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Tree Sale! Order your tree to support the OCLT and Orange County Audubon



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OCLT's 2008 Annual Dinner: An event you didn't want to miss!



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OCLT supports urban garden in Newburgh

Summer '08



Orange County Land Trust

OpenSpaceNews

Protecting your Local Treasures

Land Protection News

WARWICK: NEW PRESERVE GREENVILLE: ORGANIC FARM PROTECTED SULLIVAN CO: CONSERVATION EASEMENT

The Orange County Land Trust is pleased to announce the addition of a 30 acre preserve in Warwick, an 85 acre organic produce farm in Greenville, and 155 acres of forested lands in Mamakating, bringing the total of preserved land to 3,200 acres in Orange, and now Sullivan, counties.



These lands will remain undeveloped in perpetuity in accordance with their individual deed restrictions. Keith's Farm, an organic vegetable farm in Greenville owned by Keith Stewart and Flavia Bacarella, had its development rights purchased with county open space funds in December. A conservation easement held by the Land Trust will enable it to remain working farmland forever. The 30 acre Roy Preserve in the Town of Warwick is a biodiverse wetland habitat situated along the Pochuck Creek that will be open to the public for passive recreation and nature study.

The Land Trust was also excited this year to close on its first conservation easement in Sullivan County. The 155 acre parcel located in the Town of Mamakating has important conservation value as well as scenic beauty. The easement contains valuable woodlands, a network of creeks, and views of the Shawangunk Ridge.

In addition, the Land Trust is currently working on preserving two more working farms, as well as several biologically diverse



properties with significant scenic value, with closings slated for this year. The Land Trust is looking forward to concluding the sale of an 81 acre conservation easement at Arrow Park in Monroe to the State of New York this summer. Arrow Park is a 250 acre international center for healing supported by ABC News and its parent company, The Walt Disney Company.

photo left: 155 acres of ecologically valuable woodlands in Mamakating, Sullivan County

photo right: The Roy Preserve: 30 acres of important wetlands along Warwick's Pochuck Creek

Letter from the Executive Director: Preserving Places We Care About



I recently spent my vacation in China visiting the Sichuan region and meeting with scientists at the Chengdu Giant Panda Research Center. One of the things that really struck me in my travels was the amount of locally produced foods consumed by the people I met. Nearly everyone in this region knew where their food came from and the farmer who produced it. Early morning traffic was clogged with every conceivable type of vehicle bringing local fresh foods from the surrounding countryside into the cities and villages.

Meanwhile here at home it seems that a large percent of our food is shipped to us from elsewhere, often thousands of miles from

where it was grown and treated with preservatives to keep it fresh, all adding significantly to product costs. It seems counter-intuitive in this new fuel-conscious era to pave over prime farmland in our own backyard and then pay the cost to truck in food from elsewhere. Buying local makes sense. Orange County farmers do a great job- and it's not easy. These businesses deserve our support and admiration.

It was great to see China but it was even better to come home and see the farmland and places I recognize in my local community. This sense of place and the distinct areas worth preserving in Orange County make this a very special little corner of the world.

At the Orange County Land Trust we have a dedicated board of directors and staff who understand this. Every day we help preserve the places we care about right here in Orange County.

Jim

James Delaune
Executive Director

How the Land Trust Preserves Land

Orange County Land Trust is a countywide land trust with a conservation vision for this spectacular region and our local communities that we cherish so much.

Our mission is to preserve the fields, forests, wetlands, ridgelines and river corridors in and around Orange County through voluntary land conservation.

Working in partnership with individual property owners, we place conservation easements on private lands and acquire or accept donated land for use as public preserves. Nonprofit status allows the Orange County Land Trust to

accept gifts of cash, land and conservation easements, allowing donors a charitable gift income tax deduction.

The County of Orange and Orange County Land Trust have a long history of working together on open space initiatives. We have cooperated in developing an open space master plan that designates priority conservation and protection areas in keeping with New York State priority protection criteria. The County in turn relies upon the expertise of the Orange County Land Trust in securing conservation easements, conducting site monitoring, and assuring deed compliance and enforcement.

Raffle Tickets still available!

Only 100 to be sold at \$100 each for airfare and 4-night lodging for two at one of several Fairmont Hotels and Resorts in the US and Canada!

Drawing to be held October 23, 2008. For more information, call Jonathan at 343-0840, x11.

