

# Hike

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hard on that.”

At the parking area for Fuller Farm on Broadturn Road is a kiosk displaying a map of the trail network and information about the property.

Visitors can enter the trail network on the Hayfield Trail or the Bird Trail, both of which travel across a large field that is mowed regularly to create habitat for ground-nesting birds, including American woodcocks and bobolinks, and a wide variety of trees and bushes on the property attracting an even greater variety of birds. Standing out among the many songbirds seen on the preserve in the summer are bright yellow goldfinches and indigo buntings.

The land trust asks that visitors take extra care to stay on trail from April through August, when ground-nesting birds are raising their young.

A beautiful wooden bench recently donated by Royce O'Donal, owner of O'Donal's Nursery in Gorham, sits atop a hill in the fields and makes for a great place to rest and watch birds.

Other trails at Fuller Farm include the Brook Trail, Waterfall Trail, Main Trail, Overlook Trial and a short side trail leading to a bridge over Nonesuch River, the largest source of freshwater for the Scarborough Marsh, which at 3,100 acres is the largest saltwater marsh in Maine. The marsh is owned and managed by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and people can learn more about it through the Scarborough Marsh Audubon Center, located on Pine Point Road in Scarborough. Visitors can explore the marsh by canoe (available for rent through the Audubon) or by foot via trails.

Back at Fuller Farm, the trail network travels through a forest filled with old hemlock trees and giant white pines, as well as a variety of mushrooms, lichens and mosses. Running through the woods is a tranquil brook that forms a small staircase waterfall where the Waterfall Trail crosses over the brook on a scenic wooden footbridge.

Dogs are permitted on the trails but must be under voice control or on a leash at all times. The land trust also asks that visitors pick up their dog's waste and properly dispose of it off site.

Hunting is permitted on the property with permission. Motorized vehicles, camping and fires are prohibited.

If you're looking to extend your time outdoors after walking the trails at Fuller Farm, consider checking another one of Scarborough Land Trust's properties.



AISSLINN SARNACKI | BDN

A sign marks the trailhead and parking area of Fuller Farm trails in Scarborough. The 180-acre preserve is owned and maintained by the Scarborough Land Trust for wildlife habitat and low-impact public recreation.

Just about 0.5 mile away on Broadturn Road (heading northwest, away from Route 1) is Broadturn Farm, a 434-acre property owned by Scarborough Land Trust and leased to farmers who grow organic produce and flowers. At Broadturn Farm is the 0.6-mile Silver Brook Trail.

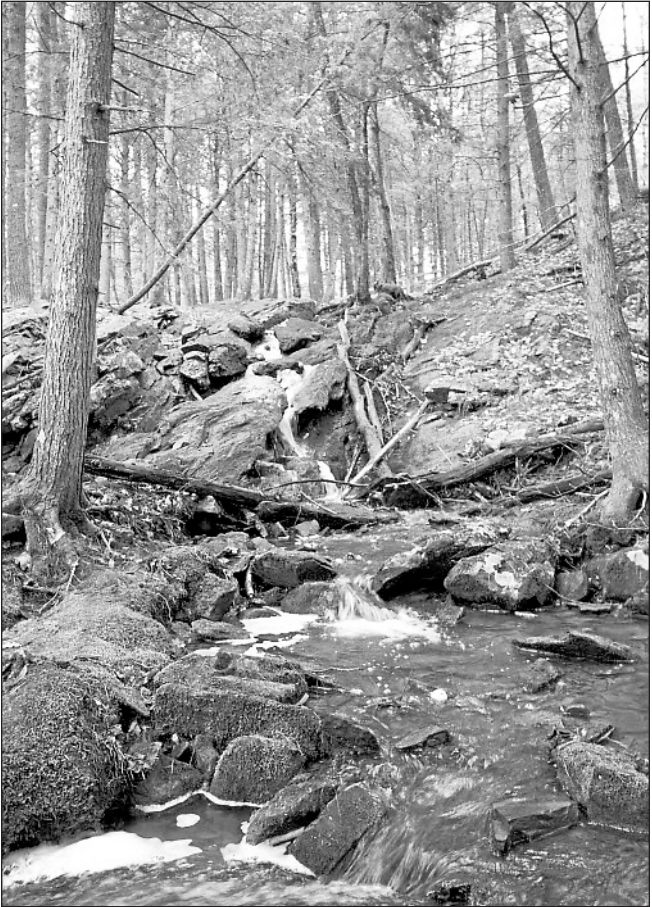
Also nearby is Sewell Woods and Frith Farm, adjacent Scarborough Land Trust properties on Ash Swamp Road that are home to about a mile of trails.

