



CONSERVATION MATTERS

SUMMER 2010 | VOL 14, NO. 1

HUNTERDON LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

FRENCHTOWN PRESERVE WELCOMES HIKERS, BIRDWATCHERS

The Hunterdon Land Trust's annual Day on the Land Event was held at the Frenchtown Preserve on June 12th. More than 40 nature lovers, hikers and birdwatchers took guided tours to get to know the property.

The 150 acre Frenchtown Preserve stretches all the way from the intersection of Route 12 and Horseshoe Bend Road to Route 29 just south of Frenchtown. Birdwatchers, led by Hunterdon Land Trust board member Jan Holms, enjoyed seeing the many species that make the preserve their home including the yellow warbler, pileated woodpecker and nesting osprey.

Leslie Sauer, local naturalist and author of *The Once and Future Forest* guided a nature



walk, and made a compelling case for forest preservation. She also outlined future plans for the property which include a small parking area near the trail head just off Horseshoe Bend Road and additional deer exclosures. A deer exclosure is an area enclosed by a tall fence to eliminate deer browsing. By setting aside an area that deer can not enter deer exclosures demonstrate what a forest would look like if the natural biodiversity and regeneration of the forest were not impacted by the overpopulation of deer. There is currently one deer exclosure off of the marked hiking trail, and two more are planned.

If you would like to receive a trail map and guide to the Frenchtown Preserve, visit our website at www.hlta.org or give us a call at 908.237.4582.

The Day on the Land and Volunteer Trail Day were supported by a grant from the Merck Company Foundation.

Thank You!

On May 15th dozens of volunteers helped to get the Frenchtown Preserve ready for the Day on the Land by clearing and marking trails, building the first deer exclosure and even moving a massive tree that had fallen across one of the trails. A big thank you to our volunteers for their hard work and making it possible for people to enjoy the natural beauty of Hunterdon County at the Frenchtown Preserve.



INSIDE

GREETINGS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	2
HUNTERDON LAND TRUST FARMERS' MARKET REPORT	2
MID-YEAR PRESERVATION UPDATE: YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AT WORK	3
KYLE'S TRAIL: IN MEMORY OF PFC KYLE P. DONNELLY	3
MEMBERS & SUPPORTERS	4
2009 FINANCIAL REPORT	7

Greetings!

FROM OUR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Summer is here and we are ready! There's no better time of year to enjoy the bounty and beauty of Hunterdon County, it makes me appreciate the need to protect what's important.



Recent events remind us of the value of conservation and the responsibility we all have to safeguard the natural world. It's hard not to feel helpless as we watch oil spew into the Gulf of Mexico, threatening precious ecosystems, wildlife and local economies.

But action is the best remedy and conservation is an important part of the solution to the energy puzzle. We can all take small steps to build momentum: forgo that extra trip in the car and take your bicycle instead, turn the air conditioner off and head for a cool walk in the woods, visit farm stands and farmers markets to purchase local food.

And most importantly continue to support efforts in your own community to permanently protect our landscapes, natural resources, and local economies. Preserving the farms and natural areas of this county from the destruction of sprawling development means the next generation will be able to enjoy a clean environment and high quality of life.

All the best,

Margaret Waldock
Executive Director

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Hunterdon Land Trust Farmers' Market at the Historic Dvoor Farm

The Farmers' Market at Dvoor opened in May of 2010 for its fourth season. Market shoppers are treated each week to healthy and delicious food from local farmers, live music and a shady spot to rest and visit with neighbors and friends under the central tent.

Over the first months of the Market between 800 and 1,100 people have turned out each Sunday for the grass fed meats, local fruits and vegetables, artisan breads and cheeses, organic wine, and alpaca woolens.

In June market attendees were treated to a special Water Preservation Day with a rain barrel demonstration by Jack Guthrie of ProductWater and a tour of the Walnut Brook restoration project at the Dvoor Farm by the North Jersey Resource Conservation and Development. NJN public television filmed the market for their new series NJ Fresh! which zooms in on community farmers' markets throughout the state, searching for the freshest produce, learning what to buy when and how to prepare it. Matt McPherson of Matt's Red Rooster hosted a chef's demonstration teaching curious shoppers how to grill a Romaine Salad topped with Bobolink Dairy's Frolic Cheese.

