



## GEORGES RIVER LAND TRUST

### MISSION

Adopted by Board 7/26/11

The Georges River Land Trust's mission is to conserve the ecosystems and traditional heritage of the Georges River watershed region through permanent land protection, stewardship, education, and outdoor experiences.

### VALUES

Adopted by Board 9/27/07

***WE value the diverse and vital connections among land, water and people in the Georges River watershed from Montville and Liberty to Port Clyde and Cushing***, and we strive to maintain a strategic balance between natural lands and waterways, working landscapes and human communities.

***WE respect local conservation priorities***, and we are dedicated to working in partnership with communities to achieve lasting conservation and stewardship results in the watershed.

***WE recognize the high concentration of exemplary plant and animal communities, as well as the occurrence of rare and endangered species, large habitat blocks and significant wetlands*** and we prioritize their conservation.

***WE recognize that natural resource-based economies such as farming, forestry and fishing are essential to the traditional character and economic vitality of the region***, and we prioritize conservation action that helps ensure their sustainability.

***WE are committed to voluntary land conservation with willing landowners***, using donations of conservation easements as our preferred tool and responding to increasing development threats using purchase of fee title or easements with willing landowners.

***WE are dedicated to responsible stewardship of conserved lands*** as a primary obligation both now and in the future. We monitor and defend properties, as well as develop lasting relationships with easement property owners, to ensure adherence to the protected values.

***WE seek to engage with communities to nurture a conservation ethic by connecting people with the natural world***, and we provide experiential and educational opportunities to inspire volunteer land protection and long-term stewardship.

***WE believe in working collaboratively*** with board, staff, donors and landowners to achieve conservation goals and we partner with other local, regional, state and national organizations to define shared conservation objectives and leverage results.

***WE are dedicated to high ethical and professional standards*** that earn us respect and trust among all our constituents, including donors, landowners, communities and partners throughout the watershed.

***WE celebrate the support we receive from individuals, foundations and corporations*** and fully embrace standard fundraising ethics including confidentiality, acknowledgment and proper use of restricted gifts.