Support Our Local Farmers

As we look for ways to reduce our carbon footprint, eat healthier, and live more balanced lives, we need look no further than our own backyard. Local growers produce an abundant variety of plants, veggies, and other food items. Farmers continue to develop creative ways to attract customers such as various pick and harvest your own farms. Stone Gardens offers a CSA Program and a Farm Credit Program. Other Farms such as Guy’s Eco Garden offer certified organic produce. Some have flowers, landscape plantings, ice cream, wine, eggs, meat, poultry, or hay. We are indeed fortunate to live in a town that has such a vibrant community of farms that offer just about anything. And, if you cannot find what you are looking for at our local farms, you can always visit the Shelton farmers market, or venture over our borders to Monroe or Trumbull to sample theirs.

More Good continued.....

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The benches are as different as their settings. The first, which was placed in the late summer of 2008, is a thick pine slab sawed from the mill of Phil Jones. It is about five feet long, six inches thick, and holds the gentle curve of the tree trunk from which it was hewn. The slab rests on two rounds of tulip that escaped being split for the wood stove to serve a more uplifting purpose. The bench can be found in a little bower created by a canopy of overhanging apple boughs not far from the most recently constructed scout bridge at the western end of Nicholdale Brook.

The second bench, added this spring, is a traditional garden bench with wrought metal sides and varnished wooden slats. It is the gift of Esther Resnik, mother of board member Bruce Nichols, in memory of her sister Lee Karney. Located at the southeast corner of the first broad field beyond the brook, this bench offers a beautiful vista of grass, sky, and wooded hills. Set in a quiet spot beneath a canopy of trees and flanked by a nearby weathered stonewall, the location invites the sitter to contemplate the incredible miracle of beauty and diversity that is the gift of Nicholdale and the natural world.

Perhaps the next time your wandering takes you to the Nicholdale Farm property you might consider seeking out one of these benches and adding another dimension to your experience of this wonderful parcel.
More Good Neighbors Are Needed

It’s a real comfort when you know that you have good neighbors, especially when you have to be at work, or away on vacation. Should anything unusual occur, either accidentally or, heaven forbid maliciously, knowing that you have a good neighbor to keep an “eye” on things protects you from making a trip only to reduce your stress level, but may also help to safeguard your material interests.

Those are the kind of neighbors we truly appreciate, and those are the kind of neighbors that we desperately need. The Trust currently owns over 35 parcels of undeveloped land ranging in size from 3 to 44.7 acres throughout the City of Shelton. With a small volunteer staff of officers and Board members, we can’t be “home” to keep an “eye” on these parcels. And, having good neighbors come in. We’re hoping that neighbors living adjacent to, or near our various parcels will step forward to help us keep an “eye” on things by becoming one of our Land Monitors.

Our Land Monitors are asked to be alert to such things as boundary encroachment by neighboring landowners and illegal dumping of junk or debris. They also watch for illegal hunting, use of fire, or discharging of firearms near a fire. They also watch for illegal hunting, use of fire, or discharging of firearms near a fire. They also watch for illegal hunting, use of fire, or discharging of firearms near a fire. They also watch for illegal hunting, use of fire, or discharging of firearms near a fire. They also watch for illegal hunting, use of fire, or discharging of firearms near a fire. They also watch for illegal hunting, use of fire, or discharging of firearms near a fire. They also watch for illegal hunting, use of fire, or discharging of firearms near a fire.
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It’s a real comfort when you know that you have good neighbors, especially when you have to be at work, or away on vacation. Should anything unusual occur, either accidentally or, heaven forbid maliciously, knowing that you have a good neighbor to keep an “eye” on things not only reduces your stress level, but may also help to safeguard your material interests.

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The full day event was kicked off by guest speaker, Russ Brenneman, and his keynote address entitled Volunteers: The Foundational Building Blocks of CT Land Conservation. Brenneman, a leader in the land conservation effort, gave an overview of land conservation and how it began in the late 1800’s with citizens concerned about the industrial impacts on the environment. Their concerns led to the formation of the Conservation Trust. One of the strongest messages they came back with was that no matter what the state of the economy, our work has lasting benefits, and offers great returns for future generations to enjoy. So, to all who volunteer, support our efforts, and keep land open, Thank you!

Referring to the current dismal economic situation, Brenneman noted that many great parks and lands that we are able to enjoy today were acquired in some tough times of economic uncertainty. The state of the economy did not dampen the enthusiasm, and hard work of spirited volunteers. Their efforts and investments made in good times and bad have all resulted in great returns for successive generations. Their concern and dedication continue to be a voice in support of conservation for open spaces and active farming.

Following his address the real work began, and the Trust trio attended a series of workshops. The topics covered included preserving family lands, tools for farm friendly towns, habitat based management plans, web tools and GPS, trail planning and maintenance, record keeping, fundraising, and advocating for land conservation in tough economic times.

Between workshop sessions the attendees were able to visit various information booths, and talk with experts in the field. It was a great day and they brought back quite a bit of information that will prove useful to the Shelton Land Conservation Trust. One of the strongest messages they came back with was that no matter what the state of the economy, our work has lasting benefits, and offers great returns for future generations to enjoy. So, to all who volunteer, support our efforts, and keep land open, Thank you!

Shelton Clean Sweep

Shelton Clean Sweep was quite a success. The City’s Anti-Litter Committee sponsored event had almost 50 different groups throughout the city cleaning up road sides and properties. While it is unfortunate that there are so many litter bugs, it is refreshing to see such a community wide effort to clean up our surroundings. This year’s clean up efforts were concentrated along the Tahmore Drive Loop Trail, and a section of Rt. 108 from Willoughby Road to Nelle Rock Road. Volunteers packed the back of Rudy Gajdosik’s Truck with many bags of garbage, and other discarded debris. The volunteers even found some interesting treasures along the way that some took home to re-use. Thank you to all who helped.

Sunnyside CleanUp! Thank You All!

On Saturday, April 4, 2009, Trust President Joe Welsh, and Board Members Bruce Nichols and Joe Palmucci attended the 26th annual Connecticut Land Conservation Conference. The event is designed to give land trust members an opportunity to sharpen their skills, meet with others in the field, and learn of the latest issues and challenges facing the land conservation community.

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2009 General Meetings
Wed. Sept. 9 - 7 pm
Wed. Nov. 11 - 7 pm
Additional meetings to be announced. All general meetings will take place at the Shelton Community Center.

If you are interested in volunteering, or for additional information about the Trust, its holdings, or Land Monitors in particular, please call Hank or Jacke Lauriat at 203-929-4278.

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