

# THE LAND CONSERVANCY OF NEW JERSEY

# OUTDOOR ISSUES

cc: Adm.  
8/15/16 Jd

## NEW RAMAPO MOUNTAIN PRESERVE

We are pleased to announce the preservation of one of the largest remaining parcels of privately owned land in Bergen County. This 46-acre property will be owned and managed by The Land Conservancy of New Jersey as the new *Ramapo Mountain Preserve*.

This forested property is adjacent to the Ramapo County Reservation and is part of a mosaic of 12,000 acres of publicly owned wild lands in Mahwah, Oakland, Ringwood, Pompton Lakes and Wanaque. The new Preserve provides habitat for rare and endangered species and features beautiful views of the New York City skyline.

“We are very excited to complete another land preservation project in the Ramapo Mountains, the first one that we will own and manage,” said The Land Conservancy President, David Epstein. “We could not have completed this project without our many wonderful partners, including our friends at Toyota, who loaned us a four-wheel drive truck to remove debris from the property, neighbors who helped us clean up, and Mahwah Township, which allowed us to access their recycling center for the project. We are deeply indebted to each of you.”

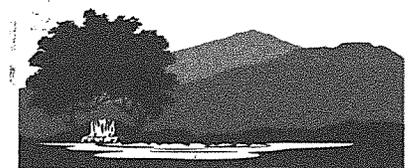


A variety of partners were instrumental in helping to plan and fund this important acquisition. Funding was provided by the New Jersey Green Acres program and the Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund as well as the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, Fyke Nature Association and The Land Conservancy. Private funding was provided by donors Robert C. Ross and Rod Ryan, which was crucial in helping complete the transaction.

“It is interesting to note that this property is near the old Hoeflerlein Trail between New Jersey’s Ringwood State Park and the Ramapo Torne in Harriman State Park. In addition to acquiring a beautiful tract of land, we expect to use this parcel to resurrect the decades-old route between New Jersey and New York,” said Ed Goodell, Executive Director of

the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. “I would like to thank Bergen County for their generous contribution to this effort and of course the New Jersey voters who have consistently voted to support open space funding for acquisitions such as this.”

The Land Conservancy will work closely with our partners at the Trail Conference to develop a parking area and hiking trail that will provide visitors the opportunity to connect to a vast network of trails in New Jersey and may one day connect over the border to Harriman State Park in New York.



**THE LAND CONSERVANCY**  
OF NEW JERSEY

## Summer 2016

**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.

### Board of Trustees:

Jack Fritts, Chairman  
Rick Simon, Vice Chair  
Andy Dietz, Treasurer  
Nancy Conger, Secretary  
Bruce Hyde, Assistant Secretary  
Rory Corrigan, Ex Officio

Sherri Albrecht

Jason Andris

Albert Booth

John de Neufville

Dennis Krumholz

Marshall McLean

Peter Meyer

Grant Parr

Tracy Meerwarth Pester

Catherine Pierson

C.P. Robinson

Tom Scudese

Carolyn Simpson

John Yingling

### Emeritus

Russell Buchanan

Richard Doremus

Sally Epstein

Pat Kennelly

Bob Lewis

John Lundberg

Sally Martin

Gray Rogers

### Staff:

President: David Epstein

Vice President, Programs: Barbara Heskins Davis

Development Director: Christi Kobus Rokicki

Development & Events Manager: Rhonda VanAntwerp

GIS Manager: Ken Fung

Land Preservation Director: Sandy Urgo

Land Preservation Specialist: Aaron Cela

Land Preservation Specialist: Linda Glosinski

Senior Land Preservation Associate: Yvonne LoGiudice

Membership & Outreach Manager: Barbara McCloskey

Communications Specialist: Lauren Krattiger

Project Manager: Robert Santee

Stewardship Manager: Dennis Briede

Consultant, Planning/Writer: Kathleen Caccavale

Consultant, Planning: Eugene Reynolds

Counsel: James Gregory, Gregory & Reed LLC

Please direct inquiries to:

The Land Conservancy of New Jersey  
19 Boonton Avenue ♦ Boonton, NJ 07005  
Ph: (973) 541-1010 Fax: (973) 541-1131  
www.tlc-nj.org

