

## GEOLOGY

If you arrived at KLT's trailhead by canoe, kayak, or skis, you are standing on igneous rocks that are roughly 330 million years old. This bedrock is gabbro, a **coarse-grained intrusive** igneous rock (formed from molten magma that cooled underground) which at this locality is cut by a number of younger basalt dikes. Gabbro outcrops and boulders are well exposed along the shore and can also be seen on KLT's Norris Island. On Norris, the gabbro has weathered over time to create beautiful black sand beaches with shiny hornblende grains.



\* Basalt, a **fine-grained extrusive igneous** rock, has the same mineral composition as gabbro.

## MAINE'S NATIVE TREES

The varied habitats at Perkins Woods - the wetlands, the shoreline, and the interior forest - support an unusual diversity of plant species. How many of these native Maine trees can you identify?

- American basswood (*Tilia americana*)
- American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*)
- American elm (*Ulmus americana*)
- balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*)
- brown ash (*Fraxinus nigra*)
- eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*)
- eastern hop hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*)
- northern white cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*)
- paper birch (*Betula papyrifera*)
- \*pitch pine (*Pinus rigida*)
- red maple (*Acer rubrum*)
- red oak (*Quercus rubra*)
- red pine (*Pinus resinosa*)
- silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*)
- sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*)
- \*tupelo or black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)
- white ash (*Fraxinus americana*)
- \*white oak (*Quercus alba*)
- white pine (*Pinus strobus*)

\*Uncommon in this region of Maine at this time.

## CONSERVATION HISTORY

In 1980, John Perkins, a summer resident in Wayne, inherited the last parcel in his father's Androscoggin Lake housing development project. John, his wife Pat, and their children have spent many summers observing wildlife, especially birds, on Androscoggin Lake.

These observations reinforced their understanding of the habitat values of undeveloped lake shorelines. In 2001 they donated the Perkins Woods to KLT to protect wildlife habitat and to provide the public with the opportunity to visit a forest preserve that continues to inspire visitors.

Today, natural forces - including wind, climate change, insects, and diseases - will continue to change this forest stand.



Jane Davis

Kennebec Land Trust volunteers maintain this trail and monitor these Preserve properties so that they will be available to the public year-round for generations to come.

**Allowable Public Uses:** hiking, swimming, picnicking, skiing, nature observation, hunting.

## ABOUT KENNEBEC LAND TRUST

The **Kennebec Land Trust** (KLT) works cooperatively with landowners and communities to conserve the forests, lakes, streams, wetlands, fields, and wildlife that help define central Maine. KLT protects and stewards land permanently, offers access to conserved properties, provides opportunities for people to learn about and enjoy the natural world, and works with partners to support sustainable forestry and farming.

Protected properties include Vaughan Woods in Hallowell, Curtis Homestead in Leeds, Mount Pisgah in Winthrop, Parker Pond Headland in Fayette, Gott Pasture Preserve in Wayne, and Surry Hill in Fayette. Most KLT conservation lands offer public access in all seasons for hiking, paddling, bird watching, skiing, and hunting.

A full listing of Kennebec Land Trust properties and their recreational uses, and an interactive map with directions, can be found at our website: [www.tklt.org](http://www.tklt.org).

**Please join us!**

**KLT~PO BOX 261; 331 Main Street;**

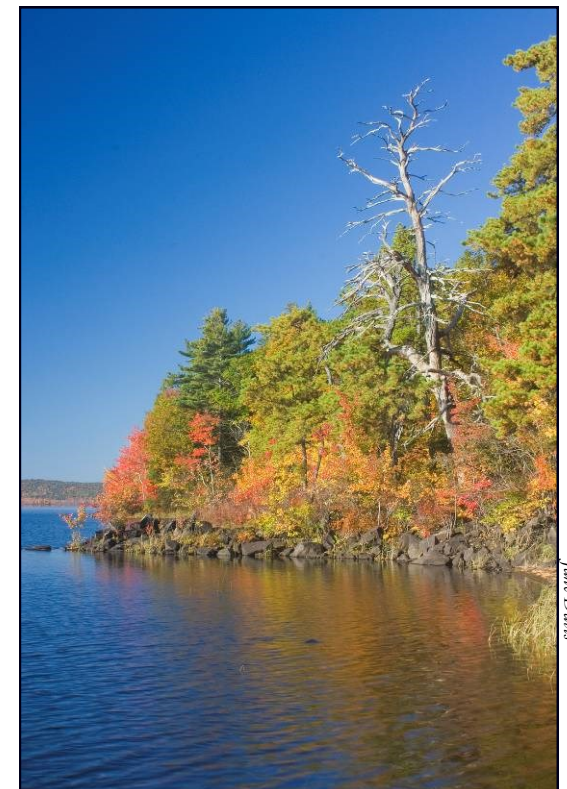


tupelo in foreground; Jane Davis

*Thanks to those who contributed expertise and time toward this brochure: Jane Davis, Stan Davis, Elsa Martz, Janie Matrisciano, Robert Marviny, Maine State Geologist; Jean-Luc Theriault, Center for Community GIS, Farmington, Maine; February, 2011.*



## PERKINS WOODS PRESERVE ANDROSCOGGIN LAKE



Jane Davis

**KLT - YOUR COMMUNITY LAND TRUST**

**Conservation Across Generations**



**KENNEBEC LAND TRUST**  
**PERKINS WOODS**  
 14 acres, donated by  
**John and Pat Perkins, 2001**

Welcome to KLT's Perkins Woods property! We hope you will enjoy your hike on the short blue-blazed loop trail, which starts at the KLT sign and registration box by the large bedrock gabbro outcrop on the shoreline. The natural resources that you see around you on Androscoggin Lake - the wildlife, wetlands, waters, and forests - have been valued by people, both resident and migratory, for thousands of years.



