

LAND TRUST
SERVICE BUREAU's

Twenty-third Annual Convocation of Connecticut Land Trusts

Saturday, March 25, 2006
Northeast Utilities
Berlin, CT
8:30 am to 4:00 pm



SAVING THE LAST GREAT PLACES ON EARTH

Twenty-third Annual Convocation of Land Trusts

Please join us at the offices of Northeast Utilities in Berlin, CT, on March 25, 2006 for the annual gathering of Connecticut's 116 land trusts. Northeast Utilities' generous support once again allows us to offer morning and afternoon workshops as well as a buffet lunch at a low cost to participants.

We are honored to have Peter Forbes as our keynote speaker at Convocation 2006. Peter Forbes is a photographer, writer, farmer and conservationist. He has worked in land conservation for 20 years and has pioneered a number of initiatives aimed at showing the role between land and a healthy human culture. For 10 years he was the New England regional director for the Trust for Public Land. In 2001 Peter founded the Center for Land and People to help foster a new practice of land conservation where the emphasis is on building relationships between people and the land. Peter is now the executive director of Center for Whole Communities, a new national initiative to build stronger connections between people, land and communities. Peter will speak on the role of land conservation in creating healthy, whole communities.

Agenda

8:30 am Registration/Lobby Displays

9:00 am Welcome and Awards

Lise A. Hanners, State Director, The Nature Conservancy
Linda Bowers, Dir. of Protection, The Nature Conservancy

9:15 am Keynote Session

Peter Forbes, Executive Director of the Center for Whole Communities

10:30 am Coffee Break

10:45 am Morning Sessions I

- A. Accreditation for Land Trusts
- B. Recordkeeping Essentials for Land Conservation
- C. Introduction to Conservation Options
- D. Baseline Documentation Reports for Conservation Easements
- E. Dam Ownership by Default: Owner beware!
- F. Deer Management

12:00 Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 pm Afternoon Sessions II

- A. What Does the State Capitol have to do with Land Trusts?
- B. Insurance Coverage for Land Trusts
- C. Panel Discussion: Pros and Cons of Forest Management
- D. Conservation of Lands Owned by Religious Communities
- E. Invasive Plant Management
- F. Farmland Protection for Watershed Quality

2:45 – 4:00 pm Afternoon Sessions III

- A. Developing and Maintaining Your Website
- B. Organizing a Successful Fundraising Campaign
- C. Web-based Tools for Land Planning/Conservation
- D. Advanced Conservation Options: Complicated Deals
- E. Roundtable: Violations of Land Trust Property
- F. Managing Lands for Habitat and Income

Nominations for Land Trust Service Bureau Awards are being accepted until March 7, 2006. The categories this year include: Model Outreach or Educational program; Substantial Size or Unique Habitat Land Acquisition; Successful Partnership; Improved or Expanded Stewardship program; or Successful Fundraising or Membership project. Nominations in other categories will be considered.

NEW! Poster session. We invite you to put together a poster detailing your land trust and highlighting any work accomplished this past year. Posters will be displayed throughout the day in the hallway leading to the registration tables. Please provide your own easel for displaying your poster. We are able to accommodate 10 posters. Interested parties should reserve a spot ahead of time by calling Sarah Pellegrino at 860-344-0716 ext. 320 or make a note on their registration form.

Display tables. A number of tables are available for displays and handouts. Interested parties should reserve a spot ahead of time by calling Sarah Pellegrino at 860-344-0716 ext. 320 or make a note on their registration form.

HOW CAN YOU HELP PASS GOOD CONSERVATION LAWS?

One of the most important factors in helping legislators make tough policy and budget decisions is whether or not they hear from their constituents about certain issues. The Land Conservation Coalition for Connecticut periodically sends out e-mail updates and action alerts during the legislative session, indicating when it would be the most helpful to contact legislators about particular conservation proposals. If you're not already getting e-mails from us, send your e-mail address to David Sutherland at dsutherland@tnc.org or call 860-344-0716 x 317 and indicate who your state legislators are (or just give us your mailing address and we can identify your representatives), and we'll add you to our list.