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



June 26, 2016, was the day that an agreement was finally reached on how to spend the funds that New Jersey voters overwhelmingly approved in a 2014 referendum dedicating a portion of the Corporate Business Tax (CBT) for open space preservation. The Land Conservancy worked with our friends in the conservation community and our members to lobby the legislature tirelessly for the past two years to develop legislation that would fund Green Acres, farmland and historic preservation from CBT revenues and ensure that they would not be diverted to other purposes. Our efforts paid off. For the first time in six years, a steady stream of new state funding will now flow to help us preserve the lands we all love.

During the past two years, the Governor wanted “flexibility” to spend the funds to pay state park service employee salaries and on specific programs, instead of setting funding levels for the Green Acres, farmland and historic preservation programs in advance. The Land Conservancy worked hand in hand with Keep It Green, a coalition of 180 conservation, farmland and historic preservation groups across the state, to convince the legislature that the CBT funds should be dedicated only for preservation purposes and the funds should be released now.

Our efforts resulted in the legislature developing the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” which properly dedicated the CBT funds and received overwhelming bipartisan support. After the Governor vetoed the legislation for a second time, we focused on legislators who we believed would support an override of the veto to honor the will of the voters. We wrote op-ed pieces, letters, met with legislators directly, developed a petition to the Governor, and helped our members and supporters make thousands of calls to their elected officials.

The result of the Preservation Act will make \$140 million in new state open space funds available this fall and will allow many towns to get back to work preserving open space. It will also enable The Land Conservancy to begin planning for new acquisition projects to leverage these funds to protect the many outdoor places that make New Jersey special. June 26 will now be remembered as the historic day that preserving our outdoor heritage mattered once again.

Thanks to each of you who signed the petition, wrote letters and called your legislators. You can be proud that your actions made a difference, and you will be able to see the results in beautiful lands preserved for the rest of your lives and for generations to come.

David Epstein, President

# TWIN BROOK FARM PRESERVED

Twin Brook Farm, a 22.5-acre hay farm located in White Township in Warren County is now preserved!

Twin Brook Farm was purchased from Butch and Myrna Shoemaker, local farm historians who are dedicated to keeping farming alive in White Township. Butch grew up farming this very tract with his father, and he has spent his adult life slowly buying back the family farm after his father was forced to sell.

“Thanks for the great job you did on preserving our farm. I started in business at the age of 18 and I am now 73, so I have had many employees over the years and know a lot about people skills. Aaron kept me up to date at all times through the process and was always there for any questions I had,” said Butch Shoemaker regarding The Land Conservancy’s Land Preservation Specialist, Aaron Cela.

The purchase of Twin Brook Farm will encourage the survivability of productive agriculture in White Township, Warren County and the state as a whole. This farm will also act as an impetus to hearten preservation efforts in this part of the township. We are currently working with the Shoemakers to preserve another two farms that they now own through the Non-Profit Acquisition Grant Program.



# GLENSIDE WOODS PRESERVED



The Glenside Woods III property, a parcel of land measuring nearly 12 acres, has been successfully preserved and added to Glenside Woods, a 78-acre preserve located in the northeastern part of Byram Township of Sussex County.

Located on Lee Hill Road, the newly preserved property is entirely forested, and it creates additional access to the natural features of Glenside Woods: rocky outcrops, open woods, wetlands, and streams.

These 12 acres greatly complement the other land we have preserved in North Byram such as the adjoining Briar Ridge Park with a beautiful overlook view of Lake Mohawk.

The property was preserved with funding from Byram Township’s Green Acres Planning Incentive and the Township’s Open Space Trust Fund, and will be owned and managed by Byram Township.



