



The Canton Land Conservation Trust, Inc.

Fall 2017

Newsletter

Edited by Gail Deutsch

Presidents' Message

I recently had a visit from a family friend who lives in a neighboring town. As he was getting into his car to go home, he mentioned that we ought to try to get together for a hike sometime. I half jokingly told him that was good timing as I was planning to lead a hike the next day. Despite the very short notice, he showed up and joined us on the inaugural hike of the month.

It is interesting seeing your own town through the eyes of someone else. While he lives close by and has driven through Canton hundreds of times, he had not visited the area north of 44 and west of Cherry Brook Road. Both the beauty and the history of the area impressed him.

This served as a reminder to me that we must not take our properties for granted. We have, literally in our backyards, over 2000 acres of property, either owned outright or covered by conservation easements, providing access to fine hiking trails and preservation of forest, fields and streams, home to countless animals and birds.

Oversight of these properties is the responsibility of your Canton Land

Conservation Trust, managed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors, and supplemented by additional volunteers who help with many activities.

Access to our properties is open to all, but we are especially grateful to those who choose to become members of the Land Trust. If you are not yet a member, I hope you will consider becoming a member.

I'd also like to take this time to mention a specific need. One of our board members spent years managing our website, and would like to turn it over to someone else. We have identified a person who is going to help us revamp and modernize our website, but we would like to find someone who can take day-to-day responsibility. If you know someone who might be interested, please let us know.



PROJECTS

What do cows, bowls, and ice have in common?

Hint: the answer isn't anything to do with ice cream. The Canton Land Conservation Trust is researching how the small streams in Canton were historically used. Impoundments and low dams are common on the small streams in southern New England; they were and are used for a variety of purposes ranging from agriculture to industrial to recreation. An important part of our land use past, these constructions are often of ecological interest as well, functioning as wetlands.

If you own land in Canton that has a stream or pond on it (or simply know the area!), we would love to have some information about the waterbody to include in our survey. Please send information to Dr. Anne C. Hall at annehall@att.net, 860-485-6976, or mail it to the trust.

When was it built?

What activities (from children catching frogs to ice collection to fire protection) do you recall happening there?

What sort of wildlife do you see in the area?

If you have a stream, are there any stone walls that seem to cross or connect with the stream?

Part of this survey will include field research by Dr. Hall. Many of the most promising streams run through private property, if you would be willing to allow her to access the stream on your property for the purposes of this survey only, please contact her at 860-485-6976 or annehall@att.net

Anne Hall

Tree Farm Activity

The stewardship committee held its July meeting at the Smith tree Farm, starting the meeting at 5 PM so it could be a working meeting. Several volunteers are working on getting the tree farm back into shape but there is enough work to do that we decided to turn the stewardship committee into a work crew to do some of the cleanup. Tom Noonan takes care of mowing the field, but the mower can only get so close to the trees. Handwork is needed to clear growth away from the trees and overhanging branches. We also cleared out some dead trees and spent considerable time trying to repair a serious dent to the mower.

The attached pictures emphasize the need for "string trimming;" one image is a small tree struggling to compete for light with the adjacent weeds in the second image shows the same tree after trimming.



Phil Philbrick

Stone Bridges

For several years, my wife (Joyce) and I have participated in Wilderness Volunteers (wildernessvolunteers.org), high altitude trail maintenance programs for the US Forest Service, where we learned about stone

bridges. When doing these projects, an emphasis was placed on making the restoration/maintenance look natural in the landscape. That concept was carried over to making water crossings for the Land Trust properties. Failed bridges were replaced with large stepping stones crossings where practicable. This consisted of harvesting and moving large rocks (2 ton max) with grip hoists and rock bars, then setting these rocks so they would be stable and high enough to allow passage for most of the year. It is a multiple day effort to set these stones in the wet stream bed on a 3 point bearing surface for stability. Snowmelt and other high water periods, (like the 4" and 5" storms we just had), top the rocks and allow water and debris to flow unimpeded down the stream, then allow passage once the high water event is over, with little or no effect on the stepping stones.



