

2019-2020 IMPACT REPORT

LEARN ABOUT OUR MERGERS AND
NEW PUBLIC PRESERVES INSIDE



Northwest Connecticut
Land Conservancy

PROTECTING LAND AND WATER FOR PEOPLE, FOR WILDLIFE, FOREVER.

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Welcome from the Executive Director

This is a momentous and exciting time for Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy (NCLC). Since our last Impact Report, we have merged with Brookfield Open Space Legacy and Naromi Land Trust, celebrated our 55th Anniversary, and re-envisioned ourselves with a new name. We accomplished this while proceeding ambitiously and without distraction on our important conservation work during the pandemic.

Because of you, NCLC is Connecticut's largest land trust and the regional land conservation leader in Litchfield and northern Fairfield Counties. Together we protect

12,500 acres of conserved land, 40 working farms, 45 miles of streams and rivers, and 21 public hiking preserves.

I hope you will take a moment to read about the legacy of conservation that you make possible. Highlights include our new public preserves in Brookfield and Sherman, a memorial honoring former Board Member and long-time benefactor Anne H. Bass, preservation of the Maple Bank Farm in Roxbury, and recognition of the donors and volunteers that make all of this good work possible.

The work of conservation is a legacy that will last beyond all of

us. You will see it in the landscape. You will see it in the water. You will see it in the skies. It brings great meaning to my life to know that together we are creating a legacy that will be valued by communities that we have not yet seen and generations of people we will never know. Thank you for continuing to support the land, conservation, and NCLC.



With gratitude,
Catherine M. Rawson
Executive Director

Herrick Preserve in Sherman, CT.

Protecting Natural Lands and Waters

Founded in 1965, Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy is the state’s largest land trust, protecting an average of nine new conservation properties each year. As a guardian of natural and working lands, public recreation areas, and drinking water resources, NCLC permanently protects 12,500 acres (and growing) of vast, connected natural areas in Litchfield and northern Fairfield Counties.

2019 ACQUISITIONS

PROPERTY
Bristol Conservation Easement, 20 acres
LOCATION
Sherman
DONORS
Diana and Melvin Bristol
CONSERVATION VALUE
This ecologically valuable 20-acre working farm was protected with a conservation easement in 2019. Naromi Land Trust and NCLC were awarded \$148,000 in two grants from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to purchase the easement from Diana and Melvin Bristol. The Bristols have lovingly cared for their small farm adjacent to the Wimisink Preserve for decades. Mel related that since the 1970s he has wished to protect the

farm, which buffers the fragile wetlands of Wimisink Preserve.

PROPERTY
Waldron Farm, 38 acres
LOCATION
Bethlehem
DONORS
Lesley Waldron
CONSERVATION VALUE
Working again with the State’s Department of Agriculture and the NRCS, NCLC helped owner Lesley Waldron permanently protect her 38-acre family farm from development. Lesley Waldron’s hilltop meadow also filters water that flows into the Town of Waterbury’s water supply. There is no zoning in the Town of Bethlehem, making land conservation even more critical to protect the drinking water supply.

PROPERTY
Wiseman-Garten Conservation Easement, 10 acres
LOCATION
Falls Village
DONORS
Helen Garten and Michael Wiseman
CONSERVATION VALUE
Longtime, dedicated conservationists Helen Garten and Michael Wiseman added to their legacy of over 400 acres of protected lands on Canaan Mountain in Falls Village. In the waning days of 2019, they granted a conservation easement over a 10-acre pasture adjacent to their other easements and Great Mountain Forest. Though small, this parcel serves an important connection between already protected lands, ensuring that development does not fragment a nearly unspoiled landscape of forests and fields.

PROPERTY
Wright-Carlson Preserve, 32 acres
LOCATION
Bridgewater
DONOR
Bud Wright
CONSERVATION VALUE
This is the second farm conservationist Bud Wright has permanently protected with NCLC in Bridgewater. Bud granted a conservation easement over his 32-acre Wright-Carlson Preserve, a working beef pasture with an

historic barn and long views to the southeast from Northrop Street. Bud’s conservation legacy already includes the protection of his 34-acre Comanche Hill Farm in 2018.



