

Ways to Give



Why Become a Member?

If you are a local resident or a frequent visitor, you are aware of the dramatic increase in development pressure in the Saco-Biddeford area. SVLT is working hard year-round to conserve important lands before they are snapped up, and diligently caring for the lands we have already protected.

Your membership dollars cover essential costs to keep the operation going, including appraisals of new properties, help from realtors and lawyers, funding for new trails, monitoring equipment, and more. We are a small operation with minimal overhead costs, but membership income

makes a huge difference to how fast we can work toward our goals. As our membership grows, so can our impact!

Members receive our annual newsletter and invitations to special events. Members are also able to vote on new board members and officers at our annual meeting, held the first Thursday in May.

Donate to
Saco Valley Land Trust

\$5.00
USD

Use this donation for
General Donation

Make this a monthly donation

i You authorize PayPal to pay **Saco Valley Land Trust** this amount each month. You can change or cancel at anytime in your PayPal account settings.

 Donate with PayPal

Donate with Debit or Credit Card

Monthly Membership

Several of our donors have told us how easy monthly membership is for them. They pick a monthly amount that is comfortable for their budget, and the land trust receives their support in regular installments without their needing to remember to renew. Donating \$60/year is only \$5 per month!



Family/Individual Membership

We encourage membership at whatever level you are able to provide. We have members who contribute \$10 annually, and others who are able to support us at the \$1,000 level – please donate at whatever



Gift Memberships

Membership in the land trust can also make a meaningful gift – consider whether a nature-lover in your life might appreciate knowing that their gift is helping to conserve land and protect wildlife.



Sustaining Business Members



Businesses may join as Sustaining members at any dollar level, and their business name will be listed on our website. Membership at \$500 annually or more will be recognized by a logo, link, and brief business description on our website. Show the community your business cares about conservation! Sustaining Business Members can also be monthly donors.

Event Sponsorship

Want to have your name or business name attached to a specific advertised event? Saco Valley Land Trust occasionally holds public educational or recreational events such as Wildflower Walks, Tree ID walks, Fresh Air Hikes, and more. Let us know if you are interested in sponsoring such an event at \$100 or more – your name/business name would be announced in any press release or social media post about the event, and you would be thanked at the event itself.





Legacy Giving

Planned end-of-life gifts are a deeply meaningful way to ensure that your passion for the land, wildlife, or recreation lives on and keeps giving. There are a variety of ways to establish a legacy gift, including bequests written into a will, or designating the land trust as a beneficiary of a retirement or life insurance policy.

Some choose to donate items or real estate that can be helpful to the trust. Lands that have important conservation values may become part of SVLT's permanent holdings, and other donated items or real estate can be sold to support our mission.

We understand that this process can and should be a thoughtful one for each individual. We encourage you to speak to your estate planner and to the land trust when establishing a legacy gift.

Donating or bargain-selling land can have beneficial tax implications. We recommend discussing donation scenarios with your lawyer and/or tax professional. *(If you are interested in protecting your land while still owning it, please read more about selling or donating a Conservation Easement)*

Land Donation and Bargain Sales



SVLT accepts two types of real estate: Conservation Lands and Trade Lands. Conservation Lands are those that the directors of the land trust determine to have significant conservation values. These might include wetlands, forests, farmland, ponds, shoreline, or strong recreation potential. The land trust maintains criteria for determining whether a given piece of property can be held as Conservation Land.

The Trade Lands category includes most donated properties that the land trust cannot hold as Conservation Land – this might include property with houses or other development on it, or lands that are too small or isolated to help support wildlife populations. The land trust would accept Trade Land donations with the understanding that they may be sold later to help fund our main mission.

Donated Materials

Donations should be in usable condition, but can be new or well-loved. Please get in touch to find out how to deliver the items or have them picked up. Your donation means that we can use our membership funds to help protect land instead of buying equipment, so thank you!



- Shovels, rakes, loppers, saws, or other trail-building tools
- A post-hole-digger
- A chainsaw (must be in good working order)
- A handheld GPS unit that can record and download tracks and waypoints
- A tablet for recording information while on monitoring walks
- An ice-fishing sled (Jet-Sled or similar) to be used for trail-work and transporting equipment
- Cedar, hemlock, or pressure-treated lumber (these are the types of wood that can be used for outdoor bridges and signs).
- Flat exterior latex paint in white, blue, yellow, red, or orange, for marking trails. Feel free to ask what colors are most needed!
- Trail marking supplies, including 1- or 2-inch brushes, small paint scrapers, and small wire brushes.
- 5-gallon buckets (relatively clean)

Donated Services

Sometimes, you just need professional help. The land trust regularly needs services from the following professionals:

- Lawyers (who draft purchase agreements, advise the board, and more)
- Real estate professionals
- Surveyors
- Fundraisers (writing grant applications and reaching out to potential donors)
- Accountants (tax preparation, bookkeeping, and more)



If you think you could donate services occasionally, even for brief consultations, please get in touch and let us know what you might be able to offer. We will put you on the list for when we have a need, and can provide you with a donation acknowledgement for tax purposes. Thank you for considering this way to support our work!

There are many ways to give!

We welcome members that want to get more involved with the leadership of the organization over time.

Consider volunteering!



If you are interested in protecting your land while still owning it, consider selling or donating a Conservation Easement.

Learn more about conservation easements online at sacovalleylandtrust.org/about



If you have any questions regarding way to give, please reach out to us!



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