



## Hanover Conservation Council

### *Role in Local Land Conservation 1963-present*

**1964** -- Council coordinated efforts to save the **43 acre Wilder Wildlife Refuge** on the Connecticut River in Lyme. The property with 3500 feet of shoreline was purchased by the NH Fish and Game Department.

**1965** -- Council started Land Acquisition account with \$1,000.

**1966** -- Council paid for land survey for a **34.7 acre preserve along the Connecticut River** in Plainfield purchased by the New England Wildflower Society.

**1967** -- Council purchased 15.8 acres along Mink Brook, now known as the **Angelo Tanzi Natural Area**, and sold the area to the Town of Hanover for one half the purchase price.

**1970** -- Council purchased a **10.3 acre parcel on the south summit of Balch Hill**.

**1971** -- Council contributed \$10,000 to the Town of Hanover towards the purchase price of the **South Esker** on the Connecticut River.

**1973** - Council contributed \$13,500 to the Town of Hanover towards the purchase price of the **15.7 acre Edgerton property on Mink Brook** and the Connecticut River.

**1973** - Council purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Jack **Rinker a 17.62 acre tract** of densely forested land just north of the Storrs Pond area. A 5-acre pond is included.

**1977** - Council acquired and resold to the town the **Marshall Brook Wetlands Natural Area (96 acres)**. Purchased for just under \$20,000 (25% HCC, 25% town, 50% Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation). HCC played vital role in negotiations with seller.

**1980** -- Council purchased a **25.5 acre parcel on summit of Balch Hill**, adjacent to the Council's 10 acres, and transferred to the Town to become vital link in Hanover's green belt as a precious resource for future generations.

**1985** - Council accepted **conservation enforcement restriction rights on 934 acres around Grafton Pond**. Land was deeded to the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire forests. No local organization was then available to accept conservation enforcement, so Council filled this role intending to transfer the rights to a new group when established—Mascoma Watershed Conservation Council.

**1987** - Council worked to preserve a 125 acre tract of land connecting to Marshall Brook Wetlands Area. The owner's intent was to divide into 12 lots, denied by planning board because of commission recommendation.

**1991** -- Council led a successful community-wide fundraising campaign to help the Town of Hanover purchase conservation easements on Wilson and Haslett **Fullington Fields** to preserve forever the view of the Connecticut River from Route 10, maintain the fields for agricultural use, and provide access to the riverside trail on these almost 26 acres.

**1993** -- Council assisted with purchase of the **McKinley Tract on Wolfeboro and Goose Pond**. The 125 acre parcel is now owned by the Town and open for recreational use.

**1994** -- Council received an anonymous gift for the purchase of a **small parcel of land off Goose Pond Road**, another link to Town-owned Marshall Brook and McKinley Tract areas with the Town Forest.

**1996** – Council worked with NH Fish and Game Department to protect **42 acres abutting Huntington Hill, in the upper Slade Brook watershed**. Collaborated with Upper Valley Land Trust to purchase 112 acre Barrett-Ransmeier property at Mink Brook bordering the Angelo Tanzi Natural Area (Council’s first land acquisition project – 1967).

**1997** – Council completed work on the protection of the **Slade Brook/Huntington Hill** project in Hanover Center.

**1999** - The Council achieved its largest and most significant single land acquisition, the purchase of the **Mink Brook Nature Preserve**.

**2000** - Council acquired **11 more acres at Balch Hill**.

**2002** – Council partnered with the Hanover Conservation Commission and Town to conserve **34 acres on Moose Mountain Road (Fuller Lot)**; also 66 acres Dana Pasture, and 28 acres - "Dana/Moose Mountain."

**2005** – Council protected nearly 40 acres along **Lower Slade Brook**. Original plan was for 17 houses over 55 acres; Council worked with developer for better smart growth option to preserve the brook, with 10 houses clustered on 20 acres and the remaining 35 acres given to the Council for conservation. Houses abutting Slade Brook now have easements to protect the stream. Area is now known as the Jim and Evalyn Hornig Natural Area at Slade Brook.

**2008** – Council acquired 112 acres on **Greensboro Ridge**, connecting to Velvet Rocks and protecting a small piece of the Appalachian Trail. The Council worked with the developer for a smart growth option to preserve the upland forest, with development clustered on land close to Greensboro Road and the remaining acreage given to the Council for conservation.

**2010** – Council provided \$25,000 to the Town of Hanover to purchase the 6-acre **Steele Tract** abutting the Rinker Tract (acquired by the Town with the Council’s help in 1973) and accepted a conservation easement on the combined **24-acre Rinker-Steele Natural Area**.

*The Council thanks Robert Norman, board member emeritus, and Gail McPeck, current chair of the Council’s Stewardship Committee, for their assistance in assembling this brief history.*