PHOTOGRAPH BY JERRY MONKMAN

2020 ACQUISITIONS

PROPERTY
Maple Bank Farm, 50 acres
LOCATION
Roxbury
DONORS
Cathleen and Howard Bronson
CONSERVATION VALUE
On July 29, 2020, Cathleen and Howard Bronson permanently protected the Maple Bank Farm in Roxbury, which Cathleen’s family has farmed for eight generations. With assistance from NCLC, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture purchased a conservation easement over 50 acres of the farm using a combination of state and federal funds. The conservation easement, which is perpetual, ensures that the farm will be protected as an agricultural property forever and cannot be sold for development. Cathleen’s family has farmed the land since her ancestor, Joseph Hurlbut, received a 6-acre King’s grant in 1730. NCLC supported Cathleen and Howard in the conservation process by completing the initial Department of Agriculture application, as well as aiding in the state and federal acquisition process, and commissioning surveys and soil reports.

Aerial view of the Housatonic River.

PROPERTY
Nickoll Conservation Easement, 109 acres
LOCATION
Salisbury
DONORS
Chrissy Armstrong and Ben Nickoll
CONSERVATION VALUE
Longtime members Chrissy Armstrong and Ben Nickoll’s donation of 109 acres of forested land expands the protected area in the Moore Brook corridor of Salisbury. This preserve is adjacent to 233 acres of land previously protected by The Nature Conservancy. Moore Brook is a Class A stream and a State-designated Critical Habitat Area, home to rare species of plants and animals. The underlying geology creates rich soils and a diverse and unique community of plants and animals thrive in these calcium-rich (“calcareous”) groundwater seeps and soils.

PROPERTY
Peterson Easement, 17 acres
LOCATION
New Milford
DONOR
Guy Peterson
CONSERVATION VALUE
Guy Peterson’s donation of this 17-acre conservation easement, made in memory of his late wife Mary Jane, is adjacent to other NCLC lands. This parcel expands the protected land around Bear

Hill, New Milford’s highest point and the location of CT DEEP’s bobcat population study. Guy is a former president of NCLC and a true conservation leader in Northwest Connecticut. His gift improves the connectivity of northern New Milford’s conserved lands and protects a long stretch of Denman Brook, a tributary to the West Aspetuck River, a Class AA brook.

PROPERTY
Stony Batter Pond, 125 acres
LOCATION
Cornwall
DONORS
Hamilton South IV and Manuel Bellod
CONSERVATION VALUE
Stony Batter Farm conservation easement is an important addition to a swath of protected lands in the Housatonic River corridor. Protecting forested lands limits soil erosion and runoff that can carry pollution to water. This easement also enhances a wildlife corridor between protected state lands, including Wyantenock State Forest, NCLC preserves, and conservation easements held by Warren Land Trust and Cornwall Conservation Trust.

Supporting Local Farms and Food

Farming plays an important part in Northwest Connecticut's economy and contributes to its rural character. Preservation of local farming is vitally important as development pressure and the cost of land continues to rise. Migration from the New York metropolitan area during the pandemic has created additional demand for real estate. To combat these market pressures, NCLC protects 40 farms and provides low-cost or free leases to farmers. NCLC's farms produce beef, pork, lamb, poultry, corn, and hay and are opened to the public for events like the Fall Celebration.

Smyrski Farm Preserve in New Milford is leased by Stuart Family Farm and Mayapple Hill Farm. Both farms raise their grass-fed cows and sheep to feed the local community. The pandemic afforded an abundance of cyclists, hikers, and drivers passing by the Smyrski Farm Preserve a front row view to enjoy the baby Coopworth lambs grazing in the fresh spring pastures.