New for
2010

**FARMERS' MARKET
OPEN THURSDAYS, 3PM-7PM**

We know that sometimes you can't get to the Market on Sunday. Whatever the reason, a weekend getaway, an unexpected guest, or maybe the fact that you work near Flemington, but don't live close you don't have to miss out on our farmer's fresh, local, delicious foods. From June 10 to September 30th the Hunterdon Land Trust Farmers' Market at Dvoor is now open Thursdays from 3 pm to 7 pm.

Thursday shoppers are in for some treats too. Members of the land trust can take advantage of a new member special each week. So far members have received free herb plants and hand made soaps. The special will vary each week, so stop by the land trust booth at the entrance to the market to become a member and find out about the special deal of the week.

We're excited to welcome some farmers to the Thursday Farmers' Market at Dvoor who weren't able to participate on Sunday. Ted and Susan Blew's Oak Grove Plantation are a wonderful addition. If you have an herb garden, or want to start one, you won't want to miss their huge selection.



In the first half of 2010 the Hunterdon Land Trust preserved six properties totaling 505 acres.

Thanks to your support we were able to preserve properties all over Hunterdon County, and that means cleaner water, habitat for wildlife, and greater access to the County's natural beauty, now and for generations to come.

33 ACRES ADDED TO LOCKATONG PRESERVE

In early 2010 The Hunterdon Land Trust preserved 33 wooded acres in Kingwood township. The preserved property is now part of the 1,000+ acre greenbelt along the Lockatong Creek and includes sensitive wetlands that are important for maintaining the region's water quality.

THOMAS A. SAEGER LAND PRESERVE CREATED IN THE HIGHLANDS REGION OF HOLLAND TOWNSHIP

The newly created Thomas A. Saeger Land Preserve includes fields and forests that impact the water quality of Milford Creek, a tributary of the Delaware River. The preserve adjoins two other properties that have been protected by the Hunterdon Land Trust, and its preservation creates an unbroken swath of 150+ acres of preserved land.

Tom Saeger loved to share the natural beauty of his land and would bring neighborhood children each year to explore and enjoy the fresh air and country living. The land trust is honored to carry on the tradition Tom established in his lifetime by preserving property for future generations to enjoy.

PROTECTING WATER QUALITY AND WILDLIFE HABITAT IN BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP

The Hunterdon Land Trust, the New Jersey Audubon Society, Bethlehem Township and the New Jersey Water Supply Authority (NJWSA) worked together to acquire 36 acres in Bethlehem Township. The preservation of the property protects the water quality of the Spruce Run Reservoir and also provides habitat for many birds, including bluebirds, Woodthrush and Veerys as well as the Jefferson salamander and the Eastern box turtle, a species of special concern in New Jersey.

PRESERVING FARMLAND IN HOLLAND TOWNSHIP

The Hunterdon Land Trust permanently protected what had been the largest unreserved farm in Holland Township. Preservationists and farmers alike have big reasons to celebrate the successful completion of this deal. The farm has great conservation value given its size and location in the middle of hundreds of acres of preserved land. To lose this property to development would have dealt a serious blow to preservation efforts in the region. The farm is now home to sustainable and cow friendly Bobolink Dairy. Come see them at the Farmers' Market at the Historic Dvoor Farm.



Johnathan White of Bobolink Dairy with some of his cows.

WEST AMWELL FARMLAND PRESERVED

The Hunterdon Land Trust preserved another 130 acres of farmland on County Route 179 in West Amwell. The property was most recently owned by Toll Brothers Inc., the nation's leading builder of luxury homes. A public access corridor has been set aside in the southwest corner of the property. This wooded area, when combined with the upcoming preservation of the adjacent Kilmer Farm and the United Water property preserved several years ago, will protect a large stretch of unbroken forest reaching from Route 179 to Route 518. A walking trail through the forested corridor is planned. In addition to decreasing the development pressure on the Route 179 corridor, preservation of this farmland will maintain the rural character of West Amwell and help to keep farmland affordable so that local farmers can continue to contribute to the economy.

