



Join Us!

Please help KELT conserve land, preserve culture, and ensure wildlife habitat in the Kennebec Estuary. Membership support is extremely important. Become a member today!

Consider a gift membership for someone who appreciates special places.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Contributor | <input type="checkbox"/> Email event invitations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Steward | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Supporter | <input type="checkbox"/> I'd like to volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Conservator | |

Mail to KELT, PO Box 1128 Bath, ME 04530

Gift from: (include address)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

email: _____

Directions

Take High Street north from Bath. Left on Whiskeag Road. Right into parking area at base of hill. Kiosk & marked trails.

GPS Latitude/Longitude:
N43° 56.007min. W069° 49.300min.

Sewall Woods
Whiskeag Road
Bath, Maine



Dedicated to conservation of the natural, historic, scenic, cultural and agricultural resources of the Kennebec Estuary

P.O. Box 1128 Bath, Maine 04530
(207) 442-8400
www.kennebecestuary.org
info@kennebecestuary.org

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Welcome

The forest is open free of charge to the public from dawn to dusk. Sewall Woods is managed for wildlife preservation; please stay on the upland trails. Help us protect what you have come to enjoy. Natural areas are delicate; foot traffic only, no camping, smoking, fires, or motorized vehicles. Respect boundary signs and adjoining private property. The preserve is also a working timber lot designed to demonstrate the compatibility of wildlife protection and sustainable wood harvest.

Ecology

Woodland

The forest is 80% softwood and serves as an upland water pollution buffer, preserving the water purity necessary for wildlife survival.

The woodlands and adjacent protected fields provide habitat for diverse wildlife including white tailed deer, red & gray squirrel, fox, coyote, pileated woodpecker, owl, grouse and small songbirds. Numerous amphibians are also native to the area.

AVAILABLE SERVICES AND
RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



Wildlife

Fresh Water Wetland

Lowland marsh attracts birds, deer, and amphibians for forage and cover.

Fresh Water Pools

Small streams and pocket ponds are essential water sources for wildlife.

Tidal Waterfront

Whiskeag Creek is a brackish tidal marsh, a rare habitat for many species of birds, fish, and plants, including 10 species of listed rare plants whose presence in Maine is only in these tidal, low-salinity mudflats. The Creek ecosystem is the basis of the food chain for the highly productive Kennebec estuary, providing nutrients for finfish and a nursery ground for estuary-dependent fish such as sturgeon, stripers, and baitfish. The marsh also provides food, shelter, and nesting sites for water birds and shore birds, and it is frequented by bald eagles and osprey.

History

6000 BC Abenaki people gather wild rice and fish in estuary creeks known as Whizz gigg, rapidly-running water.

1660 Deed to Reverend Robert Gutch, first settler, for the chief part of Bath, 3800 acres running from the Kennebec to the New Meadows River between Truffant Creek and present-day Harward Street.

Gutch establishes a tidal mill on Whiskeag Creek upstream of Sewall Woods.

1775 Dummer Sewall leads 50 patriots to Kings Spar Dock at the foot of Harward St to demand British workmen suspend work, Bath's only Revolutionary War encounter.

1783 Part of Gutch allotment goes to Simeon Turner who builds a house at King's Dock.

1797 John Peterson's lot includes the John Tarp house, afterward the Stone House Farm.

1812 William King erects the Stone House Farm. One of Bath's first shipbuilders, he plants 500 apple trees and acres of potatoes to supply his ships.

1821 Mill is rebuilt on Whiskeag Creek by Samuel Rogers

1823 William D. Sewall launches the brig, *Diana*, laying the cornerstone of the shipbuilding and operating empire of the Sewall family.

1933 Bridge over Whiskeag Creek replaced with culvert and fill. Site is a prime elver station for fishermen. Eels are a catadromous species that inhabit the estuary for up to 40 years before departing to spawn in the Sargasso Sea.

1979 Donor William D. Sewall takes possession of his father's property, a working dairy farm.

2004 William D. Sewall, with the encouragement of family, leaves the woodlot to KELT. A viewshed easement of the field west of the house is included.

2006 Twenty-six adjacent acres are added to the preserve from the Bath Housing Authority lot.

July 23rd, 2006 official opening celebration.