



Department of  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

# *Land Conservation In Connecticut 2014 Annual Report*

Prepared in accordance with  
Section 23-8(b) of the General Statutes

# State Open Space Acquisition & Protection 2014 Annual Report

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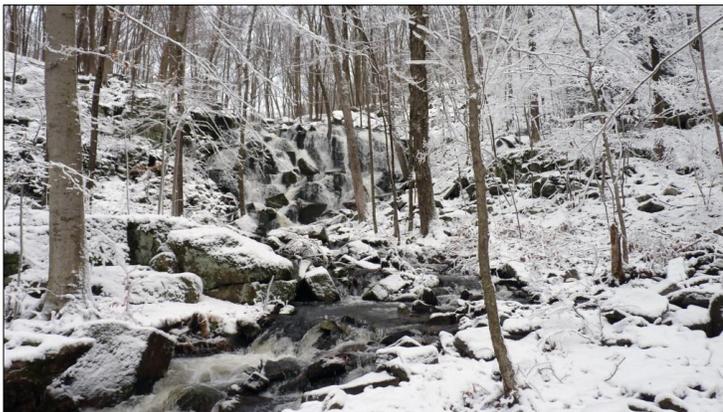
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***Front cover:*** Former Apple Orchard, LLC Property, Bloomfield

This near 40-acre property is located in the town of Bloomfield and abuts property owned by the 4-H club. The land was donated to the State of Connecticut in December 2014 in memory of Dorothy and Bernard Schiro. The Schiro family wished to see this very valuable property with extensive views of the Hartford skyline preserved for the citizens of Connecticut.

***Inside cover:*** East Kent Hamlet Nature Preserve, Kent

East Kent Hamlet Nature Preserve (formerly Camp Francis) covers 250 acres in the towns of Kent and Warren. The Kent Land Trust opened this land to the public on August 29th with Governor Malloy and Commissioner Klee giving remarks. The property was purchased with assistance from the State Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and private donations.

## I. Connecticut's Open Space Goal and Status

**R**ecognizing the threat of loss or degradation of critical resources to land use change and development, the General Assembly set an ambitious goal of preserving 21% of Connecticut's land as public open space by year 2023 (CGS Section 23-8). Connecticut has a total landmass of 3,205,760 acres. To have 21% of the state's land preserved as open space would require 673,210 acres to be held by the State, municipalities, private land conservation organizations, and water companies:

- 10% (or 320,576 acres) for state-held open space, and
- 11% (or 352,634 acres) to be held by our land conservation partners.

### *State-owned Open Space:*

**DEEP currently holds 79.80% of its target for state open space acquisition.** As of December 2014, DEEP has acquired approximately 255,809 acres as open space land in its system of Parks, Forests, and Wildlife areas. Of this, approximately 238,834 acres have been acquired in fee. Acquisitions of less than fee interests are atypical, but include the purchase of conservation easements and restrictions.

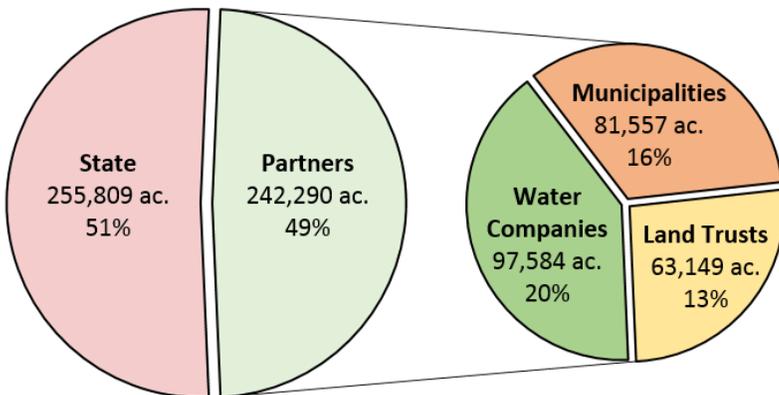
### *Open Space Held by DEEP's Partners:*

**The State's land conservation partners currently hold 68.71% of their targeted open space goal.** It is estimated that non-profit land conservation organizations own 63,149 acres, municipalities own 81,557 acres, and Class I and Class II water companies own 97,584 acres of land as open space in Connecticut. Together, open space acreage held by these entities is 242,290 acres.

