

# LANDMARK

The newsletter of the Northern Connecticut Land Trust

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*“Nature always wears the colors of the spirit.” --- Ralph Waldo Emerson*

## **Annual Meeting Sunday, October 2**

The annual meeting/potluck dinner of the Trust will be held at the Somers Congregational Church from 5:30 to about 8:00. Following a social time and potluck supper beginning at 5:30 and 6:00, there will be a short business meeting to elect officers and Board members, followed by a featured speaker. Our guest this year will be Samantha Lewis, a graduate student/research coordinator at the McLean Game Refuge in Simsbury/Granby. Samantha will talk about her research on the eastern coyote and overall wildlife diversity at the Refuge.

Bring a dish to share and your own dishware and utensils. Beverages will be provided unless you wish to bring your own adult or other selections.

### **Nominated Officers, 1 year term:**

Patrice Carson, Pres.  
Jim Gage, 2<sup>nd</sup> V. Pres  
Paul Lagel, Secretary

Karl Hasel, 1<sup>st</sup> V. Pres  
Bryan Jambard, Treasurer

### **Nominated for Board of Directors, 3 year terms:**

Albert Grant, Melrose

### **NCLT Bylaw review: No revisions proposed.**



*“Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you.” --- Frank Lloyd Wright*

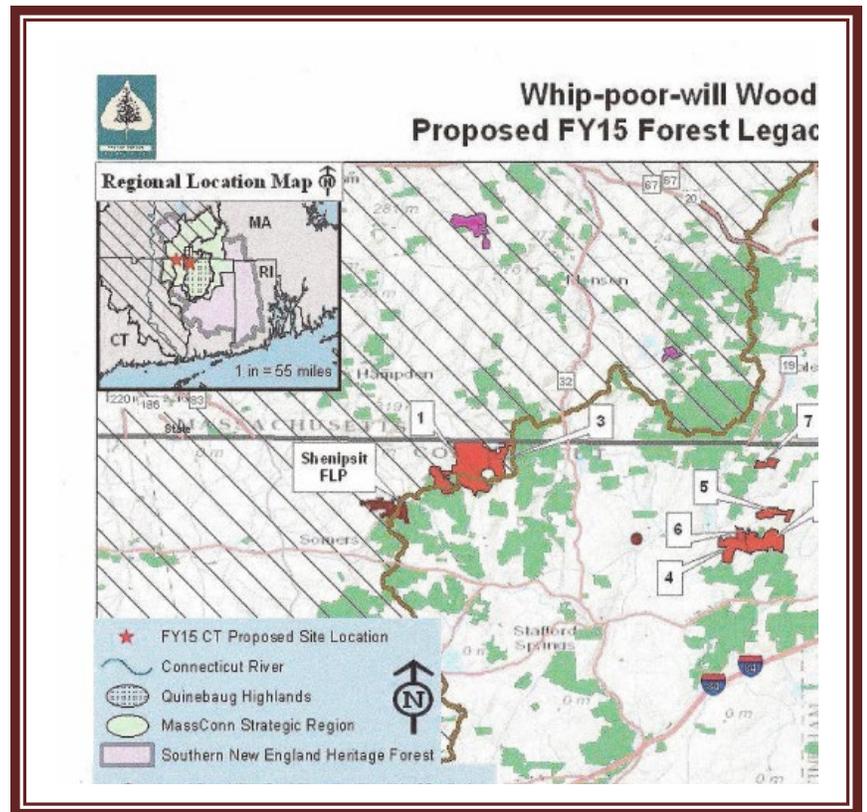
## Whip-Poor-Will Woods Achieves Recognition

Thanks to seven landowners and several federal and state agencies, 1553 acres in the Stafford area have been permanently protected via the federal Forest Legacy Program after being selected from a pool of projects across the country. The project was recently recognized by the Connecticut Land Conservation Council with its annual Excellence in Conservation Organization Award. The collaborative effort showed “tremendous commitment to conservation and great patience to navigate this process over many years”. “The conservation of these properties will benefit the natural resources, wildlife, and people of the area forever” said Dan Peracchio, CT. DEEP Forest Planner and Forest Legacy Coordinator.

WPWW is home to many state-listed wildlife species, fourteen “Very Important” and twenty-three identified as “important” species of Greatest Conservation Need as named in the Ct. Wildlife Conservation

Plan. Over 400 acres fall within public water supply watershed areas, and over half the acres drain into the Connecticut River.

The project falls within a High Priority area for the multi-state MassConn Sustainable Forest Partnership, a regional group of 25 public and private conservation entities focused on land conservation and forest stewardship, spanning 38 towns in northeast Ct and central Mass. The Northern Ct Land Trust is a member of this partnership representing you and working for your conservation interests in the area.



## **NCLT Properties to Join National Forest Preservation Movement**

The Old Growth Forest Network ([www.oldgrowthforest.net](http://www.oldgrowthforest.net)) is a U.S. 501c non-profit forest preservation organization. The Old-Growth Forest Network is the only national organization focused solely on protecting and restoring old-growth forests. It does this by identifying old forests, verifying their protection from logging and development and allowing public accessibility and enjoyment, and then formally recognizing them as part of the Network. Details about the forests are then shared on the organization's website.

Says founder Dr. Joan Maloof, “The idea for the Old-Growth Forest Network was born in 2007 during my forest travels. The organization would identify and help protect one forest in each county of the U.S. where forests could grow (approximately 2,370 counties out of 3,140) and let people know where they were located. In this way, I believe, we could help stop the destruction of what old-growth remained, help some forests recover, and enable more Americans to experience an old forest.” There are currently 139 inductees in 25 states, one of the most recent being the Johnston Preserve in Lyme, Ct. (the 3<sup>rd</sup> in Ct). Designated properties receive a certificate and a sign when accepted into the network.

The network has only 3 requirements; it is accessible, it has open-to-the-public trails, and it is protected forever from logging (other than for public safety). The protection can be as simple as a Board resolution stating such or by using the template Memorandum of Agreement stating the intent of the forest owner to protect the property from logging. Some of the benefits of an OGFN designation include:

1. spreading awareness of the forest and the ecological aesthetic values of old-growth forests
- 2) acclaim for NCLT's preservation and stewardship efforts
3. joining a growing alliance of old-growth preservation and
4. enhanced support for forest protection and organization funding.

In July the NCLT Board of Directors nominated the Webster Preserve and Echo Ridge properties adjacent to Valley Falls Park in Vernon for inclusion in this network. Walking the land with the area representative recently, it was noted that the properties were not necessarily old growth yet, but with protection from logging, they could become good examples of such forests and would be good candidates and should be recommended to the organization for designation. Plans for the October 16 annual Fall Foliage walk on the properties will include a formal announcement of the addition to the network.

*“One touch of nature makes the whole world kin.” --- William Shakespeare*

