



OUTDOOR ISSUES

News from The Land Conservancy of New Jersey

February 2013

Community Garden to Open at South Branch Preserve!

Are you interested in growing organic vegetables with a community of other gardeners? Then come out and plant your garden at the The Land Conservancy's new Community Garden at South Branch Preserve in Mt. Olive Township! The Community Garden will be located at the Preserve's main entrance along Wolfe Road, near its intersection with U.S. Route 46 East. Open to members of The Land Conservancy and residents of Mt. Olive Township, the Community Garden offers 70 plots. Each plot will be 10 feet by 10 feet.



Garden is located in full sun.

Plots will be available on an annual basis (first-come - first-served) and will be managed by a volunteer Garden Committee comprised of gardeners. The Garden Committee will establish garden priorities, and adopt the rules for the operation of the garden. Gardeners are welcome to volunteer for this committee which will meet throughout the year.

If you would like to learn more about joining the Community Garden or Garden Committee, please contact Shari Johnson at sjohnson@tlc-nj.org or (973) 541-1010 x15 or visit our website, www.tlc-nj.org, for more information.

Supported by a Sustainable Jersey grant, The Land Conservancy of New Jersey has been working closely with municipal officials and staff to ensure the Community Garden will open later this spring.

Novices and master gardeners alike are welcome -- no experience necessary. Bring your family, friends, or just yourself. Because the garden

lies in a very sensitive watershed, no chemical fertilizers or pesticides will be allowed. Gardeners also will be responsible for providing their own seeds or plants and must use their own garden tools to tend their plots. The Land Conservancy will provide water and fencing against deer, woodchucks and rabbits. The Community

18 Acres Added to South Section of South Branch Preserve

Two additional properties totaling eighteen acres have been added to The Land Conservancy's South Branch Preserve in Mt. Olive Township. These properties adjoin the South Section of the Preserve located at the end of Shop Lane and its intersection with River Road in the Township. The South Branch Preserve now totals 390 acres.

(Continued on page 3...)



Does the winter's cold have you longing for summer? Now that the holidays are over, are you thinking about getting back out into the great outdoors on your bike in warmer weather? We have a wonderful way for you to kick off the summer and make a difference in your community. **The Land Conservancy is pleased to announce our upcoming second annual Pedal for Preservation Bike Ride Saturday, June 15, 2013.** Pedal for Preservation is a family friendly, off-road bike ride geared to cyclists of all biking abilities along the Columbia Trail, a rail to trail route that traverses Morris and Hunterdon Counties. The Columbia Trail has been called one of the most beautiful rides in New Jersey. The day will begin and end at West Morris Central High School in Chester and include good food, family friendly fun, and entertainment. Proceeds from the ride will support the work of The Land Conservancy to preserve the beautiful natural lands and special places that we all call home throughout New Jersey. For more information, visit our website, www.tlc-nj.org, or contact Rhonda VanAntwerp at rvanantwerp@tlc-nj.org or (973) 541-1010 x24.

Outdoor Issues is published by The Land Conservancy of New Jersey, a nonprofit organization founded in 1981 to preserve land and water resources, conserve open space, and inspire and empower individuals and communities to protect land and the environment.

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From the President

This year, The Land Conservancy is taking bold new steps to get to know everyone who supports our mission on a more personal level. Each time we close on a new property or see the next phase of restoration completed on one of our properties, we get so excited! Every day, we see the difference contributions from our members and supporters are making to transform the landscape in the places we all call home. In 2013, our commitment to our members and donors is to do a better job of sharing these experiences with you, the people who make all of our work possible. We will be offering variety of "hands on" experiences - in the great outdoors, online and at our Wild Acres Headquarters - focusing on heightening people's understanding and enjoyment of The Conservancy's work.



One of our most exciting projects is our plan to open a new community garden on our South Branch Preserve in Mount Olive. Look for more information about this project and how you can get involved in early spring. The Conservancy will also be offering more hikes and naturalist presentations to some of the more remote properties we have preserved and we will be hosting tours of our restoration sites. We want people to see firsthand the unique work that has been accomplished restoring some remarkable sites that many had feared were lost to development forever.