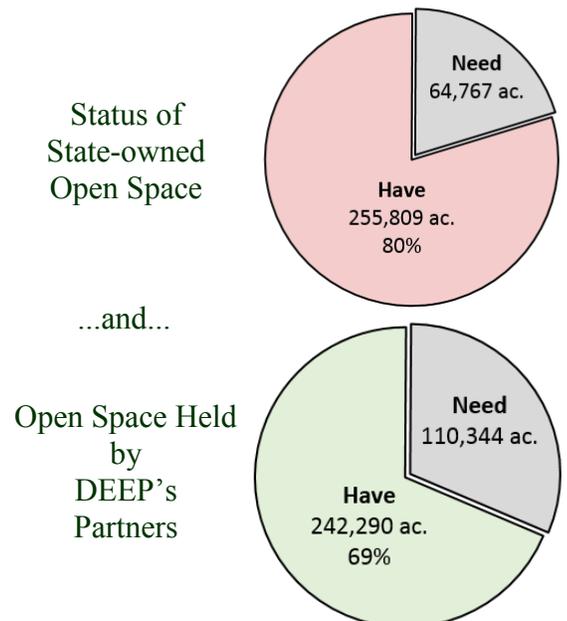
### *Meeting Connecticut's Open Space Goal:*

**As of 2014, Connecticut is 73.98% of the way toward achieving its overall open space goal.** The 255,809 acres of State-held open space represents 7.97% of Connecticut's land area, and the 242,290 acres of open space held by municipalities, non-profit land conservation organizations, and water companies is 7.55%. This accounts for a total of 498,099 acres held as open space, or close to 15% of Connecticut's land area.

**DEEP must acquire 64,767 acres** to meet the State's statutory open space goal, or an additional 7,197 acres each year for the next 9 years. To reach the partners' goal by 2023, DEEP must encourage the acquisition of **110,344 acres**, or an additional 12,261 acres per year, **by municipalities, non-profit land trusts, and water companies.**



Ownership of Protected Open Space in Connecticut.



## II. 2014 Acquisition Achievements

During 2014, DEEP acquired 367 acres of land in fee and conservation easements under the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program, the primary vehicle for adding land to the State’s system of Parks, Forests, Wildlife areas, and other open spaces. Of the seven properties acquired by DEEP, two were purchased using funds from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and five were private donations to the State (Appendix A).

With over \$3.8 million in assistance from the State Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program, municipalities and non-profit land conservation organizations closed on 16 projects in 2014, protecting over 1,500 acres in 14 towns (Appendix B). In addition, 28 projects totaling 2,237 acres were approved for \$7.76 million in funding during the 17th competitive grant round.

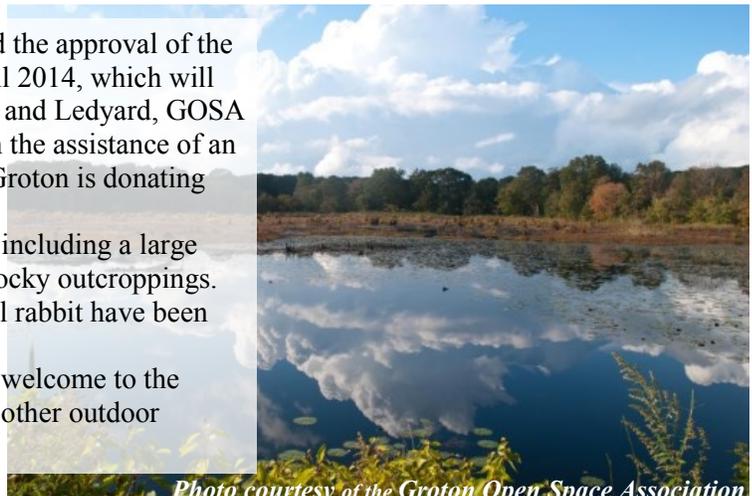
Other highlights in 2014 included new and continued efforts made to revise the State’s Comprehensive Open Space Plan, to develop the Public Use and Benefit Land Registry, to digitize all projects funded to date under OSWA into an online geodatabase, and to archive DEEP’s land records at the State Library. Each of these initiatives are significant undertakings to streamline the State’s land acquisition and grant program operations, increase the amount of open space protected statewide, and better assist the public in accessing open space.

### *Largest Open Space Grant Awarded to Conserve Colonial-era Avery Farm*

The Groton Open Space Association (GOSA) celebrated the approval of the largest DEEP competitive open space grant awarded in fall 2014, which will help protect the 305-acre Avery Farm. Located in Groton and Ledyard, GOSA will purchase 152 acres in Ledyard for \$1.17 million with the assistance of an OSWA grant totaling \$611,000. A private landowner in Groton is donating the remaining 153 acres to GOSA.

The Farm hosts a scenic diversity of wildlife habitats, including a large marsh (right), grassy fields, thickets, upland forests, and rocky outcroppings. Nineteen State-listed birds and the New England cottontail rabbit have been documented on the habitat by DEEP officials.

When the property purchase closes, the public will be welcome to the hiking, cross country skiing, wildlife watching, and many other outdoor activities this beautiful place provides.



*Photo courtesy of the Groton Open Space Association*

### *Year By the Numbers:*

#### **DEEP Land Protection**

<b>367 acres</b>	<b>\$515,000</b>	<b>0 acres</b>
Land protected by DEEP under RNHTP.	Dollars leveraged by the State through cooperation with Federal partners.	DEEP-owned land conveyed to private parties.

#### **State Assistance to Partners**

<b>16</b>	<b>1,541 acres</b>	<b>28</b>
Partners’ projects closed with assistance from OSWA.	Land protected in perpetuity by DEEP’s partners under OSWA.	Partner projects approved for \$7.76 million in funding during the 17th grant round.

