



SINCE 1972



Spring Newsletter  
2023

CANTON LAND CONSERVATION TRUST

## President's Message

*With apologies to Donovan:*

***"First, there is a winter; then there is no winter; then there is."***

By the time you read this, winter will be a dim memory, but as I write this, the third phase of this winter is in full force. We had a decent-sized snowfall to start off winter with a bang, then nothing and more nothing. By late February, we were seeing spring flowers blooming and wondering if our moonlight hike was going to be on bare ground. Then, we had just enough snow to make our moonlight hike, if not a snow-

shoe event, at least a hike on snow. That was just enough snow, thank you very much, but Mother Nature decided she wasn't done.

One serendipitous benefit of the relatively warm and snowless conditions in January and February is our initiative to walk all the borders of all our properties. Under the board member Bob Evenski's leadership, we have a robust trail stewardship program, with stewards assigned to all trails who walk the trails regularly, address issues that can be handled by an individual and report more significant issues so trail crews can address them quickly.

However, while most of our properties have had volunteers walk the boundaries at some time, we haven't had a formal schedule for walking all property boundaries until recently. This might sound like an obviously warm weather task, but our boundaries, unlike our trails, are not well-worn, so locating the boundaries is done with GPS-enabled apps. Those apps use both cell phone tower and satellite feeds, both of which work better when there are no leaves on the trees. Walking in a leafed out deciduous forest is a pleasant experience but it can be challenging when it comes to accessing satellites.

Bob has trained several volunteers on the use of these apps, which take advantage of our online, Avenza-based maps to walk the boundaries, check for encroachments and record photos along the way. While our trails are deliberately designed to follow gentle contours or switchbacks in the case of steeper sections, property borders are much more challenging to follow, partly because they often go straight up a steep section, and partly because the border is not cleared.

See article on page 4 for additional information on this initiative.

*By Phil Philbrick*



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## Magical Night for a Moonlight Hike

After a two-year hiatus, our Moonlight Hike on March 4 drew more than 230 people for a trek on fresh snow along a path of luminaries. Thanks to the generosity of Larry and Elenor Smith, the culinary skills

of LaSalle Market, the hustle of more than 50 volunteers and a lucky break in the weather, the night felt magical.

The hike began at the trailhead for the Breezy Hill Farm Trail, and hikers had the option of taking the short route of about a half mile or a longer route of 1 ½ miles. Both trails were lit with a total of 400 luminaries and ended at the horse barn on the Smith's property. A warm bonfire greeted the hikers outside the barn, and inside, they were offered mouthwatering chili, mac and cheese, cornbread and cocoa, all provided by LaSalle. Board members served wine and beer to slake hikers' thirst, and cookies and desserts donated by board members and hikers crowded two big tables.



Judging by the happy chatter and the empty bowls of chili, people enjoyed the return of a Land Trust tradition. Thanks to the town Department of Public Works crew for plowing and sanding the roads.

*By Karen Manternach*

### Special thanks to the volunteers who helped out to make this event a success.

Dan Aramini	Gina & Jim Magennis
Hedy & Frank Barton	Belle Magna
Kim & John Bowen	Marina Dyndiuk
Lee Carvalho	Roger Manternach
Joe Casioppo	Betsy Minton
Jeanne Day	Mary Ellen Mullins
Linda & Dave DeMilia	Kristin Oswald
Jill Evenski	Mark Pickett
Laura Ferrall	Gillian & Mark Reinders
Nick Haber	Jan & Doug Tanner
John Gebauer	Alla Yanovsky Tilton
Cheri Keough	Elizabeth Vinick
Adam Krupa	Trish Walter
Terri Kucia	Alli Wilson



## Call for Volunteers for Christmas Tree Farm

The Canton Land Conservation Trust has operated a Christmas Tree Farm on Doyle Road in Canton since the early 1990s.

CLCT volunteers maintain the farm, which requires a lot of work. If we receive more help maintaining the farm, we can increase the number and quality of trees. We typically plant 150 to 200 trees per year. Recently, more volunteers have offered their time, helping us plant 150 trees in the spring of 2022. This spring we planted 200 trees to increase inventory. We ordered four species of trees: Concolor Fir, Douglas Fir,

Fraser Balsam and Meyer Spruce.