The Scarborough Land Trust is a nonprofit organization with the mission “to conserve land where natural resources, scenic vistas and historical significance offer unique value” to the community. Founded in 1977 as the Owascoag Land Conservation Trust — “owascoag” being the a Native American term meaning “the land of many grasses” — the organization was later renamed Scarborough Land Trust, which today consists of a small staff, an active board of directors and many volunteers. To date, the organization has worked with several partners to protect more than 1,400 acres in Scarborough.

For more information, visit [scarboroughlandtrust.org](http://scarboroughlandtrust.org), call 289 -1199 or email [info@scarboroughlandtrust.org](mailto:info@scarboroughlandtrust.org).

**Personal note:** The weather wasn't cooperating on April 2, but I wasn't surprised. Spring in Maine is unpredictable and often tests a person's sanity by flip-flopping between warm sunny hours, freezing rain and snowstorms. I'd been keeping a close eye on weather reports leading up to my trip to southern Maine, but it kept changing. Finally, I decided I'd visit Fuller Farm on Saturday morning, which was going to be sunny, the weather report said.

It rained nonstop. My husband, Derek, and our dog, Oreo, had driven over two hours from our home in the Bangor area to



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A small waterfall is one of the many beautiful sights seen from the trails of Fuller Farm preserve in Scarborough.

explore the trail network with me — and visit with some friends in Portland. Upon reaching the trailhead parking area, I apologized to them for the crummy weather. But they were good sports. Oreo seemed to enjoy squishing through the mud and seeking out puddles. And by the end of the hike, Derek pointed out that a rainy day meant we had the trail network to ourselves. On a sunny Saturday, it might have been crowded.

I don't know if a hike could have felt more spring-like, with the mud and the rain and budding trees. In the forest, the evergreen canopy high overhead shielded us partially from the rain as we walked along the Brook Trail. There we came across a mossy hemlock stump covered with large, bright red reishi mushrooms, which are

known for their medicinal properties.

As we walked the property to the waterfall, then the banks of Nonesuch River and over the long lengths of bog bridges of the Birding Trail, my spirits lifted as I realized the rain wasn't ruining the outing at all. In fact, it seemed to make the colors of the forest that much more vivid during an admittedly drab time of year. I'd even spotted a few plants sprouting from the forest floor.

While the walk was enjoyable, I'd be remiss to not mention that I believe my dog, Oreo, picked up two ticks while at the preserve. We found and removed the ticks about 20 hours after our visit, an experience that made my skin crawl and reminded me of the importance of checking myself and my dog multiple times after any outdoor adventure.

# Acadia

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Epp continued. “So what intrigued me was what resources, what background, what temperament and what values he brought to this place that led him in the direction that today people applaud.”

Upon further investigation, Epp discovered that while several books had been written about George B. Dorr, no one had ever written a complete biography about the man. Many details of Dorr's life had slipped through the cracks of time and could very well be lost — unless a skilled historian could dig them up.

So Epp rolled up his sleeves and started to do some digging. Now, after about 15 years of research and writing, Epp is celebrating the completion and publication of “Creating Acadia National Park: The Biography of George Bucknam Dorr,” a 393-page book released April 1, just in time for the Acadia's 2016 Centennial celebration.

Epp wrote the book for a general audience, to be read and enjoyed by anyone who has an interest in the history of Acadia and Mount Desert Island, as well as the formation of the National Park System and American Conservation Movement. The detailed account of Dorr's life, which features 40 pages of footnotes, is sure to be a valuable resource for generations to come.

