

A photograph of a forest floor covered in green moss. Several mushrooms are visible: a large yellow one in the center-left, a cluster of orange ones to its right, and some smaller ones in the background and foreground. The scene is lit with natural light, creating soft shadows.

# HANOVER CONSERVANCY

**FY 2012 ANNUAL REPORT**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy Collier, *President*  
Kristine McDevitt, *Vice President*  
Andrew Samwick, *Treasurer*  
Bob Ballou, *Secretary*  
Richard Birnie\*  
Sandra Chivers  
Eric Evans  
Jeffrey Harris  
Betsy McGean  
Gail McPeck  
Hugh Mellert  
Bill Mlacak\*  
Carl Renshaw  
Jay Rozzi  
Stephen Shadford

\* *Term ended during FY2012*

## EMERITUS

Edwin Chamberlain  
James Hornig  
Robert Norman  
Brian Quinn

Adair Mulligan, *Executive Director*

**The Hanover Conservancy, the oldest local land trust in New Hampshire,** is dedicated to the conservation of land and water and to deepening the appreciation of natural resources for the benefit of the Hanover community and beyond.

Celebrating its 51st year, the Conservancy is a private, not-for-profit, membership organization. While not affiliated with the Town of Hanover, the Conservancy partners frequently with the Town and other local and regional organizations.

## THANK YOU

Our many supporters and friends make the Hanover Conservancy's programs possible.

## CORPORATE CONSERVATORS

E. C. Brown's Nursery  
Full Circle Forestry  
Gallagher, Flynn & Company, LLP  
Housing Solutions Real Estate, LLC  
Hypertherm, Inc.  
JMH Wealth Management, LLC  
Law Offices of Stebbins Bradley, PA  
Ledyard National Bank  
Linde Mac Real Estate, LLC  
Lyme Timber Company  
Martha E. Diebold Real Estate  
Roger Clarkson Realtors  
Sotheby's International Realty  
White Mountains Capital, Inc.



**HANOVER  
CONSERVANCY**

*Protecting land & water  
in our community*

## FOUNDATIONS

The Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation  
Elizabeth Parkhill Charitable Trust  
Upper Valley Region Community Fund of the  
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation  
The Barrette Family Fund of the  
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation  
Vermont Community Foundation

## Community Friends and Partners

Chippers, Inc.  
College Supplies  
Hanover Conservation Commission  
Hanover Co-op Food Stores  
Hanover Historical Society  
Hanover Lions Club  
Hanover Youth in Action  
Hubbard Brook Research Foundation  
Hudson Forestry  
I.T. Stuff for Nonprofits  
Mascoma Chapter, NH Audubon  
Ravenmark, Inc.  
Riverview Farm  
Upper Valley Land Trust  
Upper Valley Trails Alliance  
Velvet Rocks Drive Homeowners' Association  
Vital Communities of the Upper Valley

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

This inaugural year of the newly named **HANOVER CONSERVANCY** has been loaded with adventures. Follow me around town as I share some of the excitement we generated this past year:

- We created a new trail among the granite ridges in our Greensboro Ridge Natural Area. It was built by volunteers with the support of many Greensboro neighbors.
- We celebrated with 100 friends at the summit of Balch Hill, taking the opportunity to reflect on our 50 year history and to recognize our key partners.
- We revised the signage on our properties. A code on each sign allows you to retrieve trail maps on your smart phone.
- We completed the King Bird Sanctuary in Etna and created a guide to the plantings we installed to enhance wildlife values.
- We focused on our Tunis Brook Mill Lot, a hidden gem near Goose Pond Road, studying its history and biological values.
- Our outdoor adventures took us to natural, historic and scenic parts of Hanover: we brought snowshoers to Marshall Brook Wetlands to find wildlife signs; we led hikers up Moose Mountain to see spring wildflowers; we roasted marshmallows with families under a full moon at Slade Brook; we walked back in time on Tunis Brook; we flew kites with kids at Balch Hill; and we continued our tradition of birding trips for the dedicated early risers.

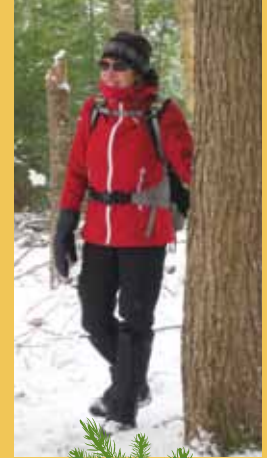
Our less visible, indoor work could be the most important for Hanover's conservation future. Under the energetic leadership of our Executive Director, Adair Mulligan, we are pursuing protection of several parcels in Hanover, a methodical process of mapping, deed research, negotiations and legal work. We will report all progress as soon as we are able.