#### **To Date:**

<b>78,000 acres</b>	Land protected by DEEP under RNHTP since 1986.
<b>29,000 acres</b>	Land protected in perpetuity by municipalities, non-profit land conservation organizations, and water companies under OSWA since 1998.
<b>471</b>	Total number of projects funded under OSWA since 1998.
<b>\$117 million</b>	State funding provided to partners under OSWA since 1998.

### III. 2014 Actions

#### 1. State Property Review

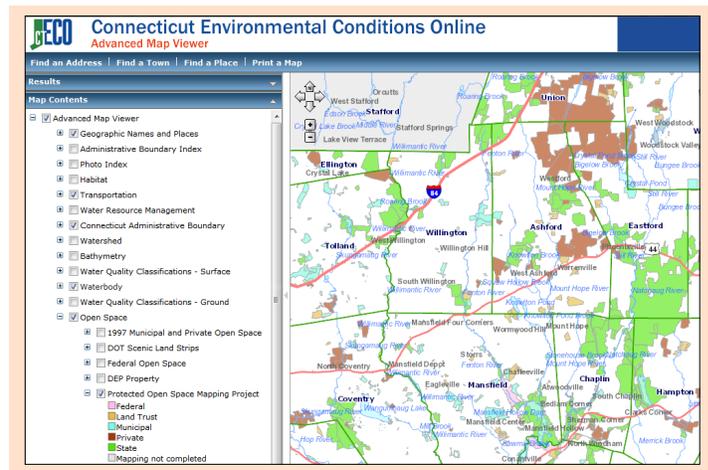
In 2014, DEEP continued to review and evaluate properties eligible for purchase through RNHTP. DEEP currently has over 200 properties that have been approved for acquisition, but lacks the necessary funding to move forward. Although the real estate market currently favors buyers of open space due to the continued stall in new construction, limited funding has been available to take advantage of many of these opportunities.

#### 2. Open Space Inventory

**As of 2014, 143 (85%) of towns have been researched as a result of the Protected Open Space Mapping project (POSM).** Initiated in 2003, POSM was designed to identify and catalogue all protected open space parcels in the state. The project is being done in phases based on location and available data, and is currently the most complete GIS database of open space in all 169 Connecticut municipalities. The parcels identified consist of State, federal, municipal, and non-profit conservation organization holdings. Following data gathering, the information must be quality checked prior to being released for public use.

To date, 135 towns are completed, 6 are ready for data quality checking, and 2 need Town Hall checks. Fifteen towns still need to be researched, and 11 towns do not have GIS to assist in data collection; towns with no GIS capability will take more time to complete.

**POSM data has been posted as a publicly interactive and downloadable resource on two websites.** For municipal and other GIS users, it can be found at DEEP's GIS Data Download webpage at: [www.ct.gov/deep/gisdata](http://www.ct.gov/deep/gisdata). Users can also activate the statewide "Open Space" data layer at the interactive map viewer hosted by Connecticut Environmental Conditions Online (CT ECO): <http://ctecoapp1.uconn.edu/advancedviewer/>. The work completed under POSM is valuable in providing information for the development of a new component to the State's open space protection strategy.



With the passage of [Public Act No. 14-169](#), DEEP began the development of a new publicly accessible GIS data layer that constitutes the **Public Use and Benefit Land Registry (PUBLR)**. Modeled from national protected area databases, PUBLR will be capable of providing information for lands owned by DEEP, other state agencies, municipalities, and land conservation organizations. The map layer's attribute tables will have data that includes downloadable deeds, levels of legal protection, right-of-ways, funding sources, and more. The creation of PUBLR should have an impact on Connecticut open space protection by engaging partners, aiding open space planning, and providing a more comprehensive and transparent land registry as more data is added.

Initiated in 2013, DEEP continued to partner with the University of Connecticut (UConn) to produce a **publicly-accessible GIS data layer of all 471 projects funded under OSWA** to date. To eventually be hosted by CT ECO and added to PUBLR, digitized parcels must be quality checked prior to being released for public use. The data layer will improve public access to statewide open spaces, enhance future grant applicant planning, and assist the evaluation of open space protection by all.

## 2014 Actions (cont.)

### 3. Achieving State Open Space Goal:

DEEP acquired 367 acres of land in fee and conservation easements under the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program. Of the seven properties acquired, two were purchased using funds from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and five were private donations to the State (Appendix A).

#### US Fish & Wildlife's Service Pittman-Robertson Act Fund



The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, popularly known as the Pittman-Robertson Act, was established to provide funding for the restoration, rehabilitation, and improvement of wildlife habitat. In 2014, DEEP acquired two properties with funding from the Pittman-Robertson Act: 146 acres in Sterling to complement lands in Pachaug State Forest (\$425,000), and 40 acres in Scotland to add to lands in James V. Spignesi Wildlife Management Area (\$90,000).



