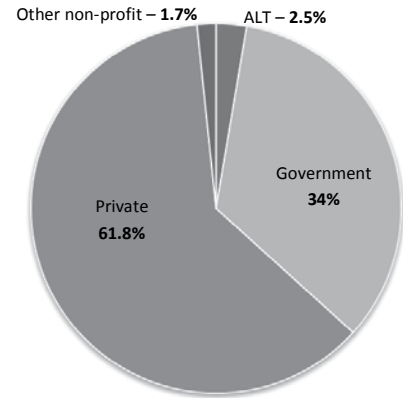


AQUIDNECK LAND TRUST | BY THE NUMBERS

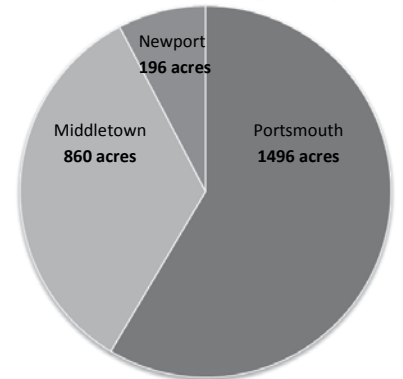
ALT Conservation Breakdown	
Total Easements	76
Total Conserved Acreage	2552.72
Total Acres Owned in Fee	63.1
Parks Protected	14
Golf Courses Protected	2
Public Access Properties (Full, Limited), including SGT	34
Number of Projects with Farmland	32
Acres of Farmland Parcels Protected	1,245
Acres of USDA Prime Farm Soils Protected	1437
Acres of Recreational Land Protected	438
Number of Newport Estates	7
Properties with Coastal Frontage	7
Miles of Public Trail Maintained	11

Aquidneck Island (AI) Conservation Information	
Total Area (Acres)	24,465
Total Land Conserved (Acres)	~5,100
Open Space (OS) on Island (Acres)	~13,600
Population	~60,000
Total Acreage of Recreational OS Parcels	1,854
Total Acreage of Parcels with Farmland	4,188
Drinking Water Supply Reservoirs on AI	7

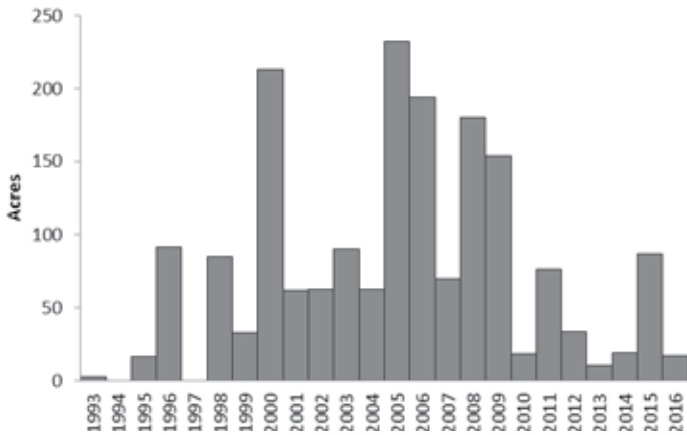
Landowner Category (%) of Total ALT Conserved Lands