A most sincere "thank you" to the volunteers engaged in our conservation activities, the people who make the Hanover Conservancy a vibrant and successful community force.

Looking forward, with our members' help, we will continue to steward and expand the "green" side of Hanover that we all need and enjoy.



Nancy Collier, President



*This year, The Hanover  
Conservancy celebrates  
legendary conservationist  
Aldo Leopold*

"Wilderness is a  
resource which  
can shrink  
but not grow."

– Aldo Leopold



## MAJOR PROGRAMS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS – FY 2012

### LAND CONSERVATION

Protecting land and water for the benefit of the community and beyond has been the Hanover Conservancy's chief focus since its founding in 1961. We are currently working behind the scenes to protect several high-priority parcels in partnership with the Town and private landowners. In 2012, we developed detailed maps of natural resource features in Hanover, strengthening our conservation planning capacity and allowing us to better prioritize lands proposed for protection. We welcome inquiries from those interested in conserving their land.



Marking our new Greensboro Highlands Trail

### OUR PROTECTED LANDS

#### Owned by the Hanover Conservancy

Balch Hill Natural Area – 21 acres  
*Off Grasse & Hemlock Roads*

Greensboro Ridge Natural Area – 113 acres  
*Off Greensboro Road & Velvet Rocks Drive*

Mink Brook Nature Preserve – 112 acres  
*Off Route 10 & Brook Road*

Jim & Evalyn Hornig Natural Area at Lower Slade Brook – 35 acres  
*Off River Road*

Tunis Brook Mill Lot – 1.5 acres  
*Off Goose Pond Road*

#### Protected by a Hanover Conservancy Conservation Easement or Deed Restriction

Angelo Tanzi Natural Area – 15.8 acres  
*Adjacent to Mink Brook Nature Preserve / Owner: Town of Hanover*

Huntington Hill/Upper Slade Brook – 31.8 acres  
*Off Hanover Center Road / Owner: private landowner*

McKinley Tract – 125.7 acres  
*Off Wolfeboro & Goose Pond Roads / Owner: Town of Hanover*

Jim & Evalyn Hornig Natural Area at Lower Slade Brook – 3 acres  
*Off Purling Brooks Drive / Owners: private landowners*

Rinker-Steele Natural Area – 23.6 acres  
*Off Route 10 / Owner: Town of Hanover*

We greatly value our conservation partners: at our annual meeting in December, we saluted Dartmouth College's many contributions to conservation over the years and Paul Olson, retiring as the college's Director of Real Estate. This followed awards to Vicki Smith, Hanover's Senior Planner, and Jeanie McIntyre, President of the Upper Valley Land Trust at our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

## **STEWARDSHIP**

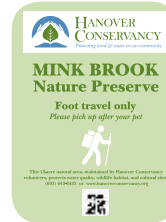
The Conservancy devoted much effort to caring for our protected lands this year. All trailhead kiosks now carry updated and expanded maps and displays, and new, more informative signs greet visitors at trailheads. At **Greensboro Ridge Natural Area**, we completed a natural resources inventory, using its findings to lay out a new trail built with strong support from neighbors and volunteers. The trail creates a loop and access to more of the 113-acre property's intriguing natural features.

At the **Mink Brook Nature Preserve**, a multi-year effort to push back invasive plants and restore native vegetation climaxed with the planting of 2000 native trees and shrubs. An Eagle Scout built a second log crossing at Trout Brook.

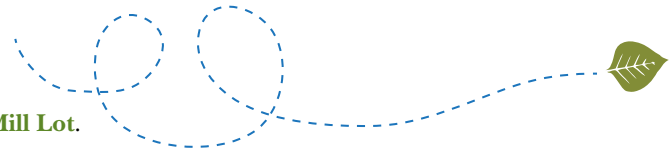
At **Balch Hill**, we installed a new kiosk at the Grasse Road trailhead with support from the Hanover Lions Club and Dartmouth College. Two generous donations launched our new Balch Hill Stewardship Fund. We completed a new forest activity plan to improve wildlife habitat and pruned apple trees near the summit.

Energetic volunteers cleared access to our historic **Tunis Brook Mill Lot**.

We value the spirit and commitment of each of our stewardship committees and trail volunteers.



*Clearing access to the Tunis Brook Mill Lot on Earth Day*



## OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Bringing people into the outdoors is a half-century-old tradition with us. This year, we increased our outreach program by 20% and led 24 trips engaging over 300 people in activities ranging from early morning birding to tracking bobcat in fresh snow to exploring the secluded site of an early sawmill. Conservancy trips are free and open to the public. Find trail maps on our website.