**Top left:** DEEP worked closely with the Town of Scotland to protect the Racicot Property in 2014. The Racicot Property consists of 40 acres of woodland abutting the James Spignesi Wildlife Management Area. This acquisition complements a parcel protected by DEEP in the previous year, the KES Properties, LLC land (**bottom**).

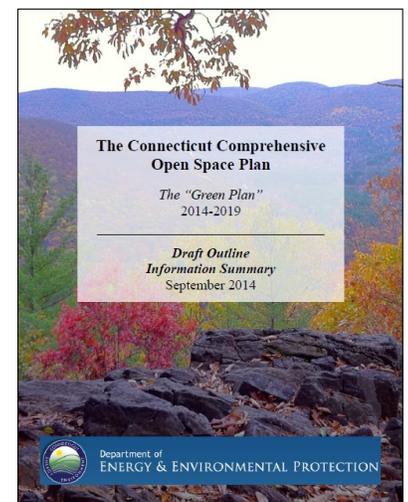
The KES Properties land is the parcel on which DEEP Environmental Conservation Police Officer James V. Spignesi, Jr. was killed in the line of duty on November 20, 1998. Both properties were added to the WMA, financed by grants totaling \$285,000 from the USFWS Pittman-Robertson Act Fund.

### 4. Connecticut's Comprehensive Open Space Plan: Revising the Green Plan

In 2014, DEEP worked closely with key stakeholders in preparation of the next Connecticut Green Plan for 2014-2019. The Draft 2014 Green Plan proposes a means to identifying lands of high conservation value and list distinct actions aimed at prioritizing DEEP's efforts over the next 5 years. It will also detail information on all of DEEP's plans that inform open space protection, the make-up of the Natural Heritage, Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Review Board ("Open Space Review Board"), and more. The Open Space Review Board provides guidance and review of State land protection operations, makes recommendations on funding needs to the Bond Commission, and promotes public participation in the State's land protection processes.

DEEP developed a draft outline and informational brochures describing the purpose and process for revising the Green Plan, available at [www.ct.gov/deep/openspace](http://www.ct.gov/deep/openspace). DEEP encourages stakeholders to review these and other materials as they are developed, and engage in public meetings as they are announced to submit thoughts and comments as it works to update this important planning document.

The first Green Plan was prepared in 2001 to provide a 5-year plan to work towards achieving the newly-created statewide open space goal. Executive Order 15 Regarding Responsible Growth required that an update to the Green Plan be developed to guide open space protection efforts from 2007 to 2012. An internal work group completed the updated plan, entitled, "The Green Plan: Guiding Land Acquisition and Protection in Connecticut." This Plan is available by request to DEEP or online at DEEP's Open Space webpage.



**5. Encroachment on State-owned Open Space:**

With the passage of Public Act No. 06-89, DEEP established an Encroachment Enforcement Response Policy in an effort to preserve and protect lands held in public trust as protected open space. Encroachment means to conduct an activity on another party’s land that damages or alters the land, vegetation, or other features, including erecting buildings or other structures; building roads, driveways, or trails; destroying or moving stone walls; cutting trees or other vegetation; removing boundary markers; installing lawns or utilities; or using, storing, or depositing vehicles, material, or debris.

The Act prohibits people without the owner’s permission or other legal authorization from encroaching on, or causing anyone to encroach on, open space land or any land in which the State, its political sub-division, or a non-profit land conservation organization holds a conservation easement interest. DEEP’s Unit of Land Acquisition and Management documents all known encroachments on DEEP-owned land.

**Fifteen encroachments onto State-owned land were documented in 2014. In addition, DEEP developed an Encroachment In-take Form** to improve the efficiency of the encroachment tracking system. The in-take form establishes a consistent procedure to be followed in identifying and prioritizing encroachments or suspected encroachments upon lands and waters under the custody and control of DEEP. Since employing a Licensed Land Surveyor in 2007, over 300 encroachments have been surveyed and mapped for resolution purposes. DEEP has resolved, and continues to resolve, many of these surveyed encroached areas. Some examples of rectified encroachments include requiring partners to clear sheds, fences, tennis courts, and other structures from DEEP property.



**From left to right:** encroachment by an abutting landowner onto a state owned portion of the Airline Trail; evidence of unauthorized tree cutting on state forestland; and a private driveway created on state land.

**6. Northeast Utilities Property Review:**

The Conservation List consists of NU properties that were identified by DEEP as desirable for acquisition as open space, in conjunction with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed on April 12, 2000. It identifies nearly 375 parcels in 90 municipalities totaling approximately 9,500 acres as having high value for public recreation and natural resource protection. The MOU gives DEEP, municipalities, and land trusts the right of first refusal to acquire the properties should NU put them up for sale. As part of the State’s settlement of the NU-NSTAR merger in 2012, the MOU was extended from June 30th 2014 through 2024.

Another part of the settlement, the NU Land Trust was formed in 2013 and permanently protected 4 parcels from the Conservation List totaling nearly 1,000 acres (right).