We are trying to find more deer-resistant trees because balsam fir trees are a favorite for deer. They love rubbing them, which results in broken branches and scraped bark; this causes badly disfigured trees and, in some cases, it kills the tree. Another challenge is that freshly planted trees can die in the first summer, especially if we have a drought in late June or July while their root systems are not yet well established. We usually lose 30 to 40 percent of the new plantings. Therefore, we plant more trees than

we plan to sell each year to make up some of the difference.

Trees are planted in late April or early May to give them the most time in the ground during the wet season to help establish their root systems. With 12 volunteers, this year's trees were planted in three hours on Wednesday morning April 26. The Douglas Fir seedlings were a sturdy 18 inches tall with the others



ranging in size from 6 to 10 inches.

If you are interested in helping out at the tree farm in the future contact our

volunteer coordinator Bob Evenski at [revenski@att.net](mailto:revenski@att.net).

*By John Pech*



## Weather Cooperates for Winter Hike

At a winter hike at our Sweet-heart Mountain Preserve where it actually felt like winter, 10 hikers experienced the wisdom of CLCT Director Stephen Shaw's earlier advice on how to prepare for a winter hike. Stephen led the hike on Feb. 18 along portions of the Yellow, Red and Blue Trails. Most of the participants were CLCT members, while some were from Burlington who had seen the announcement on our website.

Stephen had completed a lecture in January on winter hiking tips. That presentation was recorded and can be viewed by visiting the CLCT website ([cantonlandtrust.org](http://cantonlandtrust.org)), clicking on the link to the YouTube channel in

the upper right corner and selecting the "[Stephen Shaw winter hiking gear](#)" video. Stephen has hiked the entire Blue Trail system in Connecticut and is an avid year-round hiker in New Hampshire's White Mountains.

The key points in that lecture covered, all in the context of a winter hike:

- Clothing
- Footwear
- What to carry in your backpack
- Food and water
- Weather awareness

The in-person hike was intended to put some of these tips into play. However, February has been an un-



usually warm month this year, with many days in the 50s and 60s – great hiking weather, but not exactly ideal for testing out winter conditions. By happenstance, Stephen was fortunate to pick one of the few days where the temperature started out below freezing, so we were able to use the hike to experience some of the unique features of winter hiking.

*By Phil Philbrick*

# The Boundary Brigade



There's the path less traveled, and then there's the one not traveled at all. That's where we have been this winter. Five volunteers and I have been bushwacking along several Land Trust properties' boundaries to monitor their condition and to place additional Land Trust signage. Using the new Land Trust maps on the Avenza Maps app and an app called Land Glide, we have been able to accurately locate property boundaries and many surveyor pins placed years earlier.

The trek has taken us through areas that are generally not walked and seldom seen. Steve Jingst and I started the work in late December with a little snow on the ground on the Yellin properties which abut the town-owned Carpenter Trail. This was a steep learning curve for us in the use of the GIS programs, and the snow made it even more challenging. Days later, on the Pratt Preserve property, as I was scrambling up a small rock outcropping, Steve and I came upon a porcupine just eight feet in front of me with its head buried in an opening between the rocks.



At the Uplands Preserve, John Bowen and I found a beautiful pond just off Land Trust property. On the Swan property, Martin Dodd and I climbed a large rock outcropping along the northern boundary. On the Bunker Hill property, Giorgio Maglia and I fought our way through dense undergrowth of barberry and briars and came across a couple of old tires in need of removal.

Perimeter boundaries are unlike Land Trust trails that are well-maintained and easy to access. The perimeters include all sorts of terrain, some of which is very rugged. There are elevations where we had to scramble up on all fours. On Uplands, along the Woodchuck Hill Road area, Roger Frigon and I crawled longitudinally over a heavy collection of slippery oak leaves for several hundred feet across a bank where the slope was at least 60 degrees.

Vegetation was often so dense there was no easy way through or around. At one point on the Conklin Preserve, as we made our way up a steep slope and through dense laurel, I turned back to John and said, "Don't follow me; there's no way through here."

