

THE OPPORTUNITY

The Chebeague & Cumberland Land Trust has embarked on a campaign to raise \$180,000 from individuals, businesses, and foundations to purchase this treasured property to ensure its stewardship, public access, and protection forever. The current owners have offered the property to CCLT for a price well below fair market value. If we miss our window to purchase the property, the opportunity will be lost. All funds must be raised by April 2021 to complete the project, so time is of the essence. We need and appreciate your support!

Ways to Give

Make a gift online

Please visit our website at ccltmaine.org and be sure to designate your gift to Littlefield Woods.

Mail a check

All checks should be made payable to the Chebeague & Cumberland Land Trust and mailed along with this contribution form to Chebeague & Cumberland Land Trust, 371 Tuttle Road, #2, Cumberland, ME 04021.

Gifts of stock

A donation of appreciated securities can have many financial benefits for the donor. If you prefer to make a gift of stock, please call to discuss the process and talk to your financial or tax advisor.

IRA gifts

Individuals 70 ½ and over can donate directly from their IRA tax free up to \$100,000 annually. Please consult your tax advisor for more information.

All gifts to the Littlefield Woods Campaign are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. For more information, please contact: Chris Cabot, (207) 489-9538 or email at chris@ccltmaine.org.

Chebeague & Cumberland Land Trust



Cover : Littlefield Woods, photo by Bob Earnest;
Below: Littlefield Woods, photos by Jodi Federle;
hare photo by Bev Johnson; pileated woodpecker
photo by Jeremy Dugal



Why this parcel matters

Littlefield Woods, located in the heart of Chebeague Island, is perhaps the most important undeveloped parcel to protect on the island. The 25-acre property is unique because it features critical wildlife habitat; popular and historic recreational trails; an essential water recharge area; a large, important block of woodlands; and scenic interior forested views. The property lies adjacent to a geodetic marker which identifies the highest point in all of Casco Bay.

Maintains a connection to the past

In the 1800s, the Enoch Littlefield and William Thompson Family homesteads were located in the area. The cart paths were used to move materials and produce around the island as well as for residents to get from place to place, including to walk to church. Stonewalls, cellar holes, wells, and the paths from these times still remain on the landscape. More recently, the woodland has been well taken care of by the Bisharat Family, honoring Blanchard Bates' vision that this parcel must remain undeveloped to protect the island's important natural resources and aquifer. School children, camp groups, walkers, snowshoers, skiers, bikers, and hunters have all enjoyed these woods and trails over the years.

Preserves forest habitat

Littlefield Woods is part of the largest intact block of forest left on Chebeague. While much of the property was cleared in the mid 19th century to build boats and houses, there are many beautiful,

large mature eastern white and red pine that were not harvested. The property also retains a wonderful, mature American horse chestnut tree as well as many oak, beech, maple, and spruce trees. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has identified the woods as important for a large number of bird species including keystone species like American woodcock, ruffed grouse, wood thrush, ovenbird, blackburnian warbler, and pileated woodpecker. Other wildlife such as deer, fox, raccoons, snowshoe hares, and wild turkeys utilize these woods for habitat.

Provides critical aquifer protection

Like much of Cumberland County, Chebeague Island is facing a high level of development threat. Islanders are concerned about the balance between development and a fragile island ecosystem with a coastline already being impacted by sea level rise. This concern is compounded by the need to protect the island's single source aquifer. Chebeague residents rely on the aquifer for clean drinking water. Protecting this aquifer is critical for the island's long-term sustainability and is identified as an issue of high importance in the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Littlefield Woods and other interior forested parcels along the spine of the island function as critical recharge areas for the aquifer. There is great urgency to protect these areas to ensure there will be clean drinking water well into the future.

Ensures a place for all to enjoy

For centuries, residents of Chebeague have enjoyed the trails in Littlefield Woods. The wide, relatively flat trail system, frequently used for hiking, nature observation, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing, connects with the larger trail system on Chebeague via the Durgin Trail that CCLT protected with a trail easement in 2017. Hunters harvest deer and other wildlife in these woods as well. The forest also provides children and adults a chance to explore, learn, and play in a beautiful natural setting.

Gift Form

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
The funds will be used for the protection of Littlefield Woods, Chebeague Island.

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Email

Secondary Email

Alternative Address

I/We donate to the Campaign to Protect Littlefield Woods as follows: enclosed is a check \$

Please make checks payable to Chebeague & Cumberland Land Trust and note "Littlefield Woods" on your check. Mail your check along with this form to: Chebeague & Cumberland Land Trust, Attn: Littlefield Woods Campaign 371 Tuttle Road, #2, Cumberland, ME 04021

If you choose to make a gift online at ccltmaine.org, please be sure to designate your gift to Littlefield Woods Campaign.

Date Received _____ Acknowledged _____