The Canton Land Conservation Trust is exploring this concept because some of the bridges we now have require maintenance. The bridge on the Tommy Ryan Trail at the Mary Conklin Sanctuary was the first Land Trust trail to receive a stepping stone replacement just north of where the bridge was located. The Pratt property is also slated to have a stepping stone crossing once plans are finalized for that property this spring. This approach allows high water events to come and go with little effect on the crossing, reducing trail maintenance for the trail stewards once this strategy is employed.

Scott Persing

The Bunny Cut.....Revisited

Last fall, the Land Trust initiated a 10 acre clear-cut on the Sun, Wind and Woodland property off Breezy Hill Road. This area is considered to be within the "core habitat" for the New England cottontail (NEC), Connecticut's original rabbit. The NEC population has declined dramatically since pioneer times due to loss of its young forest habitat and to the introduction of the non-native eastern cottontail. The eastern cottontail is the rabbit now seen in Canton, brought here for hunting purposes in the nineteenth century. New England cottontails have, however, been documented in neighboring New Hartford and a goal of this project is to expand the NEC into adjacent areas. Does this mean we will see New England cottontails in Canton next spring? Probably not. However, this doesn't make this project a failure even if we never attract New England cottontails.

Beyond cottontails, brush lands and young forest habitat are beneficial for a number of other declining species including numerous songbirds, woodcock, ruffed grouse and more. On a bird walk held on the property last May, a mere six months after the cut, observers were quick to notice saplings and other emerging vegetation throughout the cut. This was especially apparent amidst the slash that was intentionally left on the ground in order to prevent white-tailed deer from devouring the tender, emerging plants. There were also songbirds of several species noted within the cut area. The highlight of the walk was the sighting of a male American kestrel, a small falcon that is currently listed as threatened in the state by the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). It is hoped that future walks can document additional noteworthy

species. Work on the Bunny Cut is not yet complete. Going forward, Land Trust stewards will need to monitor any potential growth of invasive plants such as multiflora rose or oriental barberry. These plants, often “planted” by birds that eat the berries, will outcompete the native vegetation that it is hoped will prosper within the cut.

The ultimate goal of this project is to create a patchwork of suitable habitat areas for young forest species. Land Trust stewards will monitor this process over the next several years. Another bird walk has been scheduled on the property on the first Sunday in May (May 6th), the first of several walks that will help to document changes in songbirds and other species in the area. Look for additional information about this walk in the spring. Questions concerning the project may be addressed to presidingofficer@clct.org.

Jay Kaplan

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

No Motorized Vehicles

No motorized vehicles whatsoever are permitted on CLCT property except authorized maintenance and forest management equipment, in connection with written leasing arrangements, and in designated parking areas.

Alien Invaders

What is in Your Backyard?

Topping the list of least wanted invaders in your backyard is Japanese Knotweed,

Fallopia japonica, introduced to North American from Asia in the late 1800’s as an ornamental plant. This invasive, now found in 42 states and 8 Canadian Provinces, is banned in CT. Once established it can rapidly form dense monoculture stands in low-lying or disturbed areas and along right-of-ways. In Canton you can spot it growing along River Road, Symonds Ave., around Mills Pond and some CLCT properties to name but a few areas where the plant is well established.

What to look for

To identify Japanese Knotweed look for thickets of 9-13’ tall stalks with large oval to heart shaped leaves that grow from alternate sides of the stem nodes and branched sprays of cream-white flowers from August to September. The mature stems are hollow and snap easily. The small, winged fruits contain brown shiny seeds that are spread by wind, water, animals and people. The plants’ shoots grow from a network of rhizomes that can reach lengths of 65 feet, depths of 3 feet and can grow through cracks in concrete and asphalt.



Eradication?

Digging or pulling creates new plants from every rhizome fragment. Weed whacking also increases the proliferation of new plants unless every green node is bagged for removal. Spraying herbicides is not effective and cannot be used in wetlands as it can adversely impact diverse wetland species even when used as labeled. For a small stand of knotweed you can hand cut the stalk below the first node and paint the cut with Glyphosate herbicide within 1 minute.

