The Essex County Trail Association is dedicated to the preservation and maintenance of open trails in our local communities for the purpose of passive recreation and the benefit of the environment. The ECTA works to build coalitions with national and local associations, to serve as liaison between membership and landowners, and to encourage responsible trail use.

Visit [www.ectaonline.org](http://www.ectaonline.org)
ECTA Board of Directors

Susanna Colloredo, Chair
Don Curiale          Joseph Sandulli
Ellen Alden          Arlene Maginn
Susie Banta          Katy Redmond
Leslie Brooks        Leslie Brooks
Ann Getchell         Abby Jackson
Nady Peters          Kristal Pooler

ECTA Officers

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Executive Director   Carol Lloyd
1st Vice President   Katy Redmond
2nd Vice President   Arlene Maginn
Treasurer            Liz Wheaton
Secretary            Marianne Lynch
Membership           Judy Gregg

ECTA Area Representatives

Essex
Kay Joseph  768-6275

Ipswich
Augusta Macrokanis  356-1047
Elaine Robson  356-5850
Rolanda Dane  356-6524

Hamilton
Bea Britton  468-2733
Sue McLaughlin  468-7715
Susie Richey  468-4205
Arlene Maginn  468-4644
Lucy Pingree  468-7942

Topsfield
Abigail Jackson  887-6314
Kathie Tremblay  887-8855
Katy Redmond  617-413-4790

Wenham
Beverly Granz  777-3375
Deborah Stanton  762-8434

West Newbury
George & Nancy McGowan  363-1877

ECTA Board of Advisors

Stu Thorne          Don Greenough
Scott Solombrino    Bruce Corwin
Nancy Merrill       Al Craig
Jim MacDougall      Lily Rice Hsia
Lois Cheston        Barbara Ostberg
Katrina Hart        Peter Britton
Ted Raymond         Heidi Hargadon
Susan Lawrence      Don Little
Gerry Kenney        Camilla Rich
Peter Campot        John Pingree
David Santomenna    Rick Silverman

Trail Advisor       Holly Pulsifer
Legal Advisor       Dorothy Stookey
Newsletter          Pam Mansfield

Lois Cheston & Holly Pulsifer share a special seat at the Annual Meeting in the Carriage House at Appleton Farms.

Welcome New Officers

ECTA would like to congratulate and welcome 1st Vice President Katy Redmond and 2nd Vice President Arlene Maginn as new Officers.

As 1st VP, Katy will take on presidential duties as well as act as Hamilton Area Representative and Communications Director. As 2nd VP, Arlene Maginn will work as Coordinator of Area Representatives. Congratulations! ECTA is proud and honored.

Departing Officers

ECTA would like to thank Leslie Brooks and Abby Jackson for their years of dedication as 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents respectively.

Leslie has helped ECTA grow and flourish in the past years with her insight and administrative skills. She has always been there to lead, direct and represent. Her leadership has always been a positive one for the Association. We thank Leslie for her years of service.

Abby has been with ETCA for more than 20 years. Her leadership and liaison between the Area Reps and the Board of Directors has been crucial. Abby’s personal skills and sharp decision-making has allowed the Area Representatives to grow into positions of strength for the organization.

Abby and Leslie will remain with ECTA as Directors.

Save the Date

ECTA will be celebrating its 25th anniversary with a cocktail party on November 17, 2007.

There will be delicious appetizers, a silent auction, cocktails, and a good time! Plan to attend the party of the year on the North Shore. Hamilton ECTA landowners have donated their beautiful home for this joyous occasion.

Upcoming Events

Day at the Races
Suffolk Downs – June 9th, 2007

Waldingfield Driving Event Benefit to ECTA
Waldingfield - July 15th, 2007

ECTA Poker Ramble
Bradley Palmer - October 14th, 2007

ECTA 25th Anniversary Cocktail Party
November 17th, 2007

Condolences

ECTA would like to take this opportunity to send our sincerest condolences and sympathy to Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, on the passing of her father. Mr. John Lawrence lived at Black Oak Farm and was 97 years old at the time of his death. His fascinating experiences are a wonderful testament to a life well-lived.

Classified Ads Online

Classified ads are now online. Check the new website at www.ectaonline.org for the latest items or services for sale by other ECTA members, or post your own ad. Visit the website for details.
People move here because of their jobs, to enroll their children in the renowned public and private schools of the North Shore, and to enjoy the country lifestyle. People new to Essex County are pleasantly surprised to find that we have a trail system that links neighborhoods and provides residents a sense of community. On any given day, you can see people walking, biking, and riding on the trails. Mothers push strollers and lead patrols of toddlers. Riders exercise their horses. Neighbors smile and wave to each other. Here are a sampling of homes presently on the market that are on or near the trail system. The owners of these homes enjoy the trails and open space and hope that the new owners will, too.

