



HARTLAND LAND TRUST

Celebrate Earth Day

by Tracking Wild Things – Guided Hike
Sunday April 25, 2010 1-3 P.M.



Please join the **Hartland Land Trust** in partnership with the **Wilderness School** on an **Earth Day** celebration to hike and learn to track animals. Tom Dyer, former Wilderness School Director (1983-2009) and HLT director, will lead the two-hour hike. **Plan to meet at the Wilderness School, 240 North Hollow Road, Route 20, East Hartland, CT., April 25, 2010 by 1pm.** Please park in the Wilderness School parking lot located directly across from Hurricane Brook Road access. Participants should wear hiking boots or work boots and dress in layers according to the weather (rain shell, jacket, sweater, shirt, under shirt). The hike will be approximately one mile. We will make many stops along the way to check out the tracks and signs of the animals that inhabit our town.

The event is limited to 36 participants. Please sign up by April 23, 2010 by contacting: Aaron Wiebe, Wilderness School Program Coordinator at 860-653-8059 or aaron.wiebe@ct.gov

HLT Officers:

Fred Jones, *President*
Neil Gilpin, *Vice President*
Alana Bordewieck, *Secretary*
JoAnne Bannister, *Treasurer*

HLT Directors:

Kris Anderson
Carol Blouin
Gail DiMaggio
Tom Dyer
Jason Hawley
Rebecca Huntley
Joyce Mueller
Susan Murray
June Shew
Lorri Wood
Wade Cole, *ex officio*



Who did this? Find out on our "Tracking Hike"

What is a Land Trust?

Land trusts are organizations directly involved in protecting land for its natural, recreational, scenic, historical, or agricultural value. Land trusts may purchase or accept donations of land or of conservation easements, manage land owned by others, or advise landowners about how to preserve their land.

"I only went out for a walk, and finally concluded to stay out till sundown, for going out, I found was really going in."

*-from John of the Mountains:
The Unpublished Journals of John Muir*

HLT'S Mission Statement

To endeavor to maintain the rural character of our area for present and future generations by protecting its diverse natural resources through the conservation and management of significant lands. Engaging in and promoting the scientific study of and education regarding natural resources; and using all properties held or controlled by the Land Trust and the net earnings thereof for the benefit of the general public and for charitable, educational, recreational, conservation, scientific and historical purposes.

Calling on all Photographers and Artists! HLT's Third Annual Photo and Art Exhibit

The 3rd Annual Hartland Land Trust Photo and Art Exhibit "Wonders of Hartland" will run from June 1- June 11, 2010 in the Hartland School. This exhibit will display visual art from the members of the community that have been inspired by Hartland's outstanding landscapes and wildlife.

Photos and artwork may include the following subjects:
-wildlife - stone walls - scenic beauty - water/rivers and streams
- recreation - historical/cultural

Photographers and artists of all ages and abilities are encouraged to participate. Photographers and artists do not have to be residents of Hartland; however, ALL IMAGES MUST BE OF HARTLAND.

For details and requirements please visit our website at: www.hartlandlandtrust.org or call Fred Jones at 860-379-5868. Entry forms are available at the Hartland School, Town Hall, Town Library or on line at www.hartlandlandtrust.org. The deadline for dropping off the artwork at Town Hall is Tuesday, June 1st. Let friends and neighbors know!

Let's emphasize the "ART" in Hartland!

HLT Booth at Firemen's Carnival by Alana Bordewieck

Maybe it was in contrast to the weeks of rain that preceded the 63rd Firemen's Carnival, but everything seemed more: the paraders livelier in step, the clowns more vivid in color, the people more in number, the fireworks more spectacular in display and length and the booths and rides more in variety. The Hartland Land Trust booth offered new sights, too. In addition to the plants donated by Imperial Nurseries and hand painted wooden crafts donated by Kris Anderson for the lottery, Hartland wildlife photos, animal profile pamphlets and plaster casts of moose and bear foot prints offered hands-on information. Posters displayed maps of Open Space, land use and waterways in Hartland as well as a Landowner's Decision Tree. Directors sported the newly designed Moose tee-shirts "Hartland Meet Your Neighbors" for sale to support fundraising. But the most fun was the Mooseboard designed by Cheryl Anderson of West Hartland. A visitor could put his head in the cut-out of the bear's head and flanked by moose on either side become a Hartland Neighbor and part of a digital photo that was later sent to the participant by email. If you missed the Mooseboard last year, be sure to come by the Land Trust's booth this summer to have your picture taken with your camera or one of ours. See you there!



