

GREENBELT SURPASSES HISTORIC CONSERVATION MILESTONE

With gratitude we celebrate this achievement with you, our Greenbelt community.

As a non-profit organization tasked with the permanent protection of critical landscapes, wildlife habitat, and farmland in Essex County, Greenbelt's work is often measured in decades. We develop relationships with landowners over years, expand our partnerships with towns and state organizations, connect with foundations and individual supporters, all with the goal of being ready to act when conservation opportunities arise.



1961



1984



1989

Founded in 1961, the Greenbelt of the past may have looked a bit different than our current organization, but the core mission has remained the same. Some of the first projects completed by Greenbelt's visionary

founders during its formative years helped protect such beloved properties as Bald Hill and Willowdale Mill. By 1992, Greenbelt had conserved its first 5,000 acres and from there, the pace continued to accelerate.

With a growing staff of conservation experts and a groundswell of supporters and donors, Greenbelt has kept pace with conserving close to 5,000 acres per decade, surpassing the 20,000-acre milestone in 2023 with the permanent protection of the nearly 2,100-acre Lynn Woods.

We all recognize how important this conservation work is, from protecting recreational space for all to enjoy and safeguarding local agriculture to bolstering our region's climate resiliency. In the face of increasing pressure to develop property

across Essex County, Greenbelt's ability to maintain and expand its conserved acreage year-over-year is buoyed by a strong, growing base of support — from our community, our donors, and our conservation partners.

While our origins may have been modest, the Greenbelt mission remains increasingly vital. With more than 21,500 acres of land conserved to date, we are actively engaged in new projects that will continue to expand our impact and help propel us into the future.

Thank you for being a part of this incredible accomplishment!



Greenbelt Conservation Values

- Climate Resiliency
- Local Agriculture
- Wildlife Habitat
- Outdoor Recreation
- Free and Open Access for All



LYNN WOODS CONSERVED FOREVER!

A decades-long initiative by Greenbelt and multiple partners to protect Lynn Woods was completed in December ensuring that this vital community resource is now permanently protected from development.

Founded in 1881, Lynn Woods was one of the first – and for a time the largest – municipal parks in the country. Covering nearly 2,100 acres, the property encompasses many diverse ecosystems that include woodlands, wetlands, and ponds, providing important habitat for a variety of rare and endangered species. Additionally, the park boasts a number of historical landmarks that reflect the area’s industrial past, as well as three drinking water reservoirs.

Over the years, Lynn Woods has faced many threats of development with proposals including a golf course and the rerouting of Route 95. Today, thanks to the perseverance of Greenbelt, working in close collaboration with the City of Lynn, the Friends of Lynn Woods, and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, this essential urban park is now permanently protected for future generations to enjoy.

“Lynn Woods is a treasure in our community and we are committed to prioritizing preservation initiatives that support our outdoor recreation spaces. Permanently conserving the Woods ensures that this space will continue to be enjoyed for generations.”

– Jared Nicholson
Mayor, City of Lynn, 2023



Greenbelt and friends have enjoyed multiple walks at Lynn Woods



“Whatever this city can do for the preservation of the forests, it is bound to do, not for the enjoyment of the living only, but for the generations that succeed us...”

– Park Commissioners
Lynn, Massachusetts, 1890

SAVE THE DATE!

A Celebratory Walk in Lynn Woods
Saturday, September 7, 2:00-4:00pm
Multilingual event

LEARN MORE
ecga.org/events

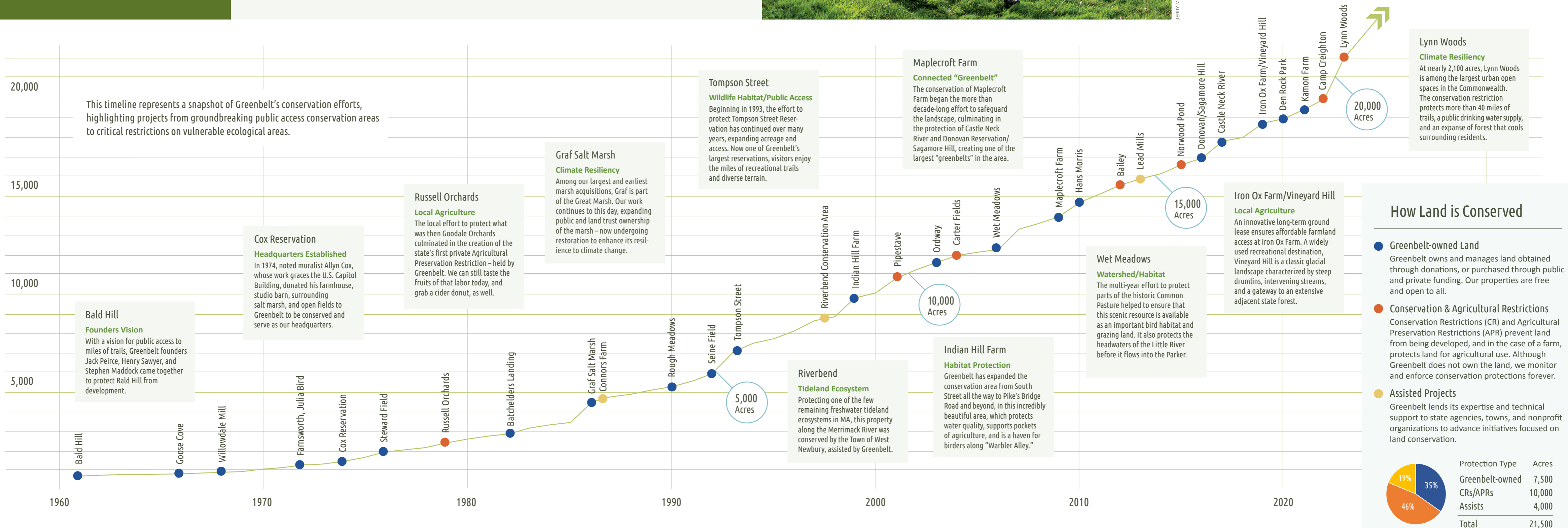
GREENBELT THROUGH THE YEARS



With more than 700 completed projects spanning 63 years, Greenbelt continues to strengthen and advance its mission to protect natural landscapes and ecosystems within Essex County, safeguarding its unique biodiversity and scenic beauty. By acquiring, stewarding, and advocating for the protection of open spaces, farmlands, forests, and coastal habitats, we play a pivotal role in preserving vital green spaces for current and future generations to enjoy.



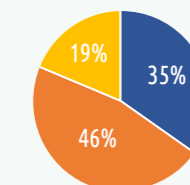
21,500 ACRES AND CLIMBING!



How Land is Conserved

- Greenbelt-owned Land**
Greenbelt owns and manages land obtained through donations, or purchased through public and private funding. Our properties are free and open to all.
- Conservation & Agricultural Restrictions**
Conservation Restrictions (CR) and Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APR) prevent land from being developed, and in the case of a farm, protects land for agricultural use. Although Greenbelt does not own the land, we monitor and enforce conservation protections forever.
- Assisted Projects**
Greenbelt lends its expertise and technical support to state agencies, towns, and nonprofit organizations to advance initiatives focused on land conservation.

Protection Type	Acres
Greenbelt-owned	7,500
CRs/APRs	10,000
Assists	4,000
Total	21,500





Greenbelt
Essex County's Land Trust

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Protecting land and nature
for you, our communities,
and the future

EXPLORE/JOIN US
ecga.org



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