In case of severe weather on the day of the Convocation, please phone 860-344-0716 for a recording of cancellation information.

	Organizational/Financial	Land Protection	Stewardship
<p>Session I</p> <p>10:45 am to 12 noon</p>	<p>A. Accreditation for Land Trusts (Staff person, LTA)</p> <p>B. Recordkeeping Essentials for Land Conservation (Elisabeth Moore, Connecticut Farmland Trust)</p>	<p>C. Introduction to Conservation Options (Steve Patton, The Nature Conservancy)</p> <p>D. Baseline Documentation Reports for Conservation Easements (Anthony Irving, EECOS)</p>	<p>E. Dam Ownership by Default: Owner beware! (Laura Wildman, American Rivers)</p> <p>F. Deer Management (Howard Kilpatrick, Department of Environmental Protection, David Gumbart, The Nature Conservancy)</p>
<p>Session II</p> <p>1:00 pm to 2:30 pm</p>	<p>A. What Does the State Capitol have to do with Land Trusts? (David Sutherland, The Nature Conservancy and Mike Dugan, M.P. Guinan & Associates)</p> <p>B. Insurance Coverage for Land Trusts (Staff, Franey Muha Alliant Services)</p>	<p>C. Panel Discussion: Pros and Cons of Forest Management (Tom Degnan, T. Degnan Land Management & Consulting, Leslie Kane, Town of Guilford, John LeShane, Middlesex Land Trust)</p> <p>D. Conservation of Lands Owned by Religious Communities (Sister Chris Loughlin and Carole Rossi of the Dominican Order)</p>	<p>E. Invasive Plant Management (Charlotte Pyle, Natural Resources Conservation Service)</p> <p>F. Farmland Protection for Watershed Quality (Laurie Giannotti and Marion Griswold (PRWC), Virginia Mason, Council of Governments Central Naugatuck Valley and Karen Huber, Southbury Land Trust)</p>
<p>Session III</p> <p>2:45 pm to 4:00 pm</p>	<p>A. Developing and Maintaining Your Website (Anna Silverberg, Old Lyme Land Trust)</p> <p>B. Organizing a Successful Fundraising Campaign (Mary Buell Nemerov, The Trust for Public Land)</p>	<p>C. Web-based GIS Tools for Land Planning/Conservation (John Rozum, Emily Wilson and Chet Arnold, NEMO)</p> <p>D. Advanced Conservation Options: Navigating Your Way Through a Complicated Deal (Elisabeth Moore, CFT and Daniel Brown, Esq., Granby Land Trust)</p>	<p>E. Roundtable Discussion: Violations of Land Trust Property (Harry White, Weantinogue Heritage LT, Hill Bullard, Joshua's Tract LT and Charlie Leach, Farmington LT)</p> <p>F. Managing Lands for Habitat and Income (Will Hochholzer, Connwood Foresters and Steve Broderick, UConn Extension Service)</p>

Topic Descriptions

Morning Sessions I

I. A. Accreditation for Land Trusts. Discuss with an LTA presenter the most up to date information about the Land Trust Alliance accreditation program and the accompanying curriculum. Bring your questions about the process and what will be required of Land Trusts that want to become accredited.

Presenter: Staff person, Land Trust Alliance.

I. B. Recordkeeping Essentials for Land Conservation. This workshop will address the fundamental issues related to organizational and transactional recordkeeping, including: what are records, why maintain records, and the legal requirements with a focus on the creation and maintenance of conservation easement files, baseline documents, and monitoring. The workshop will provide sample documentation materials and is designed for staff and volunteers at all levels of experience.

Presenter: Elisabeth Moore, Connecticut Farmland Trust.

I. C. Introduction to Conservation Options. This session will introduce basic conservation options for the beginning land conservationist. Discussion items will include the various legal and real estate tools available to you, how they work (or don't work), what general funding sources might be available and what to discuss with landowners in order to put together the best deal for everyone.

Presenter: Steve Patton, The Nature Conservancy.

I. D. Baseline Documentation Reports for Conservation Easements.

If your land trust is involved with conservation easements, come learn how to prepare the required baseline documentation report in support of that easement. This session will review field visits, photography, mapping, and report writing as well as tips on how to read an easement to best understand your land trust's stewardship obligations. After the easement is recorded in the land records, learn how and why your land trust needs to monitor the property.