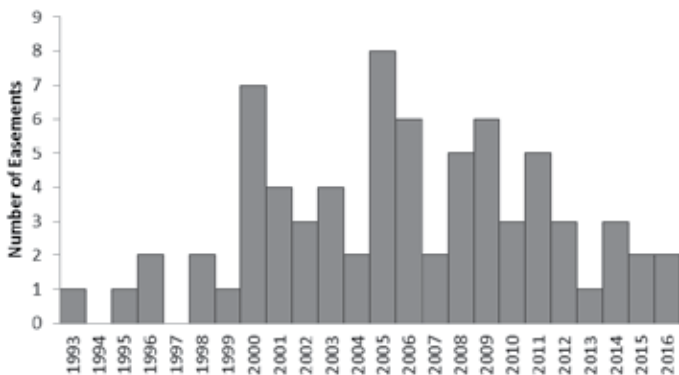
Easement Acres by County



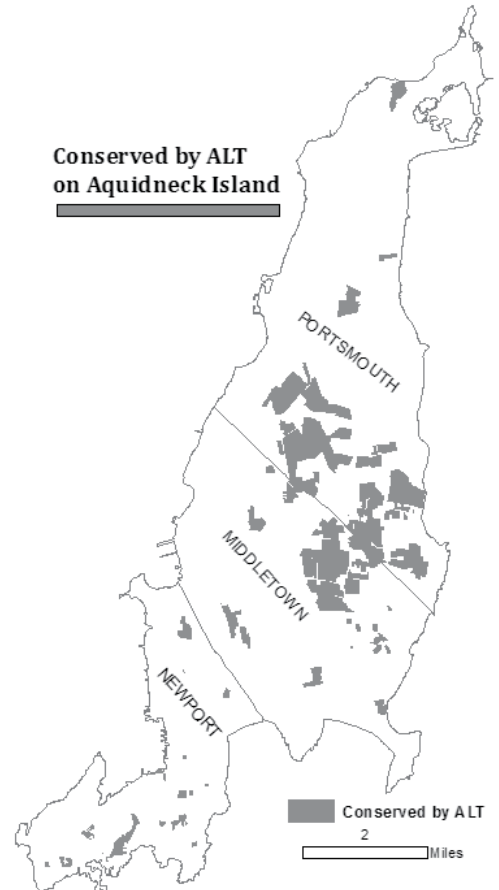
Acres Conserved by Year



Easements per Year



Conserved by ALT on Aquidneck Island





ALT's Conserve Aquidneck Now campaign to couple sound planning with accelerated land acquisition continued through this fiscal year. Just a few months into FY2015-2016, ALT had conserved three properties totaling over 32 acres of land, one property in each town on the Island!

Protecting Farmland, Watersheds & Parks

The **Amow property** in Middletown includes 12.49 acres of land with prime farmland soils, woodland habitat, and open fields, and is connected to ALT-conserved land in the Sakonnet Greenway corridor. The property is also within the Maidford River drinking supply watershed.

The **Wild Moor Estate** (formerly Berry Hill) in Newport includes 14.75 acres of wildlife habitat, with over 400 plant species and 35 animal species recorded on the property in its storied history. Habitats range from cleared scenic rock outcroppings, to upland deciduous woodland, to wet meadow wetlands on the scenic grounds.

The **Mount Hope Park** parcel, acquired in partnership with the Town of Portsmouth, is 4.9 acres of land and water located next to the Mount Hope Bridge in northern Portsmouth. The waterfront parcel will be developed from its current condition of disrepair into a community park for all to enjoy, with a community planning process started in January 2017!

We also completed or began finalizing planning projects in farmland, watersheds, and parks to accompany and guide our land acquisition and outreach efforts.

Farmland:

ALT continued work on its Farm Plan, outlining land acquisition and our future outreach efforts to help make farming viable on Aquidneck Island. This approach outlines partners, workshops, resources, and policy to help make farming successful on the Island beyond simply protecting it.

Watersheds:

ALT began finalizing our Maidford River Watershed Conservation Plan, prioritizing lands to conserve within the watersheds. The plan also includes conceptual designs for best management practices to install within the watershed.

ALT continued working on riparian buffer assessment and best management plans in the Bailey Brook watershed.

Parks:

ALT has worked with partners and the community to develop a comprehensive master plan for parks and open spaces in Newport.

With Mount Hope Park closed, ALT has begun the process of park planning for this future waterfront park, emphasizing community engagement in the process. For more information on the park planning process go to

<https://www.mthopepark.com/>.

"Conserving our vital open spaces while keeping the natural character of the island accessible to the entire community and future generations."

Aquidneck Land Trust partners with many members of the community, organizations, and governments across the Island and State of RI to achieve its conservation goals like supporting clean water, working farmlands, accessible parks and trails, scenic viewsheds, effectively managed wildlife habitat, community outreach, and smart environmental policy. Of these many collaborations, six partnerships and coalitions we've worked on this past year are highlighted below.



Coyote Smarts

This group of six organizations (ALT, Norman Bird Sanctuary, Potter League for Animals, RI Natural History Survey, the Conservation Agency, and Narragansett Bay Coyote Study) works to raise awareness and educate residents on Aquidneck Island on the local coyote population. CoyoteSmarts has put out a number of publications and news releases to educate Aquidneck Islanders. Its information is based on actually tracking research using GPS collars on Aquidneck Island. Please don't feed the coyotes! For more info, go to <http://www.coyotesmarts.org/>



Green Infrastructure Coalition

A 37 member state-wide group with an Aquidneck Island chapter, this coalition of non-profits, agencies, and municipalities works to promote green infrastructure to address stormwater issues impacting water quality and flooding on Aquidneck Island. ALT has worked to assess riparian buffer health, map Best Management Practice recommendations, and do watershed education and outreach to residences and schools. For more info, go to <http://www.greeninfrastructureri.org/>.



