



# **Planting Seeds. The next 40 years.**

# Tin Mountain Conservation Center Capital Campaign

Tin Mountain Conservation Center 1245 Bald Hill Road, Albany, NH 03818 603.447.6991 \* www.tinmountain.org We invite you to join us as we look forward to and plant the seeds for the next 40 years. The work and planning that our staff, board of trustees, members and volunteers have done serves as a nutrient rich soil in which to plant the seeds of growth. We welcome your questions, input, ideas, and help to bring this blueprint to life.

This carefully constructed plan strengthens Tin Mountain's position in the Mt. Washington Valley and provides resources for expanded education programs, conservation efforts and research projects. It diversifies and offers additional revenue streams, promotes outdoor recreation and play, and provides environmental accessibility for all. It exemplifies Tin Mountain's mission, purpose and vision.

#### There's something for everyone.

#### ... for children and teachers

- Provides more program and teaching space to broaden environmental education offerings
- Creates space for imagination powered play to build confidence, strength, and leadership skills
- Enlarges and enhances nature's classroom

#### ... for nature lovers and families

- Includes accessible trails for people of all and varied abilities
- Expands and enhances our trail network
- Provides more space for outdoor programs, field trips, guided hikes and presentations

#### ... for the environment

- Creates a native species arboretum to highlight and conserve native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers
- Includes diverse eco-systems; water, wetlands, meadow, and forest that attract wildlife, birds, and pollinators.
- Expands research programs, conservation efforts and habitat restoration projects

#### ... for the community

- Offers Citizen Science opportunities get involved!
- Provides education and scholarships to foster future generations of environmental stewards and advocates
- Ensures the environment continues to have a voice in the Mt. Washington Valley

#### ... for Tin Mountain Conservation Center

- Secures our financial future
- Expands year-round environmental programs, field trips and outdoor recreation opportunities
- Furthers our mission and goals to reach more students, adults, families, business members, and visitors

#### ...for YOU!!

- Ensure continued access and room for all invidividuals to enjoy outdoor recreation, study and observation
- Become an integral and important pillar of support for environmental education, conservation and research
- Contribute to envionmental education for generations to come







#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES Executive Committee**

Rick Steber, Board Chair Glen, NH Nancy Devine, Vice Chair Silver Lake, NH Johanna Vienneau, Secretary Freedom, NH Leslie Shoemaker, Treasurer Jackson, NH

#### **Board Members**

Tom Albert Center Conway, NH Kim Bowker Eaton. NH Will Broussard North Conway, NH Susan Clark Glen. NH Jason Dennis Silver Lake, NH David Freedman Silver Lake, NH Pat Heiges Glen, NH Margaret Marshall Conway, NH Pam Mason Jackson. NH Kim Matte Conway, NH Bill Petry Center Conway, NH Susan Pfeil North Conway, NH Karl Pfeil North Conway, NH

#### STAFF

**Executive Director** Lori Jean Kinsey **Education Director** Phaedra Demers **Membership** Coordinator Kat Ferguson **Marketing Director** Dawson Winch **Business Manager** Nancy Davis **Program Director** Nora Dufilho **Property Manager** Nelson Cormier **Teacher-Naturalists** Mike Dufilho Matt Maloney Dexter Harding **Event Coordinator** Jotham Oliver

# Planting seeds. The next 40 years.



# Tin Mountain Conservation Center Capital Campaign Kickoff

Dear Tin Mountain Members and Donors, Young and Old,

It was 16 years ago that Tin Mountain last conducted a capital campaign. Since then we've added significant forest property, built an intern cabin, expanded nature programs, and advanced our avian and trout research efforts. We are now protecting our footprint on Bald Hill Rd in Albany with an adjacent land purchase in order to extend our mission for the next 40 years. This includes preserving additional forest property that offers a natural corridor to the National Forest. With this action we'll create a larger "four season" presence and open up new outdoor nature experiences to a growing population of friends, donors, and visitors who together comprise the future of Tin Mountain.

Our plans come at a time when the Covid-19 pandemic has created a temporary but distinctly new reality. It has never been more obvious that people crave open spaces and that kids need educational experiences that provide energetic exercise, combine classroom and remote learning, and offer an alternative to the negative aspects of closeted living and social media. Tin Mountain has never been more relevant! Now is the time for us to act.

We are preparing new dimensions for an accessible (ADA compliant) nature trail to provide access for all. We will also install Nature's PlayScape for healthy outdoor play and exercise for children. At Tin Mountain we are "all about" creating a total environment for the next 40 years of childhood development and nature centered education. Our commitment and mission to this, to conservation and to our land is alive and well. Finally we look forward to embracing all our fellow citizens as we seek to provide a plethora of services to an increasingly diverse population. All visitors are invited at Tin Mountain and we welcome everyone.

