



LAND'S SAKE
WESTON, MASSACHUSETTS

The Good Ole' Days

A reflection by Heather Hilton farmstand & business manager 2020

On this special day, I wanted to share my personal thoughts & some experiences I have had while putting together this anniversary of Earth Day and learning about its history in correlation with Land's Sake. I have always been fascinated by history, of any topic really, I enjoy learning every aspect of something, getting to the root of it (pun intended). In order to come out on the other side more knowledgeable, you have to see the whole picture from beginning to present day, and that will guide you on how to move into the future.

I have only been working here for a few years, and while being warmly welcomed into the community I have learned so much history about Weston, Land's Sake, and been privy to the personal stories in between. I love hearing Anne Wolfe tell me humbly about her work in protecting this land, like it was no big deal... "I don't remember many details, just sitting around my dining room table with Harriet Elliston, Cynthia Berg, Kay McCahan and others, writing postcards to every household in Weston." That work saved this acreage from becoming housing development which is now Land's Sake, and opened the doors for Brian Donahue, my next favorite person. Everyone jokes at how obsessed I am with his book, but how can you not be? Even written years ago, the message is true today, more important than ever, and helps me get excited about things like Fall Farm Festivals! And I am not the only one, Bill Brady, a spokesperson during this "Save Green Power Farm" movement, and Land's Sake Board Member, shared his also candid memories of years past and spoke fondly of his friend Brian- "If it wasn't for Brian, there would be no GreenPower these past 30 years. Well, actually, if it wasn't for Brian, there would be no Land'sSake either. Imagine that! Brian's innovation and bold spirit has provided the Town with these two treasures." The positive commentary is endless around here, from customers to board

members then and now & especially all the kids! As I have come to know the many characters of this organization and how they all overlap, I mostly enjoy the time spent hearing all the stories, even the ones I promised not to repeat, and won't. I have learned tips on Everything from Faith (who is endlessly volunteering herself and knowledge), heard recollections of children growing up on & with the farm, (don't get me started on the Strawberry Festival), overall, the most common theme, is how we all sometimes crave the way things used to be, The Good Ole Days.

My time here has almost felt like that, a trip back in time. Even with the bustling days of summer and big events, when I walk the dirt roads past historic farmhouses on a quiet day taking in the openness and natural beauty of it all, I can't help but question, "what year is it?" I have found that "connection to the land" we so proudly speak of... I have hopelessly fallen in Love with this place, and the magic it brings to so many lives.

Cheers to the next 50! - Heather Hilton

P.S. Thank you for letting me be a part of Land's Sake, and sorry to all the people that asked me to not talk about them, I had to. I hope you will forgive me.