Presenter: Anthony Irving, Ecological and Environmental Consulting Services.

I. E. Dam Ownership by Default: Owner beware! This discussion will revolve around existing and potential future dam ownership though the acquisition of property containing a dam. What should you watch out for when acquiring a dam? What will be your responsibilities and liabilities as a dam owner? Now that you own it, what can you do about it? Are there any alternatives that reduce your costs and liabilities yet still work into your future plans for the property? How would you go about removing a dam? These questions and more will be discussed.

Presenter: Laura Wildman, American Rivers.

I. F. Deer Management: Current Status and Considerations. A discussion on issues relating to deer, from the impacts of an expanding population to management considerations. In 1975, there were an estimated 19,000 deer in Connecticut. By 2003, this number had increased to more than 75,000. In addition to human concerns (spread of Lyme disease, deer/vehicle collisions, loss of landscaping), the growth of the state's deer herd has also affected our native biodiversity. Wildflowers, nesting birds and forest regeneration are all impacted by deer browsing. Come learn about the facts and issues facing owners and managers of land.

Presenters: Howard Kilpatrick, CT Department of Environmental Protection and David Gumbart, The Nature Conservancy.

Early Afternoon Sessions II

II. A. What Does the State Capitol have to do with Land Trusts?

How are land trusts affected by laws proposed or passed by the General Assembly? How are laws proposed or passed? How can land trusts affect those proposals? Two veteran lobbyists will give an overview of the legislative process, the status of current bills relevant to land trusts, and how land trusts can best advance good conservation measures.

Presenters: David Sutherland, The Nature Conservancy and Mike Dugan, M.P. Guinan & Associates.

II. B. Insurance Coverage for Land Trusts. Representatives from Franey Muha Alliant Services will describe what coverage packages are available, how they differ in what activities are covered, and why your land trust should be covered and to what level of coverage. Land trusts looking for more information on liability issues should also attend. Franey Muha is the insurance agent most land trusts in CT use.

Presenters: Staff, Franey Muha Alliant Services.

II. C. Panel Discussion: Pros and Cons of Forest Management.

Many land trust preserves contain sizeable endowments of commercial timber that, if harvested, could simultaneously provide the land trust with considerable income without compromising their underlying goals of forest stewardship. At the same time, land trusts need to be concerned with the public's perception of logging on preserves, which many feel should be left untouched. Through a panel discussion, this session will explore the questions of "if, when, and how" land trust preserves should be managed for timber and other products.

Presenters: Tom Degnan, T. Degnan Land Management Consulting, LLC, Leslie Kane, Town of Guilford, CT and John LeShane, Middlesex Land Trust.

II. D. Conservation of Lands Owned by Religious Communities.

Come hear how the land conservation community in

Massachusetts and representatives of religious communities there are working together to preserve large acreage of ecologically important land. What differentiates this type of deal from others, what are the motivations of a religious community to preserve their lands, what is the process they must follow to relinquish their assets and what are our common interests?

Presenters: Sister Chris Loughlin and Carole Rossi of the Dominican Order.

II. E. Invasive Plant Management. In this basic workshop you will learn to: understand why the problem with invasive plants goes beyond visual effects, identify plants that typically cause the

most

problems in CT, go about detecting invasive plants before they get out of hand, develop strategies for invasive plant management and how to distinguish between "do-able" and "not do-able" projects.

Presenter: Charlotte Pyle, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

II. F. Farmland Protection for Watershed Quality. The Pomperaug River Watershed Coalition (PRWC) was formed by residents of Bethlehem, Woodbury, and Southbury CT in 1999 to protect the quality and quantity of water in the Pomperaug Watershed. The Coalition is working to create a partnership between local governments, businesses, environmental organizations and private citizens and regional, state and federal agencies to ensure the health and vibrancy of the Pomperaug Watershed. This presentation will demonstrate the important role agricultural land preservation plays in water protection.

Presenters: Laurie Giannotti and Marion Griswold (PRWC), Virginia Mason, Council of Governments Central Naugatuck Valley and Karen Huber, Southbury Land Trust.