Above is the "Mooseboard" that was designed and painted by local artist Cheryl Anderson.

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HLT Director, June Shew displays the "Tees"

The Quintessential Tee by June Shew

It's Hartland's hottest and latest fashion item: the Tee that says come on over and "... meet your neighbors ...!" The Hartland Land Trust has created this steal-of-a-deal Tee shirt (\$15) just for you, so you can let the world know of one of the many beautiful secrets that frequent our lands ... The MOOSE.

The Tee is ultra-soft cotton, has a modern fit, and comes in two basic colors, "Chocolate Moose" (dark brown with white print), and "Gray Moose" (light gray with black print). The design was created by Hartland's own talented **Jason Fuller**. HLT carries a full range of adult sizes and plans to make children's sizes available later in the year.

HLT would like to recognize and thank the **Hartland Lions Club** who handed over the project of the Moose Tee to our organization.

The Tee is one of the foundation items of our fund raising program to preserve the natural beauty of Hartland through the preservation of its lands. We hope you will join us by supporting our efforts. Order forms are available at the Town Hall and on our website www.hartlandlandtrust.org. Or call JoAnne Bannister at 860 379 7970.



Calendar of Events

Tracking Walk, with Tom Dyer,
April 25, 2010, 1p.m. to 3 p.m.

"Wonders of Hartland"
Photo and Art Exhibit
Hartland School
June 1 - June 11, 2010

HLT's Annual Forum,
at the Hartland School
Guest speaker: Andy LaBonte,
D.E.P. Deer Biologist
Topic: **Moose**
Friday, June 11, 2010,
7- 8:30 p.m.

"Speaker Series":
All presentations are at the
Hartland Town Hall
and begin at 7:30 p.m.

April 26, 2010
"Natural Lawns and Gardens"
Aimee Petras, FRWA

September 27, 2010
"Reptiles and the CT Landscape"
Peter Brazaitis

November 22, 2010
"Protecting Water Quality
with Low Impact Development"
Sean Hayden, NWCD

February 28, 2011
"Geology of Hartland" by
John Raabe

April 25, 2011
"Invasive non-native species"
Peter Picone, CT D.E.P.

Watch for HLT Tag and Craft Sale
this fall!

A Message from the President

Greetings,

The Hartland Land Trust is a fully volunteer, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Our third year has been a busy one as we:

- Welcomed Jason Hawley, CT DEP, as our newest director
- Received a "Challenge Grant Award" from the Land Trust Alliance and The Connecticut Land Conservation Council
- Celebrated Earth Day by sponsoring a "Guided Tracking Hike" led by HLT Director, Tom Dyer
- Participated in the Hartland School's "Green Day of Sharing"
- Continued assisting the BOE Trail committee with its work on the "Educational Trails"
- Worked with the Audubon Society in creating plans for the "Edith Leopold Audubon Sanctuary"
- Co-sponsored the Holcomb Farm Conservation Heroes Lecture Series
- Began a "Speakers Series" where every other month HLT hosts a guest speaker for the public to enjoy
- Held our third Annual Forum with guest speaker, Gary Melnysyn, author and Wildlife Photographer and donated his book to the Hartland Library
- Displayed over 20 pieces of art and photographs from community members in our annual "Wonders of Hartland" exhibit
- Became a member of the Litchfield Hills Greenprint Collaborative
- Became a member of the Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC)
- Started a fundraising effort selling "Hartland – Meet Your Neighbors" Moose Tee Shirts

HLT meets every fourth Monday at 7 p.m. at Town Hall. Our meetings are posted and, as always, open to the public. We invite you to join us in our efforts and activities to preserve the natural and scenic beauty of our town for future generations to enjoy.

Sincerely,
Fred Jones, *President*

Why have moose recently moved into Connecticut?



Edith's barn is a familiar landmark in town Photo by: Hank Prussing

DEER CAROL,

Is it true that moose are relatives of deer?

Curious in Connecticut

Dear Curious in Connecticut,

Yes, moose are related to our familiar white-tailed deer. Moose are the largest member of the family called Cervidae. One feature both animals share is their heart shaped feet. The tracks of both animals appear similar, although the moose tracks are considerably larger measuring 4-6 inches long and 3 1/2 to 5 3/4 inches wide.



DEER CAROL,

I just saw a moose what should I do?