Why OCLT is Important to Me



"Second only to good parenting, the preservation of our open spaces and beautiful landscapes is the single most important gift that we can give to future generations."

-Mark Rubin
Rock Tavern, NY

OCLT and Orange County Audubon Hold Tree Sale

Orange County Land Trust and Orange County Audubon Society are conducting a joint tree sale fundraiser to support their countywide environmental programs and services, including land preservation and nature education.

Eleven varieties of native trees, partially matured and ready to plant are available for a \$45 donation. Trees are approximately three to five feet in height and come planted in 3 gallon pots.

The trees are started by RPM Ecosystems using their patented system which encourages more and stronger feeder roots, resulting in faster growth and higher survivability.



View of the Hudson River from Snake Hill, Newburgh

For info and to place an order, go to oclt.org or call the Orange County Land Trust at (845) 343-0840. Order forms can also be printed off the website for ordering by mail. All orders must be received by Sept 17, '08. Pick up is scheduled for October 4 between 10 am and 4 pm in the City of Newburgh, adjacent to Downing Park.

If you do not need a tree, please consider donating one to plant in one of our eight public preserves.

Donated trees are also needed for plantings along the banks of the Wallkill River and its tributaries to prevent bank erosion.

To find out more about these initiatives, call the OCLT at 343-0840, x 11.

Photo left top: Canoeing and kayaking on the Wallkill River

Photo left bottom: Children from Middletown YMCA pull invasive plants that threaten the growth of native plants in Fancher Davidge Park.

Photo at right: Artist and naturalist John Yrizarry stands near an old growth tree in Hamptonburgh Preserve



Stewardship News:

Trail markers have been installed at **Moonbeams Preserve** in the Town of Wallkill with help from our volunteer land stewards.

The Moonbeams kiosk, funded by a grant from Orange & Rockland Utilities, was constructed last year using environmentally friendly harvested wood, and is now ready to hold important trail guides and Land Trust information. Moonbeams Preserve is a 150 acre preserve of fields, forests and wetlands along the Shawangunk Kill, suitable for passive recreation and nature study.

With another grant from Orange & Rockland, the Land Trust is currently working on the creation of a children's exploratory nature trail at **Hunter Farm Preserve** in Wawayanda. The Tadpole Trail will consist of a 1.5 mile trail with ten activity sites focusing on native plants, local wildlife and pond habitat as well as butterflies and native bird species. The Stewardship Committee is working with local educators, naturalists and biologists to create this trail as well as volunteer help from the youth of the Bellvale Community. The trail should be complete this fall.

The OCLT is also the recipient of a grant from Assembly-woman Aileen Gunther to build a kiosk and trail system

at **Laurel Hill Preserve** in the Town of Minisink. The 89 acre preserve is one of varied habitat- woodlands, wetlands, an alfalfa field, and vernal pools along the Tunkamoos Creek. The trails and kiosk are scheduled to be complete by summer 2009.



The Nature Strollers enjoy walking through Moonbeams Preserve

The Land Trust is preparing for a major countywide fundraising drive to raise money for the creation of a trail system within the 205 acre **Hamptonburgh Preserve** that will be accessible to people who use wheelchairs and people who require a firm, level surface for mobility. This universal access trail will boast natural interpretive signage teaching users about the many varieties of vegetation and nesting habitat for waterfowl, woodpeckers, bluebirds and other cavity-nesting birds. The trail will be built on an abandoned rail bed, leading visitors through wildflower meadows, farmland and riparian forest to the Wallkill River, where we plan to have viewing platforms overlooking the wetlands and the river that will be accessible to the handicapped.

Why Save Land: From smart growth to "smart conservation"

There's been a lot of talk about "smart growth"—building near town centers where existing development and infrastructure can best accommodate new development.

"Smart conservation" on the other hand, can be a guiding principle that can tell us what to protect in order to improve our quality of life, preserve the environment, and respect community character. Combined with smart growth, smart conservation can:

- Help attract and keep businesses and residents who want a high quality of life environment.
- Protect our water supply.
- Provide the economic basis for agriculture and tourism.
- Encourage healthy outdoor activity and healthy lifestyles.
- Prevent flooding and bank erosion.
- Protect native wildlife and plants.