The Cherry Brook Garden Club began working on a 400' x 25' patch of knotweed between Allen Place and the Rails to Trails in June of 2017 using the following protocol of cutting three times a summer for three years.

1. Cut below the first node of each stalk in early June, mid July and late August.
2. Bag all portions of stalk in heavy-duty black bags, dispose.
3. Plant native grasses, perennials and shrubs.
4. Repeat for years 2 and 3. Check out our test patch on Allen Place.



See a list of Invasive plants in CT at cipwg.uconn.edu
See a guide for Invasive plant ID and Control at conservect.org

Karen Berger

EVENTS

Monthly Hikes

We're happy to report that we've had three successful hikes so far this season, one in September on the Ted Wright Trail led by Land Trust President Stephen Philbrick and the other on the Swan Trail, led by Land Trust Director, Sarah Faulkner. A third hike was completed in November, led by Land Trust Director, Scott Persing, on the Tom Perry Trail.

Our plan is to continue these monthly hikes through the winter season and into spring. Watch for email blasts and press releases identifying place, date, and time for these fun adventures. Remember to dress for the weather, bring binoculars, and please leave your dogs at home. Dogs are welcome on the

CLCT's trails, but not during organized hikes.

So please join us on land which is YOUR LAND here in our Town of Canton.

Anne Duncan

September Birdwalk

Phil Philbrick helped lead a hike of the Ted Wright Trail on September 24.

Eleven people showed up, most of whom were Land Trust members, with one or two exceptions.

Tom Noonan joined us for the initial part of the hike. Tom provided commentary on the nature aspects of the area, particularly the occasional brook trout in the small brook near the beginning of the trail. Christian Winkler helped out with additional tree and shrub identification, while Mike Gotaski talked about the human history of the area.

It was a very warm day but not too hot within the shade of the hike. We stopped briefly at the Lookout point, as well as the old foundation near Breezy Hill Road

One of those who attended the hike sent an email, commenting on the hike:

"Great hike yesterday with Phil and 10 others under his leadership, beautiful area. Canton is really incredible in the backwoods, fantastic history in the woods, and a fun crowd."

Phil Philbrick

October at Swan

It was a gorgeous afternoon for our October monthly hike! We had 10 people, counting me, for a nice long hike on the Swan Preserve. Two people were Canton residents but not members, so they now are in possession of our brochures. One person was on the board for the Burlington Land Trust.



Also, we were privileged to have Fred Swan come with us and add information about the property.

Sarah Faulkner

November - Sun, Wind and Woodland

The Trailblazer Hike on November 4th at the Tom Perry Trail on the Sun, Wind and Woodland property was well attended. Twenty four people from all walks of life were on the hike. The good weather held out for the hike, and then for some hikers who explored the Bunny Cut and other trails in the area.

There were some director's in the group who were among the people hiking. They brought Canton Land Trust brochures, maps and pens to spread the word about the Land Trust.

The hike took just under an hour to complete. This time of year, there were no toads at the small pond to see. There was a lot of discussion about the rock mounds on the property but no conclusions about what they were or what was underneath them.

Some of the hikers suggested a future hike that included dogs, could be a good tie in to the dog park.

Scott Persing

Flatbread Fundraiser 2017

The tradition continues - the Canton Land Trust held its annual Flatbread Fundraiser this year on October 17th. These fundraisers provide an opportunity for the land trust community to come together, from directors to volunteers, and enjoy each other's company along with some delicious flatbread. During these fundraisers the Flatbread Company makes a donation to the land trust for each flatbread / pizza sold, both for on-premises



consumption as well as for all take-out orders. Approximately \$200 was raised over the course of the evening. Thank you to the Flatbread Company as well as to everyone who came out, said hello, and took part in the fundraiser.

