



# TRUST

A Publication of The North Haven Land Trust, Inc.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Annual Meeting, Thursday May 9, 2013**  
Business Meeting 6:00 pm  
Program 6:30 pm
- **Election of Officers**
- **Property Highlight**

## MORNING MIST PROPERTY

Have you ever been stopped for a train crossing Clintonville Road? If you happen to be traveling east toward North Branford, look to your right just before the railroad crossing and you have found the Morning Mist Property. Access to this 3.75 acre property is a narrow band located between the water company station and Mike's Automotive.

In recent years, a path was blazed through the property, some bird houses and nesting balls were put in place, and a sign was placed at the entrance. A recent tour of the site by Land Trust board members found evidence of many birds still visiting as well as deer tracks.



Entrance to Morning Mist from Clintonville Road

Other than the small improvements, the property has been left to nature, and along with that comes the

risk and evidence of invasive plants.

The Land Trust is developing a plan to remove the (continued on page 2)

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## ANNUAL MEETING MAY 9, 2013

The Annual Meeting of the North Haven Land Trust will take place on Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 6:30 pm at the North Haven Middle School.

Following a brief business meeting, Ranger Russ Miller of the Meigs Point Nature Center at nearby Hammonasset

Beach State Park will spend some time with us discussing various snakes and turtles native to Connecticut. Of course he'll bring along some "guests" to entertain and educate everyone. Perhaps some of them are in your own backyard!

While the primary purpose of these visits is education, they are also an entertaining experience when we have such unusual visitors. This year's program promises to be another great experience. Please join us for another entertaining and fun night.

## EARTH DAY AT NORTH HAVEN MIDDLE SCHOOL

The North Haven Land Trust was one of several organizations that celebrated Earth Day on Saturday, April 13. Officially Earth Day is April 22, this year falling on a Monday, but cities and towns across the country and around the world often choose another day around this date for their own celebrations. While it is a global celebration of our planet, each town may focus on issues and activities of a more local nature.

The North Haven Conservation Commission is the local sponsor for this event and coordinated all the activities of the day. These included a scavenger hunt, recycling games, and projects and posters created by North Haven School students. Students from Ridge Road School created colorful fish from recycled water bottles and students from Clintonville School put on a skit promoting recycling

of paper in the classroom. Home Depot sponsored some hands on projects providing an opportunity for kids to build birdhouses and wooden cars, as well as planting some flower and vegetable seeds.

In all, there were over thirty organizations exhibiting information about their roles in the community and their efforts to be good stewards of the land.

## MORNING MIST (continued from Page 1)

invasive plants and to encourage the growth of native plants. Later during the month of April, a workday has been planned with Boy Scout Troop 811 to begin the removal of the invasive growth, to clear debris from the property, and to improve signage.

The Land Trust will also look into plans for possibly developing trails on the property with the hope that more people will take advantage of this natural space. Watch for improvements as you are passing by.



Board Member John Tibor at Earth Day Celebration

## DONATIONS OF LAND

The North Haven Land Trust is always interested in obtaining land to preserve as protected space for the enjoyment of all residents of North Haven. If you have land that you are willing to donate, please contact any board member. The Land Trust will be happy to discuss with you the process and options available for accepting donations. These could include outright gifts of land or a conservation easement. Your gift will become a perpetual gift to all the residents of our town for generations to follow and may create estate and tax advantages.

## RESOURCES ON OUR WEBSITE

Are you interested in knowing what's happening at neighboring land trusts? The [Education Links](#) on our website provides access to several of our neighbors' websites, as well as links to Peter's Rock Association and the North Haven Trail Association. There are also links to some state and national organizations devoted to land conservation. Check them out on our website:

[www.northhavenlandtrust.org](http://www.northhavenlandtrust.org)

**LAND TRUST MEMBERSHIP**

**PHOTOS  
FROM  
2012  
ANNUAL  
MEETING**

April is the time of year when we ask members to consider renewing their annual membership. In these fiscally challenging times there is no greater need than now to take a look at our financial picture and to see what your annual dues are used for.

Perhaps the largest cost that we incur is our annual insurance that generally amounts to nearly \$2,000. Each year at our annual meeting (see related article) we plan an educational program during which we have guest presenters and some interesting animals. We must pay for some property management such as brush clearing, tree removal and other maintenance. We also have administrative costs such as the printing and mailing of this newsletter and other correspondence.

For many years our investments

yielded sufficient interest income, which when combined with your annual membership fees was adequate to meet all these obligations.

As we are sure you have experienced as well, we find our interest rates declining in recent years and along with it, our interest income. Our expenses have remained fairly constant, but we must make up the difference through membership fees.

Please take the time now to renew your membership and, equally important, please tell your neighbors and friends to consider joining as well. New members will help to provide the needed financial support. Please share this newsletter with others, or let us know someone to whom we can send a newsletter.



**NORTH HAVEN LAND TRUST**



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|--|--|----------|
| Student (under 18 years) . . . . \$ 2.00 | I am enclosing an additional contribution for land acquisition.      | \$ _____ |
| Individual . . . . . \$ 15.00            | I am enclosing an additional contribution to defray operating costs. | \$ _____ |
| Family . . . . . \$ 20.00                | I would like to volunteer my time to help the Trust. Please call me. |          |
| Life . . . . . \$ 200.00                 |  |          |

<b>NAME</b>	<b>PHONE</b>
<b>STREET</b>	<b>TOWN</b>
<b>STATE</b>	<b>DATE</b>
<b>ZIP CODE</b>	

Mail application and check to: **NORTH HAVEN LAND TRUST**, P. O. Box 262, North Haven, CT 06473  
*Please use this form to make payment of your 2013 dues. Dues and contributions are tax deductible.*

FIND US ON THE WEB:  
[WWW.NORTHHAVENLANDTRUST.ORG](http://WWW.NORTHHAVENLANDTRUST.ORG)



**T H E N O R T H H A V E N  
L A N D T R U S T , I N C .**

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**Preserving open space for the benefit of  
the community.**

The North Haven Land Trust is a non-profit corporation dedicated to acquiring and preserving open space in our town. The NHLT accepts donations of land, conservation easements or money to purchase land.

The more than 125 land trusts in Connecticut have acquired and preserved more than 22,000 acres of land. Through the Connecticut Land Conservation Council the NHLT works closely with The Nature Conservancy and other environmental organizations. It is independent of town government but cooperates with the North Haven Conservation Commission and town officials to achieve common goals. The Board of Directors, officers and members are your neighbors who have joined together to save some of our streams, ponds, woodlands and marshes.

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**P. O BOX 262 . NORTH HAVEN , CT 06473**