Conservation List Lands Protected by the Northeast Utilities Land Trust in 2013.		
Property Name	Town	Acres
Skiff Mountain	Sharon	800
Kings Island	Enfield	120
Hanover Road	Newtown	54
Bartlett Cove	Waterford	13
<b>Total</b>		<b>987</b>

## **IV. State Assistance for Municipalities and Non-profit Land Conservation Organizations in 2014:**

### **The Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program**

The Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program leverages State, local, and private funds to create a cooperative open space acquisition program. OSWA provides grants to municipalities and non-profit land conservation organizations for the acquisition of open space land, and to water companies for the acquisition of Class I and Class II watershed land.

In exchange for grants, DEEP receives a conservation and public access easement on property acquired, to ensure that the property is protected and available to residents of Connecticut as open space in perpetuity. Class I watershed land is sometimes exempt from the public access requirement for public health reasons. DEEP is also willing to accept limited public access (at the discretion of the Commissioner) when a conservation easement is purchased on land where general public access would be disruptive of active agricultural activity.

The Open Space Review Board helps DEEP support its partners in reaching their open space

goals. It convenes several times a year to review OSWA project selection criteria, policies, and procedures. It also makes program funding recommendations to the Bond Commission each year.

Sixteen OSWA projects closed in 2014 protecting 1,541 acres with \$3.8 million provided to municipalities and land trusts (Appendix B). Announced in October 2014, 28 projects totaling 2,237 acres were approved for \$7.76 million in funding during the 17th grant round. The 18th competitive grant round was announced shortly after, with awards expected in fall 2015.

One of these grants was approved for The Trust for Public Land and the Town of Essex to help protect approximately 70 acres of the 1,000-acre “Preserve” in Old Saybrook, Essex, and Westbrook. The partners were awarded \$471,250 to permanently protect the area located in Essex.

Also noteworthy, two grants totaling \$96,250 were awarded to establish community gardens in New Haven and Norwalk.

### **The Urban Garden and Community Green Program**

The Urban Garden and Community Green Program was added to the state open space program in 2007 to address multiple open space needs in urban areas. These grants are designed to create green spaces in city neighborhoods, open urban lands for recreation, and help improve community health by encouraging the growing of local fruits and vegetables. Since 2007, certain municipalities have been eligible to receive grants to refurbish or renovate municipally-owned open spaces. The program has granted over \$1 million in towns including Bridgeport, Enfield, Hartford, New London, Putnam, and Norwalk. These grants fund greenhouses, ADA accessible walkways, and gardens with raised beds for children, the disabled, and senior citizens.



The New Haven Land Trust and volunteers build the English Street Gardens.

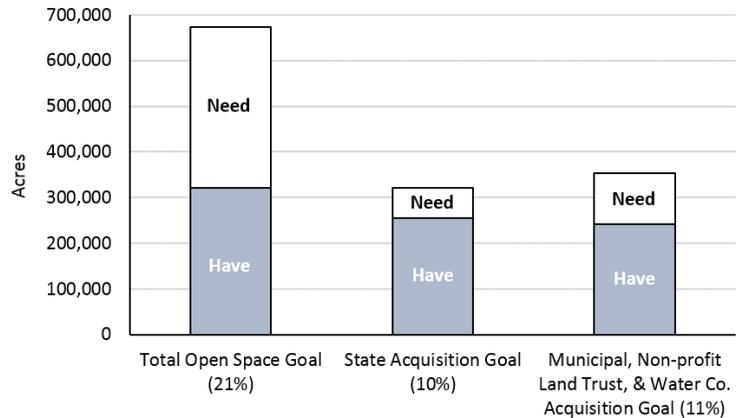
## V. Looking Ahead: 2015 Agenda

### 1. State Acquisitions

As of December 2014, DEEP held approximately 255,442 acres, or 7.97%, of Connecticut's area as open space. To meet the goal set forth for State open space acquisition, an additional 64,767 acres of open space must be acquired by the State by 2023, or an additional 7,197 acres per year for the next 9 years. Achieving this goal will require a significant increase in annual acquisitions.

Using an average per acre cost of \$7,645 for properties acquired under the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program, and given the 64,767 acres to meet the State's statutory open space goal, DEEP's total acquisition funding needs equate to nearly \$495 million, or \$55 million each year, between now and 2023.

As Bond Commission funds become available, DEEP will continue to evaluate and acquire land through RNHTP. There are numerous properties with an approximate value of \$100 million that have been approved for acquisition, and are awaiting necessary funding. DEEP will also continue to close active state acquisitions using currently available resources.



#### USDA - USFS Forest Legacy Program

The Forest Legacy Program provides funds to protect private forestland at risk of development through the purchase of conservation easements. Due to limited nationwide funding, no projects for Connecticut were approved in Federal Fiscal Year 2014. DEEP focused on preparing projects for submission for FFY 2015 that would rank high on the national level, and is currently awaiting funding approval decisions for the proposed Whip-Poor-Will Woods project.

