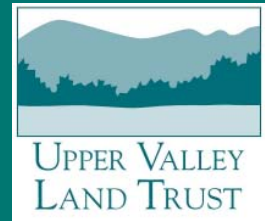


# Tunis District Conservation Area



Looking across Goose Pond toward Moose Mountain the view is dominated by a low lying ridge that forms the scenic backdrop to Goose Pond. The Upper Valley Land Trust is leading an initiative to protect over 550 acres and create the "Tunis District Conservation Area."

This extraordinary land includes tributaries to four headwater streams of the Mascoma River, amphibian-rich wetlands, and habitat used by bear and moose. The land abuts the Appalachian Trail corridor and comes within five-hundred feet of Goose Pond. It is important for flood resiliency and water quality and for maintaining the scenic beauty of the pond and its surroundings.

If we are successful, UVLT will own the property as a preserve for long-term habitat stewardship and management. We envision this as a community resource providing opportunities for education, research, and low-impact recreation.

## A Conservation Solution

Barbara Fildes and Keith Quinton recognized the significance of these natural resources. They bought the land several years ago to protect it from threats of development and unsustainable timber harvesting.

Last year, they asked UVLT for help in protecting it forever. They offered to sell the property to UVLT at a discounted price, in what's known as a charitable "bargain sale," if UVLT could raise the funds to make it happen.

To maximize the chances for a successful conservation campaign, the project was split into two phases. The first phase, protecting 201 acres, was completed in January using grants from the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, the Town of Hanover, and the Quabbin-to-Cardigan Partnership.

The second phase, protecting another 352 acres, is slated to close this summer with a grant from the New Hampshire Aquatic Resources Mitigation Fund and funds raised in the community.

*To earn the State grant, we must raise  
\$30,000 of matching donations by July 31st.  
The time has come for local individuals to  
contribute and you can help!*

## Conservation Solutions *for the* Places You Love

- 4.5 linear miles of perennial streams including parts of Scales, Straw, and Tunis Brooks
- More than 35 acres of amphibian rich wetlands, including an 18-acre Northern Hardwood-Black Ash-Conifer Swamp, rare in Hanover
- In an area ranked as the Highest Ranked Habitat in the State by the NH Wildlife Action Plan (WAP)
- One of the ten highest priority scenic landscapes along the entire length of the AT in need of permanent protection
- Identified as Hanover's most resilient landscape to climate change, based on its geophysical setting and current and potential biotic diversity;
- Part of a 12,000 acre core habitat block ideal for wide ranging animals which require thousands of acres to roam and survive.

## YOU CAN HELP!

Make your tax deductible gift payable to:

Upper Valley Land Trust  
19 Buck Road  
Hanover, NH 03755

Or make a secure online contribution at:

[www.UVLT.org](http://www.UVLT.org)





## Questions about the Tunis District Conservation Area

### How was the property selected for conservation?

The property is in an area long recognized by local, regional, and state plans for its significance in the local landscape. As one example, the Town of Hanover Open Space Plan, written in 1999, notes: "If the area is protected soon, it will be a permanent refuge for use by residents to revive spirit and soul, and to remember an important reason why so many choose to live here. Just as importantly, it will be a permanent, outstanding wildlife habitat, enhancing the biodiversity and quality of life for a large variety of indigenous species." We couldn't agree more!

### Why does UVLT own land?

While many of the properties that UVLT conserves remain in private hands, our goal in outright ownership is to ensure that all Upper Valley residents have the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of conserved land and participate in its stewardship. The lands we own are available as outdoor classrooms for all ages.

### Will UVLT pay the property taxes?

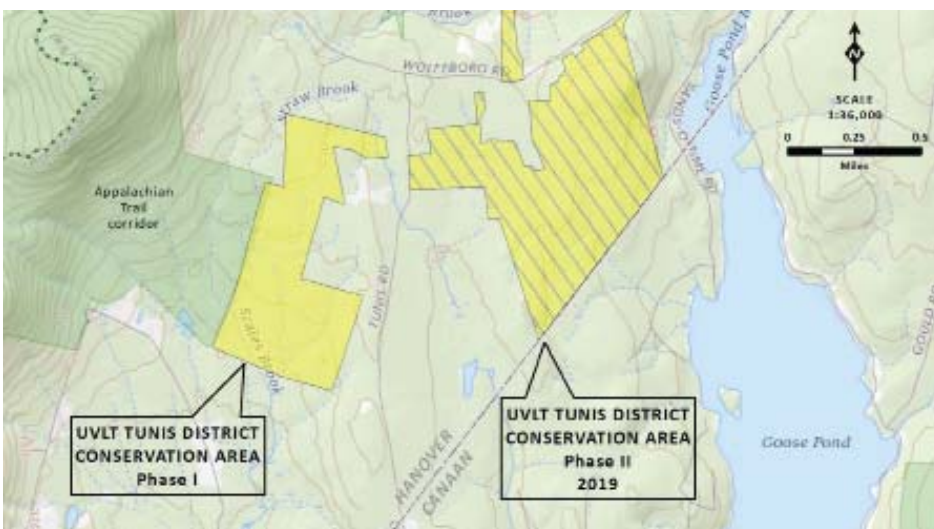
Yes. In addition, the property is presently enrolled in New Hampshire's Current Use program and will remain so.

### Will UVLT post against hunting?

UVLT does not plan to post against hunting of locally abundant species. Deer hunting is usually beneficial since excessive deer browse harms forest regeneration and encourages invasive plant species.

### About the Upper Valley Land Trust

The Upper Valley Land Trust is a non-profit land conservancy that works in 45 towns in Vermont and New Hampshire. UVLT provides conservation tools and expertise to permanently protect the working farms, forested ridges, wildlife habitat, water resources, trails and scenic landscapes that make the Upper Valley a special place to live. Working directly with landowners and the community, UVLT has protected over 500 properties encompassing more than 53,000 acres of land.



*Please join with UVLT and state and local partners to create the Tunis District Conservation Area!*

For more information contact:

**Peg Merrens**

**Upper Valley Land Trust**

[peg.merrens@uvlt.org](mailto:peg.merrens@uvlt.org)