Kathy Hughes moved to 39 Lakeman’s Lane, Ipswich in 2001. “Being able to enjoy the trails maintained by the Essex County Trail Association is what makes living in this part of Ipswich so special,” she said. “My daily five-mile walk includes some of the most beautiful trails, and I feel blessed being able to experience what they offer. The peacefulness of the early morning, the sightings of a herd of deer or observing the changes of the season make an ordinary walk extraordinary. Our neighbor, who is an avid horse person, began taking my daughter riding on the trails when we first moved here, giving her something truly special that she will always cherish. After riding in an instructional ring for many years, she was able to experience the mystery and exhilaration that the extensive trails provide.”

Kathy’s wonderful Victorian sits on two acres. The house has been tastefully renovated while retaining most of the details and charm of a vintage home. 39 Lakeman’s Lane is on the market for $749,900. This property is listed by Windhill Realty of Ipswich.

Three Erin’s Way, Hamilton is a 1792 colonial set on over three acres of manicured grounds in a prime estate neighborhood. Bob Johnston moved to Erin’s Way in 1990 and promptly named the house, ‘The Hunt Box’. Bob bought the house to use when hunting and riding his horses at Myopia. There is a trail easement in the back corner of the property.

“Erin’s Way is in the heart of the Myopia Hunt Country. The trail system is extensive and it is a convenient connector to Myopia Hunt Club, Appleton Farm, Sagamore, Bradley Palmer and Candlewood,” he said. Bob loved the area so much that he purchased the True Vine Farm which is next door to Erin’s Way. Three Erin’s Way is offered at $1,599,000. This property is listed by REMAX Advantage of Beverly.

The Garland House at 675 Bay Road, Hamilton is a marvelous 12-room antique colonial on 7.5 beautiful acres and surrounded by 20 acres of conservation land. The conservation land was originally part of the property and given to Essex County Greenbelt by the Osgood family. The property also has a two-story barn with a two-bedroom apartment. The Garland house location provides easy access to trails. 675 Bay Road is offered for $2,595,000 and is listed by J. Barrett & Company of Beverly.

The tangible and intangible benefits of the trail system enhance the value of these properties. The trails and open space are what make the towns of Essex County unique. In this way, the trails add value to those who actively use the trail system and to home owners living on or near the trail system. Studies in various urban areas have documented increases in real estate value for residences near open space. ECTA has been hard at work to keep the trails open against the tide of ongoing development. By preserving the trails we are preserving the integrity of our towns.
We are excited to announce the launch of our new Trail Management Plan for the Town of Hamilton. This Management Plan is revolutionary and will have a significant impact on the way we maintain our trails in Hamilton.

The purpose of this Trail Management Plan is to provide a mechanism by which routine maintenance of the existing trail system can occur quickly and efficiently. This program will allow the ECTA to carry out its activities associated with the ongoing management of the trail system, including brush clearing, topdressing and grading of existing trails, placement of new trail substrate in areas and installing beaver deceivers as needed. The process will streamline the permitting requirements of the conservation commission without sacrificing the oversight and monitoring by the commission.

The process to repair a trail in and around wetlands or to install a beaver deceiver in Massachusetts is as follows: First we have to file a notice of intent with the DEP and the local conservation commission and when appropriate, the Essex Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program. Then we have site walks, we make a presentation to the conservation commission, we address concerns from the DEP and Department of Fisheries and Wildlife and if all goes well, we obtain an order of conditions. This process takes up to two months and costs up to $1,000 for each site repair.

A year ago we were approached by the Hamilton Conservation Commission, who asked us to work with them to complete a Master Trail Management Plan. Since we have an excellent relationship with the commission and saw this as a way to streamline our activities, we jumped on the opportunity. We hired DeRosa Environmental to be our wetland expert and began the process. It took a year of working closely with the Hamilton Conservation Commission and the DEP but our plan has been approved.

Now the process in Hamilton to work on the trails is significantly simplified. For example, now when a landowner calls the ECTA to report trail flooding due to beaver activity the process is: we do a site walk to understand the situation and identify the solution. Then we do a site walk with the Hamilton Conservation Agent, who makes sure that our solution falls within the scope of the Management Plan. He then provides the OK, we get the landowners’ signature to move forward and we can do the work. A process that used to take two months now takes one week! A project that used to cost $1,000 now costs $0! Now we can be even more nimble and can provide an incredibly valuable service to the landowners in Hamilton.

Our goal is to implement the plan for a few months in Hamilton to work out any wrinkles and then we will approach other member towns to seek approval from them, as well. A very exciting new chapter for the ECTA!
ECTA members for many years, the Wong family represents three generations of equestrians and trail enthusiasts. They are well known for extending their enthusiasm for all things equestrian to neighbors, friends, their Topsfield community, and beyond. When they aren’t riding their own horses, they are helping at shows and events, and donate their time and talents willingly.