Christian Winkler

Christmas Tree Sale -- December 2nd

The Canton Land Trust is pleased to once again be able to hold a Christmas tree sale at our Smith Tree Farm on Doyle Road. The farm is run completely through volunteer efforts to plant, prune, mow, and grow the trees for the 7-10 years it takes to bring one to full size. This year we have around 60 nice trees for sale. Prices are \$25 - \$35 and all proceeds benefit the Land Trust. Cut greens are also available. Please come join us to walk through our fields and cut a choice tree, enjoy hot chocolate and cookies in the house, and support the Land Trust! Volunteers are available to help with tree cutting. **Saturday, December 2nd, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.** **Directions: Follow Wright Road to Doyle Road.** Drive down Doyle to the tree farm, or park at the end of the paving and walk down and we'll drive your tree up to your car.

Sarah Faulkner

CLCT 2017 Membership by Michelle Winkler

The Canton Land Conservation Trust has been in existence for over forty years and continues to acquire, preserve, and protect land of scenic, natural, or historic value within Canton. In the past year alone we have acquired two new parcels, and we continue to search for opportunities to acquire land. As recent events in the area of Satan's Kingdom have shown, there is a continuing need to preserve and protect open space in Canton. In order to continue to do so, we need a strong, active membership.

We thank all those members who have contributed time and money in the last four decades to bring us to

where we are today; however, there is still much work to be done to ensure that the unique character of Canton persists for future decades. If you are not a member already, please join, and if you are a member, please renew your membership. Individual memberships start at \$25 and family memberships at \$50. You can even donate online now via our website.

In addition to your tax deductible financial contribution, we ask that you donate some of your time to CLCT as a

Richard & Judy Abraham
Mahmoud & Rawya Agha
Peter & Laverne Aivano
Sally & Rich Albrecht
Cheri & Dick Albrycht
Skip & Nancy Alford
Bob & Jane Allen
Joseph D. Anastasio
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Anderson
Sarah & Todd Atkinson
Barbara Backman
Kevin & Melanie Baldwin
Barbourtown Foundation
Dick & Carol Barlow
Penny & Scott Barrows
Frank & Hedy Barton
John H. Bazzoni
Joseph & Karen Bechard
Carey Bell
Marshall & Karen Berger
Deborah Bishop
Peter & Ruth Black
Greg & Trish Blair
Lydia Blanche
Dr. Gerard E. Bogucki
Leslie Bok
William & Margaret Borchert
Sandro & Elizabeth Bortolon
Robert P. & Maria Bradley
Bradley, Foster & Sargent, Inc.,
c/o Robert H. Bradley

Beverly & Chris Brandon
Betsy & Jeff Brewster
Gregory J. Brown, Jr.
Lois Lee and William Brown
Robert & Cynthia Brown
Steve & Kathy Byko
Tim & Sara Campbell
Nathan & Judith Cantwell
Sharon Capezza
Jim & Kathy Carpenter
Kathleen Cavanaugh
Cherry Brook Garden Club
Paul Cianfaglione & Jennifer
Bryant
Alastair Clark
Marjorie Clarke
Cy & Rebecca Coons
Collinsville Savings Society, c/o
Gary Roman
Kathy & Don Corkum
Ted & Janet Cowles
Jeremy & Kristen Crawford
Bill & Susan Crowe
Bill Culley
Paul & Joan Czaplicki
Beth & Peter Dal Negro
Scott Daley
Robert & Juliana Dalton
Nancy D'Andrea
Lou & Amy Daniels
Bill & Esther Danielson

Michelle & Angelo DeFazio
Barry & Gail Deutsch
Mark & Chanisa Deutsch
Charles & Rhonda DeWeese
Nancy & Michael Donoghue
Robert & Lorraine Donovan
Frederick T. Downs
Heidi Downs
Penny & Bill Doyle
Doris Drawec
David M. Drumm
Mary & Donald Ducor
Bill & Susan Duncan
Alan & Anne Duncan
Susan Eccleston
Donald & Joan Eckberg
Richard & Joanna Eickenhorst
David Elliott
Jerry R. & Jane Ellis
March Enders
Elaine Terry Eno
Linea Erickson
Harold & Eleanor Erickson
Sarah Faulkner
George & Patricia Fehr
Frederick Feibel
Bob B Ficks, Jr.
Brian & Kristen First
John & Betsy FitzGerald
Flatbread Company, Inc.
Fred & Mary Fletcher

