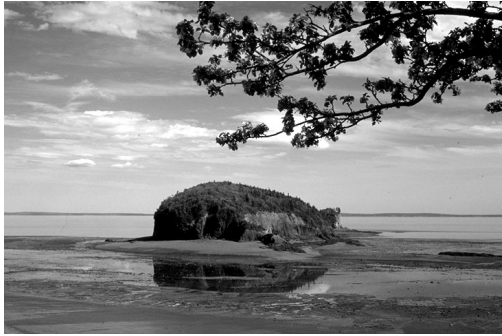


Protecting Nova Scotia's Heritage

Nova Scotia has a rich and diverse natural heritage. From the blazing colour of an autumn hardwood forest to the stark beauty of a granite barren; the high energy of waves crashing on the shore to the tranquillity of a riverside marsh; the beaches of the Northumberland Strait to the cliffs scoured by the Fundy tides, Nova Scotians are stewards of many natural treasures. But these landscapes and the many species that inhabit them need protection if they are to persist. With less than 30% of the province's land publicly owned, private landowners have an important role to play in protecting these places.



The Brothers Islands

The Nova Scotia Nature Trust works with private landowners to protect significant natural areas throughout the province. Incorporated in 1994, the Nova Scotia Nature Trust is a non-government charitable organization, and a designated conservation organization under the provincial Conservation Easements Act of 1992. To achieve our goal of protecting natural areas in Nova Scotia, the Nature Trust pursues land ownership, conservation easements, and cooperative agreements with landowners.

Progress

Though still a young organization, the Nova Scotia Nature Trust has already made important progress. We have acquired several properties through generous donations from landowners. These protected areas range from woodlands and islands to coastal and lakeshore properties. They preserve unique and significant natural features including old forests, wetlands and rare plant communities.

The Nova Scotia Nature Trust is also advancing the development of conservation easements as a tool for protecting private lands. Easements protect the natural values of the property in perpetuity, while allowing the landowner to retain title to the land. In 1997, the Nature Trust concluded its first conservation easement on the Bras d'Or Lakes in Cape Breton and is completing several others throughout the province.

In the spring of 1997, the Nature Trust embarked on a private land conservation program in Hants County, the first of its kind in Nova Scotia. Since then, the Trust has expanded this program province-wide. Through such projects, priority conservation sites are identified and contact is initiated with landowners. The Trust then provides conservation education, an opportunity to discuss land protection options, and support services for landowners interested in land stewardship. The Trust also builds stewardship partnerships with corporate landowners and other conservation groups.



photo by P. Holland

Annual Membership/Donation Form

Miss Ms. Mrs. Mr. Dr. (Please circle one)

Name _____

Organization (if applicable) _____

Address _____

Prov _____

City _____

Postal Code _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Would you prefer to receive a paper copy of our newsletter via mail or an e-newsletter via e-mail?

Membership:
 \$15 Student
 \$100 Supporter/Corporate

\$30 Individual

\$500 Friend of the Nature Trust

\$50 Family

\$1000 Benefactor

\$50 NGO

Other _____

Donation: I would also like to make a donation \$ _____

The Nature Trust also welcomes gifts of securities, trade lands, memorial gifts, and bequests.

VISA # _____

Exp. _____

Signature _____

Please make cheque or money order payable to: Nova Scotia Nature Trust P.O. Box 2202, Halifax, N.S. B3J 3C4
 Please send a tax receipt for income tax purposes (Charitable #899627691RR0001)

I would like to receive information on options for protecting my land
 I would like information on including the Trust in my estate planning

I would like to receive information to pass along to friends
 I would like to volunteer

Membership Benefits

By joining the Nova Scotia Nature Trust, you become a member of a community of individuals and organizations dedicated to the preservation of significant natural areas in the province. Your membership supports:

- the development of an effective conservation organization for the whole province
- the protection of land through land acquisitions, conservation easements, and cooperative agreements
- conservation research conducted by Nature Trust staff and volunteers, designed to focus our protection efforts on the most significant areas

As a member of the Nova Scotia Nature Trust you will receive:

- *Natural Landscapes*, the newsletter of the Nova Scotia Nature Trust containing the latest information on the activities of the Trust, and topical articles on important conservation issues in Nova Scotia
- updates on new initiatives, campaigns, and land conservation successes
- the right to participate in, and vote at the Nature Trust's Annual General Meeting
- the satisfaction of knowing that you are contributing directly to the preservation of Nova Scotia's natural heritage.

* The Nature Trust does not share our mailing lists or release any membership information to third parties.

How Can I Help the Nature Trust?

The Nova Scotia Nature Trust is a member organization, with a volunteer, elected Board of Directors. The success of the Nature Trust depends upon the dedication and commitment to conservation of its members and private land-owners in Nova Scotia. The following are some of the ways you can help to support our activities:

- become a member of the Nature Trust by filling out the accompanying form
- volunteer to work on one of several active Nature Trust committees, regional working groups, or to help out in the office
- make a charitable, tax-deductible donation
- donate land, or a conservation easement, or make a bequest to protect a significant natural area on your land
- consider the Nature Trust before selling an ecologically sensitive property
- discuss the Nature Trust with friends and associates who have an interest in conservation



NOVA SCOTIA NATURE TRUST

Box 2202 Halifax, NS B3J 3C4

Tel: 902-425-LAND Fax: 902-429-LAND

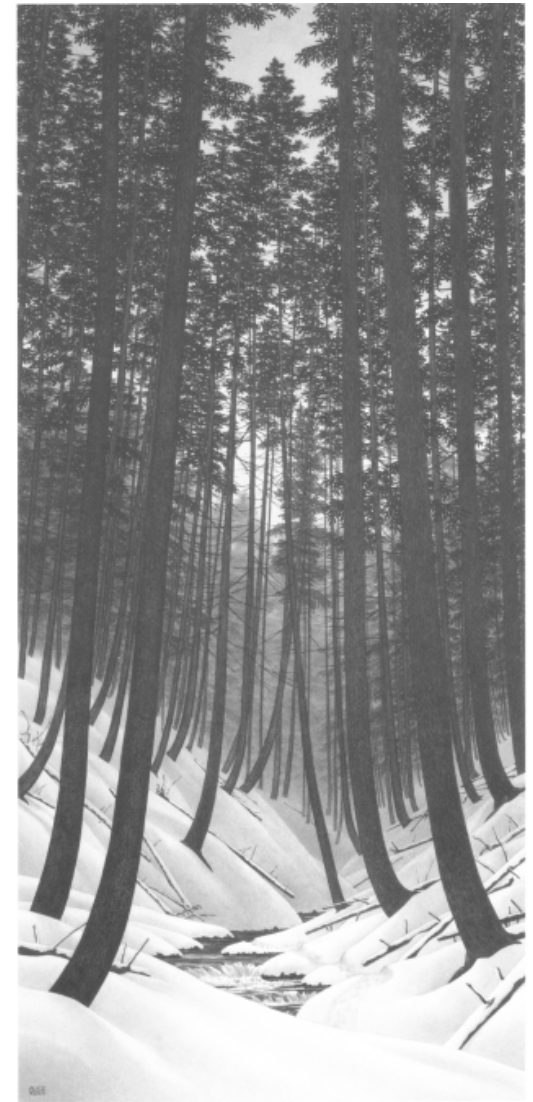
email: nature@nsnt.ca

web: www.nsnt.ca

cover artwork: Alice Reed, *Elder Woods*, watercolour



NOVA SCOTIA NATURE TRUST



Preserving Nature on Private Lands