They are the force behind the Wong Wheelers at Groton House I and II, bike riders who deliver the scores at the annual horse trials in Hamilton. They helped organize the ABC shows in Boxford. The Wong farm was a second home for many 4-H kids when Gail taught riding and horse care and hosted shows there. Gail competed in the GMHA 100-mile events and won the mid-weight division in 1973, introducing her children and their friends to the fun of Green Mountain Horse Association’s trail rides and shows. Daughters Susie and Sara compete locally and so do several grandchildren ranging from ages six and up.

Gail Wong and her family are known for their artwork and involvement at the ECTA tack sale, as well as the Topsfield Fair. Gail has donated several pieces of artwork for fundraisers, including a painted tack trunk and stained glass, to both ECTA and ECHO, and always has new ideas and projects in the works. The creativity of the entire Wong family of artists and designers traces back to Gail’s art education and her late husband Tom’s work as an architect.

Gail was born to ride – tempted by the polo ponies across the street from her childhood home in Danvers. “My mother swore I was the first child to whinny instead of cry,” she says. She has since had many equine family members, ranging from ponies to her 30-year-old pinto mare that she has owned for 26 years.

Not only do they ride horses, but cycling is part of the fun in the Wong family. A grandson is a professional bike rider and son-in-law Joe is a serious competitor who sometimes accompanies the family as they ride on the trails.

Whenever you see a large family involved in so many things together, plus a few friends and dogs and horses, and a bike or two, and everyone is organized and having fun, you can bet it’s the Wongs!
Trail Etiquette

遵守所有张贴的标志和小径规定
向土地所有者表示感谢，因为他们允许使用他们的土地
尊重土地所有者的隐私（经过住宅时要轻声说话）
将所有大门留在你发现的位置
不要在林区或私人土地上吸烟
分享小径。如果我们不分享，我们都将失去

骑手
- 让山地自行车手在安全的情况下通过。一般来说，它们比马跑得快。
- 当它们湿滑时，不要上小径；如果你留下蹄印，它就太湿了。
- 在田边骑车，除非另有指示
- 当你从后面接近时，告诉其他小径使用者，并询问允许通过的许可。
- 接近并超越其他小径使用者时，要以步行速度
- 走过受保护或放牧的动物
- 在路上保持单行
- 不要在越野滑雪道上骑车
- 不要把你的狗带进来
- 让山地自行车手和马通过。请不要躲在树后面。它吓到马了。

步行者
- 让山地自行车手和马自由通行。请不要躲在树后面。它吓到马了。
- 在脚印（蹄印、轮胎印或靴印）上，就不要再往那里走了。
- 无论你带什么到小径上，请确保你把它带出。
- 如果允许带狗，要确保它行为良好。请清理你狗的粪便。不要让狗去打扰野生动物。

山地自行车手
- 当你以山地车的速度跟在马和徒步者身后时，说“你好”。你不会意识到自己有多安静。当遇到马时，请停下来说“你好”。它帮助马不害怕你。
- 绝对不要使用禁止使用的机动车。
- 如果你留下蹄印（蹄印、轮胎印或靴印）时，就不要再往那里走了。
- 无论你带什么到小径上，请确保你把它带出。没有垃圾！
- 如果允许带狗，请确保它行为良好。请清理你狗的粪便。不要让狗去打扰野生动物。

分享小径！

谢谢。埃塞克斯县小径协会。
In 1950, Bea and Tom Downey moved to West Newbury, where Bea, a registered nurse, became active in community organizations, including the Garden Club, the GAR Memorial Library, and the Historical Society. Bea and Tom, a CPA, did not have children, and despite being widowed many years ago, Bea remained active in the community.

In 1972, Paul Kelly bought the house next door. Good neighbors for 35 years, they were equally concerned about the threat of trails being closed off when a large parcel of land that abuts their two properties went on the market to be sold and subdivided. The trail route involves a major connection between Pipestave and Riverbend.

Bea and Paul met with Don Bourquard of the Open Space Committee and Ellen Alden, now ECTA Director — as well as others actively concerned — to discuss the situation.

Ellen says, “Shortly after that meeting, when West Newbury became the sixth town in the ECTA, we (Paul Kelly, Don Curiale, Carol Lloyd, and myself) met with Bea to propose the ECTA Kelly/Downey Easement. Bea enthusiastically endorsed the idea – this coming from a woman in her eighties – and the rest is history!

Bea is now living in an assisted living community and her house, with easement intact, is under agreement. How thankful can we be that she had the vision to foresee the changes that could occur in her life? I’m sure she will be thrilled to know how thankful we all are for her generosity in giving this easement and that forever there will be the Bea Downey Trail sign. Major thanks go to Paul Kelly for the part he played in making all of this come to fruition.”

Ellen believes this is the first easement in West Newbury to be registered with the Registry of Deeds.

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**Photos by Ellen Alden**

**Top:** Bea Downey, concerned about maintaining the tenor of the town, holds the new sign that forever marks the new trail easement.

**Bottom:** Paul Kelly stands next to the posted sign between his property and Bea’s property, which is now under agreement, with easement in tact.