73 ACRES NEAR FRENCHTOWN PRESERVED

The Hunterdon Land Trust, the New Jersey Conservation Foundation and Kingwood Township have preserved 73 acres just outside of Frenchtown, NJ on Horseshoe Bend Road. The newly preserved property includes 25 acres that will be open to the public for recreation and 48 acres which are now permanently protected for agricultural use. The property is the third preservation project to be completed recently on Horseshoe Bend Road, joining two farms that were protected earlier in the year.

We would love to keep you up to date about our activities. Please sign up for our email updates at www.hlta.org.

LAMBERTVILLE TRAIL HONORS THE MEMORY OF Pfc. KYLE P. DONNELLY

In spring 1999, Caryell Farm was preserved by the Hunterdon Land Trust, D&R Greenway, and the New Jersey Green Acres Program through a conservation easement that provided for public access on 17 wooded acres.

In March of this year, a trail was created through forest on Caryell Farm in honor of Pfc. Kyle P. Donnelly who died in a car accident near the woods. In 2006 Donnelly was home on pre-deployment leave from the U.S. Ma-

rine Corps and was scheduled to leave for Iraq the following month when the accident occurred. He left behind many friends and family who created a roadside memorial at the site of the crash at the time of his death.

Donnelly's friends and family gathered on Goat Hill Road to blaze the nature trail allowed by the preservation of Caryell Farm. Armed with rakes, power saws, pruning shears and more, they worked for several hours to clear and mark the trail. In remembrance of

Pfc. Kyle P. Donnelly this trail will be known as "Kyle's Trail."

Chimney Hill Estate Inn, which is also located on Goat Hill Road, coordinated the gathering of friends and family, along with Joyce Koch volunteer land steward for the Hunterdon Land Trust. The public is invited to come and enjoy this special trail. Parking is available, with permission, at Chimney Hill Estate Inn, who will direct visitors to Kyle's Trail.

Thank You!

Donations from individuals and businesses make the land preservation and stewardship programs of the Hunterdon Land Trust possible.

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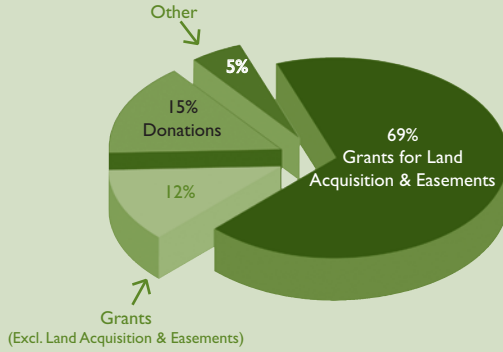
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2009 FINANCIAL REVIEW

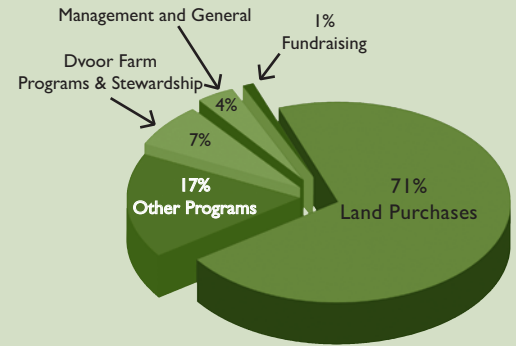
2009 REVENUE HIGHLIGHTS



	Amount	% of Total
Grants for Land Acquisition & Easements	\$ 1,033,726	69%
Grants (Excl. Land & Easements)	177,047	12%
Donations	223,473	15%
All Other	68,621	5%
Total	\$ 1,502,867	100%

2009 EXPENSE HIGHLIGHTS

	Amount	% of Total
Land Purchases	\$ 1,006,519	71%
All Other Programs	239,522	17%
Dvoor Farm Programs & Stewardship	99,417	7%
Management and General	50,597	4%
Fundraising	18,072	1%
Total	\$ 1,414,121	100%



FOUNDATION SUPPORT

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 Large Foundation
 Norcross Wildlife Foundation
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