# MEET OUR SUMMER INTERN CLASS OF 2016



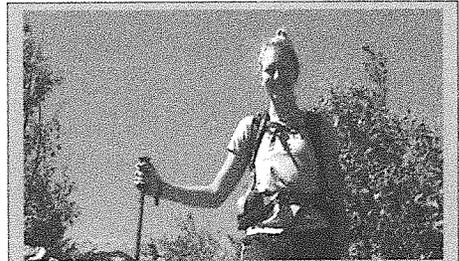
**LISA LEONE**  
**DREW UNIVERSITY '16**

Lisa writes, edits and formats documents such as Open Space plans and Environmental Resource Inventories. She enjoys New Jersey's open space, and preservation is important to her to ensure future generations have the opportunity to enjoy it as well. She looks forward to a career in the environmental or social justice field and the possibility of attending graduate school.



**BRIAN CAYCHO**  
**RUTGERS UNIVERSITY '17**

Brian prepares grant proposals for the application process, drafts articles for The Land Conservancy's periodicals and facilitates event logistics. As an outdoors enthusiast, he has a special interest in land conservation. Brian plans to work in government relations to politically promote sustainability practices.



**MORGAN KNIGGE**  
**RUTGERS UNIVERSITY '16**

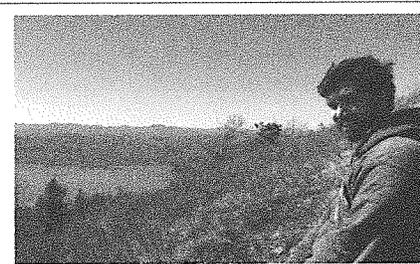
Morgan prepares plans and technical reports for different counties and municipalities. Her previous experience with Sustainable Jersey introduced her to The Land Conservancy's work, and she feels that open space preservation should be a priority in New Jersey. She welcomes any opportunity that will help her work toward environmental protection and stewardship.

Since 2000, we have hired over 60 interns from colleges and universities throughout the country. An internship is an ideal way for a student or recent graduate to gain experience in their desired sector. Through hands-on work, our interns learn the fundamentals of planning, conservation, and land stewardship while growing professionally and personally. Collectively, our interns represent a diverse range of talents, abilities, backgrounds, interests and fields of study with a shared enthusiasm for environmental well-being.



**BENJAMIN SZYDLOWSKI**  
**UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT '17**

Ben spends a lot of time outside of the office working at our South Branch Preserve and hosting youth educational programs that teach the importance of land conservation. He enjoys working closely with the surrounding natural environment, making his position here a perfect fit. In the future, Ben hopes to work with local communities to enhance land management and endangered species conservation.



**SAM ROSEN**  
**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY '15**

Sam works on updating municipal open space and recreation plans. He views interning here as an opportunity to focus entirely on his home state. He is excited to begin working on the Delaware River Watershed Initiative, where he will assist in writing a plan for the NJ Highlands Cluster. In the future, he would like to promote land conservation with a focus on preserving natural resources.



**ADAM VANDENBOS**  
**RAMAPO COLLEGE '17**

Adam spends most days maintaining our South Branch Preserve and Community Garden. He is currently working with the Lake Hopatcong Commission to build a trail. His passion for the outdoors brought him here and our mission allows him to learn in a hands-on way. He plans to complete his Bachelor's degree in environmental science and continue working in the field.

# SUSSEX COUNTY OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN UPDATE

The Sussex County Open Space and Recreation Plan is a strategic document which uses water quality modeling to identify lands whose protection and management is vital to the sustainability of the county's water resources.

Over a third of Sussex County is in public ownership, and the Plan categorizes land for three main purposes: protection, trail connectivity and expansion, and stewardship. By focusing on these three aspects of conservation and stewardship, the Plan details Sussex County's strategy to safeguard natural, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values found within it.

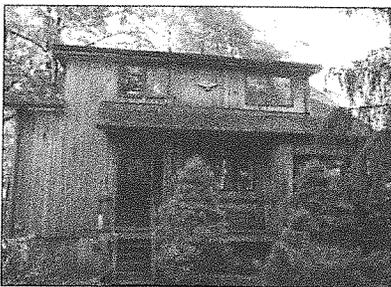
Each town in Sussex County was involved in the development of the report. The County Open Space Committee and The Land Conservancy met with each community and hosted public meetings to determine local priorities for open space.

