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**Northwest Connecticut  
Land Conservancy**



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## **November Newsletter**

Dear Friend of NCLC,

As I write this, the first snow of the season has already drifted down, reminding me that the season of thanks and celebration is upon us. **We at NCLC have much to be grateful for and much to celebrate.**



**First and foremost, we are grateful for you.** Your continued interest in protecting the wild places of Connecticut keeps us going. **To celebrate our joint achievements, I hope you will join us at NCLC's Annual Meeting and Holiday Party on Sunday, December 4, at 3 pm at the Kent Community House.** We want to raise a glass with you and thank you for all you do for conservation.

**This month, I am also pleased to share the results of a collaborative research project that examines the pace and scale of conservation in Northwest Connecticut.** Working closely with 19 land trusts, we collectively documented how much land is conserved each year in our region. This first-of-its-kind report will allow our partners and communities to understand the regional capacity for land acquisition, assess the region's progress toward state and federal conservation goals, and make reasonable predictions about the potential for future conservation. **Our partner land trusts across Northwest Connecticut were instrumental in collecting and sharing data for the report.** We are grateful for the strong conservation community here in Connecticut. I encourage you to learn more about their work below.

**Lastly, like many non-profit organizations, we will send out an appeal for year-end support in the next few weeks, and I hope you will renew your NCLC membership.** Your generosity helps us to steward and maintain trails on our public lands, conserve new lands threatened by development, and provide partnership services to land trusts across the state. **You can make a secure, online contribution anytime through our website.** I hope you will give as generously as you can.

Thank you again for your care for the land, conservation, and NCLC.

Sincerely,

*Catherine*

Catherine M. Rawson  
Executive Director



## **New Publication**

### ***The Pace and Scale of Conservation in Northwest Connecticut***

**Did you know Northwest Connecticut is part of a wildlife corridor that connects New York's Hudson Highlands to Vermont's Green Mountains and beyond?** Our region's lands and waters provide habitat for more than 320 endangered species. Our forests absorb and store carbon, and clean the air we breathe. Our rolling hills and valleys provide climate resilient habitats, cleaning drinking water, and places for recreation. We live in a place of natural beauty, but how are we doing conserving the lands and waters of our region?

**The Pace and Scale of Conservation in Northwest Connecticut presents the collective conservation impact of the**

**region's land trusts.** This first-of-its-kind report will allow our partners, communities, and key stakeholders to understand the regional capacity for land



acquisition, assess the region's progress toward state and federal conservation goals, and make reasonable predictions about the potential for future conservation.

**The land trusts of Northwest Connecticut are doing extraordinary work.** As a result of their work, Northwest Connecticut is the first and only region in the state to have tracked and prepared accurate data on the pace of its collective conservation efforts. **We are so grateful to work in this community of strong conservation partners.** [You can read the full report here.](#)

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## OUR PARTNERS

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- Bridgewater Land Trust
- Brookfield Open Space Legacy (now NCLC)
- Cornwall Conservation Trust
- Flanders Nature Center & Land Trust
- Goshen Land Trust
- Harwinton Land Conservation Trust
- Litchfield Land Trust
- Morris Land Trust
- Naromi Land Trust (now NCLC)
- New Hartford Land Trust
- Norfolk Land Trust
- Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy
- Plymouth Land Trust
- Roxbury Land Trust
- Salisbury Association
- Sharon Land Trust
- Steep Rock Association
- Warren Land Trust
- Watertown Land Trust
- Winchester Land Trust

## Support Farmers, Shop Local

The holiday season is upon us! We are fortunate to live in an area with locally-grown and produced food, gifts, and decorations to help make celebrations special. **Since 1965, NCLC has protected 41 working farms and many sell directly to customers online.** Here are three farms to help you plan your celebrations. And, stayed tuned for more local farms in the December newsletter and for our upcoming local farm guide.





### Maple Bank Farm

Now taking pie orders!  
Maple Bank Farm is ready for your holidays with winter veggies, farm-made apple sauce, and honey.



### The Striped Cow

The Striped Cow's belted Galloway cattle are born and raised in the rolling hills of New Milford. The Striped Cow offers a full range of cuts of beef.



### Lappala Tree Farm

Opens on November 25!  
Choose and cut your own tree. Cindy and Tom Lappala grow blue spruce and douglas fir.

## Upcoming Events



**Holiday Party and Annual Meeting**  
**New Date: December 4**  
**Kent Community House**



**Meet Your Greens**  
**December 15**  
**Litchfield Distillery**

## Notes from the Field

# Acorns and Bears

As bears prepare for hibernation, they increase their food intake to 20,000 calories a day. Acorns are a fatty, calorie-dense source that many animals, especially bears, rely on ahead of winter. The **Connecticut Agricultural Experimental Station** reports widespread failure of the acorn crop. The lack of acorns could cause bears to seek out human sources of food, like garbage or bird feeders. Avoid attracting bears to your yard by following **some simple practices**. What causes the fluctuations in the acorn crop? **Read more.**





NCLC is hiring and we hope you will join our team. NCLC welcomes people of all backgrounds, identities, and beliefs to join us in achieving our mission to protect the lands and waters of Northwest Connecticut forever. **To apply for an open position, please visit our Job Opportunities page.**

Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy is a nonprofit regional land trust and the largest land trust in the state. As a guardian of natural and working lands, public recreation areas, and drinking water resources, NCLC permanently protects 13,000 acres (and growing) of vast, connected natural areas in Litchfield and northern Fairfield Counties.

**DONATE NOW**

**GET INVOLVED**

**OUR TRAILS**



**Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy**

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