PHOTOGRAPH BY LINDA POUDER





Maple Bank Farm

Cathleen is the eighth generation of Hurlbuts to farm here since Joseph Hurlbut set foot on the land in 1730. Over the centuries, the original King's Grant of six acres grew in size and diversity of crops, changing with the needs of the family and community. Cathleen grew up on this land with her father Lewis Hurlbut and uncle Alden Hurlbut operating the farm in partnership. The two families increased the capacity of the farm to raise poultry, vegetables, and apples, which were sold on delivery routes in Waterbury, Naugatuck, and Danbury.

Howard and Cathleen have farmed here since 1980. Today, Maple Bank Farm produce is sold at the popular farm stand in Roxbury and at the Bethel Farmer's Market. The Bronsons remain owners of Maple Bank Farm and continue to live in the family farmhouse. They have leased the farmstand and a portion of the property to Dakota Rudolf-Eastman and Matt Went. Cathy and Howie plan to remain actively involved with the farm and to continue tending the lands for the foreseeable future.

How lucky Howie and I have been to work this wonderful land, to grow vegetables and fruit and to have pastures filled with sheep, cows, and pigs over the years. Cultivating crops to provide to the welcoming community has been a joy. You all probably know farming includes being out in all kinds of weather, but best is the appreciation customers share with us about fresh greens for salad or the crisp bite into an apple just picked. Maple Bank Farm has a lot of history!
—CATHLEEN BRONSON

PHOTOGRAPH BY JERRY MONKMAN



Wright-Carlson Farm Easement

Bud Wright and his beloved late wife Maureen have had a lifelong, personal commitment to conservation in Bridgewater and beyond, permanently conserving two of his farms and protecting lands around his house with Bridgewater Land Trust. As a dedicated conservation leader, Bud has donated countless hours of his time and equipment to maintain conservation lands.

George Pratt preserved hundreds of acres of land in Bridgewater and three farms, and he was kind of my idol. My wife and I always hated the thought that they can put houses in a middle of a beautiful farm, in a beautiful hayfield. So, we wanted to do that on a smaller scale with whatever we could do. **I never liked development and we knew we needed the land for the next generation. It's definitely better to ride up the road and see 90 cows there rather than 10 houses.** Our meadow is going to stay like that forever and that's a benefit for the whole community.
—BUD WRIGHT



Supporting Local Farms and Food

Walking with Mel Bristol on his Wimisink Preserve is a treat. He knows the history of every rock and tree. Mel's tall hand-hewn walking stick occasionally steadies him on uneven ground, but is mostly used to point to a section of a field or a rare tree growing in the distance.



Conservation Through Land Trust Partnerships

In 2019 and 2020, NCLC merged with Brookfield Open Space Legacy and Naromi Land Trust respectively. Land trust partnerships, such as these mergers, increase the pace, quality, and permanence of conservation. For many years prior to merger, our organizations worked closely together in partnership. We collaborated on acquisitions and events, jointly stewarded properties, and shared staff, volunteers, and other resources. In each case, the merger was a natural next step, but also an exciting evolution.

The reopening of Mount Tom Preserve was made possible with support from Iroquois Gas Transmission System and the Connecticut Community Foundation.

Pictured from left to right: Matt Soper, Andrew Gordon, Paul Elconin, Carrie Davis, Catherine Rawson, Ruth Parkins, Pete Bass, and Bob Bailey.

Brookfield Open Space Legacy

On October 31, 2019, NCLC, then named Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust, merged with Brookfield Open Space Legacy, Inc. (BOSLI). BOSLI, also founded in 1965, was an all-volunteer, non-profit land trust stewarding 167 acres of protected land in the Town of Brookfield.

For many years, NCLC and BOSLI worked together as partners, most notably at their abutting Pratt Glen and Birch Rocks public hiking preserves. Together, these two preserves cover 175 acres of hardwood forest, streams, wetlands, and 2.5 miles of public trails that wind along the shore of Lake Lillinonah. NCLC and BOSLI jointly managed and maintained trails here prior to the merger.