To date, the boundary brigade has managed to cover more than 600 acres of Land Trust properties and over 16 miles of perimeter. This is just the beginning of a multi-year project. The signs we are placing welcome travelers onto Land Trust properties with a friendly message of our expectations. These signs indicate: **"NATURE SANCTUARY. PLEASE Help us Protect the Plants and Wildlife in this Preserve. NO CAMPING, HUNTING, TRAPPING or OPEN FIRES. NO Removal or Destruction of Plants or Wildlife. MOTOR VEHICLES PROHIBITED. Managed by: THE CANTON LAND CONSERVATION TRUST."**



The large signs are supplemented with 4" x 4" emblems placed periodically to designate boundaries.



We want individuals entering Land Trust properties, whether it be through trailheads or from abutting areas, to

enjoy our lands and help us in our mission of conservation. Feel free to wander off the beaten path.

*By Bob Evenski*



## Avenza Maps Available for All Our Trails

The Land Trust recently updated its collection of the geo-referenced maps that it creates. These allow users to see their location when viewing the map on a smart phone.

Want to do some research before you head out for a hike? Want access to our trail maps on your smartphone – even offline? We’ve partnered with the map service Avenza to make it easy (and free). Here’s how.

- Visit the Apple App store or the Google Play store, and download the free Avenza Maps app.
- While in the app, search for “CLCT,” select the **CLCT Trail Maps Bundle** to get all maps for trails on CLCT properties or select an individual map.
- Download the maps.



When you’re out on the trail, open the Avenza Maps app and select the trail you’re interested in. (Hint: If you’re on or near the trail, it’ll say “On map.”). The map will open with a blue dot to show your location. If you’ve downloaded the map ahead of time, it’ll be available even without cell service.



### Updating Avenza App

If you already have the Avenza Maps App and previously downloaded the CLCT Trail Maps Bundle, here’s how to check for CLCT map updates:

- Click the three dots in the upper right corner of the app.
- Choose the “**Check for Map Updates**” option and follow the instructions.

You can check for updates at any time, but we will send an announcement to the membership and post a notice on the webpage when updates occur.

Our Land Trust maintains trails through 20-plus miles of some of Canton’s prettiest, and most historic places. Currently there are 15 maps in the **CLCT Trail Maps Bundle** (13 for Land Trust properties, one for Roaring Brook Nature Center and one for the Carpenter Trail).

*By Bill Porri*

## CLCT Directors Attend Connecticut Land Conservation Conference

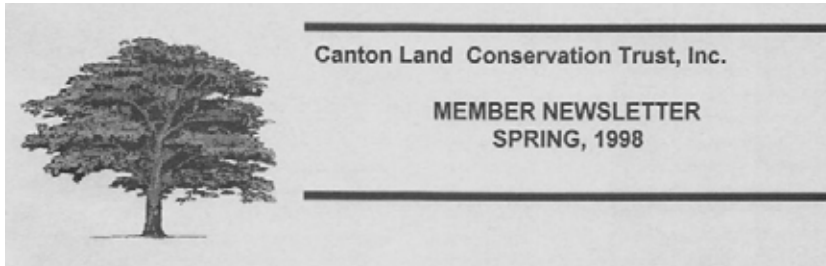
Six members of the Canton Land Conservation Trust’s leadership attended the 2023 Connecticut Land Conservation Council’s annual conference, which offered more than 50 sessions related to land conservation. More than 550 people attended the March 25 conference at Wesleyan University, the largest land conservation conference in the state.



Phil Philbrick, Karen Berger, Holly Hambleton, Theresa Sullivan Barger, Sarah Faulkner and Jeanne Day coordinated their schedules so as to gather as much information as possible. Collectively, they attended sessions on:

- land protection law;
- state and nonprofit funding;
- organizing youth activism;
- Connecticut legislative action for conservation;
- forest management;
- bird conservation partnerships;
- creating wildlife corridors;
- invasive species removal;
- landscape planning and mental health;
- use of technology to advance land conservation, and much more.

*By Sarah Faulkner*



## Quarter Century Spotlight

### For 50 Years, Volunteers Vital to CLCT for Enjoyment of All

Recently, I had the pleasure of reading Canton Land Conservation Trust's newsletters from the spring of 1973 and spring of 1998 – roughly the 50th and 25th Anniversaries of CLCT's existence. Let me share a few of my observations after reflecting on these documents.