Originally produced by The Land Conservancy in 2003, a major change for the program is the increased interest in public land management and stewardship. Nearly every town that participated voiced concern regarding the management of public and private lands. The Plan is being presented to the Board of Chosen Freeholders on July 27, 2016.

The 2016 update was supported through the Open Space Institute's Delaware River Watershed Protection Fund which seeks to ensure abundant, clean water within the 13,000-square mile drainage of the Delaware River. The fund is made possible with a lead grant from the William Penn Foundation.

"The Land Conservancy appreciates the support of the William Penn Foundation and the Open Space Institute in the development of the Plan Update for Sussex County," states Barbara Heskins Davis, Vice President of Programs. "Over 75 percent of voters in Sussex County supported the renewal of the County's Trust Fund in November. This plan is an opportunity to guide the future direction of the county's open space program for county residents."

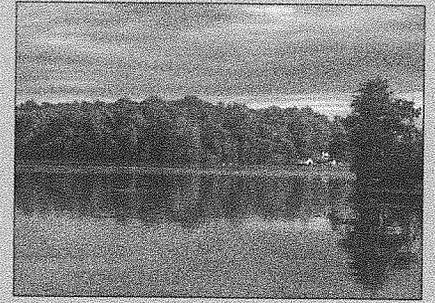
## MORE PARK PARCELS FOR OAKLAND



In June, we closed on another Roosevelt Boulevard property in Oakland Borough. The .209-acre lot contains a home that will be demolished and added to the Truman Field Park expansion project. With our assistance, the Borough is purchasing flooded homes, demolishing them and adding the parcels to the adjacent park,

thus removing vulnerable people from harm's way and creating public access to the Ramapo River. This lot is the fifth closing in the ambitious Roosevelt Boulevard Park Expansion Project.

## NEW TRAIL FOR LAKE HOPATCONG



Lake Hopatcong is the largest freshwater lake in the state of New Jersey. Located in the Highlands region, it forms part of the border between Sussex and Morris counties. In an effort to improve and enhance the lake experience and environment for everyone, the Lake Hopatcong Foundation envisions an interconnected trail around the lake's perimeter.

The Land Conservancy is working with staff and volunteers from the Lake Hopatcong Foundation to map and blaze a trail by the end of the summer. The trail, estimated to be 9 miles in length, will feature numerous access points within Hopatcong, including local parks, the Civic Center, and Hopatcong High School.

"The Lake Hopatcong Trail is an exciting opportunity to bring more people to the lake and will encourage people from different towns to interact more," said Cliff Lundin, Chair of the Sussex County Open Space Committee.

This project is funded through a grant from the Recreational Trails Program.

# THE 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PEDAL FOR PRESERVATION A SUCCESS!

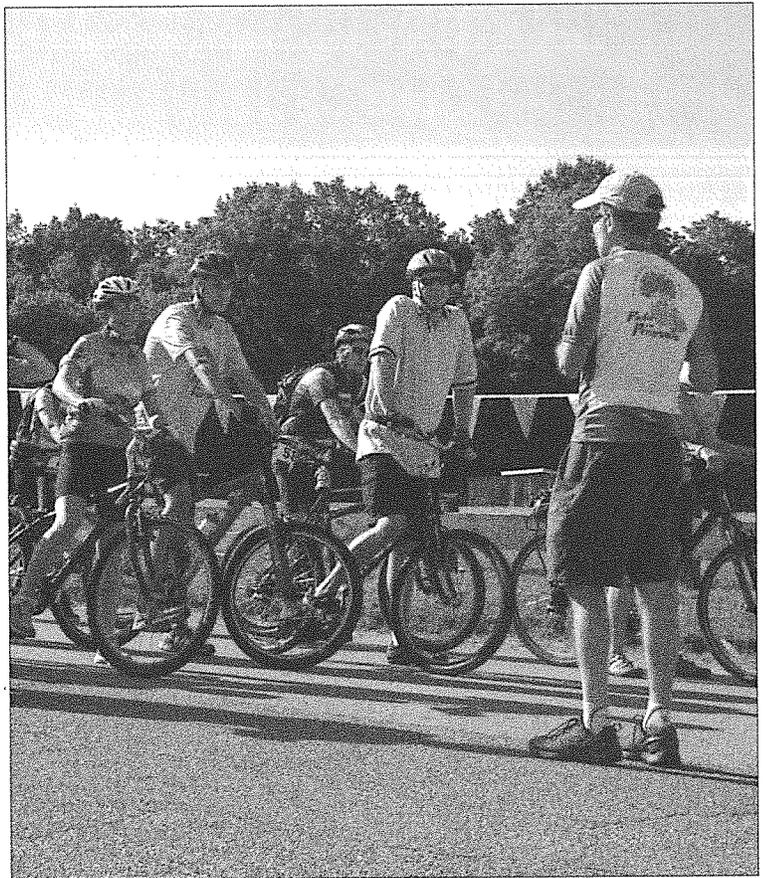
Our fifth annual Pedal for Preservation on June 18 welcomed over 450 riders of all ages and abilities! Teams, families and friends gathered to explore one of New Jersey's most scenic rail-trails through picturesque Long Valley, and helped support our efforts to preserve and protect New Jersey's natural land and water resources.