As stated by Louis Memoli, President of the Brookfield Open Space Legacy at the time of merger, “BOSLI has a legal obligation to forever protect and maintain our nature preserves, but it has become increasingly difficult to accomplish this mission. Over the past few years, BOSLI has relied heavily on NCLC for guidance, staff support, grant applications, project management, and their volunteers. It has become apparent to the BOSLI Board of Directors that we can no longer live up

to our legal responsibilities alone and that the future of Brookfield’s open space will be better served by merging. We believe that this is prudent and our best option to ensure that Brookfield’s open space is forever preserved for the benefit of the community and for the education and enjoyment of its residents.”

Naromi Land Trust

In 2016, the Naromi Land Trust (Naromi) Board of Directors began discussing merger possibilities, accreditation, and the need for professional staff. The board noted that land trust work had become more technical and it began to think proactively about how best to address long-term risks associated with protecting its preserved land forever. The Board felt that the extensive financial and organizational resources required were outpacing Naromi’s scope as a local organization.

After Naromi hired its first executive director in September 2016, and was accredited in February 2018, it was ready to pursue merger discussions in earnest. Years of experience collaborating with NCLC, in addition to its being the regional land trust also working in Sherman, made it the obvious best option as a partner to help ensure that Naromi’s lands are protected forever.

In April 2020, after a period of due diligence, information sharing, and negotiation, the two boards signed an agreement to merge. Naromi’s governing structure required a vote by its members to approve the merger. With unanimous approval from Naromi’s members, the two groups merged

on June 30, 2020.

Both mergers enable the newly created Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy to deliver services and benefits more efficiently and effectively, while better upholding the promise of perpetual land conservation. The mergers are already serving as an inspiration for others and as a model for collaboration in Connecticut. Together, as NCLC, we protect an extraordinary 12,500 acres of natural lands and waters - for people, for wildlife, forever. It is a conservation legacy in which to take deep pride and one we must continuously endeavor to steward and defend.

MERGER HIGHLIGHTS

Kahlo Preserve, Brookfield

The Kahlo Preserve is a small 3.97 acre forested property nestled along Hop Brook with a short out-and-back trail. The trail begins along a downhill path, crosses a foot bridge, and then follows Hop Brook along its southern bank past small waterfalls and natural pools. From the preserve, Hop Brook flows a half mile to the Housatonic River.

The preserve was generously donated by G.D. Kahlo, III to Brookfield Open Space Legacy, Inc. (BOSLI) in 1986. NCLC now stewards Kahlo Preserve and maintains the trail, often with the help of volunteers. If you are looking for a quick and shady streamside walk, please visit this lovely property. We kindly ask that you stay on the red-blazed trail to respect the flora, fauna, and neighboring private properties.

Bristol Easement, Sherman

Mel Bristol is a curious and caring steward of the land he has loved and farmed for 50 years. To think of Mel is to think of deep understanding and care for the ecosystem of one place on the earth; to think of the old ways of doing things (Mel uses a scythe to cut the vegetation where a tractor can’t reach); and to think of using what you have and living off the land.

Mel remembers the day the power company visited his land soon after he began to farm it. They were conducting an assessment of future residential development. Mel knew on that day that he wanted this land to stay open forever, available for food production and hospitable to wildlife. The vibrancy of the insects, plants, and animals at the Wimisink Preserve (highlighted below) that abuts Mel’s property is due in part to Mel’s stewardship of his land. It is fitting that as a farmer, by preserving his farm for future generations of people and wildlife, Mel has brought his 50-year vision of conservation...to fruition.

Wimisink Preserve, Sherman

The Wimisink Preserve is a special place for people to visit and enjoy, but it is even more special to the plants, birds, butterflies, and other wildlife that live in it or use it. This 55-acre preserve was acquired by Naromi Land Trust in several pieces beginning in 1973. It is a quintessential example of a wetland complex created by keystone species, in this case, beavers. It is ever-changing. There are many sensitive state-and-federally-listed plants and animals that use and benefit from Wimisink, including Dion

Skipper butterflies, Fringed Gentian flowers, and American bitterns. After resident American bitterns produced at least four consecutive nestings in the 2014 breeding season, the Wimisink Preserve was designated an Important Bird Area by the Audubon Connecticut.