Peter Fortier
George & Laura Frascarelli
Sylvia & David Freeman
Joel Fried
Stanley Fullwood
Geoffrey Furtney
Win Gentile
Susan Gesualdi
Jack & Jan Gies
Andrew & Michelle Girton
Christopher Godialis
L. Karl Goedecke
Lawrence Golder
Dr. Arnie Goldman Family
Patricia J Goodwin
Tom & Sherry Goodwin
Joan E. Gorman
Mike Gotaski & Deborah Koval
Coralie Granfield
Elizabeth Cotterman & Gerald
Green
George & Nancy Groft
Laura Hage
Peter Haggerty
G. Douglas & Birgitta Hamilton
Charles & Donna Hammond
Gordon & Marge Harmon
Dawn & Thomas Harris
Norman & Sofy Henschke
Mary & Peter Hess
Victor & Michie Hesselbrock
Linda & Jesse Hill
Jane Hoben
Herman & Ethel Hoffman
MJ & Peter Holowesko
Cynthia Root & John Hooker
Howard & Sandra Hurd
Michael & Norma Ignatowicz
Sandra R. Jacobus
Wayne Jekot
Katherine Jenkins
Timothy Johns
Dr. Robert L. & Lois Jungas
Joann Jurgen
Mark & Susan Jurras
Mark Jurras
Kane-Vitale Family
Jay & Kate Kaplan

Ken & Judith Kempe
A. Walter Kendra
Betty & Hayley Kolding
Edwin & Pat Korner
Stan & Diane Krzanowski
Hilda & Peter Lamb
Jeff & Sheryl Laureiro
Mary Fletcher & David Leff
Tim & Cary LeGeyt
Daniel & Pat LeGeyt
Lynn Lipscomb
Henry Lord
Tim Lord
Jeffrey & Sheryl Loureiro
Lionel Lunden
James Lyons
Nancy Mackie
Gina & Jim Magennis
Renee & Russell Maglietti
Penny Mahar
Frank & Julie Mairano
Richard Malakowski
Roger & Karen Manternach
Saleen Manternach, In Honor
of Roger Manternach
Jeffrey & Marcia Reid Marsted
Tom Martin
Jennifer & John Mason
Lynne & Peter Mason
John & Susan Matthews
Karol & Drew McAllister
John & Julianne McCahill
Ann McClure
Alex McHugh
Ray & Dru McNeil
Phyllis Meeker
Carol Merritt
Ed & Carolyn Milke
Michele & John Millane
Gary Miller & Linda Daniels-
Miller
Steven Mitchell
Elaine Morisano
Cassandra & Michael Murphy
Dottie Murray
Gary & Marsha Nedorostek
Walter C. Nicksa, Jr.
Dennis & Joan Noel

Susan & Stephen Norland
Jonathan & Katie Oakleaf
Sally O'Connor
Rowena Okie
Dave & Lori Oleasz
Philip Ostapko
Christina Oswald
Robert & Kristina Oswald
Lorinda & Phillip Pane
Pathway Enterprise/Thom &
Pam Rice
Katherine Pearson
Peter & Wendy Pearson
John Pech
Susan & Edward Pepin
Lansford Perry
Scott & Joyce Persing
Phil & Polly Philbrick
Alisa & Glen Phillips-Griggs
Michael & Joanne Pierce
Giorgio & Margaret Pinton
Suzanne Plona
Matthew Poltorak
Marshall & Melissa Porter
Connie & Bob Porter
Dean & Sally Porterfield
Fred & Ellen Potter
Winnie Pratt
Rob & Lynn Preminger
Linda Quattro
Peter & Janet Reynolds
Joseph & Marilyn Ricci
Gil & Karen Richards
Russell Richardson, Jr.
John Riley
Diane Robaczynski
Douglas H. Robins
Philip & Cynthia Rockwell
Peggy Steinway & John
Rohlfing
Jeff & Marjolein Ross
Jen & Tom Rossi
Dan & Julie Rush
Jean Russo
Patricia Sagal
Dick Sanger
Catherine Scheckton
Joe & Barbara Scheideler