The biography was published by Friends of Acadia, a nonprofit organization founded in 1986 that works to preserve, protect and promote stewardship in the park.

“To see that come to fruition and that I'm alive at the end to see and feel some of the impact the book has on other people is so rewarding,” Epp, 73, said.

In reconstructing the life of the Father of Acadia, Epp unearthed details from some of the most peripheral sources — the diaries of Dorr's family members and friends, letters to acquaintances and documents buried in the vast archives of Harvard University in Boston and The Rockefeller Archive Center in New York.

One of Epp's goals in writing the biography was to better understand Dorr and, more specifically, the reasons why Dorr devoted so much of his time and resources — essentially the last four decades of his life and all of his fortune — to the creation of Acadia National Park. To do that, Epp reached back generations to find a philosophy of philanthropy that was passed down through Dorr's family and instilled in him at an early age. He also looked to Dorr's own writing, in which he also looked to the future, as all conservationists do.

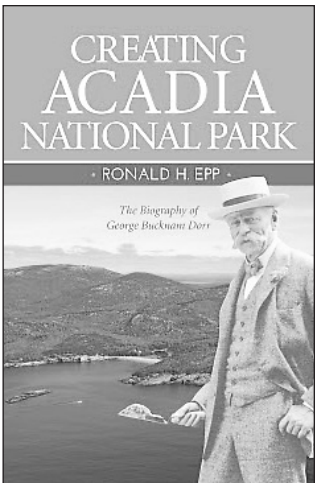
“The population of the future must inevitably be many times the population of the present,” predicted Dorr, quoted by Epp in the biography, “and the need of conserving now, while there is time, pleasant, wholesome breathing spaces for those

coming multitudes is great.”

Dorr believed it was of paramount importance to conserve “the places where the influence of Nature may be felt the most [or] observed and studied in its fullest.” On MDI, he wasn't alone in his thinking.

Fellow Bostonian Charles W. Eliot and wealthy philanthropist John D. Rockefeller of New York worked with Dorr in the early 1900s to conserve land on MDI through private land acquisitions through the Hancock County Trustees of Private Reservations, one of the country's first land trusts.

Epp refers to these three men — Dorr, Eliot and Rockefeller — as “the Acadia triumvirate.”



“You come away from these three men with this sense of almost a kind of thankfulness that you've been able to enter their lives, that you're somehow walking among these conservation giants,” Epp said.

Because of the efforts of these three men, in 1916 — 100 years ago — President Woodrow Wilson accepted what today is the first parcel of Acadia National Park, the 5,000-acre Sieur de Monts Spring National Monument.

And Dorr kept on working, expanding the park through land acquisitions, often depleting his own resources.

“It was hard living for the last 15 years of his life because whenever a little bit of money would come his way, he'd buy more land and then legally obliged it to the national park” Epp said. “So some people thought that he lost his grip of things because he continued this at his own expense.

“But people do that for sport endeavors,” Epp pointed out. “They do that to make more money. They do that because they've become obsessed with scientific advancement. He was just consumed with this notion of growing the park.”

Today, Acadia National Park, which comprises more than 47,000 acres, is the only national park created entirely of donated private land.

“Hopefully I'm offering to readers not only a book about Acadia, but a book about what Acadia is a party of, and that's a much larger thing called the National Park Service,” Epp said.

“Creating Acadia National Park: The Biography of George Bucknam Dorr” is available in paperback for \$20 through Acadia-area booksellers and through Friends of Acadia at [acadia-centennial2016.org](http://acadia-centennial2016.org).

# Holyoke

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whether the state's fisheries were managed well.

After hearing more positive responses in the survey, guide Matt Whitegiver was one of the first attendees to speak.

“Based on your [survey presentation], I think we can all go home,” Whitegiver joked, drawing chuckles from the crowd. The attendees didn't leave, and an informative discussion of fishing matters followed.

Angler Ed Curtis concurred. “I actually think the fishing is better now than it was before,” Curtis said.

There were concerns, however.