Human visitors to Wimisink enjoy two wetland boardwalks. One is a disabled-accessible boardwalk out into the wetland and around a curve to a wide area perfect for observing the breadth of the preserve. The other boardwalk is a little-known spot treasured by birders and photographers alike that leads to an observation deck built by an eagle scout in 1997. Many special encounters have taken place here – from a curious fawn to dancing woodcocks to snakes warming themselves in the sun.

Beginning in 2017 and closing in 2019, Naromi and Weantinoge worked together to purchase a conservation easement on 20 acres of farmland owned by Mel and Diana Bristol abutting the Wimisink Preserve. The Bristol Easement protects wetlands that feed the Wimisink Preserve and ensures that any agriculture that takes place on the property, now or in the future, will be performed in accordance with best management practices. Funding support was from US Army Corps of Engineers In-lieu Fee Program administered by Audubon Connecticut and The Nature Conservancy’s Berkshire Wildlife Linkage Jessie B. Cox Catalyst Fund. The foresight and vision of the Bristols to steward this land so carefully and to ensure its permanent protection is a lasting legacy that we all benefit from.

Staying Connected in a Pandemic

Land conservation happens because of people and the relationship that they have with the natural world.

As a land trust, one of the most important and joyful aspects of our work is connecting people to the natural world. In a typical year, we do this by leading hikes, bringing people together for trail workdays, and inviting expert naturalists, scientists, and conservation leaders to give presentations on their work.

The COVID-19 pandemic changed how we connect to each other, but also made staying connected more important than ever. In May 2020, we launched our virtual event series to continue our educational work and show how protected lands support the community and enrich lives. Since then, NCLC has had monthly events. A sampling of those events are shown here.

Maple Bank Farm market in Roxbury, CT



Virtual Lands Tours

This series of events was designed to let the public know that our trails are open and available for socially-distant, mentally restorative time in nature. The virtual tours were a fun way for us to share which preserves are best for young families, new hikers, birdwatching, or seeing fall foliage.

Fierce, Feathered Friends

Wildlife rehabilitator, Christine Peyreigne, introduced us to four different species birds of prey and the kinds of habitat they require to thrive.

The Changing Climate

Dr. Mitch Wagener explained the basics of climate change, how we know it's happening, and how land use and conservation are connected to the big picture.

Bobcats in Connecticut

Nora Hulton, CT DEEP Master Wildlife Conservationist, joined us for an exciting discussion on one of Connecticut's stealthiest predators, how they live, and where they thrive.

Conversations with the Executive Director

When we announced our merger and name change, we scheduled two sessions for members to address questions and comments with NCLC's Executive Director, Catherine Rawson.



PHOTOGRAPH BY JERRY MONKMAN

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Mary Elizabeth and Paul McIlvaine
Sharon and Steven Francis
Katherine Freygang

