

Dear Friend,

Scarborough Marsh is a local and regional treasure. With approximately 3,000 acres of salt marsh, five tidal rivers, several smaller streams, some coastal freshwater marsh, tidal flats, and less than 200 acres of uplands, Scarborough Marsh is Maine's largest salt marsh. Because of local and regional protection efforts, the marsh is a healthier ecosystem now than 100 years ago. But there remains much more to be done to bring the marsh back to full vitality and health.

The Friends of Scarborough Marsh is an all-volunteer non-profit group dedicated to conserving and restoring the Scarborough Marsh as well as protecting significant parcels of land within the watershed. We hope that you will join us in this worthy effort by supporting the **Friends of Scarborough Marsh 2008 Annual Dinner & Auction**, scheduled for October 24, 2008.

We are in need of donations of goods, services, or gift certificates which we could use as a raffle prize or item to be auctioned. Would you be able to help us? No donation is too big or too small! The Silent and Live Auctions are key to the success of this event, contributing both fun and funds. Offers of goods, services, gift certificates, ski weekends, golf packages, fishing trips, or guided bird walks, etc. are all welcome and make fantastic auction items.

Last year's event was a great success with over \$45,000 raised for land conservation along the critical upland fringe of the Scarborough Marsh. What a wonderful display of the community's care and appreciation for Maine's largest saltwater marsh! We encourage all attendees to support the many businesses who support us.

We are looking forward to another hugely successful fundraising event and we hope that you will help us meet our goal. One of our volunteers will be in touch soon. In the meantime, the enclosed form makes donating to the Friends of Scarborough Marsh 2008 Dinner & Auction very easy. Simply fill out and sign the enclosed form, then return it in the envelope provided (or fax it to 885-9613).

In many ways, the tale of the Scarborough Marsh is a success story, one that you can play an integral part in helping to carry forward by supporting our annual fundraiser.

With sincere thanks,

Rick Murphy and Lucy LaCasse, Co-Chairs

PS: As before, we are also offering advertising opportunities in the Friends of Scarborough Marsh 2008 Dinner & Auction program. For more information about supporting us through an advertisement, please contact Rick Vogel, Volunteer Advertising Coordinator at fgvogel3@yahoo.com.

Friends of Scarborough Marsh is an all-volunteer 501(c) 3 nonprofit pledged to the conserve, protect, restore, and enhance the Scarborough Marsh.