



President's Message January 2026

Minnechaug Land Trust, Inc.
P.O. Box 455, Hampden, MA 01036

Happy New Year!

In last year's message I described the purpose our land trust has served, and how I think it will change in the future as there is less undeveloped land to preserve. What I didn't mention is just how complicated and difficult some of the projects we do are, and that they can span many years before completion.

Last year was a perfect example of that. We worked as hard as we ever do, yet there is nothing I am excited to report to you that we completed. We have a lot of great projects we are working on that will continue into this year and perhaps beyond.

One example is our project on North Rd. in Hampden to create a parking lot to improve access to the Mt. Vision property. We have acquired the property and have plans to build the parking lot and sell a portion as a house lot. This is called a limited development which allows us to accomplish our goal while using part of the property to provide funding and additional housing. It is usually a win-win situation, and we hope this one will be as well.

Unfortunately, we ran into several issues that have cost us both time and money. We had to reconfigure the lot from our original plan, which was an expense we didn't count on, but our new plan will hopefully get executed in the coming year.

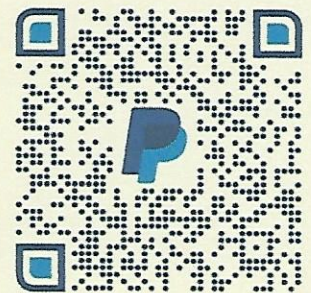
Our cash flow issues last year came at a bad time when the number of members who support us has decreased. Our board members continue to hear positive feedback in the community for the work we do. We have concluded that a large reason people may not be contributing to MLT is that people are less inclined to write and send a check these days. As a result, we have attached QR codes for Venmo and PayPal to this letter that might make contributing easier.

You can still contribute or contact us using the form below, or through our website, Minnechauglandtrust.org. As always, we thank you for your support both financially and through the volunteer work that occurs throughout the year.

Thank you,

Steve Lawson

President, Minnechaug Land Trust



I would like to contribute to Minnechaug Land Trust by:

- Becoming a member _____ \$15 donation
- Supporter _____ \$ 30 - \$50
- Patron _____ \$100+

Helping with trail work (email) _____

I would like to speak with someone about the board (email) _____