



# Annual Report

Educating and advocating for the sustainable use of the forest and the ecological, economic, and social health of Maine's Forest Communities

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### **Executive Director' Note:**



#### Greetings!

In 2024, Maine TREE reached a significant milestone, celebrating its 35th year as an organization. Utilizing our programs, we are reaching audiences throughout the state, offering tailored opportunities to engage with the forests in their communities, enriching lives and contributing to our state's prosperity.

Our organization's unwavering commitment to expanding forest-based education and workforce development is an investment in our future. We are reaching more communities than ever and inspiring people throughout their educational journey, from early childhood to high school, college, and beyond, by providing continuous education and motivation for educators, forest professionals, and landowners.

On the fundraising front, we have had great success in grant fundraising from private foundations and government sources. While we saw a modest increase in individual giving, it represented a smaller portion of our organizational revenue, which stresses the importance of increasing private contributions to ensure the stability and sustainability of the organization. **We sincerely appreciate your past and ongoing contributions, which are crucial to our success.** 



Please enjoy this brief recap of our 2024 and stay connected with us as we continue our vital work in 2025.

Logan Johnson Executive Director

#### Board of Directors

Jonathan Pottle, Bangor, President Peter Carrier, Skowhegan, Treasurer Beth Cushman, Pownal, Secretary Julie Davenport, Norridgewock Charles Hall, Albion Ken Laustsen, Oakland Kathryn (Katie) Manende, Alfred Annica McGuirk, Lisbon Falls Toby Pineo Hampden Patrick Sirois, Augusta Brian Souers, Lincoln Jacob Vainio, Auburn Dan LaMontagne, Bangor

#### Staff

Logan Johnson, Executive Director CJ Herlihy, Office Manager Lena Ives, Education Director Paulina Murray, Research Manager Hope Light, Communications & Development Director Kaycil Willis, Forest Programs Manager Brian Barrett, CLP Program Manager



# **Financial Report**

#### Sources of Revenue



\$818,747

#### Assets

Cash	\$107,034
Real Estate	\$39,8930
Investments	\$4,551,851
TOTAL	\$5,057,815





\*Note: This financial report is as of 12/31/24 and provides a snapshot of our end-of-year projections. The official 2024 financial reports, including the annual compilation and 990 tax form, will be completed by early summer.















24% Endowment Draws

- 21% Individuals & Businesses
- 31% Foundations/Grants
- 23% Program Income

7% Fundraising

78% Programs

16% Admin

#### **Forest-based Education for...**



#### **Educators**

We presented at **14 professional development events** for educators, including 2 Forests of Maine Teachers' Tours, **reached 487 educators**.

#### **Students**

Staff participated in **16 events** directly reached **1,531 students.** 



2024 HOLT RESEARCH FOREST TECHNICIAN OLIVIA TEACHES STUDENTS FROM BOUDOIN COLLEGE HOW TO IDENTIFY TREE SAPLINGS



FORESTRY FIELD DAY

#### Landowners

Continued serving as the Coordinators for the Maine Tree Farm Program, reaching over **230 family forest landowners** through events in 2024.

#### **Logging Professionals**

The Certified Logging Professionals program trained **56 New CLPs**, Conducted **131 Site Visits**, and **Recertified 313** CLPs.





#### Foresters & Natural Resource Professionals

Collaborated to provide **12** continuing forestry education events engaging more than **248** forest professionals.

#### 2024 Year in review



In 2024, the Maine TREE Foundation celebrated its 35th anniversary, a year characterized by revival and growth. Our staff doubled in size compared to 2023. Through various events and outreach activities, we engaged over 1,300 students and 1,200 educators and reached numerous landowners, forest professionals, and members of the general public.

We completed renovations at Holt Research Forest (HRF) early in the year, including adding a new laboratory space. We also hired our first Research Fellow and revived our summer research technician program at HRF, welcoming three college students from Maine and other states to our campus. Furthermore, HRF hosted students ranging from elementary-aged to college freshmen. Finally, we launched Sci-Comm: An Introduction to Holt Research Forest Data, a new scientific communication series exploring the research and data produced at Holt Research Forest.

We hosted 40 educators on the Forests of Maine Teachers' Tours, where they met with over 40 forest resource professionals. Thanks to a Department of Education grant, we worked with three school districts to provide educator workshops on integrating forest-based climate education. This style of programming is the first of its kind and an opportunity to make climate education locally relevant for students and teachers.

The Forestry Immersion Program returned for a second year through a continued partnership between Maine TREE and the Brewer School District. For six weeks, 17 high school students spent four nights a week camping, gaining hands-on experience operating harvesting equipment, learning to take forest inventory data, and engaging with forest resource professionals. Over 40 community members spent a day on-site with these students during our media day.

We hosted the 2nd annual Forest Awards Night, attended by 120 community members. The evening celebrated the 35th anniversary of the Maine TREE Foundation, the accomplishments of the 2024 award winners, and the strong community we've built.

Maine celebrated a historic low in workers' compensation rates for Certified Logging Professionals. The Certified Logging Professional program welcomed 56 new CLPs and held its 34th Annual Banquet. During the banquet, the program honored the remarkable career of Mike St. Peter, who has served as the program coordinator since its inception in 1991, and the accomplishments of the 2024 Certified Logging Professionals of the Year award winners.

We adopted a fresh look, launched our new website, and provided our staff, Teachers' Tours participants, and supporters with branded T-shirts. Additionally, we published two digital resources: a nature journal and the first edition of the Maine Outdoor Career Guide, both available as free downloads in our website store. Furthermore, we have published over 40 articles showcasing our work and highlighting the accomplishments of our community.

We stacked a cord of firewood as part of our Stack-a-Cord fundraising campaign, raising over \$137,000 to support our diverse portfolio of programs and our continued growth in 2025. The wood we stacked will be donated to Midcoast Woodbank early in 2025 to help keep families in need warm.

## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

#### Landscape **Sponsors**



#### **Community Sponsors**









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Thank you!

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Contributions like yours help to ensure the

sustainability of our forest-based programs.





# S Annual Report