Legendary conservationist Aldo Leopold inspired our year-long celebration of his legacy, as we shared his story in the documentary “Green Fire” with many audiences. In July, 2011, we mustered volunteers and sponsored filming of a wild brook trout habitat study in the Mink Brook watershed.

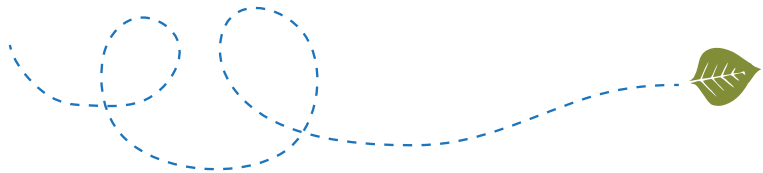
Subscriptions to our monthly e-newsletter jumped by 22%, and now you can find us on Facebook, too.

“The land is one organism... every part is good, whether we understand it or not. Who but a fool would discard seemingly useless parts? To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of intelligent tinkering.”

– Aldo Leopold



*Censusing wild brook trout at the Mink Brook Nature Preserve*





## ADVOCACY & PUBLIC POLICY

We have been a clear voice for environmentally responsible public policies ever since support for zoning led to our founding in 1961. This year we served on the advisory committee for Hanover's 1,345-acre public water supply watershed, which we toured in July, 2011. We also participate in regional bike and pedestrian commuter trail planning and Hanover's Biodiversity Committee.

*Below: Families enjoy a treasure hunt at the Balch Hill Natural Area during our 50th anniversary celebration*





















## KING BIRD SANCTUARY

Following last year's creation of the Nan and Allen King Bird Sanctuary, we published a colorful guide to its plantings. Here an abandoned Etna pasture, cleared of a heavy growth of invasive plants, became a naturalized demonstration garden of native trees and shrubs with wildlife benefits and ornamental value.

*Below: Detail from our new guide to the King Sanctuary; find it on line or pick up a free copy at the Etna Library. Right: bloodroot in flower at the Mink Brook Nature Preserve*