Jane Davis

**FOREST**

The 14-acre Perkins Woods Preserve features tall eastern hemlock, white pine, red oak, and white ash trees. Parts of the forest have a cathedral-like open structure, with little tree, shrub, or herbaceous understory. Some of the legacy trees in this beautiful forest stand are over 150 years old. There are few old growth stands like it in central Maine, so this property is important not only for its ecological and scenic values, but for its historical significance as well.

When early settlers arrived in Wayne in the 1770's, they likely harvested trees in this forest for lumber and firewood. Farmers would also have grazed their cattle here, using Androscoggin Lake as one of the fence lines!



Jane Davis

**PITCH PINE AND OSPREY**

As you hike or paddle along the shoreline, look for the unique pitch pine stand on the point. Pitch pine is a native Maine species with three needles in a bundle and reddish scaly bark plates. This tree is more common in southern Maine on sandy soils. These mature trees and this 2700 feet of undeveloped shoreline provide ideal nesting habitat for fish-eating birds including osprey, eagles, and herons.

Osprey can live for over 20 years and often mate for life. Since building large nests requires a great deal of energy, a pair often uses the same nest for many years. Nests are almost always close to water and the adults fiercely defend their territories from intruders.\* The osprey nest that was here for many years came down during a wind storm late in 2003 or early in 2004.

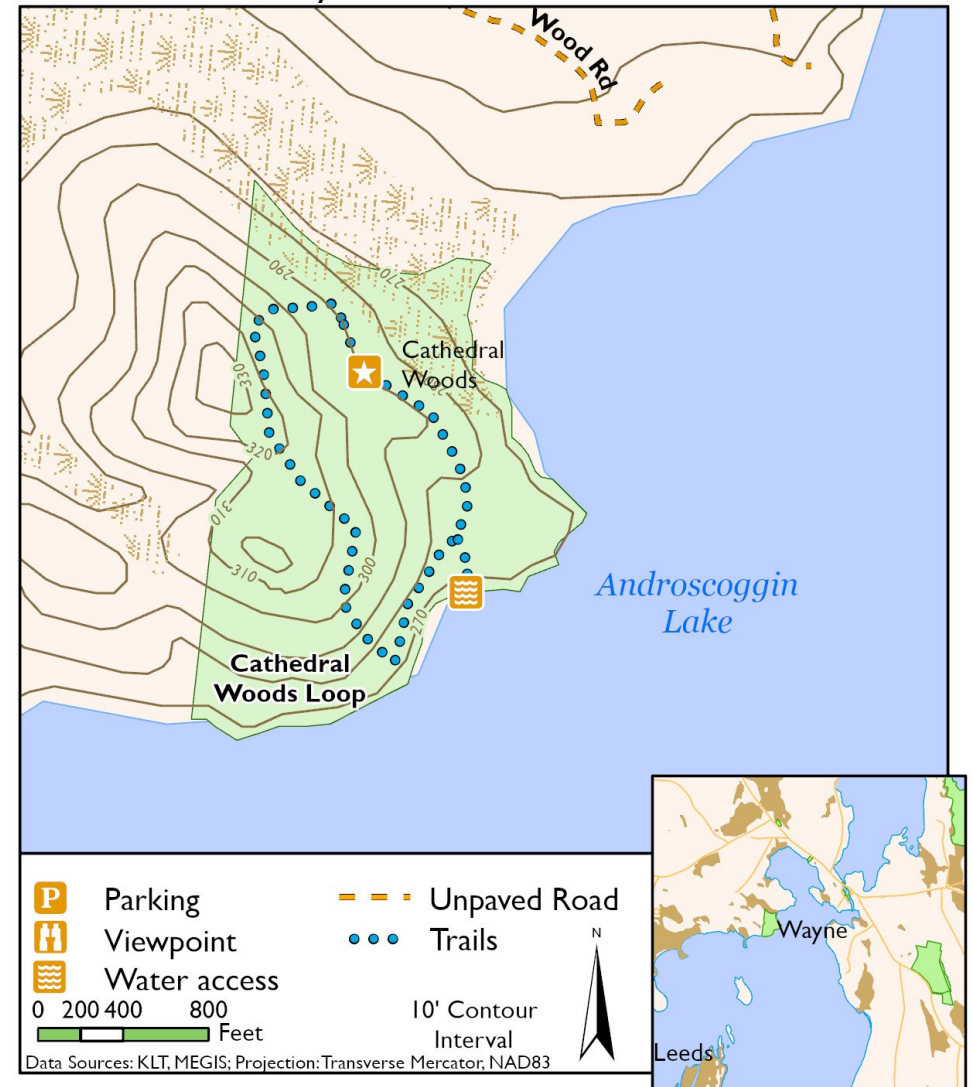
The wetland shrub vegetation in the pitch pine stand also features interesting heath plants (species that grow in acidic environments) such as blueberry, leatherleaf, cranberry, and maleberry.

**\*Please do not approach or disturb birds when they are nesting and raising young.**



Elsa Marie

**Perkins Woods, Wayne**



**Access** to KLT's Perkins Woods Preserve is by watercraft in the summer. In the winter, hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing provide access when the lake is frozen. There is a public boat launch on Route 133 in Wayne.

A KLT sign at a bedrock outcrop marks the start of an easy 0.50 mile loop trail.