Riders enjoyed breakfast and bike checks at West Morris Central High School in Chester before hitting the Columbia Trail and were welcomed at the finish line with a barbecue lunch and live music from Last Kall Band.

Pedal for Preservation is our largest grassroots fundraiser and helps us to protect New Jersey's clean water supplies, rolling farmland vistas, natural wildlife habitats and remaining forested mountains for clean air, hiking, and recreation. It was a successful day for us, raising over \$40,000 to help continue our efforts to preserve and protect New Jersey's treasured open space.

We appreciate our sponsors and supporters without whom this event would not be possible. We thank everyone who rode, created a fundraising page and volunteered. Support from this event is essential for our continued success in making our state a better place to live. Together we are making a difference!

*To donate, please go to [tlc-nj.org/ride](http://tlc-nj.org/ride)*



# 146 SPECIES SPOTTED AT THE WORLD SERIES OF BIRDING!



The Land Conservancy's team, the *Highlands Hawks*, identified 146 species in the *Annual World Series of Birding*! Armed with binoculars and spotting scopes, the team combed the state with one objective in mind: identifying as many species of birds as possible in a 24-hour period.

This is the 20th year that we have participated in this event sponsored by the New Jersey Audubon Society. It helps focus attention on New Jersey's strategic importance to migrating birds and helps organizations like ours raise funds to protect natural habitat.

Thanks to their tireless work, over \$12,000 was raised to date through pledges from members and supporters of The Land Conservancy. These generous donations will allow us to continue our efforts to preserve open space lands and protect water resources in New Jersey.

"We ended up with 146 species with Piping Plover being the last new addition at Stone Harbor Point after an hour-long thunderstorm. Our favorite moments came when we got to watch the shorebird banding crew in action at Reeds Beach. They even let us handle a few Red Knots and Sanderlings as well. We picked up Red Knot, Sanderling, Ruddy Turnstone, Dunlin, Spotted Sandpiper, and our only Surf Scoters, Black Scoters, and Ring-billed Gull for the day while there," said Stephen Kloiber of the Highlands Hawks.

## GRAN FONDO NJ: RIDE WITH TEAM PRESERVATION!



Ride with Team Preservation in GRAN FONDO NJ on Sunday, September 11, 2016!

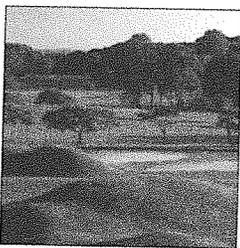
Gran Fondos, which are to cyclists what a marathon is for runners, have become the most popular mass-participation events for

cycling enthusiasts in North America. The Gran Fondo NJ ride offers a choice of route lengths (107, 75, 62, 42, and 18 miles) and timed hill segments.

Gran Fondo NJ is more than just a bike ride, it is a food festival and expo with activities and entertainment for the entire family to enjoy while raising funds to help preserve the landscapes you love.

For more information, go to [tlc-nj.org/fondo](http://tlc-nj.org/fondo)

## REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 2016 GRAY CUP GOLF CLASSIC



Join us for the *8th Annual Gray Cup Invitational Golf Classic* to be held on Monday, September 19, 2016, at the exclusive Somerset Hills Country Club in Bernardsville.