Later Afternoon Sessions III

III. A. Developing and Maintaining Your Website. This session is designed for land trusts that are considering the possibility of launching a new website, or for those that would like to improve an existing website. Participants will look at the mechanics of how websites are created and maintained. Optimal content will also be considered, and overall costs and benefits discussed.

Presenter: Anna Silberberg, Old Lyme Conservation Trust.

III. B. Organizing a Successful Fundraising Campaign for Land Acquisition. Think you have a project that will require private dollars? Learn about the process of assessing the capacity of your community, organizing an effective committee and, finally, planning and executing a successful campaign.

Presenters: Mary Buell Nemerov, The Trust for Public Land.

III. C. Web-based GIS Tools for Land Planning and Conservation. The NEMO program and its collaborators in the Center for Land Use Education and Research at UCONN has many resources useful for land trusts. This presentation will provide an overview of some of the on-line resource that are available and how land trusts could use these resources for land management and planning.

Presenters: John Rozum, Emily Wilson and Chet Arnold, Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO).

III. D. Advanced Conservation Options: Navigating Your Way Through a Complicated Deal. These presenters have successfully closed very complicated deals. They will present case studies with situations such as retained life use and landowners who can't take advantage of tax benefits due to low income. There will be time for questions and answers and this session will be very interactive. This session is geared toward advanced practitioners.

Presenters: Elisabeth Moore, Connecticut Farmland Trust and Daniel 'Put' Brown, Esq., Granby Land Trust.

III. E. Roundtable Discussion: Violations of Land Trust Property. This session will be two fold; a brief presentation of the legislation that we anticipate will be in front of the State Legislature at that time, and a brief best practices presentation followed by an audience participation session on thorny enforcement situations, sort of "the doctor is in" session.

Presenters: Harry White, Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust, Hill Bullard, Joshua's Tract Land Trust and Charlie Leach, Farmington Land Trust.

III. F. Managing Lands for Habitat and Income. Connecticut's landscape has been managed since native Americans burned the forest understory to make hunting easier. As small volunteer organizations, it's all too easy to manage your lands by not doing a thing. However, the best way to maximize biodiversity, and create a little income for further purchases, or maintenance of current parcels is to have a plan. Two foresters and educators will explain the philosophical and PRACTICAL aspects of assessing your lands, creating a plan, working with foresters and loggers, and considering the future with your special holdings.

Presenters: Will Hochholzer, Connwood Foresters and Steve Broderick, UConn Extension Service.

Member Organizations (2005 Dues Paid)

Aspetuck Land Trust, Inc.
Berlin Land Trust
Bethany Land Trust, Inc.
Bethel Land Trust, Inc.
Bethlehem Land Trust, Inc.
Bolton Land Trust
Branford Land Trust, Inc.
Bridgewater Land Trust, Inc.
Brookfield Open Space Legacy, Inc.
Canton Land Conservation Trust, Inc.
Cheshire Land Trust, Inc.
Chester Land Trust, Inc.
Colchester Land Trust
Colebrook Land Conservancy
Connecticut Farmland Trust
Deep River Land Trust, Inc.
East Haddam Land Trust, Inc.
Environmental Learning Centers of CT, Inc.
Farmington Land Trust, Inc.
Granby Land Trust, Inc.
Haddam Land Trust, Inc.
Hamden Land Conservation Trust, Inc.
Heritage Land Preservation Trust
Joshua's Tract Conservation & Historic Trust, Inc.
Katherine Bakeless Wildflower and Nature Preserve, Inc.
Lynde Point Land Trust
Madison Land Conservation Trust, Inc.
Middlebury Land Trust, Inc.
Milford Land Conservation Trust, Inc.
Naromi Land Trust, Inc.
New Fairfield Land Trust
New Hartford Land Conservation Trust, Inc.
New Haven Land Trust, Inc.
Newtown Forest Association, Inc.
North Haven Land Trust, Inc.
Northern Conn. Land Trust, Inc.
Old Lyme Conservation Trust, Inc.
Pond Mountain Trust, Inc.
Roxbury Land Trust, Inc.
Salisbury Assoc./Land Trust Comm.
Seymour Land Conservation Trust, Inc.
Simsbury Land Conservation Trust, Inc.
Southbury Land Trust, Inc.
Stamford Land Conservation Trust, Inc.
Steep Rock Association, Inc.
Suffield Land Conservancy, Inc.
Swampfield Land Trust, Inc.
Wallingford Land Trust, Inc.
Warren Land Trust, Inc.
Watertown Land Trust, Inc.
West Haven, Land Trust of
Wilton Land Conservation Trust, Inc.
Wintonbury Land Trust, Inc.
Woodbridge Land Trust, Inc.
Woodbridge Park Association, Inc.
Wyndham Land Trust, Inc.