#### USDA - USFS Highlands Conservation Act

The Highlands Program provides funding for the acquisition of lands or interest in land in the states of Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The Connecticut Highlands is a triangle around the northwest corner bounded by the state lines to the west and north, from Torrington to Danbury. No Federal funding was allocated for this program in FFY 2014, however, \$3 million was authorized for FFY 2015, to be distributed among the Highland states. DEEP plans to use its allocation within the Cameron's Line Project Area, and continues to prepare high-ranking projects for future grant application submissions.

#### USNPS - Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) provides funding to states for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities, as well as funding for shared Federal land acquisition and conservation strategies. Every year, funding is allotted and states are required to spend the amount within three years, otherwise it is returned to the Federal government for other uses.

DEEP prepared documentation and has recently received approval to spend Connecticut's LWCF balance as of 2013 (\$2,084,408) towards the purchase of land or interest in land in 2015: the 1,000-acre Preserve (\$1,400,000) and the Saner property (\$684,408). The Saner property will be added to the Salmon River State Forest in Marlborough to provide recreational opportunities and protection of a major river tributary. Both projects address needs identified in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

## 2015 Agenda (cont.)

### 2. Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grants

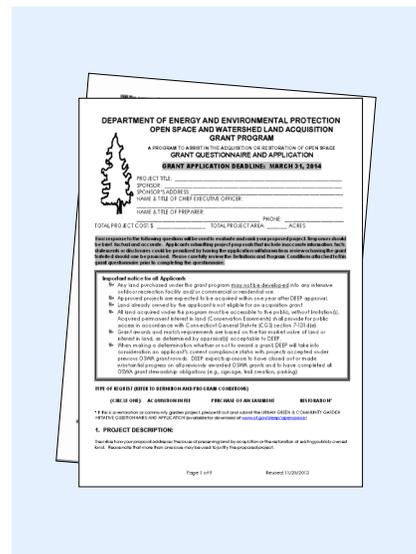
To meet the open space goal set forth for the State's partners, DEEP needs to encourage the protection of an additional 110,344 acres, or 12,261 acres per year, by 2023.

DEEP has committed to opening an annual grant round each fall in order to provide its land conservation partners with consistent funding. In years past, DEEP predominantly relied on and applied bond authorizations to fund open space grants. An important first for DEEP was when the 17th grant round in 2013 was announced prior to Bond Commission funds being made available. \$5 million in bond funds were made available to assist with the funding of projects approved for the 17th grant round.

DEEP again announced the 2014-2015 18th grant round prior to bond funds being made available.

Applications for the 18th competitive grant round, including for the Urban Green and Community Garden program, are currently being received by DEEP, with final applications due on March 1, 2015. DEEP expects to review, score, and award applications by the fall of 2015. The 19th grant round will be announced shortly thereafter.

Applicants to the program are encouraged to focus on priority areas established in the "Important Conservation Areas" section of the current Green Plan, criteria set forth in the OSA application, and to seek and meet additional specific



goals set forth in the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Information about, and applications to the grant program can be found at: <http://www.ct.gov/deep/openspace>.



### The Case Mountain Recreation Area

Less than 5 miles from the heart of Manchester, the Case Mountain Recreation Area is popular with locals and visitors alike for its scenic hiking, biking, and horseback riding trails, varied habitats, and sense of community pride. The highest point in town, Hartford's skyline can be seen on a clear day from the Case summit. Trails, including the Shenipsit Blue-Blazed, are maintained by the Manchester Conservation Commission, the Connecticut Forest and Park Association, and dedicated volunteers.

The Town of Manchester has protected over 600 acres of combined open space and watershed lands at Case Mountain. With assistance from the State's Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Program, in 2014 the Town of Manchester closed on 38 acres that link the Town's Case Mountain holdings with a substantial portion of the south shore of the Case Pond Reservoir, the Birch Mountain Brook watershed, and the Charter Oak Aquifer Protection Area.

*Photos courtesy of S. Barlow, Manchester Land Conservation Trust*

### 3. Revising The Green Plan

The General Assembly directed DEEP to revise and enhance the Green Plan, which identifies goals, challenges, and threats to protecting open space, and defines priorities for land acquisitions based on ecological values, use needs, and location considerations. In 2015, DEEP will continue to work closely with key stakeholders and the public in preparation of the next Green Plan for 2014-2019. DEEP plans to publish a draft version of the plan in early 2015, host local meetings to discuss the Plan's content, and publish a final draft by summer 2015.