Health Equity Zone (HEZ)/ Women's Resource Center

The Newport Health Equity Zone is a city-wide coalition mobilizing residents and resources of the Broadway and North End neighborhoods to make Newport a place where everyone can thrive. A funded partner, ALT provides open space and parks expertise in this large collaboration of local Newport non-profits, residents, and community members. For more info, go to <http://newporthealthequity.com/>.



Island Waters

"Island Waters: The Aquidneck Island Water Quality Initiative" is a new program led by Aquidneck Island Planning Commission in partnership with ALT, Clean Ocean Access, and the communities of Newport, Middletown and Portsmouth. ALT works as a project partner, including work on riparian buffer management practices and watershed outreach and education.



Newport Open Space Partnership

ALT has been one of the lead organizations with City of Newport, Newport Tree Society, Aquidneck Island Planning Commission, and the Newport Tree & Open Space Commission on the Newport open space plan currently under development. This project, led by a planning consultant, is using community engagement to develop a comprehensive plan to manage, steward, and improve Newport's parks, trees, and open spaces. The plan is nearly complete and due in early 2017! For more info, go to <http://www.newportopenspace.org/>.



Scenic Aquidneck

A collaboration of ALT, PreserveRI, and the Preservation Society of Newport County, Scenic Aquidneck is focused on preserving and enhancing the visual quality of Aquidneck Island's natural and cultural resources. It is an island-wide resource for improving gateways, historic landscapes and structures, key corridors, scenic views, and coastline for the benefit of the Newport, Middletown, and Portsmouth communities. This year we finally completed the under-grounding of powerlines from Surfer's End all the way to Sachuest Point with project management from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service! The undergrounding project beautifies one of the island's treasured scenic viewsheds while also making a more resilient coast. For more info, go to <http://www.scenicaquidneck.org/>









AQUIDNECK LAND TRUST | FINANCIAL SUMMARY (UNAUDITED)

For the Twelve Months Ended September 30, 2016

CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS:

PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE

Grants	\$ 202,125
Donations & appeals	186,836
Membership dues & other income	62,438
Net special events income	115,139
Investment income	137,473
	<u>\$ 704,011</u>

Net assets released from restrictions:

Satisfaction of program or time restrictions	\$ 1,126,014
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TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE

\$ 1,830,025

EXPENSES

Total Program Services	\$ 3,185,003
Total Support Services	\$ 405,844

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$ 3,590,847

TOTAL CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

\$ (1,760,822)

CHANGES IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS:

Investment & endowment income	\$ 198,209
Grants	166,200
Donations & appeals	123,240
Conservation easement donation	1,875,000
Net assets released from restrictions	(1,126,014)
Total changes in temporarily restricted net assets	<u>\$ 1,236,635</u>

CHANGE IN TOTAL NET ASSETS

\$ (524,187)

NET ASSETS, beginning of the fiscal year

\$ 11,128,295

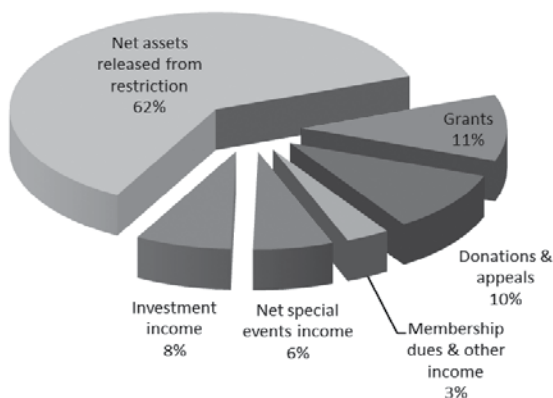
NET ASSETS, end of the fiscal year

\$ 10,604,108

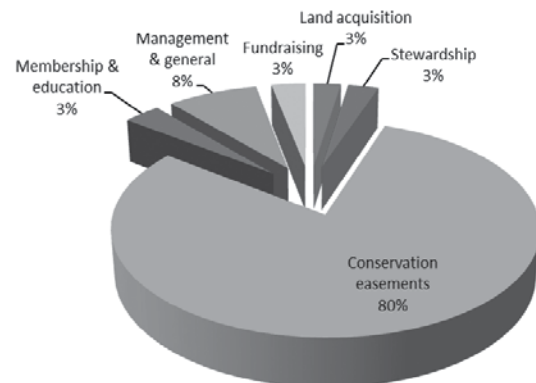
<i>Real estate holdings</i>	\$ 3,503,203
<i>Land Preservation Funds (for Spruce Acres)</i>	108,372
<i>Merritt Neighborhood Fund</i>	83,550
<i>Legal Defense Fund</i>	420,790
<i>Stewardship Endowment Fund</i>	5,902,172
<i>General Operating Fund</i>	586,021
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 10,604,108</u>

If you would like a copy of the Aquidneck Land Trust's Audited Financial Statements for the twelve months ended September 30, 2016, prepared by Kahn, Litwin, Renza & Co., Ltd., or information about the ways you can support the Aquidneck Land Trust, please contact Martha Curley, Finance Director at (401) 367-4547 or email mcurley@alnt.org.