As with any Capital Campaign we seek your support. Forty years from now we envision a Tin Mountain Conservation Center that is financially secure and that is still actively pursuing its mission with education and conservation including new and vibrant dimensions. We will continue to meet our challenges and firmly believe that, through your active support and commitment, all our dreams and aspirations are possible. Please absorb the enclosed information and help plant these seeds that will sustain Tin Mountain for another 40 years.

Sincerely,

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Richard C. Steber Campaign Chairman

**Mission:** Tin Mountain Conservaton Center promotes an appreciation of the natural environment among children, adults, and families through hands-on programs in the schools, at camps and in the community and demonstrates responsible stewardship of natural resources through land protection, research, sustainable forestry, agriculture, and energy.

Whether hiking in the White Mountains; plying the waters of rivers, bogs, and ponds; snoshoeing the fields and forests; bird watching or weaving baskets from native trees, Tin Mountain provides experiential learning that enhnaces the enjoyment and protection of the natural environment. Because it's not enough to simply love nature and the outdoors, Tin Mountain's approach combines inspiration with knowledge to form a strong foundation for the pursuit of environmental stewardship of all land - in communities and in the wilderness. Conservation through knowledge because **NATURE...there's no better classroom.** 

#### THE BEGINNING:

What began in 1980 as Barbara Rockwell's dream has evolved over the past 40 years into a well-established, well-respected, and ever-growing reality in the heart of the Mt. Washington Valley. At Tin Mountain success is measured by the number of children we teach, the campers we lead, the programs we offer, the scholarships we grant, the research we conduct and the lives we inspire. Our assets include facilities where individuals of all ages are welcome to explore, investigate, discover, question and learn about the natural world around them and the birds, animals, insects, and



reptiles that call it home. Tin Mountain is where the teacher is the environment and our teacher-naturalists, presenters, and camp counselors serve as the facilitators to unlock all the secrets and treasures that the natural world holds.



#### **THEN (1980):**

Tin Mountain Conservation Center presented:

- \* Programs in 2 elementary schools
- \* Hosted 3 community nature programs

# Now (2020):

Tin Mountain regularly:

- \* Delivers in-school education programs in 19 schools covering grades K-12
- \* Schedules over 80 annual Nature Programs, EcoForums, Field Trips and Trivia Nights
- \* Offers 21 sessions of summer camp at four locations serving over 200 campers
- \* Hosts research interns (62 since 2008) who conduct native trout habitat restoration and avian research
- \* Fosters Citizen Science projects including the Christmas Bird Count.

**Vision:** Tin Mountain is an integral part of the communities within the greater Mt. Washington Valley. We believe that appreciation and enjoyment of the natural world leads to understanding, which translates into stewardship, advocacy and action. This unique combination ensures that present and future generations are able to learn and play outdoors.

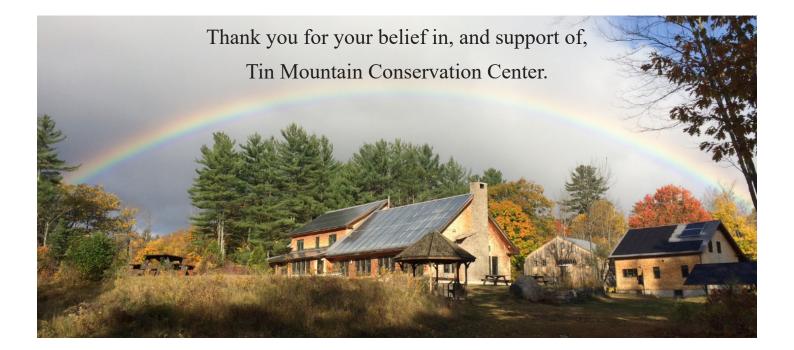




# The Campaign to make it happen.

Since its beginning 40 years ago, Tin Mountain Conservation Center has held fast to its founding mission of promoting an appreciation of the environment in children, adults, families and the community through hands-on experiential programming. Looking towards the future, Tin Mountain wants to delve even deeper with expanded land, resources and programming. We want to reach more diverse audiences, invite more citizen scientists to get involved, build a sense of community around the environment and continue to educate by example.

Tin Mountain Conservation Center is asking for your support to plant the seeds for the next 40 years of growth. We've worked hard to earn your respect by providing high-quality, affordable programs, a wide variety summer camp sessions, extensive field trips and much, much more. Tin Mountain friends, members, board, and staff seek to raise \$1.3 million dollars through this campaign to seed the future of environmental education, conservation and research.



# I. GOAL:

### Plant seeds to expand our landholdings in Albany, NH

Tin Mountain Conservation Center seeks to acquire a 73 acre parcel of land that sits across the road from the Nature Learning Center and adjacent to both the Rockwell Sanctuary and the Dr. Michael Cline Memorial Forest. This acquisition results in over 300 acres dedicated to environmental education, conservation and research as well as providing additional year round outdoor recreation space for everyone. In addition to protecting native species this parcel serves as a corridor for wildlife and recreation.

