



# Hunterdon Land Trust Alliance

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### 130 ACRE TOLL BROTHERS PROPERTY PRESERVED IN WEST AMWELL

West Amwell, N.J. - The Hunterdon Land Trust proudly announces the preservation of 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, and was used as a nursery that supplied trees for the company's landscaping projects. A 75 foot wide by 1000 foot long 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.

Mayor Tom Molnar was on hand at the March 16th closing of the deal to congratulate the township's Open Space Committee on their latest conservation victory. He noted that with the addition of this property West



*Sean Pfeiffer, Mayor Tom Molnar, Thomas Gestite of Toll Brothers and Margaret Waldock and Kate Buttolph of the Hunterdon Land trust at the closing of the preserved West Amwell Property*

Amwell is now home to 5,200 acres of preserved land. The township totals roughly 14,000 acres and is well on its way to achieving its goal to protect 7,000 acres. The property will be sold at auction as preserved farmland.

The protection of both farm fields and forest on the property means that there are many benefits to the deal coordinated by the Hunterdon Land Trust. “The preservation of this property, in conjunction with several other nearby preservation projects that were completed over the last three years, helps remove some development pressure from the Route 179 area” said Sean Pfeiffer, the chairman of the township’s Open Space Committee. He adds that once the Kilmer farm preservation is complete “people will be able to walk through the woods from Route 179 all the way to Route 518”. Preserving the rest of the land for agriculture will maintain the rural character of West Amwell and also help to keep farmland affordable so that local farmers can continue to contribute to the economy.

Funding for the purchase was provided by the Hunterdon Land Trust through the State Agriculture Development Committee, by the Township of West Amwell, and by a grant to HLTA by the Hunterdon County Agriculture Development Board.

The Hunterdon Land Trust is Hunterdon County, New Jersey’s only countywide land trust. Incorporated as a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization in 1996, the land trust is committed to preserving and protecting the rural landscapes and natural resources of Hunterdon County. To learn more about the Hunterdon Land Trust, please visit their website at [www.hlta.org](http://www.hlta.org).

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