



ANNUAL REPORT

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

Fall
2015

Our Mission

The DLT permanently preserves and restores open space, providing the community with environmentally rich habitats, scenic vistas, opportunities for educational experiences and the quiet enjoyment of nature.

Fall splendor on Nearwater Lane

A Tribute To Our Supporters And Volunteers

From Flip Huffard, President

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It is my pleasure to write my first letter to you as President of the Darien Land Trust. It has been an amazing year with lots of accomplishments and exciting future initiatives.

The Darien Land Trust now permanently preserves 205 acres, providing all of Darien with beautiful vistas and environmentally diverse habitats. In June 2015, we added our most recent property, 2.5 acres of woodlands, purchased with the financial assistance of generous neighbors on Hollow Tree Ridge Road.

The Darien Land Trust is always on the lookout for additional properties that might be preserved and has an active effort to identify those few remaining parcels of open space that remain in town. It is critical that we stay ahead of the curve in this process, as there are fewer opportunities each year to protect more land. If you have interest in preserving your land or are aware of parcels that we should consider, please contact us.

We have had an active year in our Stewardship function, where we are trying to improve the biodiversity of the properties we

manage. Similarly, our Outreach group continues to run events to engage with our members and the community at large. A big thank you to all who were able to attend the fantastic evening of Darien Land Trust's first Farm to Table Dinner in late August. We hope to see all of you next year for this very special event.

We invite you to join us for our upcoming Annual Meeting, which will be held at 5:00 pm on November 15 at the Wee Burn Club. We've chosen to focus our presentation on water quality issues facing the streams, ponds and coastal areas that connect all of our properties around the Town. Our speaker will be Dr. Sarah Crosby, Executive Director of Harbor Watch.

At our Annual Meeting we will also be saying goodbye to Linda Ferguson, a trustee of over 20 years who has made invaluable contributions to the Land Trust. And finally, we will be voting on the nominations of Nina Miller, John McPhee and Chip Raymond. Please join us for what promises to be an exceptional evening.

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30 2015 AND 2014

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES**REVENUE AND SUPPORT:**

Membership	\$147,351	\$148,688
Investment Income, Including Unrealized Gains (Losses)	17,269	19,119
Contributions and Grants	7,105	28,833
Contribution for Land Acquisition	481,815	—
Other Income	2,058	—

Total Revenue and Support	\$655,598	\$196,640
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EXPENSES:

Program Services	\$108,229	\$112,805
Management and General	17,137	16,289
Fundraising	16,964	12,666

Total Expenses	\$142,330	\$141,760
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Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$513,268	\$54,880
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Net Assets—Beginning of Year	\$26,325,869	\$26,270,989
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Net Assets—End of Year	\$26,839,137	\$26,325,869
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BALANCE SHEET

	2015	2014
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ASSETS**CURRENT ASSETS:**

Cash and Equivalents	\$403,402	\$684,481
Investments	1,009,771	1,006,443
Other Current Assets	9,290	1,544

Total Current Assets	\$1,422,463	\$1,692,468
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Restricted Cash	14,091	20,194
Land & Conservation Easements	25,435,884	24,629,634

Total Noncurrent Assets	\$25,449,975	\$24,649,828
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Total Assets	\$26,872,438	\$26,342,296
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LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**LIABILITIES:**

Accounts Payable	1,102	4,390
Accrued Liabilities	32,199	12,037

Total Liabilities	33,301	16,427
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NET ASSETS:

Unrestricted	\$1,389,162	\$1,676,041
Other Net Assets	14,091	20,194
Land & Conservation Easements	25,435,884	24,629,634

Total Net Assets	\$26,839,137	\$26,325,869
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Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$26,872,438	\$26,342,296
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Executive Director Shirley Nichols in Dunlap Woods with students.



Darien Land Trust Donor List 2014-2015

This annual report serves to recognize and thank the donors to our 2014-2015 Annual Campaign.