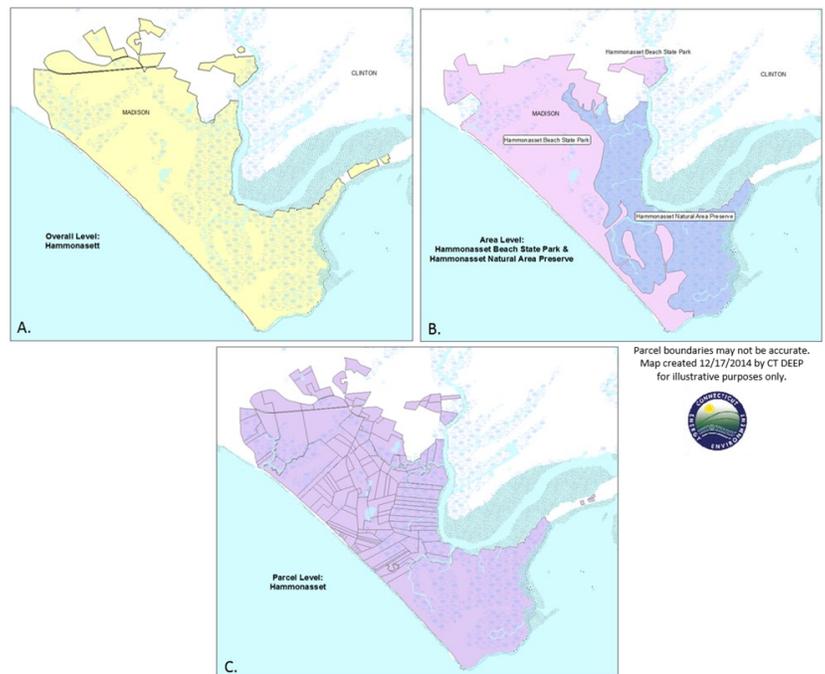
DEEP encourages stakeholders to review the 2007-2012 version of the Green Plan, engage in public meetings as they are announced, and submit thoughts and comments as it works to update this important state planning document. Stakeholder information and ways to become involved can be found on page 13 of this report.

### 4. Open Space Inventory

DEEP plans to launch the Public Use and Benefit Land Registry in early 2015 with a pilot map and database consisting of 3 State Parks: Hammonasset, Bluff Point, and Haystack Mountain State Parks. As DEEP continues to build the Registry, additional DEEP lands will be added, starting with remaining State Parks. Facility by facility, the parcel data collected through POSM will be added until all DEEP lands are in PUBLR. The Registry will then be expanded to include lands held by the State's land conservation partners.

PUBLR users will be able to query the Registry's map layer attribute tables to learn more about protected open spaces in the state, including purposes of open space, levels of legal protection, and more. Depending on the scale at which users view the data layer, varying levels of information will appear. For example, from the largest visible scale open spaces will be shown as unbroken, large polygons, and become delineated into parcels as users zoom into the map (below).

**Right:** Hammonasset Beach State Park from three different views using PUBLR (in development):  
A.) the overall level,  
B.) the area level, and  
C.) the parcel level.



In 2015, DEEP will continue to partner with UConn and on the publicly accessible State open space grant program GIS data layer, which will improve public access to OSWA projects, enhance future grant applicant planning, and assist the evaluation of open space protection by all. DEEP will continue to quality check digitized parcels prior to their being released for public use.

## **2015 Agenda (cont.)**

### **5. Encroachment Issues**

DEEP will continue to aggressively address all known encroachments on State-owned lands and actively document and address additional cases as they are made known. The process will continue to be carried out in accordance with the Encroachment Enforcement Response Policy, with improved efficiency using the new encroachment tracking system.

### **6. State Land Records Management**

DEEP continues to work on improving storage, organization, and indexing of legal documents and maps pertaining to ownership of DEEP properties. A complete inventory of the vault, including a comprehensive review of all maps, deeds, and property records has been undertaken. As a result, an integrated index for the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program files, Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program files, Property Management files, and all other grant program files will be created.

Continued progress on file inventory was made during 2014, and indexing will continue throughout 2015. Many of these files are being considered for archiving at the State Library. This will improve coordination between the various programs, and increase efficiency for lands record retrieval and access by the public.

## **VI. Conclusion & Resources**

The Connecticut DEEP, working together with municipalities, water companies, and private non-profit land conservation organizations, has continued the State's progress toward meeting Connecticut's open space goals. Since 1998, the Department, on behalf of the State of Connecticut, has acquired or protected over 45,000 acres and has provided grant funding for the acquisition of over an additional 29,000 acres. With the continued support of the Governor and General Assembly, DEEP will continue to build on this success.



### **Expanding Habitat and Recreation at the State's Largest Forest**

In 2014, DEEP added 146 acres to Pachaug State Forest through the acquisition of land in Sterling. The acquisition expands the State's largest Forest, providing for the protection of intact forestland, adding to the existing mosaic of woodlands, wetlands, and old field habitat for wildlife, and enhancing recreational, hunting and fishing opportunities. The parcel, surrounded on three sides by the State Forest, was acquired with a \$425,250 grant from the US Fish and Wildlife's Pittman-Robertson Fund.

## Connecticut Open Space Resources

### Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

#### Land Acquisition and Management Unit

79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106

Webpage: [www.ct.gov/deep/openspace](http://www.ct.gov/deep/openspace)

#### Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program:

DEEP purchases land from willing sellers. In many cases, the property owners contact the agency. In other instances, DEEP or conservation organizations initiate contact with sellers.