	NAME	WILDLIFE VALUE	ORNAMENTAL VALUE	CULTURE		NAME	WILDLIFE VALUE	ORNAMENTAL VALUE	CULTURE	
	 <b>#1 HAWTHORN</b> <i>Contagios occum</i>	Flowers and fruits attract birds and butterflies	Showy fragrant spring flowers, bright edible fruit, good fall color	Prefers full sun and well-drained soil; small tree grows 20-25'		 <b>#9 WINTERBERRY</b> <i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Fruit is eaten by flickers, thrushes, cedar waxwings, and other birds in winter	Attractive bright red berries on female plants persist into winter; yellow fall color	Sun to part shade; a male pollinator plant tolerates wet soil; good for streambanks; slow growing shrub, 5-8'	
	 <b>#2 SHADBUSH, SERVICEBERRY</b> <i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Berries have high food value for many songbirds	Early white fragrant flowers, bright berries, fine fall color, effective as screening	Prefers moist to average soil, full to part sun; slowgrowing small tree or large shrub, 15-20'		 <b>#10 EASTERN WHITE PINE</b> <i>Pinus strobus</i>	Provides year-round cover for birds and mammals; seeds eaten by small mammals and some birds	Feathery foliage, good year-round screen	Prefers full sun; common colonist of old pastures, as here; moderately fast-growing evergreen, 70-125'	
	 <b>#3 WILD RAISIN</b> <i>Viburnum cassinoides</i>	Fruits eaten by grouse and song birds; rabbits and deer browse twigs	Good fall color, fragrant white flowers, edible blue-black fruits, good hedge	Prefers shade and moist soil; moderately slow growing shrub, 6-10'		 <b>#11 GREY DOGWOOD</b> <i>Cornus racemosa</i>	Fruits eaten by ruffed grouse and other birds	Small whitish flower clusters, white fruits	Prefers sun to part shade; tolerant of varying soil; large shrub to 10'	
	 <b>#4 RED OSIER DOGWOOD</b> <i>Cornus sericea</i>	Fruit is eaten by many birds	Bright red stems attractive in winter, tiny fragrant white flowers, blue-white fruit	Full to part sun; tolerates wet soil and flooding, good for streambanks; fast-growing shrub, 4-8'		 <b>#12 AMERICAN CRANBERRY BUSH</b> <i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	Fruits persist into winter to support birds and mammals	White flower clusters, scarlet fruits, good fall color	Prefers sun to part shade; tolerates varying soil; moderately fast-growing shrub, 6-10'	
	 <b>#5 CRABAPPLE</b> <i>Malus spp.*</i>	Flowers attract birds and butterflies; fruit is eaten by birds and mammals	Pink buds open to white spring flowers, colorful edible fruits, gleaming bark in winter	*The many crabapple trees at the King Sanctuary are self-seeded from the Hayes Farm orchard		 <b>#13 BLACK CURRANT</b> <i>Ribes nigrum "Consort"</i>	Berries are eaten by many birds, mammals	Juicy edible black fruits, fragrant bell-shaped flowers	Prefers full to part sun; one of a few varieties resistant to white pine blister rust and deer browse	
	 <b>#6 WITCH HAZEL</b> <i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Seeds are eaten by birds, rabbits, and deer	Fragrant yellow flowers and foliage in fall, coppery new spring growth	Prefers moist soils and full to part sun; slowgrowing small tree, 20-30'		 <b>#14 ELDERBERRY</b> <i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Berries are eaten by many birds and mammals	Fragrant white flower clusters, bright edible berries, attractive foliage	Prefers moist soils and full to part sun; moderately fast growing shrub, 6-12'	
	 <b>#7 PAGODA DOGWOOD</b> <i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Fruit is eaten by many birds, including turkey, bluebirds, grouse	Elegant branching habit, fragrant white flowers	Full to part sun; tolerates wet soil; good for streambanks; fastgrowing shrub to 15'		 <b>#15 RED MAPLE</b> <i>Acer rubrum</i>	Seeds and buds are eaten by birds and mammals	Early red flowers, bright fall color	Prefers full sun; tolerates wet soil and flooding; good for streambanks; moderately fast growing tree, 40-75'	
	 <b>#8 NANNYBERRY</b> <i>Viburnum lentago</i>	High food value fruits persist into winter for birds; attracts butterflies	Edible fruits, good fall color	Prefers full to part sun; tolerates varying soil; large shrub grows to 10-20'		 <b>#16 Highbush BLUEBERRY</b> <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	Flowers attract hummingbirds, colorful edible berries, eaten by birds & mammals; favorite of scarlet tanagers, bluebirds, grouse, bear	Unshaped flowers, colorful edible berries, bright fall color, attractive habit	Prefers acid soil in sun to part shade; plant two varieties for best pollination; slow-growing, flood tolerant shrub, 5-8'	
	 <b>#17 LOWBUSH BLUEBERRY</b> <i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>					 <b>#17 LOWBUSH BLUEBERRY</b> <i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>				
	<p>Thanks to E. C. Brown's Nursery of Thetford, Vermont for site preparation, planting, and donation of much plant material. <i>July Rose</i> provided professional landscaping advice. <i>Heavenly Hawk in Action</i>, <i>Ken Wilson</i>, <i>Jay and Susan Person</i>, and <i>other friends and neighbors helped to get the garden off to a good start</i>. For King Meyers gave generously of her vision and inspiration. Donations to assist in the future maintenance of the King Bird Sanctuary may be made to the <i>Team of Hancock Conservancy Commission</i>, 41 S. Main Street, Hingham, MA 01935</p>									



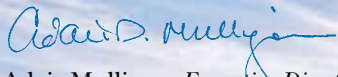
*Thanks to E. C. Brown's Nursery of Thetford, Vermont for site preparation, planting, and donation of much plant material. Judy Rowe provided professional landscaping advice. Hanover Youth in Action, Ken Pelton, Jay and Susan Pearson, and other friends and neighbors helped to get the gardens off to a good start. Fern King-Meyers gave generously of her vision and inspiration. Donations to assist in the future maintenance of the King Bird Sanctuary may be made to the Town of Hanover Conservation Commission, 41 S. Main Street, Hanover, NH 03755.*



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Our hard-working, talented board helped us make great strides this year in a continued drive to tighten and update operations. We conducted a complete policy review, launched new programs in corporate and planned giving, invested our funds with oversight from a new Finance Committee, and started an endowment fund with the NH Charitable Foundation.

We are pleased to welcome a wide new group of Corporate Conservators and appreciate their interest in our efforts to benefit the community. Our members have always been the heart and soul of our organization, and we're delighted to report that their ranks increased by 28% in the last 30 months.