Stunned in Stafford

Dear Stunned in Stafford,

DO NOT APPROACH THE MOOSE! They can be cranky and unpredictable. The best advice I can give you is to report the sighting to the DEP Wildlife Division at 860-642-7239 between the hours of 8:30 and 4:30. The wildlife division is studying the movement of moose in Connecticut and all sightings are helpful. You can also report online at: <http://depdata.ct.gov/wildlife/sighting/mooserpt.htm>



For answers to moose questions throughout this newsletter, come to our June forum!

Deer Carol is written by Carol Blouin a Master Wildlife Conservationist living happily amongst the wildlife here in Hartland. Any wildlife questions you have for *Deer Carol* can be forwarded to the HLT website.

Where was the first sighting of a cow with calves in Connecticut?

How many moose are currently residing in Connecticut?



The Edith Leopold Audubon Sanctuary by Scott Heth

On January 29th, the newly- formed Edith Leopold Audubon Sanctuary Steering Committee met at the Hartland Town Hall. Made up of Fred Jones, June Shew and Harald Bordewieck of the Hartland Land Trust, Doug Rick from East Granby, Mike Dudek and Scott Heth from Audubon, the committee is working on ways to utilize the sanctuary for the benefit of birds, other wildlife and the people of Hartland. Among other things discussed were trail development, signage, the construction of an educational kiosk and ways that the donor of the property, Edith Leopold, could be remembered. The committee looks forward to implementing these suggestions in the spring and summer of this year. The committee would like to thank the Wilderness School for its continued help in the stewardship of this property.

What time of day are moose most active?



“And this our life exempt from public haunt
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones and good in every thing...
I would not change it.”

William Shakespeare, As You Like It

2009 was an especially exciting year for the Hartland Land Trust. We introduced our Guest Speaker Series with the specific goal of learning as much as possible about the plants, trees, animals, and landscape of our wonderful highlands.

Thus far we have heard from Jason Hawley, CT DEP expert on fur bearing mammals, Larry Rousseau, CT DEP Service Forester on managing forest habitat and Scott Heth of the Sharon Audubon with live birds of prey. Our forest habitat provides homes for many creatures including beautiful but destructive tree pests such as the emerald ash borer. We learned, among other things, that although we occasionally see bears, they see us more often. Our bears, although asleep in the wintertime, do not actually hibernate. Contrary to conventional wisdom, they have good eyesight and an exceptional sense of smell; whereas, owls cannot smell their prey and rely on keen vision. Therefore, it is a myth that one should not return a fallen fledgling to its nest for fear the mother will detect the human smell and reject the baby.

For upcoming topics please refer to our Calendar of Events and watch for signs and postings in the newspaper and on our website.

Refreshments begin at 7:15 p.m., with the presentation at 7:30 p.m. followed by questions at the end, an opportunity to meet the presenter, and handouts and reference materials.

The presentations are held at the Hartland Town Hall, and the Annual Forum in June at the Hartland Elementary School.

It has been a great pleasure to see so many of our Hartland neighbors and friends as well as visitors from surrounding towns at each presentation.



Scott Heth of the Sharon Audubon awes the audience with a Horned Owl

Secret Life of MOOSE Revealed at HLT's ANNUAL FORUM

by Carol Blouin,
Master Wildlife Conservationist

Moose in Connecticut? They are thriving in many locales of the Nutmeg state including Hartland. Please join the Hartland Land Trust at our annual forum where Andrew LaBonte, who is currently a wildlife biologist with the CT DEP Wildlife Division, will present a lively and informative talk on the life of moose in Connecticut. Andrew will enlighten the audience with his extensive knowledge of the history of Moose, their relatively recent population growth in our state, and why moose find Connecticut an attractive place to live. You will learn valuable information about moose behavior and their habitat requirements. Andrew will also describe current research that he is conducting, which focuses on the population growth of moose in our state, as well as how their movements around the state could impact future wildlife management. Some of his fascinating research is occurring right here in our town of Hartland and neighboring Barkhamsted. Andrew's presentation will give you valuable techniques and information on how we can learn to live with a growing moose population, here at home, and while traveling on our roads and highways.

Please join us at the **Hartland Land Trust Annual Forum** in June located at the Hartland Elementary School in East Hartland. The forum is free and open to everyone. Donations to support Hartland Land Trust are, as always, welcomed.



Do you know where this photo was taken? Photo by:
Gail DiMaggio

*What makes a rutting male act aggressively?
What should you do if you encounter a moose?
What is more unpredictable, a female cow with young
or a male during rutting season?
How can I keep moose away from my home?*



Landowners: Understanding the Options

by Gillian Bearns

This article provides general information and does not constitute legal advice or a legal opinion.

