



Royal River Conservation Trust

May 14, 2021

Dear Jane,

The Royal River always surprises me. Launching my canoe and paddling from New Gloucester to North Yarmouth earlier this spring the only sounds were those of moving water and wind in the trees. The banks of this section of river are so wild. The “early to rise plants” were showing up taking advantage of the abundance of sun through the leafless trees. Mallard couples flew up from the rushes and the world felt far away, even as the communities of the watershed were so close by.

Thanks to the support of donors like you, RRCT works to protect these last remaining wild places in the watershed to ensure that habitat and ecology can continue to thrive in our corner of southern Maine. Will you help today with a gift of \$125?

Later this spring, I visited the Royal’s estuary and was struck by how the river changes as it moves to the sea. The tide was out and the mud flats were speckled with seagulls scavenging for food. Eider ducks chortled where the Royal and Cousins River meet to unite with Casco Bay. My trip took me out past the tip of Littlejohn Island Preserve, and I marveled at this undeveloped point, dominated by tall pines, oaks and rocky outcroppings.

The Royal River watershed and Casco Bay are seeing an influx of people who are attracted to Maine’s open spaces and sense of wilderness. We’ve been lucky through the last year, to enjoy trails, preserves, beaches and conserved farms in the face of the pandemic.

We owe future generations access to the same natural resources we currently so enjoy. Wildlife, fisheries and paddling should be protected. The Royal River Conservation Trust preserves Maine’s natural gifts.”

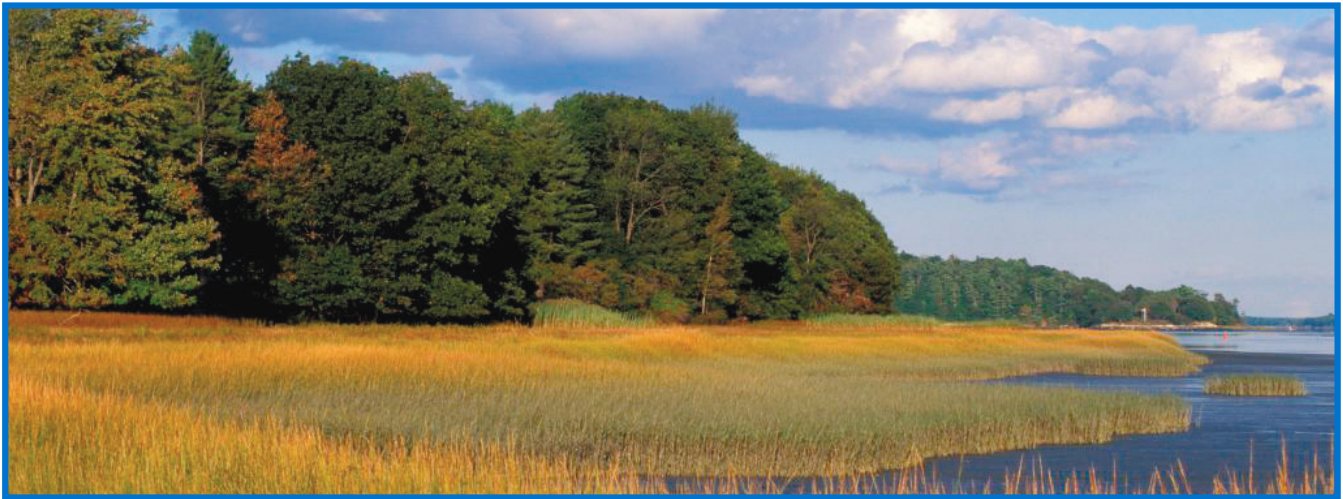
– Steve Barr and Martha Leggat



We need to do more for the watershed before it is too late. This year we have already conserved a property in North Yarmouth that will help create public access. We are poised to purchase more acreage in Pownal, kicking off our effort to conserve a tributary of the Royal. We’ll soon complete the conservation of a large swath of wetland habitat in New Gloucester. Our momentum is strong and we need your help to keep it going.