Alice and Brian Meenan
Dwight Merriam
Kate Hackett and Kent Messer
Dr. Joanne Palmisano and Russell Moore
Mountain Laurel Designs
Irit Granger
Rachel Murray
Peter Myers
Heidi Namin
Robin Lee Zitter and Michael E. Nadeau
Leni and Robert Newman
Margaret Nock
Peter North
Willow and Timothy Oberweger
Jane McNamara and John Ody
Jessica Pleasants and Okan Oncel
Marilyn and Marty O'Shea
Lisa and Michael Ostrove
Monica Panzani
Christine and Aldo Pascarella
Janet and Bill Pasnau
Susan Payne
John Jay Jolly and Nicholas Pentecost
Otto Penzler
Jen Perga
Barbara Zucker-Pinchoff and Barry Pinchoff
Vicky and Rick Plumb
Emma and Russell Plumb
Janet Aspen and Joseph Polizzotto
Litchfield County Pools
Amy and Robert Poster
Justin Potter
Dennis Preston
Jacqueline Markham and Allan Priaux
Alexander Purves
Mary Ellen and Lindo Quagliaroli
Christine and Thomas Quinn
Edward Raftery
Natalie and Greg Randall
Curtis Read
Andy Repko
Christina Spade and Luke Rettler
Gretchen and Glenn Reynolds
Elizabeth and Thomas Rickart
Catherine and Larry Robinson
Millie Loeb and Steve Roffwarg
Ann Rogers
Tracy Rosen
Madeline C. Mixson and Thorn Rosenthal
Daisy Rosner
Pat and Robert Saling
Marcy Salmirs

Kate Schaper
Richard Schlosberg
Beth and Franz Schober
Susan Scott
J. Seitz & Co.
Catherine Setterlin
Donna and Michael Siciliani
Walt Sizemore
Kenneth Ward-Smith
Jill Solomon
Matthew Soper
Patricia Specter
Thomas Leonard Sperry
Nancy Sposato and David R. Sposato
Alan Stempel
Frank Stewart
Duane Stone
Patricia Sullivn
Jean Sullivan
Gary Swircenski
Barbara and Peter Talbot
Natalie and John Taylor
Joanne McMillan and John Eberle
Russell Phillips and Ron Thomas
Taylor Thomas
Gloria Thorne
Laurie and James Thornton
Carol Tittman
Christine and William Tobin
Barbara and Albert Uziel
Caroline and Brian Valle
Cynthia and Lee Vance
Ambassador and Mrs. William vanden Heuvel
Annemieke Vlasto
Christina and Tom Vrba
Veronica Downs-White and William Wakeley
Jemma Walden
Jessica Weber
Anne Weisberg
Marcia and Howard Wilkins
Tim Winslow
Patricia Schulte and Thomas Yamin
Carolyn and Jonathan Younger
Lauri and Richard Zarin
Up to \$99
Alexandra Alcoff
Kathleen and Scott Alexander
Helen Applebaum
Janet and John Baker
Kristin Baker
Rachel and Larry Barnett
Loretta and Albert Bayers
Bethlehem Land Trust
Brian Bouffard

James Brady
Ellen Brand
Catherine and Alexander Brandorff
Susan Branson
Diana and Mel Bristol
Mark J. Capecelatro
Eileen Brennan and Albert Caronia
Pat Catchpole
Sarah and Michael Chelminski
Martin Cherniske
Laura and Jim Clarke
Martha Clarke
Jay Coles
Nancy Swircenski
Margaret Conroy
Margaret Cook
Cornwall Conservation Trust
Suzan and William Dahl
Scott Dale
Susan Davidson
Carrie Davis
William Dennis
Melody and William Devlin
Cassandra and Russell Dibble
Joanne McMillan and John Eberle
Peter Eckert
Geordie Elkins
Kathryn and Terry Ellis
Richard Ferrara
Eileen Fielding
Ann Bailen Fisher
Barbara and Jim Fisher
Judith Flynn
Gary Ford
Carol Franken
Lori and Edward Franklin
Mary and Paul Fuller
Nancy Viola-Garrison
Ann Gerschefski
James Gillespie
Jeffrey Ginsburg
Travis Given
Ira Goldspiel
Pat and Larry Greenspan
Amy Grinder
Katherine Gubner
Khristine Hall
Lisa and Raymond Haller
Stephanie and John Hastings
Mary Flo Hatcher
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Judy Heise
Barbara and Craig Henry
Anna and Richard Heys
Frances and Robert Hollister
Janice Howard
Linda and Stuart Hubbard