We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this list and apologize for any inadvertent errors or omissions.

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This annual report also recognizes and thanks the corporations that have generously supported our events and mission throughout the 2014-2015 year.

Houlihan Lawrence - Farm to Table Dinner
 Leary's Liquor Cabinet - St Patrick's Day
 Mystem Co. - Farm to Table Dinner
 Nielsen's Florist and Garden Shop - St Patrick's Day
 Ring's End - Farm to Table Dinner
 Thomson, Reuters Corporation - Farm to Table Dinner
 Trader Joe's - Farm to Table Dinner
 Two Roads Brewing Company - Farm to Table Dinner
 Wee Burn Country Club - Charity Day and Farm to Table Dinner
 XL Catlin Group - Day of Giving

Farm to Table Dinner Sponsors

The following donors generously lent their financial support to make the evening a success.

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Accomplishments by The Numbers

400

Native flowers including Hibiscus, Iris, Lobelia and Verbena planted at Olson Woods, Tokeneke Marsh and Dunlap Lake.

205

Acres under preservation and stewardship.

160

Guests at our first Farm to Table dinner at Waterbury Field on August 29, 2015.

45

Native trees, shrubs and grasses planted at Waterbury Field, Dunlap and Olson Woods.

30

Volunteers for spring trail maintenance at Dunlap/Selleck's Woods.

10

Thriving bee hives at three of our meadow properties in partnership with bee keeper Peet Foster.

9

Green-themed baskets and gift cards given away to guests at our annual "Keep the Green in Darien" St. Patrick's Day event at Nielsen's Garden Center.

3

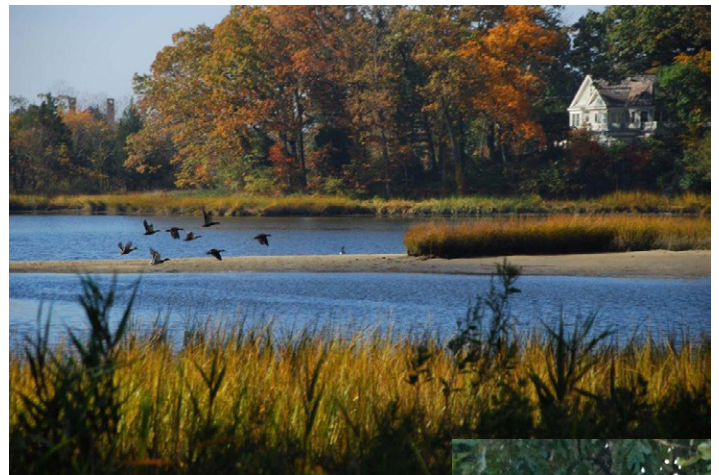
Events co-sponsored with the Darien library, including a lecture by renowned landscape architect Rick Darke, the documentary "Tapped" about the bottled water industry and "Wings of Life" a family film about Monarch butterflies.

2

Neighborhood events hosted by friends of the Darien Land Trust to introduce members of the community to our properties.

1

Bench dedicated to honor former Darien Land Trust President and current board member, Chris Filmer, who created and preserved the Dunlap/Selleck's Woods 50-acre Nature Preserve.





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IN THIS ISSUE: Annual Report, the Year's Accomplishments, Annual Meeting and more!

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JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

Water Quality in Fairfield County Waterways



This year we are saying goodbye to our esteemed Trustee Linda Ferguson who has given more than 20 years of invaluable service to the Darien Land Trust.

Dr. Sarah Crosby of Harbor Watch will be our featured speaker with a presentation on "Water Quality in Fairfield County Waterways".

Please join us for our Annual meeting at 5:00pm on Sunday, November 15th at the Wee Burn Country Club.

Prior to our featured speaker the election of officers and nomination of new Trustees will take place. The annual meeting is open to all and we hope everyone will join us to celebrate this year's accomplishments and to celebrate Linda's years of service.