For anyone who owns a large tract of undeveloped land, the question of what to do with that land long term can seem overwhelming. Different options exist, and landowners should explore these options before making any final decisions regarding the succession of their land:

- **Outright donation:** land can be donated to a charitable organization that is equipped to assume the responsibilities of ownership. The gift can be made during your lifetime or through your will. This option may be best where you and your family live elsewhere and are no longer able to or interested in maintaining the land.
- **Covenants:** restrictions in the title that require or restrict activities to conserve or preserve the land during your lifetime or into the future binding all future owners
- **Easements with life use:** you can donate the land and retain certain rights to the land to live on or use during your lifetime, or during that of your spouse, partner or child (donation or bequest with retained life estate)
- **Easements:** grant access to the land or the right to use the land in a particular way, but you can retain title to the land. Typically the easement “runs with the land”; i.e. the next owner assumes all of the rights that you have to the land while the holder of the easement continues to enjoy the rights that were given through the easement.
- **Charitable gift annuities / charitable remainder trusts:** creative estate planning tools which allow you to derive some financial benefit from a donation of land to a charitable organization.
- **Tax benefits:** the landowner may derive tax benefits during his or her lifetime or for his or her estate through state and/or federal programs. The donation of land can reduce or eliminate current property tax liability and can reduce or eliminate estate taxes.

The Hartland Land Trust is happy to provide you with additional information about these options and can help you find an advisor should you wish to explore how these options might be applied to your specific situation

Lower Farmington River/ Salmon Brook Wild & Scenic Study

by Sue Murray

The Lower Farmington River/Salmon Brook Wild & Scenic Study Committee is moving to the final stages of our study with the completion of our advisory Management Plan. Its function is to provide guidance for protecting and enhancing the outstanding resource values of the lower Farmington River and Salmon Brook.

We are obtaining endorsements from community organizations and from the ten Study Area towns’ legislative bodies. In December, we met with the Hartland Board of Selectmen and Planning and Zoning Chairman. The cooperative efforts among our town boards and commissions for the endorsement of the Lower Wild & Scenic study will provide firm backing for the designation. The completed Management Plan, supporting documents and endorsements will be presented to Congressman Chris Murphy’s office in April; the Wild & Scenic Bill goes to Congress during the summer of 2010.

We would like to thank the Town of Hartland, the community and organizations for your continued support. With our existing participation in the 1994 National Wild & Scenic “Partnership River” designation and the anticipated Lower designation, we can be proud to be a dual Wild & Scenic town.

Challenge Fund Award

by Sue Murray

In July 2009, the Hartland Land Trust received a Connecticut Land Trust Challenge Fund Capacity Building Award. The program involves a series of workshops facilitated by Housatonic Valley Association’s, Tim Abbott, Director of Litchfield Hills Greenprint Collaborative. The two workshops completed to date were well attended by our board and provided in depth training of site assessment, including an actual site walk, and transaction implementation. Tim’s expertise as a conservation professional combined with his exciting teaching and mentoring methods and our board’s expansive talents and desire to learn make our workshops a huge success.

The Challenge Award project is funded in part by an award from The Connecticut Land Trust Challenge Fund, administered by the Land Trust Alliance in partnership with the Connecticut Land Conservation Council. This collaborative effort to increase the pace and quality of land conservation is made possible by the generous support of the Northeast Utilities Foundation, The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, and the Jessie B. Cox Charitable Lead Trust. Our matching funds are provided as part of a grant from the Farmington River Coordinating Committee, promoting the long-term protection and enjoyment of the upper Farmington Wild & Scenic River.

Ways in which I would like to help

- Trail Project
- Stone Wall
- Discovery Project
- Computer Work
- Speaker Series
- Photo /Art Exhibit
- Other: _____

For more information
Call: 860-379-5868



2010 Hartland Land Trust Membership Form

Working for the preservation and enjoyment of open space in our community

Yes! I agree with what you are doing. Please sign me up!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Daytime Telephone: _____ Evening: _____

Send newsletters electronically to: (email) _____

Membership Class:

Individual \$15 Family \$25 Friend \$50 Sponsor \$100 Other \$ _____

Please make checks payable to "Hartland Land Trust" and mail to: Hartland Land Trust
P.O. Box 183

Thank you for your support! All contributions are tax deductible.

Riverton, CT 06065