From the beginning, it is clear that nothing happens at CLCT without the significant effort of motivated volunteers and interested community members. CLCT began in 1972 with the Canton Conservation Commission applying for a grant from the Ford Foundation to establish a land trust. Grant writing can be challenging and involved work. There were Canton residents in 1972 who thought this work was important enough to proceed. Kudos to them.

The spring 1973 newsletter masthead featured a new CLCT logo



drawn by contest winner Jenny Mills, a 7th grade Canton student. There were 100 submissions to design a logo for CLCT. Impressive.

By the time the spring of 1998 rolled around, it was easy to see that CLCT had accomplished much in its first 25 years. A constant theme expressed, that continues to this day, hinged on volunteer work. The newsletter called out for volunteers to join several work parties that had been organized to take care of the needs of our properties – trail building, tree pruning and debris removal.

The second theme focused on enjoyment and inviting everyone to enjoy CLCT lands. The newsletter listed several hikes, including one held at night and a walk with a resident naturalist.

I hope everyone reading this will appreciate how special our organization is and will continue to support it into the next 50 years.

*By Mike Ignatowicz*

Past or archived newsletters can be found at:  
[cantonlandtrust.org/newsletters](http://cantonlandtrust.org/newsletters)



### An Appreciation Win Gentile, CLCT Co-Founder

If you appreciate Canton's beauty and the preservation of more than 2,000 acres of land for conservation, one of the people to thank is Winifred Gentile. While serving on the Conservation Commission in 1972, Win was part of a group that helped found the Canton Land Conservation Trust. The long-time Canton resident passed away Feb. 1.

The first woman to serve as First Selectwoman, she worked with a team of people to gain the federal Wild and Scenic designation for part of the Farmington River. A master gardener, Win served with the Cherry Brook Garden Club members who planted shrubs and trees along Rattlesnake Brook, which runs along the Collinsville Pollen Trail.

"My mom loved the hills and woodlands and waterways of Canton, and that inspired her and motivated her to be on the Conservation Commission and serve on the Board of Selectmen," says her daughter, Sue Gentile. Win also served as a 4H leader, was active in Canton Benefits Productions' community theater and joined a group of residents in the 1970s who fought the expansion of Rte. 44 from a two-lane to four-lane road. The Save the Valley group successfully delayed the road widening that we see today.

Win loved Canton and working with other people in town to protect its rural character and natural beauty, her daughter says. "There were always people thinking of the future at the time," she says. "She didn't do any of this single-handedly. There was a wonderful community spirit and community ethic, where people worked to make it the best place to live and work."

Win's legacy continues. Her family designated donations be made in her memory to the Canton Land Conservation Trust at [cantonlandtrust.org/donations](http://cantonlandtrust.org/donations).

*By Theresa Sullivan Barger*



# Trail Report

## Trail crew uncovers a surprise horseshoe pit

When we were building the bridge across Cherry Brook at the Pratt/Reid/Cotterman/Green properties, we hadn't plotted out any trails but had done a general group trudge. Board member Bob Evenski and I were building the bridge one day and noted the density of vegetation south of the bridge and thinking a trail there would require a lot of work and thus planned to avoid it. I suggested that Dr. Livingston (of the Dr. Livingston, I presume? fame) might be lost in there.

Anyway, eventually we determined that we could, in fact, cut our way through. After Bob plotted out a path, he secured about a dozen sturdy volunteers. Along the way, we uncovered the old Pratt horseshoe pit buried in the woods. Once discov-



ered, crew members cleaned away the underbrush with a vengeance. We expect to leave some horseshoes there for general use. In naming the new trail, given that it was horseshoe shaped and also had the reclaimed recreation feature, it was an easy choice, Horseshoe Trail. I was willing to lobby for "Dr. Livingston Trail" with a bronze historical plaque and a detailed history and all but I'm sure someone would have called us out on it. In the meantime, look up



the rules and etiquette of the game and don't throw horseshoes at each other or straight up in the air. Don't lose them in the brook or the woods either. Don't hurt yourselves, OK? Hate to be a nag but legal asked me to put that in.