Prospective Land Acquisition Application: [www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/open\\_space/landacquisapp.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/open_space/landacquisapp.pdf)

#### Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program:

Application: [www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp a=2706&q=323834&deepNav\\_GID=1641](http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp a=2706&q=323834&deepNav_GID=1641)

#### Connecticut's Comprehensive Open Space Plan (Green Plan):

2007-2012 Green Plan: [www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/open\\_space/green\\_plan.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/open_space/green_plan.pdf)

Draft 2014 Green Plan Revision Summary:

[www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/open\\_space/Green\\_Plan\\_Info\\_Summary.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/open_space/Green_Plan_Info_Summary.pdf)

Draft 2014 Green Plan Outline:

[http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/open\\_space/Green\\_Plan\\_Draft\\_Outline\\_032015.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/open_space/Green_Plan_Draft_Outline_032015.pdf)

#### Connecticut Department of Agriculture

165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

Farmland Preservation Program

Under "Programs, Services, and Grants,"

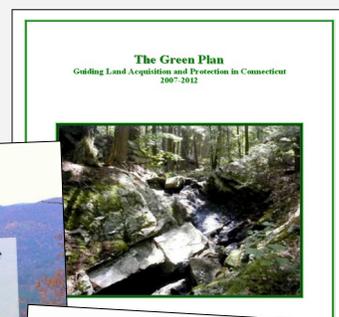
[www.ct.gov/doag](http://www.ct.gov/doag)

#### State Office of Policy and Management

450 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

#### Statewide Conservation and Development Policies Plan 2013-2018:

[www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/igp/org/cdupdate/2013-2018\\_cd\\_plan.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/igp/org/cdupdate/2013-2018_cd_plan.pdf)



Appendix A  
 Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program  
 Acquisitions  
 January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014

Property Name	Town	Fee Acreage	Easement Restriction or R.O.W.	State Purchase Price	Cooperator Share	Cooperator	Purpose of Acquisition
CT River Gateway Commission (Klar Property)	East Haddam	33.6	NA	\$0	NA	NA	Donated addition to Machimoodus State Park
Bebe Corp., LLC	Plainfield	13.1	NA	\$0	NA	NA	Donated addition to Pachaug State Forest
Racicot	Scotland	37.0	NA	\$0	\$90,000	US Fish & Wildlife Service	Addition to James Spignesi Wildlife Management Area; Acquired with Pittman-Robertson funds
Sleeping Giant Park Association	Hamden	0.2	NA	\$0	\$0	NA	Donated addition to Sleeping Giant State Park
Town of Plainfield	Plainfield	97.7	NA	\$0	NA	NA	Donated Addition to Pachaug State Forest
United Electrical and Fuel Corp.	Sterling	146.0	NA	\$0	\$425,000	US Fish & Wildlife Service	Addition to Pachaug State Forest; Acquired with Pittman-Robertson funds
Apple Orchard, LLC	Bloomfield	40.0	1.5	\$0	NA	NA	Donated to the State for the creation of a new State Park Scenic Preserve
<b>Totals</b>		<b>367.5 ac.</b>	<b>1.5 ac.</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$515,000</b>		

Appendix B  
 Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition  
 Grants Completed  
 January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014

Open Space Sponsor	Project	Town	Acres	Grant Amount
Southbury Land Trust, Inc.	Stillmeadow Farm Easement	Southbury	11.6	\$81,500
Town of Naugatuck	Andrew Mountain Road	Naugatuck	100.0	\$315,250
Town of Somers	Camp Aya-Po	Somers	173.9	\$450,000
Town of Bloomfield	Lisa Lane Farm	Bloomfield	9.7	\$195,000
Avalonia Land Conservancy, Inc.	Babcock Ridge Preserve	North Stonington	74.4	\$142,500
The Nature Conservancy, Inc.	Gungy Road	Salem	115.9	\$150,000
Town of Preston	Pequot Trail Property	Preston	155.6	\$230,000
Clinton Land Conservation Trust	Dowd Parcels	Clinton	18.2	\$58,500
Town of Branford	Kaczynski Property	Branford	16.7	\$137,500
Town of Manchester	Case Mountain - Spring St	Manchester	37.9	\$205,000
Guilford Land Conservation Trust	Westwoods Parcel	Guilford	17.1	\$60,000
Sharon Land Trust & CT Farmland Trust, Inc.	Wike Brothers Farm	Sharon	124.4	\$259,210
Lyme Land Conservation Trust, Inc.	Lord & Tanguay Props.	Lyme and East Haddam	100.5	\$327,000
Town of East Haddam	Zeiller Property	East Haddam	98.5	\$232,500
Town of East Haddam	Pages Property	East Haddam	238.0	\$464,000
Kent Land Trust, Inc.	Girl Scout Camp Francis	Kent	249.0	\$500,000
<b>Totals</b>			<b>1,541.5 ac.</b>	<b>\$3,807,960</b>



**Connecticut Department of  
Energy & Environmental Protection**

79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06016-5127

[www.ct.gov/DEEP/openspace](http://www.ct.gov/DEEP/openspace)