In terms of our Special Events, we are expanding both our Pedal for Preservation bike event and Gray Cup Golf Classic. For Pedal for Preservation, we have made the commitment to increase the number of riders this year so that more of you can enjoy the magnificent Columbia Trail and experience the nearby lands that The Conservancy has helped to preserve. The volunteers who help run The Gray Cup have committed to getting more people out on the links at Ballyowen Golf Club at Crystal Springs to raise money for our conservation work. We would love to have you join us at either of these events!

Lastly, for those who can't join us outdoors, we are continuing to enhance and upgrade our virtual presence. We are in the process of redesigning our website, working to make it more interactive and provide more current information. We have been steadily increasing our Social Media presence to interact with you in "real time" and keep you informed of ways you can make an immediate impact on local issues around land preservation and conservation. "Like" us on Face Book, connect with us on LinkedIn, and bookmark our website. If you haven't yet, please register for our e-newsletter (you can register on our home page) to receive information about our recent happenings.

Our vision for 2013 is to transform the many different ideas, accomplishments, and enthusiasm of the people who comprise The Land Conservancy family into a more cohesive community. We want you to see and fully understand the scope of the work you are supporting, what has been accomplished, and what we hope to achieve in the future! We promise you will have more fun supporting The Land Conservancy and have plenty of chances to enjoy the special places we call home.

David Epstein, President



Become a Member or Renew Your Membership Today!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____ E-mail _____

Membership Categories: Supporter (\$40) Sponsor (\$50) Advocate (\$100) Defender (\$250) Steward (\$500) _____ Other Gift

Leadership Circle: Leader (\$1,000) Partner (\$1,500) Patron (\$2,500) Benefactor (\$5,000) Champion (\$10,000)

Please send me a Conservancy tote bag OR t-shirt (S M L XL XXL) with my contribution of \$50 or more.

Visa Master Card Am Ex Discover Credit Card #: _____ Expiration date: _____

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*Thank you! Your contribution is tax deductible and can be made online at www.tlc-nj.org or mailed to:
 The Land Conservancy of New Jersey ♦ 19 Boonton Avenue, Boonton NJ 07005*

Fall Planting Projects for Partners for Parks Volunteers



Volunteers from Toyota/Lexus Group planting pachysandra at McCarter Park in Denville.

Nine Partners for Parks projects were completed during the 2012 fall season. A total of 155 corporate volunteers participated in projects including Bristol Myer Squibb at Duke Farms, BASF at Cross Estates, Novartis at The Conservancy's Headquarters at WildAcres, Prudential at Reeves Reed Arboretum, UPS at Lorrimer Sanctuary, Mars at Waterloo Village and Toyota/Lexus group at McCarter Park.

"It was amazing to see such enthusiasm and hard work coming from all the volunteers," stated Barbara McCloskey, Conservancy Membership & Outreach Manager. Highlights from the fall season included forty three employees from BristolMyerSquibb who planted 4,500 small native perennials of various species near the new Orientation Center at Duke Farms and 37 employees from Toyota/Lexus group who spread 100 cubic yards of top soil, planted 20 large trees & shrubs as well as 2,000 Pachysandra plants along McCarter Parks' edge.

Partners for Parks is funded in part by our corporate sponsors. Thank you to our corporate sponsors for our fall 2012 season: **BASF, Novartis, United Water, and PSEG** and thank you to all of the volunteers who participated in projects. Plans are underway for our 2013 spring season. For more information about how to get your corporation involved contact Barbara McCloskey at bmccloskey@tlc-nj.org or (973) 541-1010 x14.

2013 Scholarship Applications Available Now!

The Land Conservancy of New Jersey is accepting applications for our 2013 Scholarship Program. The Conservancy administers two major Scholarships, the Russell W. Myers Scholarship and the Rogers Family Scholarship. The Conservancy's Scholarship Program will be awarding a total of \$15,000 in 2013. Each Scholarship will provide \$7,500 to a New Jersey resident pursuing a degree in environmental science, natural resource management, conservation, horticulture, park administration, or a related field. Applications must be postmarked by April 1, 2013. Interested students can find more information and application forms at www.tlc-nj.org or by calling 973-541-1010. Our Scholarship Program has awarded \$179,000 in grants to 44 outstanding college students since its inception.