Volunteers Needed

We wouldn't be able to save the places that mean so much to Orange County- our scenic ridgelines, important ecosystems and valuable farmland- if it wasn't for the help and support we receive from our volunteers. Our volunteers monitor and steward our preserves, maintain our trails, assist in the office, help at fundraising events and special projects. At this time, we need volunteers for the following activities:

- Tree Sale Help October 4
Help Pack orders, Downing Park, Newburgh
- Trail Workers
Construct new trail, Laurel Hill Preserve, Minisink
- Gardeners
Help complete Master Gardeners' Plan, OCLT, Middletown
- Volunteer leadership
For OCLT Committees, OCLT, Middletown
- Preserve stewards & monitors
- USGS staff gage installers, Wallkill River and tributaries
- Office assistants and data entry personnel



Why I Volunteer

"Volunteering for the OCLT has been one of those fortuitous events that has led to great satisfaction and makes me feel like I am actually part of protecting the beautiful land of Orange County."

*~Michael Hood,
Florida, NY*

2008 Annual Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction a Huge Success

Over 220 people attended this year's Annual Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction on Friday, June 6 at Applewood Winery in Warwick. This year the Land Trust honored two visionary leaders in land protection – Town of Warwick Supervisor Michael Sweeton and Middletown Attorney Robert P. Augello.

A fun time was had by all as the dinner raised over \$70,000 to support OCLT's land conservation efforts. The dinner was a celebration of the county's agricultural heritage featuring local food from area farms, coordinated by Cheryl Rogowski of Rogowski Farms in Pine Island and catered by Mary Doolittle of The Edenville Country Store in Warwick.

Keynote Speaker William C. Janeway, Region 3 Director of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, provided insight into DEC's true appreciation of Orange County. A wine tasting cocktail hour provided by Applewood Winery was enjoyed by all as was a silent auction of "green" products and services, eco-tours and local outdoor adventures.

'08 Benefit Dinner & Auction pics

Photo 1) OCLT vice president Mary Yrizarry and OCLT Board Member and Dinner Chair Jo Hull with honoree Michael Sweeton, Supervisor of the Town of Warwick and his wife, Deborah. **Photo 2)** Tim Noteboom and OCLT advisor Seymour Gordon. **Photo 3)** OCLT Board Member T. Marshall Swartwood with Mary and Ed Diana, County Executive. **Photo 4)** Honoree Robert P. Augello, Esquire. **Photo 5)** Hudson Baylor of Newburgh and Mid Hudson Federal Credit Union sponsored the carpool bus to our Annual Dinner to reduce pollution and save energy. Pictured is OCLT Board Member Lucy Joyce with husband Christian Lewis of Lewis Sign Company, who donated the sign. **Photo 6)** Jerry Novesky and Janet Crawshaw, publishers of "The Valley Table" **Photo 7)** Susan Metzger, OC Planning Board Chairperson and MTA Board Member with Dave Church, OC Commissioner of Planning.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you to our Dinner Benefit Chair and Land Champion James H. Ottaway, Jr. and all of the members of our 2008 Annual Dinner Benefit Committee.

Thank you to our 2008 Annual Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction Business and Community Sponsors:

- **Applewood Winery**
- **First Federal Savings of Middletown**
- **The Walt Disney Company**
- **Jacobowitz and Gubits, LLP**
- **Bank of America**
- **Orange Regional Medical Center**
- **City of Middletown IDA**
- **Hudson Baylor Corporation**
- **Scenic Hudson**
- **Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union**
- **The Valley Table**
- **New York-New Jersey Trail Conference**
- **Turner Miller Group**
- **Warwick Valley Telephone**



The Wallkill River Task Force: A Project of the Orange County Land Trust Working and Advocating for Clean Water and the Protection of our Rivers and Streams

DID YOU KNOW?

- Whatever goes into the storm drains goes directly into our rivers.
- Yard and agricultural nutrients, pesticides, herbicides, oil, and pet waste are significant contributors to degraded water quality.
- Trees, shrubs and warm-season grasses along the banks of rivers and streams help remove pollutants before they reach the water and help reduce stream bank erosion.

To Help Keep the Wallkill River and its Tributaries Clean, please consider:

- Using fertilizers that have no phosphorous.
- Picking up pet waste.
- Not allowing grass clippings, leaves or yard waste to runoff from roads & driveways into the rivers and streams.
- Planting trees, shrubs and native warm-season grasses along the banks of rivers and streams that pass through your property.

Be Part of the Future of Conservation in Your Backyard!