### The bridge over Cherry Brook

Watch for days of high water near the bridge. After days of heavy rain, the water will be high enough to make a trip to the bridge a high boots event. Really high water should be avoided for the safety of all. Just don't try to navigate the deeper water crossing the flood plain there; safely take in the power of nature instead. And as you think, thank the Pratt, Reid, Cotterman and Green families and individuals for donating the land to the CLCT, so we now can all enjoy this large continuous grouping of land.

### Dog feature rating

Now for the obligatory dog features rating: The brook section is wetness paradise for dogs so it would carry a maximum Labrador rating. Followers of my rating system know that I rate in Labradors. This is certainly not an exclusion of other water lovers.

*"Maximum Wet Labrador"*

*By Nate Cantwell*

## Spring & Summer Hikes

### May 7

**Bird Walk:** Jay Kaplan led an early morning hike at Sun, Wind and Woodland Preserve to look for migrating songbirds.

### May 14

**Vernal Pool Hike:** Tom Noonan led a Sunday afternoon kid-friendly exploration to see what life was emerging in the seasonal pools on the Uplands Preserve.

### June 3

**CT Trails Day:** with Sarah Faulkner. Family Birdwalk at Elizabeth Park, West Hartford. 9 a.m.

### June 4

**CT Trails Day:** with Nate Cantwell & Sarah Faulkner at Pratt Preserve. 1 p.m.

### June or July

**Botany Hike:** Join the Connecticut Botanical Society for a slow walk and plant ID at Pratt Preserve.

### June 25

**Pollinator Pathway Tours:** with Holly Hambleton & Karen Berger at the Collinsville Pollen Trail.

### Hikes in the works

**Senior Walk:** at the Collinsville Pollen Trail. Less than a mile.

**Clipper Hike:** ID and snip invasive plants along our trails.

Check our website under the What's Happening tab for updates and details. If you would like to lead a hike this summer or fall, contact Karen Manternach at [kmanternach@comcast.net](mailto:kmanternach@comcast.net).

## Hiking Challenge 2023 – An All-Year Event

Our hiking challenge began as a summer hiking challenge, with the designated start and end time roughly corresponding to summer. Given weather issues in recent years, we decided to make it an annual challenge, so participants have plenty of time to explore Canton Land Conservation Trust trails and properties that may be new to them.

While we still need to write up the hikes that are part of the 2023 challenge, they will be the same as

the past two years with the addition of our new Waquaheag Trail located in the Pratt Preserve at 84 Cherry Brook Road. We hope to complete a formal parking area over the summer, but until that is done, hikers may park on the grass within the yellow-roped area next to the road.

When we compile a more formal list of the hikes, we will include an announcement on our website under the What's Happening tab.

*By Phil Philbrick*



## Hike Safely by Planning Ahead

At the Canton Land Conservation Trust, we love hikers enjoying our trails and properties. The more people experience nature, the more they will care for it. That said, we want everyone to be safe while hiking, even if close to home. Being prepared frees you to fully enjoy nature. So, here's a list of things to do and bring with you every time you go out.

### Before You Start

- Check the weather forecast to dress and pack appropriately.
- Tell a "hiking buddy" where you're going and when you expect to be back.
- Make sure your cell phone is fully charged.
- Leave valuables in your trunk and lock your car. Break-ins can happen anywhere.
- Apply bug spray before starting out. Ticks are active year-round.
- Apply sunscreen.

### General Advice

- When hiking, keep your eyes on the blazes.
- If hiking with a dog, make sure it is always within view and under your control.

### What to Bring for Short, Local Hikes — 1-5 miles

- Comfortable small backpack.
- Filled, quart-sized, lightweight water bottle.
- Snacks.
- A photo of your hike location's map; take a picture of the map at the trailhead when possible, as your phone's map app may not work when out on the trail.
- Cell phone for emergency use.
- Flashlight if your cell phone lacks a flashlight.
- Bug spray.
- Tissue or toilet paper.
- Small garbage bag.
- Identification information with contact numbers.
- Whistle.

### What More to Bring for Longer or Distant Hikes — 5+ miles

- Second water bottle.
- Portable charger or extra battery for your cell phone.
- Rain jacket or poncho.
- Warm jacket in addition to what you're wearing, depending on season.