Don & Cheryl Scott
 Sara & Peter Scott
 Ronald & Sharon Sekellic
 Haig & Leeny Shahverdian
 Shop Rite - Joseph Family
 Markets, LLC
 Virginia Shreve
 Robert Sigman & Amy Kravitz
 Gilbert & Ruth Small
 Elenor & Larry Smith
 Larry U. & Laurie Smith
 Suzi Smith
 John & Maureen Snyder
 Gary J. & Joanne R. St. Peter
 James & Laura Stanley
 Frank & Betty Stanley
 Vincent & Norma Stanton
 Michael Statchen
 Carolyn R. Staub
 Peter & Gretchen Stein
 Drew and Cheryl Stone
 Suburban Sanitation Service
 Alexander & Lorraine Swaika

Frederick R. & Patricia Swan,
 Jr.
 Tom Swartwood
 Richard & Gretchen Swibold
 Don & Sue Tarinelli
 Karel Rubenstein & Howard
 Tennen
 John M Teri-Savage
 Baldwin & Lane Terry
 Melissa Blais & Jonathan
 Thiesse
 The Tilton Family
 Patricia & Jay Tourigny
 Francis Traceski
 William H. Tribou, III
 Ken & Nancy Triou
 Anthony & Carol Trouern-
 Trend
 Nicola & Doug Tubach
 Susana Tuccillo
 Valley View Builders
 Elizabeth S. Van Gemeren

Dave Conway & Caitlyn Van
 Linda
 Brian & Fran Van Linda
 Mary & Richard Vincent
 John & Jennifer Volanski
 Raimie H. Weber
 Sandra & Jay Weintraub
 Robert & Katherine
 Westmoreland
 Mrs. Richard J. Whalen, Sr.
 William White
 Charles Stohlberg & Chris
 Williams
 Alison Wilson
 John & Penny Wilson
 Michelle & Christian Winkler
 James Winslow
 Chris & Helen Winsor
 Kathie & Phil Worley
 Robert Young
 Frank & Eleanor Zacchera

Upcoming Events of Note:

Full Moon Hike - February 24th
Annual Dinner - March 20th

CLCT Assets as of 11/10/17

by Christian Winkler, Treasurer

Current Assets		
Total Checking/Savings	-	\$338,038
Endowment Investment	-	\$377,595
Fixed assets		
(land, buildings, equipment)		
	-	\$7,167,232
Total Assets:	-	\$ 7,882,865

DONATE to CLCT - use your credit card!

Canton Land Conservation Trust continues to encourage and accept donations by cash or by check. CLCT accepts donations and payments over \$20 by major credit cards (Master Card, Visa, Discover and American Express).

Please go to our website:

www.cantonlandtrust.org or our Facebook page: Canton Land Trust to find the DONATE NOW button.

Board of Trustees

President

Stephen (Phil) Philbrick

Vice President

Jay Weintraub

Secretary

Sarah Faulkner

Treasurer

Christian Winkler

Board of Directors

Karen Berger

Nate Cantwell

Ted Cowles

Barry Deutsch

Gail Deutsch

Anne Duncan

Bill Duncan

Fred Feibel

Mike Gotaski

Mike Ignatowicz

Jay Kaplan

Jen Mason

Gary Nedorostek

John Pech

Scott Persing

Thom Rice

Elenor Smith

Betty Stanley



Canton Land Conservation Trust, Inc. PO Box 41

Canton Center, CT 06020

www.cantonlandtrust.org

For more info please check our web- site: www.cantonlandtrust.org.

or search Facebook for

Canton Land Conservation Trust

Become a member!!!