Hidden Valley Nature Center

How Sustainable Forestry Fits in Our Land Trust
The Land - A Gem Of Wilderness

- Incredibly diverse
- So many beautiful places
- Great terrain
- Wonderful trail network

- What to do with it? – Create Hidden Valley Nature Center
Hidden Valley Nature Center

• Education
• Recreation
• Sustainable Forestry

Could the combo be economically viable?
EDUCATION
VERNAL POOLS

Vernal pools are ephemeral, forming in spring and often disappearing in summer. These seasonal forest pools are natural bodies of water that have no permanent inlet and no viable populations of predatory fish. They may provide the primary breeding habitat for wood frogs, spotted salamanders, blue-spotted salamanders, fairy shrimp, as well as valuable habitat for other plants, spring bearing amphibians (American toad, green frogs and spring peepers) and many insects and invertebrates. Most amphibians and insects eggs will hatch into larvae before the pool dries out. Vernal pools are often characterized by plants that like to have their feet wet: meadowsweet, sedges and other shrubs. Alder and red maples are also tolerant of hydric, aquatic soils.
RECREATION
Wedding Weekend
Down East

Best of Maine Editors' Choice

2014

Best Remote Winter Retreat

Hidden Valley Nature Center

As announced in the July 2014 issue of Down East magazine.
SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY
Why, What, How, and Results
Why Forestry

1. **Education**: fundamental land trust role is educating landowners on how to be better stewards of their land. Talking about low-impact forestry is not as effective as showing people what you have done.
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4. **Organization**: Strengthening the organization by contributing to income (positive cash flow from forest related work) and capital (increasing the value of forest asset).
Forestry business model

• We work on about 15 acres each year

• Produces
  • 1+ miles of trails
  • 30+ cords firewood
  • 30+ cords pulp
  • 6000 bd ft lumber
Steps when we go in to the next 15 acre area

• Identify water quality issues and restoration needs
• Integrate forest roads with trail network
• Leave the best, prune, create wildlife habitat
• Low impact equipment
Bottomless Culvert

Bambi
Forestry business model

• Value?
  • Stumpage- $\leq 1,000
Forestry business model

• Value?
  • Stumpage-  <$1,000
  • Wholesale -  $4,800
Forestry business model

• Value?
  • Stumpage- <$1,000
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  • Retail plus $45,000
Forestry business model

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  • Wholesale - $4,800
  • Retail - $14,500
  • Retail plus $45,000
  • +NRCS $50,000
Forestry business model

• Value?
  • Tuition Thousands
  • Trails Priceless
  • Increased capital Significant
    (growth and value of standing forest)
  • Grow membership Significant
  • Event registration Significant
Come Visit!

www.midcoastconservancy.org