- Volunteer to lead a hike or serve on a committee
- Donate cash or land
- Attend a fundraiser
- Host a house party
- Participate in a nature hike on one of our preserves
- Name the OCLT in your will
- Contribute to one of our endowment funds managed by the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan for a lasting gift to land preservation!

OCLT Lends Support to The People's Garden

Photos below: OCLT's Wallkill River Task Force Coordinator Karin Roux looks on as OCLT President Deanna J. Prisco presents Lloyd "Decora" Sandiford, coordinator of The People's Garden, with a \$400 gift certificate to Home Depot from the Land Trust to be used for the purchase of much needed tools and equipment. Sixteen families currently tend plots of vegetables in this urban garden in the City of Newburgh. Mrs. Prisco also donated two peach trees for all to harvest and enjoy. OCLT is supportive of urban land protection and is working to preserve portions of Snake Hill and Quassaick Creek in the City of Newburgh, forming contiguous open space that connects areas of the city to its waterfront.



Order Your Land Trust '09 Calendars

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Our beautiful 2009 calendar of Orange County scenes captured by the award winning photography of Sugar Loaf artist Nick Zungoli will be available in September '08 for purchase on our website

at www.oclt.org or by calling our office at 343-0840.

Deanna J. Prisco named President of Board of Directors



Deanna J. Prisco, of the Town of Mount Hope, has been named president of the OCLT, replacing long-time Board President Dr. Douglas McBride of Washingtonville who, as president emeritus, continues to be an active and valued member of the Board of Directors.

Mrs. Prisco is a retired teacher with the Highland Falls Central School District. She has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Land Trust for eight years, serving as vice president for the past three. She is also past chairperson of the Stewardship Committee.

The Land Trust Board of Directors also appointed Mary Yrizarry of Tuxedo vice president and Frances Wickham of Howells 2nd vice president. Bruce Lott of Walden continues as secretary and Herb Stein of Washingtonville will remain treasurer.

Howard Protter and Stuart Turner Join Board of Directors



Photo left: Howard Protter, Esquire, managing partner of Jacobowitz and Gubits, LLP, Walden, NY



Photo right : Stuart Turner, president of The Turner Miller Group, a land planning and consulting firm in Suffern, NY

Mogelever Joins Orange County Land Trust as Development Director



Jonathan Mogelever of Middletown has recently joined the staff of the Orange County Land Trust as Director of Development.

In his last position, Jonathan worked as Development Associate from 2002-2007 for the Adirondack Mountain Club, headquartered in Lake George, New York. As Development

Associate, he was responsible for writing grants for the organization and coordinating direct mail appeals. In 2002, he worked for Assemblyman Richard Brodsky in Albany as a Graduate Intern for the New York State Environmental Conservation Committee.

He holds a Master of Professional Studies in Community Services Administration and a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from Alfred University in Alfred, NY.

ORANGE COUNTY LAND TRUST

STAFF DIRECTORY

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CAROLINE HAMLING (845) 343-0840 ext 14	Communications Director
SARAH HUTTON (845) 343-0840 ext 10	Office Manager
DEBBIE MARTUCCI (845) 343-0840 ext 15	Bookkeeping Consultant
JOHN MCVAY (845) 343-0840 ext 13	Director of Stewardship
JONATHAN MOGELEVER (845) 343-0840 ext 11	Development Director
KARIN ROUX (845) 343-0840 ext 16	Wallkill River Task Force Coordinator



Orange County Land Trust

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Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 5:30 PM:
BASHAKILL PRESERVE CLEANUP
Bashakill Preserve, Deer Park, NY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 10 AM:
FULLER MOUNTAIN HIKE
Meet at Bowen Road entrance, Warwick, NY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14:
OC BIKE CLUB COUNTRY ROADS BIKE TOUR
to benefit OCLT, Warwick Valley High School, Warwick, NY

ONGOING UNTIL SEPTEMBER 17:
OCLT TREE SALE WITH OC AUDUBON SOCIETY
See article, page 3 for details

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 17 THRU SUNDAY, SEPT 21:
LAND TRUST ALLIANCE RALLY 2008
Pittsburgh PA

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 10 AM:
WALLKILL RIVER CANOE TRIP
Call office for reservations and info

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 5:30-8PM:
COCKTAIL PARTY FUNDRAISER
Harness Racing Museum, Goshen, NY

For a complete listing of upcoming OCLT outing/events, go to: www.oclt.org