– Adair Mulligan, *Executive Director*



*Over 100 friends and supporters  
joined us under beautiful skies at the  
summit of Balch Hill to celebrate  
our 50th anniversary.*



## FINANCIAL REPORT

As of June 30, 2012

	2012	2011
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 88,197	\$ 459,439
Investments	328,002	-
Prepaid rent	433	433
Office equipment, net of depreciation	955	1,780
Land improvements, net of depreciation	7,145	7,724
Land held for conservation purposes	682,296	682,296
Beneficial interest in assets held by others	25,035	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>1,132,063</b>	<b>1,151,672</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted	\$ 157,977	\$ 154,320
Temporarily restricted net assets	266,790	290,056
Permanently restricted net assets	707,296	707,296
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>1,132,063</b>	<b>1,151,672</b>
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>		
Contributions	\$ 67,016	\$ 64,466
Membership income	11,510	15,977
Grants	13,975	14,400
Investment income	20,803	2,088
<b>Total support and revenue</b>	<b>113,304</b>	<b>96,931</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Programs	\$ 95,960	116,578
Management and general	28,243	32,456
Fundraising	8,710	10,605
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>132,913</b>	<b>159,639</b>
<b>DECREASE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>(19,609)</b>	<b>(62,708)</b>
Net Assets, beginning of year	1,151,672	1,214,380
Net Assets, end of year	\$ 1,132,063	\$ 1,151,672



Laying out the new trail at Greensboro Ridge Natural Area

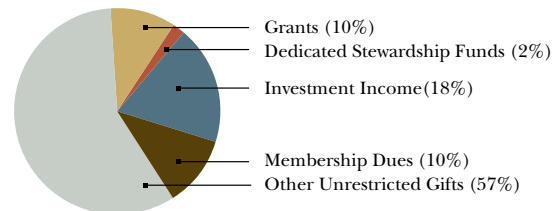




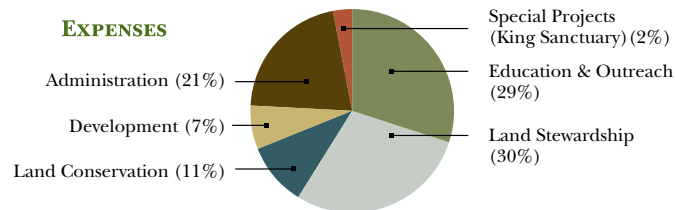
*Visiting Tunis Brook in Hanover's remote northeast corner*

The Conservancy ended the year in strong condition, thanks to contributions from new members, new investments, several generous gifts, and cost containment measures. Past contributions to our Strategic Land Action Fund and Education and Stewardship Fund helped us pursue strong programs in these areas.

#### INCOME BY CATEGORY



#### EXPENSES





## THANK YOU

Our many volunteers continue a long tradition of caring for our lands, leading our trips, and helping in so many other ways.

**Balch Hill Stewardship Committee:** Jan Assmus, Clyde Barbour, Len & Mary Ann Cadwallader, Rob Chapman, Anne Evans, Rob Harris, Barbara McIlroy, David Pollock, Judy Reeve, Lois Roland, Ellis Rolett

**Greensboro Ridge Stewardship Committee:** Jeanne Childs, Martha Cochran, Wendy Conquest, John Joline, Doug McIlroy, Jill Niles, Dick Potter

**Mink Brook Stewardship Committee:** Jim Barrett, Cal Felicetti, Brenda Knight, John Lacrosse, Larry Litten, Sarah Mahlab, Rich Menge

**Slade Brook Stewardship Committee:** Kathy Harvard, Gail McPeck, Hugh Mellert, Daniel Morrison

**TRIP LEADERS:** Jay Barrett, Tom Bickel, George Clark, Barbara Fildes, Rob Harris, Ben Hudson, Jim Kennedy, Gail McPeck, Hugh Mellert, David Merker, Arthur Mudge, Adair Mulligan, Bob Norman, Janice O'Donnell, Barbara Prince, Carl Renshaw, Alice Schori, Alcott Smith, Vicki Smith

**SPECIAL VOLUNTEERS:** Jane Altabelli, Charlotte Barrett, Dick Birnie, Chip Brown, Andrea Caruso, John & Leslie Connolly, Elizabeth Cornell, Jane Darrach, Andrew Deatt, David Desaulniers, Courtney Dragiff, Jim Duffus, Stephens Fowler, Hypertherm associates, Tom Jack, Dan Magoon, Jill Marquard, Betsy McClain, Sam Merker, Bill Mlacak, Ken Pelton, Jay and Susan Pierson, Cornelia Purcell, Cam Rankin, Roger Soderberg, Dev Sodhi, Becky Spiegel, Amy Stevens, Brian Walsh



*Volunteers from Hypertherm and the Hanover Conservancy head out to build a new trail*

“Acts of creation are ordinarily reserved for gods and poets, but humbler folk may circumvent this restriction if they know how. To plant a pine, for example, one need only own a shovel.” – Aldo Leopold

*All Leopold quotes from A Sand County Almanac, Ballantine Books, 1949*