- Hat or scarf in case it gets cold.
- Emergency kit containing: a small first aid kit; any medications you might need in case you are out longer than expected; a box of matches; a bandana; and a pocket knife.
- Extra snacks.

### What to Wear

- Sturdy shoes with gripping soles – preferably hiking boots, but sturdy sneakers will suffice.
- Layered clothing, chosen based on the season and weather. Choose wicking fabrics next to your skin to absorb perspiration. It may seem cool out when you start, but as you hike you will get warm and may start to sweat.

See the video, "[Stephen Shaw for winter hiking gear](#)," on [cantonlandtrust.org](http://cantonlandtrust.org) for additional hints.

### After the Hike

- Check yourself for ticks.
- Replenish supplies so you are ready for the next hike.

*By Sarah Faulkner*



## Spring Native and Invasive Plant Identification

Late March is an exciting time to observe the first buds on our trees and shrubs. As the woods wake up after their winter nap, the first yellow ball flowers on the native spicebush are apparent as yellow dots of color in the woods. An early blooming tree, the shadblow or serviceberry, stands out white in an otherwise gray and leafless forest.

Some easy-to-identify native shrubs are our highbush and lowbush blueberries. The purple-tinted, round buds become a pantaloon-shaped flower. The white, fuzzy kittens on our pussy willows quickly sprout a green, chia-pet halo and the multi-stemmed, leafless shrub sporting a riot of drooping, tan 3" catkins is

probably an American hazelnut.

Spring is also a good time to look for invasives. By design, they out-compete by leafing out, flowering and setting seed before many of our native trees and shrubs come out of dormancy.

The April hot spell this year woke many plants up too early. The garlic mustard sprouted, bolted and opened its white flowers. This easy-to-pull plant will be in flower through June. Pull and dispose of responsibly as the flowers can mature and produce seed in a compost pile or when left on the ground.

Before the trees leaf out, the green blush in the understory is

probably an invasive plant. Take your pick – bush honeysuckle, Japanese barberry, Asiatic bittersweet or multiflora rose. Identify where these plants are. Pull or cut back before they set seed. Or if its a plant that spreads via underground roots and rhizomes, like Japanese knotweed or mugwort, just disposing of seeds is not enough. The best strategy for controlling invasive plants is to make a positive ID and to have a plan.

An excellent list for what is considered invasive in Connecticut can be found at [cipwg.uconn.edu](http://cipwg.uconn.edu). The CIPWG Invasive Plant Management Calendar is especially helpful for outlining what to do and when.

*By Holly Hambleton*



*honeysuckle & barberry*



*bittersweet*



*multiflora rose*



*mugwort*



*garlic mustard & knotweed*

## Pollinator Pathways Update

### Collinsville Pollen Trail

- After four years, we are officially on the map with two CPT signs at either end of the project, complements of Canton DPW.
- Our plant labels have arrived and they have been planted.



- In early May, we supervised a group of Canton High School students who helped with our spring chores removing invasive plants before they had a chance to set seed and prosper.

### Charlotte Craig Meadow

Earlier this spring the state road crew cut down two dead white pines and trimmed trees along Cherry Brook Road, opening up the area to more sunlight. The word is still out on the success of the native wildflower plugs planted last fall.

### Pratt Preserve

This summer and fall we will be planning and planting a small pollinator garden in the corner of the

lower parking lot. If you live in the area and are looking for volunteer opportunities, we can use your help.

### Peace Pole

We placed the tarp back down at the Peace Pole Pollinator Pathway, where we had laid it along East Hill Road. We need to give it another year to kill the weeds before planting native flower seeds. The other marked area has returned to grass.

#### To Volunteer for any project:

Karen – [karenkberger@gmail.com](mailto:karenkberger@gmail.com)

Holly – [hollyhamb@comcast.net](mailto:hollyhamb@comcast.net)

Theresa – [tsullivanbarger@gmail.com](mailto:tsullivanbarger@gmail.com)

#### To Donate:

Designate the **Pollinator Pathway Fund** on your donation to CLCT

## A Bit of Ratlum Mountain History

Ireland's Great Hunger, from 1845 to 1852, sent more than a million people to the U.S. to escape the famine, including Daniel Mulcunry, Sr. and Alice Kealy Mulcunry, who found their way to Canton. As with many who came to this country, they couldn't read or write; their accents may have played havoc with getting their surname spelled correctly in public records. The spelling has varied substantially: Mulcundry, McCundy, McCundry, Mulcunery, Mulcemery, Mulcimery, McUndy and McLundy, to name a few. In 1860, the family lived on Ratlum Mountain, south of present-day Breezy Hill Road across from the southern end of the Canton Land Conservation Trust's Ted Wright Trail, (near Capen Cabin).