Enjoy a fantastic day of golf at a widely-acclaimed venue while helping The Land Conservancy of New Jersey continue its state-wide, award-winning programs in land preservation, stewardship and education.

The cash prize for the 2016 Hole-in-One Contest is \$35,000 in honor of The Land Conservancy's 35 years of preserving and protecting land.

*The Gray Cup Invitational Golf Classic* is named in honor of dedicated conservationist C. Graydon "Gray" Rogers for his many years of service to The Land Conservancy of New Jersey, including 10 years on the board of trustees and three years as chairman of the board.

Check-in for the event begins at 10:00 AM, and the cost for an individual player is \$600.00, which covers greens fees, cart, lunch, cocktail reception, buffet dinner, and multiple course contests, including the Hole-in-One. There are many other opportunities to participate, including foursome packages and business sponsorships.

For more information, go to [tlc-nj.org/golf](http://tlc-nj.org/golf)

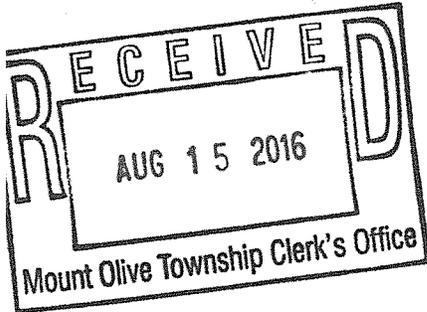


19 BOONTON AVENUE  
 BOONTON, NJ 07005  
 PH: (973)541-1010  
 FAX: (973)541-1131  
 TLC-NJ.ORG



Nonprofit Organization  
 U.S. Postage PAID  
 West Caldwell, NJ 07006  
 Permit No. 921

T6 P1 \*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*3-DIGIT 078  
 TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT OLIVE MUNICIPAL CLERK  
 204 FLANDERS-DRAKETOWN ROAD  
 PO BOX 450  
 BUDD LAKE, NJ 07828-0450



Printed on recycled paper 

## THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS!

### Pedal for Preservation Committee:

Sherri Albrecht  
 Tom Armstrong  
 Judith Brown  
 Jeff Dahl  
 Sarah Downing  
 Marty Epstein  
 Colin Manning  
 Melissa Meggiolaro  
 Stephen Noble  
 William Pettit  
 Tom Scudese  
 Rick Simon  
 Marnie Vyff  
 + Countless event  
 volunteers the day of  
 the ride!

### Memorial Gifts:

*In memory of*  
 Rosalie Lavinthal  
 Roberta Dyrsten

*In memory of Clifford Miles*  
 Deco Lav, Inc.  
 Jason Eveleth  
 Alfonso Falco  
 Alex Handin  
 Robert Hyndman  
 Robert Mancinelli  
 Jeffrey & Margaret Miles  
 Robert Wheeler

*In memory of*  
 Grace Terwilliger  
 John Schott

*In memory of Steven Tyler*  
 Rocco Perciballi

### Office Volunteers:

Judith Brown  
 Carol Lomuscio  
 Ann Weissenburger  
 Christie Whitehouse

### Corporations:

REI

### Foundations:

ADP Foundation  
 Baker Street Trust  
 Johanette Wallerstein  
 Institute  
 Victoria Foundation,  
 Inc.  
 PSEG Foundation  
 The Stone Foundation  
 of New Jersey  
 F.M. Kirby Foundation,  
 Inc.

## PLANNED GIVING: LEAVING A LEGACY GIFT

Leave a lasting legacy of open land, clean water, and preserved habitat. Name The Land Conservancy of New Jersey in your will through a bequest or as a beneficiary through other planned giving and ensure we pass this legacy down to future generations.

We hope you will think of us as you review your real estate plan. By making a planned gift, you will join other visionary donors who are helping to secure the future of precious lands and water for all to enjoy.

To make sure your goals for your gift are achieved, please contact Christi Kobus Rokicki, our Director of Development, at 973-541-1010 ext. 25