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Preserving Farmland in Holland Township

The Hunterdon Land Trust permanently protected what had been the largest unreserved farm in Holland Township. 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.

Protecting Water Quality and Wildlife Habitat in Bethlehem Township

The Hunterdon Land Trust, the NJ Audubon Society, Bethlehem Township and the NJ 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 NJ.

West Amwell Farmland Preserved

The land trust preserved 130 acres of farmland on County Route 179 in West Amwell. The property was owned by Toll Brothers Inc., and used as a nursery that supplied trees for the company. A public access corridor was 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. In addition to lessening 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 NJ Conservation Foundation and Kingwood Township have preserved 73 acres just outside of Frenchtown, NJ on Horseshoe Bend Road. The property includes 25 natural acres that are open to the public for recreation and 48 acres which are now permanently protected for agricultural use.



THE HUNTERDON LAND TRUST AT THE HISTORIC DVOOR FARM

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The Hunterdon Land Trust is a nonprofit, county-wide organization dedicated to preserving the rural landscapes and natural resources of Hunterdon County.

At first an all-volunteer effort the land trust has grown with the support of over 800 members, donors and volunteers, into an effective and experienced land trust with a staff of six.



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As of 1/1/2011

Our new address will be:

The Hunterdon Land Trust
at the Historic Dvoor Farm
111 Mine Street
Flemington, NJ 08822

Preservation Spotlight : Camp Winnewald

"Camp Winnewald Forever!" The popular end-of-season cry is one step closer to reality thanks to Bob Jones, the owner of Camp Winnewald who is working with the Hunterdon Land Trust to donate a conservation easement on his property.

Camp Winnewald is a day camp in Clinton Township that welcomes hundreds of kids aged 5 to 12 each summer. Campers are treated to a wide variety of activities, many of which focus on getting kids outdoors.

Bob has owned and run the camp with the help of his wife and terrific staff for 45 years. "Everything I love is right here" he says "teaching kids, sports, enjoying the outdoors and animals."

"Research shows that kids aren't spending as much time outdoors anymore" says Bob, "they are nature deprived". Programs at Winnewald are tailored to different age groups. For example the youngest kids learn to fish in Prescott Brook, which

winds through the property, while older campers take more challenging trips around the county.

Bob is preserving his land because he hopes it will always be a place for children to connect with nature. By donating the conservation easement on his camp, he is truly giving the children of Hunterdon County, present and future, a wonderful gift.



Margaret's Musings, an insider's look at the land trust from Executive Director Margaret Waldo

Next year the Hunterdon Land Trust turns 15 years old and like all teenagers the organization is growing up.

Part of our transition is moving our offices to the Historic Dvoor Farm. We are thrilled to be moving into our permanent

home and look forward to more opportunities to engage our constituents and community

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The Historic Dvoor Farm

2010 marks a turning point for the Hunterdon Land Trust and the Historic Dvoor Farm—by the end of the year we'll have officially moved our offices to the farm.

The Dvoor Farm was already home to some of the land trust's most popular programs: our producers only farmers' market, educational workshops and the restoration of Walnut Brook, which flows through the farm.

Once we are settled onsite, the land trust plans to continue making the farm a place for Hunterdon residents to connect with the important land preservation and stewardship done by the organization.

We'd like to thank Flemington Borough for a generous grant that allowed us to update the farmhouse to accommodate the needs of a modern office—and ask for your help to make the rest of our plans a reality.



Our vision for the farm includes a summer camp for kids, a sustainable plan for the onsite old growth forest, classrooms for educational programming, the use of the house to showcase photos of our preserved properties and more. Your gift to the Hunterdon Land Trust will help make the Dvoor Farm a thriving community resource.



Wild and Scenic Lower Delaware River

The Lower Delaware was officially designated as a Scenic & Recreational River within the National Wild & Scenic Rivers system by the US Department of the Interior in 2000.

The Hunterdon Land Trust recently entered into an agreement to help the National Park Service, which administers the Lower Delaware, protect and man-

age the natural resources surrounding this magnificent river. This partnership focuses on four goals:

- ◆ Preserve the river's water quality.
- ◆ Preserve open space to maximize the health of the ecosystem, preserve scenic views and minimize the impact of development.
- ◆ Encourage low impact recreational use of the river.
- ◆ Minimize the potential for inappropriate development within the river corridor.

We already have several pro-

jects already underway including the permanent preservation of over 500 acres in the watershed and planting a native warm-season grass meadow at the Milford Bluffs Preserve to provide habitat for ground nesting birds including the Vesper Sparrow and Bobolink, both on the NJ Endangered & Threatened Species list.

Thank you to the National Park Service and the Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River Management Committee for helping us keep Hunterdon County Wild and Scenic.

Margaret's Musings, continued from page 1

at this landmark property. To learn more about our plans for the farm, please see "The Historic Dvoor Farm" on page 2.

Given this period of transition, I felt it was important to take a step back, evaluate, and chart a path for the next few years to ensure we are making the best use of our resources to fulfill our conservation mission. To that end the Board and staff of the land trust embarked on developing a long term strategic plan. This past sum-

mer, we asked questions, listened to our community and examined the organization. Through this process we've gained insight into where we are, and where we want to go.

Our first priority remains the preservation of ecologically and agriculturally important land in the county. It is a challenging time to finance land acquisition, but we are committed to working with our partners in state and local government to ensure that future generations enjoy clean air and water, the forests,

fields and local food that we do today.

We are also committed to expanding our efforts to engage our community and create a conservation legacy. Over the coming months we'll be reaching out to you to let you know how you can get involved.

I wish you all the best during this time of thanks and reflection and hope that you and yours find peace in each other's company and in the natural beauty of our county.



Preservation Roundup: 2010

In 2010 the Hunterdon Land Trust preserved six properties totaling over 500 acres. Thanks to your support we were able to preserve properties all over Hunterdon County, and that means cleaner water, protected 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

The Saeger Preserve in Holland Township 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 busloads of 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.

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