By 1870, Daniel owned a 160-acre farm there, a large jump from being landless a decade earlier. The household, which then included eight children, grew rye, potatoes, corn, oats and buckwheat. The previous year, it had produced orchard and forest products, 300 pounds of butter from his "milch" cows, plus one of the highest amounts on the mountain (1,300 pounds) of a cash crop that was relatively new to the mountain, tobacco.

The family had moved to a larger farm in New Hartford by 1880, with children later dispersing to Unionville (Daniel Jr., a laborer in a paper mill), Avon (James, a team-



ster), Torrington and beyond. Where Daniel and Alice lived and farmed more than a century and a half ago is now rolling forested CLCT land. Alice and other Mulcunry family members are buried in the Immaculate Conception Cemetery in New Hartford, where the last word on the surname is the inscription "Mulcunry."

*By Judy Cantwell*

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## CLCT Membership Offers Perks, Opportunities to Help

### Do you ever ask yourself what being a member means?

Yes, you have made a monetary donation to support our mission. And we thank you. These funds enable the CLCT to continue to preserve the natural resources of Canton's most beautiful settings, as we have been doing for over 50 years. We also work hard promoting good forest management, protecting wildlife, increasing pollinator habitat and expanding recreational opportunities.

*There is more to being a member than making a valuable, monetary donation and taking pride in being part of an organization that protects more than 2,000 acres of land.*

### Do you know if you are a member?

Your membership expiration date is printed next to your address. You may have forgotten to renew last year by December, but that's okay. It's never too late to rejoin CLCT.

### What are the benefits?

- Meeting and interacting with individuals with common interests.
- Learning more about the land maintained by CLCT.
- Spending time outdoors, either hiking on our most challenging trails, or finding peace and serenity in the woods by a stream.
- Participating in group hikes, enjoying CLCT sponsored events, attending or leading lectures and workshops.
- Getting advance notice of events and hikes via email.
- Receiving a copy of our spring newsletter.

**Enjoying the benefits of membership is great, but you can find even more enjoyment by becoming an active participant or a volunteer.**

Outdoor volunteer activities include: trail blazing, trail upkeep, tree planting, invasive plant control or planting and maintaining any of our Pollinator Pathways.

### Prefer to contribute off the trails?

Share your expertise with others on habitats, biology, wildlife, vernal pools, pollination or invasive plants. Or volunteer with event planning, social media, advertising or baking. To learn more, visit our website under **Support Us/Volunteer**.

**Do you have friends and family who share in your interests?**

**OR**

**Do you want to share the benefits of membership with friends and family?**

Give a gift membership to friends and family who value land conservation but don't know about CLCT.

Use the code to access our secure [square.site](https://square.site) and scroll down to "give a gift membership." Continue to cart to add your payment information.





## MEMBERSHIP FORM

### Renew or Give a Membership

Membership Term **Jan. 1 - Dec. 31**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Pay by check payable to:

**Canton Land Conservation Trust (CLCT)**

Mail to: CLCT, PO Box 41, Canton Center, CT 06020

Use the QR code or Pay online:

[CantonLandTrust.org/membership](https://CantonLandTrust.org/membership)



\_\_\_ **NEW** \_\_\_ **RENEWAL** \_\_\_ **GIFT**

\$25 \_\_\_\_\_ Individual  
 \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ Family  
 \$100+ \_\_\_\_\_ Conservationist  
 \$250+ \_\_\_\_\_ Preservationist  
 \$500+ \_\_\_\_\_ Naturalist  
 \$1000+ \_\_\_\_\_ Guardian

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Donation**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL CONTRIBUTION**

(Membership is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law)

**BECOME A VOLUNTEER**  
 CLCT has many ways for you to get involved

## Join Us for June 4 Annual Meeting & Picnic

### All members and guests welcome

Once a year, on the first Sunday in June, the Canton Land Conservation Trust holds its Annual Members Meeting to inform the membership of what has transpired in the past year. Meetings have been held at the Capen Cabin property and in the parking area at Sun, Wind and Woodland Preserve. In 2022 we enjoyed a BBQ and picnic at the newly established Pratt Preserve property at 84 Cherry Brook Road. We are returning there again to enjoy the brookside site.