Registration Form

Please send your registration and fee so that we will

RECEIVE it by March 10th.

There will be a \$5 charge for late registrations.

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Morning Sessions I

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Afternoon Sessions II

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Afternoon Sessions III

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Mail this form to the address below (one person per form - feel free to make copies) with a check payable to: "Land Trust Service Bureau".

REGISTRATION FEE: \$35 LTSB MEMBERS, \$45 NON-MEMBERS (ADD \$5 FOR REGISTRATION AFTER MARCH 10). If you don't know whether your land

trust is a current member (2005-2006 dues paid), please ask your president or treasurer. Other questions may be directed to the LTSB at 860/344-0716 x314.

Mail to: The Nature Conservancy, LTSB Convocation, 55 High St., Middletown, CT 06457. This registration form may also be downloaded from the Chapter's website:

www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/connecticut

Directions to Northeast Utilities

just off the Berlin Turnpike in Berlin, CT

Traveling North on I-91: Travel I-91 North to Exit 22N-S for Route 9 North (New Britain & Middletown). Bear left on Exit 22N (New Britain) to Route 9 North. Travel Route 9 North approx. 2.4 miles to Exit 21 for Route 372 (East Berlin, Routes 5 & 15 North, Hartford). Turn right at the end of the exit onto Route 372 West. Continue for .4 mile to the first exit (unnumbered) for Routes 5 & 15 North (Hartford). Travel north on Routes 5 & 15 approx. 1.7 miles to Berlin. NU offices will be on the right on a hill. At a traffic signal, take a right onto Selden St. and continue up the hill. Turn left from Selden St. into the NU complex. Follow TNC signs to conference.

Traveling South on I-91: Travel Route I-91 South to Exit 28 from Routes 5 & 15 South (Berlin Turnpike, Wethersfield & Newington). Travel south approx. 6.8 miles on Routes 5 & 15 to Berlin. The NU offices will be on the left on a hill. At a traffic signal, take a left onto Selden St. and continue up the hill. Turn left from Selden St. into the NU complex. Follow TNC signs to conference.

Traveling East on I-84: Travel Route I-84 East to Exit 35 for Route 72 East and Route 9 South (New Britain and Middletown). Exit 35 is a left-hand exit. This section of highway begins as Route 72 East and then becomes Route 9 South. After approx. 3.4 miles the highway will fork; stay to the right following Route 9 South (Berlin and Middletown) for about 4 miles. Take Exit 21 for Routes 5 & 15 (Hartford and New Haven). At the end of the exit, stay to the right, merging onto Routes 5 & 15 North. Travel north on Routes 5 & 15 approx. 1.8 miles to Berlin. NU offices will be on the right on a hill. At a traffic signal, take a right onto Selden St. and continue up the hill. Turn left from Selden St. into the NU complex. Follow TNC signs to conference.

Traveling West on I-84: Travel Route I-84 West to Exit 57 for Routes 5 & 15 South. (This is a left-hand exit for the Charter Oak Bridge, Route 15 South, I-91 South, New York City). Stay to the left side on the Charter Oak Bridge and continue to follow signs for Routes 5 & 15 South. Travel south approx. 8 miles from the bridge, on Routes 5 & 15, to Berlin. The NU offices will be on the left on a hill. At a traffic signal, take a left onto Selden St. and continue up the hill. Turn left from Selden St. into the NU complex. Follow TNC signs to conference.