Public Support & Revenue



Expenses



The Board of Trustees is deeply grateful to the hundreds of individuals, families, businesses, organizations, foundations, government entities, and landowners who generously support our work each year. The Aquidneck Land Trust strives to offer creative, flexible, respectful and convenient methods to enlist lasting philanthropic support. Membership dues, targeted appeals and campaigns, special events, planned gifts and bequests, in-kind goods and services, and donations of land and conservation easements all enable those who treasure Aquidneck Island to participate in the work of ALT. Our heartfelt thanks to all those who contributed to the Aquidneck Land Trust during this fiscal year, which concluded on September 30, 2016.

\$300,000

The Gewirz Family

\$25,000 - \$299,999

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 Domina's Agway
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 Northeast Engineers & Consultants
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 Aquidneck Growers Market
 Brownstone, Inc.
 Core Strength & Conditioning
 Crystal Spring Water Company
 East Island Reserve
 Heavenly Soles, Inc., Run Newport
 Hyatt Regency Newport Hotel & Spa
 Subway
 Meghan Sepe Photography
 Network for Good
 Newport Pilates
 Paradise Cleaning & Restoration
 Services, Inc.
 R & R Construction
 The Bodhi Spa
 The Pennfield School
 The Preservation Society of
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Acacia Cafe Food Truck
 Alloy Gallery
 Brick Alley Pub & Restaurant
 Coastal Vision
 Common Fence Point Association
 Firehouse Theater
 Fluke Wine, Bar & Kitchen
 Flynn Financial Group
 Gallo Construction
 Green Valley Country Club
 Heidi's Fitness Studio
 Innerlight Center for Yoga and
 Meditation
 Lois Vaughan Music
 Newport Film
 Newport Harbor Hotel & Marina
 Newport Shipyard & Marina
 Newport Vineyards & Winery
 Norman Bird Sanctuary
 Portsmouth Veterinary Clinic
 PULSE
 REMINC
 Revive Hair Salon
 Robert A. Carrellas Family Practice
 Roger King Fine Arts

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 Shamrock Electric, Inc.
 Sightsailing of Newport
 SpaVana
 Spring Fever
 Thames Street Yoga
 The Cookie Jar
 The Farmer's Daughter
 The Fifth Element
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 Amaral's Fish & Chips
 Aquidneck Indian Council
 Bagel Boys
 Bywater
 Cafe Zelda
 Carolyn's Sakonnet Vineyard
 Castle Keep Property Management & Rentals
 Center for Therapeutic Massage
 Christian's
 Cory Farms
 DeCastro Farms
 Diego's
 Easton's Point Real Estate Trust
 Evelyn's Drive-In

Four Corners Grille
 Friends of Ballard Park
 Jeremiah L. Harrington, Inc.
 Jonathan Perry's Scampi
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 Mahatma Yoga Studio
 Marine Rescue Products, Inc.
 Matunuck Oyster Bar
 Moore Blooms
 Newport Cooks
 Newport County Chamber of Commerce
 Newport Life Magazine
 Newport Restaurant Group
 Newport Storm Brewery
 Pelican Canvas Company
 Portsmouth Publick House
 Redlefsen's Rotisserie & Grill
 Roberto's Restaurant
 S.S. Dion Restaurant
 Silk Tree Farm
 Simeon Potter House
 Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny
 The Capital Grille
 The Green Grocer
 The Healthy Home Shop
 The Landing Restaurant
 The Lobster Bar
 The Nail Shoppe
 The Red Dory
 The Wharf Pub
 Wag Nation
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The logo for F.L. Putnam Investment Management Company is centered in the upper half of the image. It consists of the text "F.L. PUTNAM" in a large, white, serif font, with a thin white horizontal line underneath. Below the line, the words "INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COMPANY" are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The entire logo is enclosed in a dark blue rectangular box with a double-line border. The background of the entire page is a photograph of a field of wildflowers in bloom, with a bright sun low on the horizon behind a line of trees, creating a warm, golden glow and lens flare effects.

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