We welcome all members to join us.

Before the meeting, there will be a guided hike at 1 p.m. on the Waquaheag Trail and new Horseshoe Trail that passes by the recently uncovered horseshoe pit.

The official meeting begins at 4 p.m. and typically lasts 15 minutes or less. Bring your family, your friends or anyone you would like to introduce to the Land Trust.

**And bring a chair.**



## Volunteers Needed to Help Maintain the CLCT Website

As the Canton Land Conservation Trust continues to expand its impact in the community, we're proud to increase our online services with the updated CLCT Website, which was officially rolled out in August 2022.

The Land Trust Website Committee is looking for interested volunteers to help support the website as we continue to add more information to the website about our organization, properties, and educational offerings.

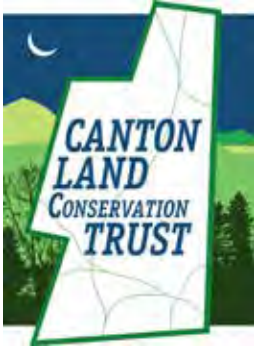
### Here is a partial list of where we can use your help:

- Photo Coordinator – Maintain an electronic inventory of the photos on our website using Dropbox software.
- Content Coordinator – Maintain an electronic inventory of the articles and web page content on our website using Dropbox software.
- Assist with website updates using WordPress & Beaver Builder software.

Not to worry, if you are not familiar with Dropbox, WordPress, or Beaver Builder software. If you know your way around a computer with the basics and are interested in helping us, we will train you.

Questions? Interested? Please email Bill Porri at [porrib@gmail.com](mailto:porrib@gmail.com) or [cantonlandtrust@gmail.com](mailto:cantonlandtrust@gmail.com).

*By Bill Porri*



Canton Land Conservation Trust, Inc.  
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## Officers

President: Stephen (Phil) Philbrick  
Vice President: Jay Weintraub  
Secretary: Sarah Faulkner  
Treasurer: Christian Winkler

## Members of the Board of Directors

Theresa Sullivan Barger, Karen Berger, Nate Cantwell, Anne Duncan, Bob Evenski, Sarah Faulkner, Mike Gotaski, Holly Hambleton, Jay Kaplan, Peter Keyo, Mary Ann Mahony, Karen Manternach, Jennifer Mason, Harold Mullins, John Pech, Phil Philbrick, Stephen Shaw, Bill Porri, Elenor Smith, Betty Stanley, Jay Weintraub, Christian Winkler

Editor: Theresa Sullivan Barger  
Layout: Holly Hambleton  
Copy Editor: Jeanne Day

## CLCT Properties Summary

**Property Protected:** about 2,100 acres  
Added in 2022: 5.3 acres  
**Trails:** 42 trails; 25.2 miles  
Added in 2022: 1 trail; 1.7 miles

Thanks to your donations, membership renewals and volunteer time, CLCT continues to protect land and create and maintain trails for all to enjoy.

## DONATE to CLCT

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

**Donate or become a member today.**

Website: [cantonlandtrust.org](http://cantonlandtrust.org)

## Events:

**May 7** – Bird Walk – Sun, Wind and Woodland  
Jay Kaplan

**May 14** – Vernal pools – Uplands Preserve  
Tom Noonan

## CT Trails Day Hikes:

**June 3** – Elizabeth Park – Sarah Faulkner

**June 4** – Pratt Preserve –

Nate Cantwell & Sarah Faulkner

**June 4** – Pratt Preserve – Annual Meeting

**June 25** – Collinsville Pollen Trail

Pollinator Pathway Tour

**Hikes in the works** – Check Facebook & website or look for email announcements

Facebook page:

**Canton Land Conservation Trust**