Joanne and Bob Hutchings
Barbara and Roger Ireland
Rima Jacobellis
Clifford Jensen
Jon Jensen
Elizabeth and Eric Jones
Wendy and Richard Jones
Steve Jordan
Robyn and Nicholas Kajan
Donna and Terry Katsuranis
Janet and Werner Kaufman
Kathleen and Daniel Kean
Sandy and Tom Keane
Lynn Kearcher
Joe Keneally
The Kent Informal Club
Hillary Stern and Arthur Klein
Alicia and Steve Kleppin
Kipen Kolesinkas
Adam Halasi-Kun
Jim Laflam
Kristine Kenefick and Jeff LeJava
Dianne Camp Lang
Marge Josephson and Dennis C. Larkin
Robert Lee
Joyce Leiz
Mary Ellen and Bob Lengyl
Litchfield Land Trust
Jacquie Littlejohn
Jen Lockfort
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Maryanne Lamb and Don Lowe
Patty and Rich Marshall
Tovah Martin
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Diane McGrath
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Angie and Dave Melton
Lucy Minden
Margaret Miner
Mary Anne McNulty and James Miraglia
Kristin Mulhare
Paul Murphy
Wendy Murphy
Betsy and John Murphy
Jennifer and Kyle Niper
Carolyn and John Nuzzi
Eileen and Joseph O'Connell
Cynthia and Bob O'Connor
Masumi and John O'Donnell
Martha and Glenn Osborn
Robbie Oxnard
Eliza Paley
Marilyn Lief and Shelley Parker
Janet Parsons

Janet and Bill Pasnau
Audrey Penza
Judy Perkins
Anna and Zbigniew Perz
Linda and Doug Pfenninger
Fran Pinto
Bruce Price
Pauline Lee-Pristin
Joan and Carl Raab
Linda Raciborski
Masudur Rahman
Mary Ann Raph
Alison Ratliff
Richard Reiman
Sue and Walter Renz
Dawn Mac-Nutt and Jean Robinson
Martin Ronan
Betty and Michal Rybos
Glenda Rynning
Catherine and Steven Sabatini
Robert Santamaria
Jane and Emil Schipul
Elizabeth Schrang
Brett Schwartz
Gail Seale
Chad Seewagen
Peter de Seve
Sylvia and John Le Shane
Sharon Land Trust
Cynthia Shaw
Mary and Ellery Sinclair
Forrest Smith
Catherine Smith
Barbara and Lovett Smith
Carole and Roger Sorg
Stephanie Spinner
Mark Wayne Stebbins
Rebecca Steinberg
Steven B. Stieglitz
Bill Stuart, Jr.
Diane Swanson
Barbara and Ray Thorland
Clifford Tracy
Gail B. Turro
Robin and Neil Volkmar
Jerome Weiss
Joe Welsh
Adele E. Whalen
Dennis Will
Winchester Land Trust
Donald Winkley
Camilla and Tom Worden
Jennifer and Steven Wurst
Virginia and Errol Zellner
Derek Larson and Michael Zients

* Indicates person is deceased



In Memorium Anne H. Bass (1941-2020)

Arts patron, conservationist, and consummate gardener, Anne. H. Bass was instrumental in transforming Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust, Inc. into the now regional Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy. The board and staff of NCLC mourns the loss of a treasured board member (2005-2016) whose long experience as a working member on many boards, her exacting standards, an unerring eye, and her passion for land conservation was essential in building a strong non-profit institution prepared to meet the tests of land conservancy in the twenty-first century.

