

Dr. Gray Merriam, a well-known local ecologist, has published a new book titled ***Caring for our Homeplace***. The book consists of forty-five essays on an array of topics giving insights for folks who care about their surroundings. Essays are presented in focal groups of Natural Riches, Stewardship of Our Natural Heritage, and Our Future. Essays vary in length from one to several pages, some with black and white illustrations.

The author's 50 years of experience as a professional ecologist give rise to a diversity of approaches to topics. Flavours vary from simple enjoyment of nature to effects of natural riches on future Canadian policy and even to the morality of stewardship. The essays raise questions in need of answers by probing familiar topics in natural history, stewardship of lands and waters, and the futures of natural riches.

The Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust is offering ***Caring for our Homeplace*** for sale for the price of \$20 per book plus \$5 for shipping (where applicable), with proceeds from the sales going into the general revenues of the Land Trust. If you choose to pick the book up from a local volunteer or at the MMLT office in Carleton Place you can save shipping costs.

About the Author

Gray Merriam grew up in central Ontario. One of the first students in a new Wildlife major at Ontario Agricultural College, he then went on to doctoral study at Cornell. Summer student experience included study of the 1200 acre Conroy marsh in eastern Ontario and forest inventory for four Conservation Authorities forming in central Ontario.

As a university professor, Gray introduced the discipline of Landscape Ecology to Canada and as President of the International Association of Landscape Ecology he spent significant time in Australia, Sweden, northern Europe and Argentina.

Gray and his partner, Aileen, have paddled all the rivers in the Moose River watershed of northern central Ontario and some farther north, such as the Thelon and Coppermine.

The Merriams have Conservation Agreements with Land Trusts on two properties. Clydelands is 100 acres of uncut forest on the headwaters of the Clyde River and is protected by a Conservation Agreement with the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust. SalmonHead is the species-rich riverine forest where Gray and his partner, Aileen, an artist and Lake Steward, live on the Salmon River near its outflow from Kennebec Lake. SalmonHead is protected by a Conservation Agreement with the Land Conservancy for Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington.

You can order a copy of ***Caring for our Homeplace*** from the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust at the following link:

<https://mmlt.ca/event/book-sale-caring-for-our-homeplace-by-dr-gray-merriam/>