Jeff Reardon of Trout Unlimited pointed out that a map displayed by Responsive Management doesn't mesh with the current maps of Maine's management regions for fisheries. In addition, he was disappointed that “brook trout” were not singled out in survey questions. Instead, several questions dealt with “trout” collectively, including other species with the iconic Maine brookie.

Later in the meeting, DIF&W biologist Gordon “Nels” Kramer said a new trend among anglers bears some study. Kramer said he often sees fish photos on social media outlets where it's obvious the successful angler hands the fish around to buddies for them to pose for photos before eventually releasing the fish.



ASHLEY L. CONTI | BDN

Mike Brown (from left), director of Fisheries, and regional fisheries biologist Gregory Burr, Gordon Kramer and Tim Obrey listen and take notes during the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on its management plan for fish at the Black Bear Inn in Orono on Thursday.

That fish is unlikely to survive, he said.

“That drives me to distraction,” Kramer said. “We urge people to get that fishy back in the water as quickly as they can.”

**Turkey, moose, deer, attended by about 25:** The most wide-ranging meeting of the bunch, a varied group attended to talk about big-game species — other than bear. The survey responses indicated that the most controversial animal in Maine might be the wild turkey, in that many said they thought the turkey population should be reduced and only 8 percent of Mainers said they wanted more gobblers around.

Then, when the meeting began in earnest, it took more than an hour before anyone even mentioned

the word “turkey.”

Deer are Maine's preeminent big-game animal, and many Mainers define themselves as deer hunters. As panelists learned, deer hunters aren't afraid to speak up.

Nate Freeman of Orono said he thought the state should consider banning the use of urine-based deer lures to avoid the potential spread of chronic wasting disease.

Several people spoke in favor of antler restriction regulations, requiring that a buck's rack have a certain number of points before it could be harvested. Those speakers represented Quality Deer Management Association groups that believe avoiding the harvest of young bucks is a key to a healthy herd.

Darren Hammond of Harrington pointed out a problem that exists in certain pockets of land in coastal areas: An entire Wildlife Management District may have a low deer population, but in certain areas within that WMA there might be hundreds of deer. Hammond said he often saw “100 does a day” where he hunts but struggled to find a single buck.

Mark Latti of the DIF&W hinted at things to come after a mild winter, saying hunters who want to harvest a doe will likely have a better chance to do so this year.

“You're going to see a substantial increase in any-deer permits this year,” Latti said, suggesting the final tally might be 50 percent higher than last year's permit total.

# Angler

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clude “Backtrack” and “The Maine Deer Hunter's Logbook.”

“The Maine Angler's Logbook” provides a perfect format for finicky readers: Pick an essay — any essay — and you'll not be disappointed. The tales don't have to be read in order. Like to start at the end and read to the beginning? Feel free. Like to read the titles and decide what sounds particularly interesting? No problem.

Or you can read straight through the book from start to finish. All the chapters are self-contained and short, likely because many first appeared as newspaper columns, which makes it particularly convenient when you're looking for a place to stop for the night.

Always wanted to know what it's like to fish in Montana, New Brunswick or Labrador? Reynolds will take you there. Want to listen to the memories of a veteran Maine angler as he visits some of our state's most special fishing destinations? That's covered, too.

Readers may have a few minor complaints about the book. The essays typically are offered up without a time reference, and when the writer starts talking about fisheries decisions that are being made by state agencies or about conditions in a pond, we sometimes don't know what year he's talking about nor what month. Those things matter, in context, when you're trying to make sense of a steady stream of varied topics.

Some of the photos didn't reproduce well and are a bit pixelated. Another copy-edited also would have been helpful.

With that said, readers probably won't nitpick nearly that much, and avid anglers especially will likely enjoy “The Maine Angler's Logbook” thoroughly.

Perhaps the highest praise: There's so much information in the book that a reader surely will learn something new, vicariously visit a new place and file a fishing tip away to try on a not-so-rainy day.

“The Maine Angler's Logbook” retails for \$17.95 and was self-published by Reynolds' Maine Outdoor Publications.