Jane, thank you so much for your gift earlier this year. Will you please send a gift of \$125 today? Your continued support ensures more land is protected for habitat, farms and trails. You truly are the reason we have been able to conserve more than 5,000 acres in the past 33 years. You are the organizational strength that allows us to save land.

(over)



Spear Farm Estuary Preserve. Photo Credit: monkmanphoto.

So many members help provide depth and breadth to the ecological and cultural richness of the watershed through stories of the land, the river, and our ever-changing communities. From the Abenaki, the first people of Maine, to early settlers, farmers and fishermen, RRCT invests in the history each parcel has to offer. In New Gloucester, the Interurban rail-line will be part of a new trail system. We will include interpretive opportunities for visitors and members. We have forever conserved the land around the Blockhouse park in New Gloucester to preserve its stories and the land under foot.

We've been working hand in hand with Freeport Conservation Trust and the Maine Coast Heritage Trust to conserve eighty-two acres of marshland along the Cousins River. The parcel used to be hayed by local farmers and generations of duck hunters have accessed the river here. The marsh is habitat to many waterfowl including blue herons, white egrets, bald eagles, osprey, and a variety of ducks. Furthermore, the conservation of the marshland will help create a more resilient coastline in the face of climate change.

Jane, I'm asking for your help because you understand how important it is to continue to save the last remaining open spaces in the Royal River watershed. We need your support.

While acknowledging and remembering the past, we can see a greener future. We've helped to conserve working farms that feed our local communities with healthy, sustainably grown vegetables and meat. A Pownal farm has a CSA, while another farm in Durham has a road side farm stand and sells to restaurants and markets throughout the watershed.

Please support our work with a generous donation today. Thank you for helping us safeguard fertile places to grow food, clean air to breathe and places for wildlife to make their homes.

Warm Regards,



Alan Stearns
Executive Director

P.S. Jane, we are grateful for your passion for conserving the ecosystems in the Royal River watershed. Both our communities and our lands are deeply connected and rely on one another to thrive in the face of adversity. Thank you for sending your most generous gift to Royal River Conservation Trust today!

Yes! I want to help conserve land, build trails, protect the Royal River and support local farms.

My last gift was \$100.00 in June of 2019.

With a one-time gift of:

\$150 \$125 \$100 Other \$ _____

With a monthly gift of:

\$25 \$15 \$10 Other \$ _____

Please consider joining one of our giving societies:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10000 Goldenrod Society | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5000 Elderberry Society |
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Check made payable to: **Royal River Conservation Trust**

Make a gift online at www.RRCT.org

To give a gift by phone, or to make a gift of stock, please contact:

Executive Director Alan Stearns, 207-847-9399, Alan@RRCT.org, or

Development Coordinator Carrie Ridgway, 207-615-7824, Carrie@RRCT.org



Royal River Conservation Trust

P.O. Box 90, Yarmouth, ME 04096

Jane Q. Donor

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123 Main St

Anywhere, USA 01234-0000

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I prefer to remain anonymous for recognition purposes.

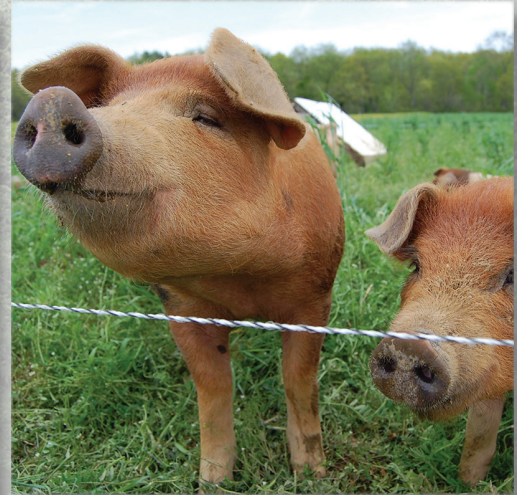
Your gift is tax deductible to the full extent provided by law.

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Royal River
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Habitat, Ecology, Clean Water: For Everyone. For Ever.





Royal River Conservation Trust

A Land Trust Preserving a Watershed

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