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JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

Audubon at Home: Creating Bird-friendly Habitats.



This year at our annual meeting we are fortunate to have Taralynn Reynolds as our speaker. Taralynn works for the Audubon at Home program at the Audubon center in Greenwich. Her presentation and slides will show how to protect and create wildlife habitats in XXXXX XXXXXX. This will be a real treat for the Darien Land Trust community.

Please join us at our **Annual Meeting at 5pm on Sunday, November 18th at the Wee Burn Country Club.**

This year we will be saying farewell to valued Trustee Jim Millard who has dedicated many years of service to the DLT. We thank him for all he has contributed to the quality of life of our Town. The DLT membership will then vote to elect two new Trustees: Trad Hall and Amy Sarbinowski.

The annual meeting is open to all and we hope everyone will join us again this year.



LAND REVIEW

A newsletter published by the **Darien Land Trust**, an independent, non-profit organization



Following Our Open-Space Dream

This is my 35th year living in Darien but only my first year as your president.

Looking back for a moment, I came in on the shoulders of accomplished leaders like Jay Shutts, Terrie Wood and Kaye Ramsden. They gave us a flying start, so that in the past twelve months, we were able to exceed the 200-acre hurdle and close on properties like the six acres of conservation easement at Ox Ridge Hunt Club and three stunning meadow acres on the banks of Goodwives River.

With it's land and LI Sound sea vistas I have always revered the beauty of our town, and, like most of you, am determined to ensure we preserve as much of it as possible for the animals, plants and...our children.

We are fortunate in Connecticut to have laws that encourage the preservation of open space, but laws don't protect land-people do. We need people to support us, to populate our committees and to plan, lead, organize, control and fund our conservation initiatives. Only in this way can we create the

community awareness and trust that enables us to acquire and care for some beautiful properties

Please join us at our annual meeting at 5 pm on November18 at Weeburn Country Club. There we will thank retiring trustee Jim Millard for his outstanding contribution to the DLT. We will also be proposing two new talented trustees for election to our board people: Thad Hall and Amy Sarbinowski.

Our speaker will be Taralynn Reynolds from Greenwich's *Audubon At Home*. This program helps people everywhere learn what they can do at home, work, school and on open spaces to create healthier communities for people and wild life. You can expect some interesting slides and an excellent speaker. The meeting will close with "refreshments."

Chris Flimer

President

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE AND SUPPORT:

Land gifts	1,750,000	—
Membership	141,258	155,340
Investment income, including unrealized gains (losses)	22,045	54,694
Contributions and grants	8,340	12,583
Other income	—	141

Total Revenue and Support

\$1,921,643 \$222,758

EXPENSES:

Program services	\$118,338	\$111,368
Management and general	15,610	15,657
Fundraising (includes Waterbury Field capital campaign)	12,416	12,734

Total Expenses

\$146,364 \$139,759

Increase (decrease) in net assets

\$1,775,279 \$82,999

Net Assets—beginning of year

\$22,518,943 \$22,435,944

Net Assets—end of year

\$24,294,222 \$22,518,943

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS:

Cash and equivalents	\$657,355	\$617,959
Investments	980,225	969,622
Pledges receivable	5,000	13,650
Other current assets	1,499	1,472

Total Current Assets

\$1,644,079 \$1,602,703

Land and conservation easements

22,679,634 20,929,634

Total Assets

\$24,323,713 \$22,532,849

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES:

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$22,576	\$13,906
	6,915	

Total Liabilities

\$29,491 \$13,906

NET ASSETS:

Unrestricted	\$1,614,588	\$1,589,309
Land and conservation easements	22,679,634	20,929,634

Total Net Assets

\$24,294,222 \$22,518,943

Total Liabilities and Net Assets

\$24,323,713 \$22,532,849



Guided tours enable children to learn about and connect with nature.

Darien Land Trust 2011-12 Key Accomplishments

LAND

Reached milestone of the protection of more than 200 acres of open space in Darien with three new acquisitions: Tokeneke Trail, Goodwives Meadow and Ox Ridge conservation easement

EDUCATION

- Celebration of the Woods and Streams: Links to Long Island Sound event brought 400 people to Dunlap / Selleck's Woods in June for a Nature Discovery Day.
- Hosted 300 second grade students in Dunlap /Selleck's Woods on their "Fungus, Ferns and Feathers" science curriculum based field trips.
- Initiated a pilot program for Fourth graders in conjunction with the Nature Center for two elementary schools on an Eco-Hike.
- Hosted Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and nursery school children on nature walks in Dunlap Woods.

COMMUNITY

- Sponsored "Vanishing of the Bees" movie at the Darien Library and a discussion on bee-keeping.
- Monitored two Eagle Scout projects on our properties:

a beehive installation at Mather Meadows and Purple Martin nesting boxes at Mather Meadows and Nearwater Lane.

- Partnered with Nielsen's Florist on second St Patrick's Day Celebration event, attended by 150 members of the community.
- Continued to interact with the new developer of the I-95 Rest Area above Dunlap Woods. Water pollution filtration and separation systems have been installed to remove approximately 87% of all polluted run-off from the new Rest Area. This will benefit Dunlap Lake, the Tokeneke Brook and Long Island Sound.

STEWARDSHIP

- Continued the habitat restoration of Mather Meadows, Nearwater Land and Valley Forge to support butterflies, birds and other wildlife.
- Completed fencing and boardwalk improvements at Tokeneke nature preserve.
- Cleaned up the Noroton River and Olson Lake with Save the Sound and released the third batch of pregnant herring as part of the restoration of an ancient migration route to LIS.