TRUSTEE NEWS

Patricia Kennelly has retired from The Land Conservancy's Board of Trustees after 15 years of distinguished service. Pat served as Vice Chair, Treasurer and Chair of the Scholarship Committee. Pat understood our budget and budgeting process so well that she ended up making budget presentations to the Board long after her term as Treasurer ended. Pat provided wonderful leadership on projects as diverse as leading our Accreditation review team and guiding our wonderful 25th anniversary celebration. In recognition of her many accomplishments, Pat Kennelly has been unanimously appointed as a Trustee Emeritus.



First FEMA Funded Project Comes to a Successful Close in Pequannock Township

The former Scott property on Riverside Drive in Pequannock Township was purchased and preserved at the end of December. This 0.3 acre property was the subject of repetitive, severe flooding, and will now be cleared to provide additional flood storage and relief from serious storm related events. The Land Conservancy of New Jersey is working hand in hand with Pequannock Township to manage the FEMA flood buyout program in the community. This program will enhance the Township's Pompton Riverwalk initiative in which 21 homes have been purchased and removed to create an interconnected trail along the River, while meeting the Township's critical need for flood mitigation and control.

(...18 Acres Added continued from page 1)

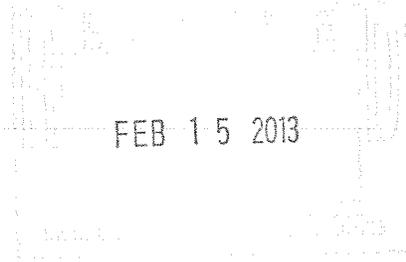
"The Land Conservancy of New Jersey is delighted to have closed on these properties," states David Epstein, President of The Land Conservancy. "We thank our partners, the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority and the New Jersey Water Supply Authority, for their participation in these projects. In addition, we wish to recognize landowners Andy Mesch and Gail Smith as well as the ongoing support of Mt. Olive Township for protecting the headwaters of the South Branch of the Raritan River, a drinking water supply source for over 1.5 million New Jersey residents. We hope this project will inspire our state, county and local agencies to continue to fund these important preservation initiatives to ensure our water resources remain secure and plentiful."

"The Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority is pleased to be a partner in the protection of these properties which add to the South Branch Preserve," explains Glenn Schweizer, Executive Director of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority. "The Preserve is an important water management resource in Morris County consisting of headwaters to the South Branch Raritan River Watershed which provides drinking water for many in Morris County and New Jersey."



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THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS!

(October 2012- December 2012)

Foundations:

- A.P. Kirby Jr. Foundation, Inc.
- Bassett Foundation
- Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation
- The Hyde and Watson Foundation
- The Norcross Wildlife Foundation, Inc
- Land Trust Alliance
- National Forest Foundation
- Victoria Foundation, Inc.

Honor Gifts:

- In Honor of Sally Epstein*
 Russ Buchanan
 David Epstein
 Roberta Dyrsten
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In Honor of Gray & Mollie Rogers:

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Edwards

In Honor of Sheila Lustbader

Mr. & Mrs. David Lustbader

Memorial Gifts:

In Memory of Rosalie Laventhal
 Mr. & Mrs. Arnon Amir
 Roberta Dyrsten
 David Epstein

Volunteers:

Peter Laue
 Ann Weissenburger
 Christie Whitehouse
 Joyce Wirth

In Memory of Herb Futoran

Mr. & Mrs. David Lustbader

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Technology Volunteer - We are seeking a professional volunteer with Intermediate to Advanced Technology skills in PC software and programming.

Volunteer Photographer - We are seeking a volunteer photographer to capture the picturesque beauty of our preserved properties and memorable moments at our fundraising events. These photos will be used in our print, website, and electronic media.

If either of these positions interest you please contact Barbara McCloskey for additional details at bmccloskey@tlc-nj.org or (973) 541-1010 ext 14. We could use your assistance and look forward to hearing from you!

CONSERVANCY NEEDS

- Art portfolio cases for large map boards up to 30"x40"
- Cordless Screwdriver
- Desk lamps
- Small coffee table lamps
- Desktop Computer Speakers with on/off switch
- Digital Camera
- Extension cords/surge protectors
- Flatware: a set of forks, knives, and spoons
- Heavy Duty Paper Shredder
- iPad or Tablet
- Mini Fridge with Freezer

If you would like to donate any of the above items please contact Shari for more information at sjohnson@tlc-nj.org or 973-541-1010 x15. Thank you!