The plan and budget include demolition and removal of buildings and debris to create a safe and secure place. It also includes funding for necessary assessments and future improvements.







# II. GOAL: Plant seeds to secure our financial future.

Tin Mountain's last Capital Campaign in 2005 financed the construction of the 6,000+ sq. ft. solar powered Nature Learning Center that provided expanded office, classroom, program and storage space. It also seeded the growth of the research program by providing funds for the construction of the intern cabin, which houses both season and year round research interns. Both buildings are fully utilized and now, after 15 years, a mortgage remains and the buildings are in need of some repairs and updates.



**Objectives:** 

A. Build an endowment to create a future revenue stream, by applying 20% of each gift toward the identified asset.

B. Retire the existing mortgage. (approximately \$85,000)

C. Create a permanent fund for ongoing general maintenance and upkeep of buildings and properties.



## III. GOAL:

### Plant seeds to enhance and expand programs and trails

Currently, the environmental interests and outdoor recreational pursuits outpace program space as well as Tin Mountain's ability to serve all ages and abilities. Expanded offerings include:

#### A. Nature's Playscape:

Create a play area that helps children develop creativity, coordination, balance and confidence. Using natural elements, this area fosters the best of imagination-fueled play, while building physical, mental and emotional strength.

#### **B. Accessible Nature Trail:**

Create an approximate 1 mile loop nature trail that complies with ADA guidelines to encourage and enable people with mobility challenges as well as families with strollers and others to get outside, enjoy and explore nature. Benches and shade / weather structures will be provided along the trail for rest and reflection.

#### C. Enhanced trail network:

Develop a comprehensive map of existing and new trails, install interpretive signs and ID tags to highlight ecosystems, places for reflection, native species, and areas of interest such as the quarry and the Mt. Laurel patch throughout Tin Mountain's 300+ acres.



# IV. GOAL:

#### Plant seeds to revitalize the current barn and build a new barn for storage.

When Tin Mountain moved to Albany, it undertook the restoration of the 200 year old Allard barn. This is the oldest barn in Albany and one of the oldest in NH. The beauty and historical features are not fully appreciated and the possibilities are currently underutilized as it is primarily used for storage.

#### **Objectives:**

A. Revitalize the existing barn to highlight its historical and architectural significance. Make improvements to provide space for additional programs, special events, rentals and an interpretive center with displays featuring information on the property, local history and Tin Mountain.

B. Build a 36' x 36' barn to house and protect vehicles, tools, and equipment and provide space for a safe, well-lit workshop.





#### Through 40 Years with Tin Mountain

Tin Mountain Conservation Center (TMCC) opens. Nine member Board of Trustees. David Brooks hired as first Executive Director. Programs in Jackson and Bartlett schools.

Lori Jean Kinsey hired as full-time Environmental Educator. Eight schools participate.

**1990** TMCC celebrates 10th anniversary and receives official 501(c) 3 status from IRS. TMCC takes over Mt Washington Auto Road Bicycle Hill Climb (MWARBH) as major fundraiser. TMCC receives new endowment through NHCF thanks to a gift from Barbara and David Henry, founders of Tin Mountain Conservation Center.

Tin Mountain programs exist in all Conway Elementary Schools. LL Bean sponsors the Nature Program Series.

Dr. Michael Cline named Executive Director of TMCC. TMCC formally becomes a membership organization.

TMCC helps launch the Upper Saco Valley Land Trust (USVLT). School programs expand into Bridgton, Maine.

TMCC purchases 98 acres of property for a permanent site in Albany, NH. Ruth Campbell bequest of \$100,000 received. Over 50 Nature programs offered.

TMCC receives an LCHIP grant totaling \$158,000 for land and barn renovation. New snowshoes purchased. First Mt. Washington Century+ held.

Nature Learning Center construction project launched. Grants received to fund Outreach Coordinator position. School's Out after school program provided in Ossipee Central School.

LL Bean names Lori Kinsey "Outdoor Hero" of 2008. First Season Dinner and Benefit Auction moved to Fryeburg Academy.

Grants received for Trout Restoration Project, Intern program, and programs for Berlin and Gorham schools.

Tin Mountain Renewable Energy Initiative (TMREI) starts with several solar energy installations. Home School Program offered. Bobcat trail built.

New intern cabin built. Summer program with 5 interns commences supporting ongoing Avian and Trout Habitat restoration research.

TMCC Bird Society formed and "Shrubs of Northern New England Forests" by Dr. Michael Cline is published.

Dr. Michael Cline passes away and Lori Jean Kinsey named Executive Director of the TMCC.

Full-time Research Manager Position established and filled.

Covid 19 pandemic hits, First Season auction moved on line, Mt. Washington Century+ becomes "alternative", Summer Camp and Hillclimb are cancelled. Completed a 3-year strategic plan. "Planting Seeds. The next 40 years." capital campaign launched. TMCC turns 40! The barn at TMCC turns 200!