NCLC Volunteers

- AmeriCorps

Dr. Lawford Anderson

Ken Anderson

Donny Annino

Paul Astbury

David L. Bain

Bart Barown III

Michael Benjamin

Mike Bertrand

Peter Birch

Ashleigh Blake

Brian P. Bouffard

Rickey Bouffard

Joel Bruzinski

Mike Butterfield

Dr. Carole Cheah

Kathy Conroy

Kevin Conroy

Karen Cowperthwaite

Michael Cuff

Kevin Curran

Ernie Dech

William De Luca

Michael Deutsch
- Russ Dibble

Angela Dimmitt

Ken DiVito

Jeff Dostaler

Paul Duncan

Geordie Elkins

Gary R. Francis

Charles Gereg

Kristen Gill

Art Gingert

Andrew Gordon

Ian Gribble

Mike Grouver

Geoff Gwyther

Colin Harrison

Keith M. Hill

Summer Hoogenboom

Becky Hrdy

Andrew Hubbard

Nora Hulton

Jill Humphreys

Joan Ivler

Sandy Ivler

Chris Jellen
- Devin Johnson

Vilo Johnson

Marge Josephson

Tom Keane

Kevin Keenan

Joe Keneally

Robert Kenyon

Paul Koker

Jim LaFlam

Dennis Larkin

Harry Larson

Rory Larson

Bob M. Lengyel

Ryan Libby

Don Lowe

Chris Mangels

Laurie Matson

Seamus McKeon

Angie Melton

Nora Hulton

Lou Memoli

Mayia Mileva

William Moorhead III

Deborah Munson
- Donna Naser

Jeffrey Neary

Jack Nelson

Kathleen Nelson

Ryan Nelson

T.R. Nelson

New Milford

Youth Agency

Shayne Newman

Jim Norton

Clare Obarowski

John F. O'Rourke III

Charles Peterson

Peg Peterson

Susan Pettigrew

Fran Pinto

Rick Plumb

George Pommer

Justin Potter

Linda Pouder

Nick Pouder

Dennis Preston

Bruce Price

Martin Ronan
- John Russell

Michael Sanchez

Franz Schober

Abigail Schrang

Scouts BSA

Edward Simonovich

Lovett Smith

Wendell Soule

Mark Stebbins

Bill Stuart, Jr.

Jack Swatt

Louis Tencza

Dr. Stephen

"Mitch" Wagener

Kathy Wandelmaier

Marc Weingarten

James Wistman

Bud Wright

Nicholas Wu

Steven Wurst

Jack Yeomans

Michael Zients

Robin Zitter

Volunteering for NCLC has been personally very satisfying because I have been able to see the great work done to preserve our area’s land, farms, and water. **I’ve seen up close how their conservation efforts have protected so much of what I love about our community.** I’ve been introduced to awesome nearby hiking trails and like-minded people who have the same interests that I care about. There’s no better way to show your love of the outdoors! —ANGIE MELTON



“Hiking adds years to my life.” That’s Jim Wistman, one of NCLC’s most dedicated and productive volunteers. Jim, along with his college-aged son Noah, have logged approximately 800 hours of work on NCLC’s preserves and trails in Sherman and New Milford since 2019. Jim also maintains the Housatonic Range “Blue Trail,” which winds through NCLC’s Eleanor and Howard Hunt Preserve, for Connecticut Forest and Parks Association.



Hunt Hill Farm Preserve in New Milford.

PHOTOGRAPH BY LINDA POWDER

2018-2019 Financial Report Comparison

Financial Overview In 2019, NCLC increased revenue and assets to meet growing demand as the largest land trust in Connecticut. Conservation land and easements grew to \$40,606,915. Current non-land assets including contributions,

cash, investments, and receivables increased to \$3,382,764. Net assets with donor restrictions increased to \$1,501,923. Liabilities remained the same at \$387,449. The total liabilities and net assets grew to an organizational high \$44,310,739.

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position Comparison
December 31, 2019 - December 31, 2018

	2019	2018
Conservation Land and Easements	\$40,606,915	\$39,391,903
Current Assets	\$1,726,245	\$1,340,392
Restricted Assets, Cash Equivalents	\$1,656,519	\$1,602,405
Property and Equipment	\$387,449	\$387,449
Total Assets	\$44,310,739	\$42,668,917
Liabilities	\$316,698	\$312,656
Net assets without donor restriction	\$42,942,118	\$40,882,805
Net assets with donor restrictions	\$1,501,923	\$1,473,456
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$44,310,739	\$42,668,917

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