



# YOUR FAMILY LAND: *Legacy or Memory?*



***An Introduction to the Family Land Protection Process***

*"It's an honor to steward land that has been important for thousands of years. We are grateful to continue what the Indigenous peoples of this area began, by caring for this small piece of earth and passing it on for future generations."*

– Scott and Laura Moorehead, stewards of 88 acres of woodlands in Putnam, CT



Written by Steve Broderick, Holly Drinkuth and Ruth Cutler of the Green Valley Institute.

Third edition updated and edited by Katharine Lange.

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CONNECTICUT  
Land Conservation Council



Community Foundation  
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THE  
last  
green  
valley™



family



## **YOUR FAMILY LAND:** *Legacy or Memory?*

Over time, many farm and forest owners come to love their land: its forests, fields, streams and the wildlife in them. Many owners would love to know that some or all of their land will remain undeveloped after they're gone. The fact you're reading this suggests you may be one of them.

Protecting your land for conservation is a task you certainly can accomplish. Even the most complex situations have a conservation solution. Land conservation requires some planning and decision making, however, so the sooner you start the better. Simple procrastination continues to be the No. 1 obstacle halting the protection of family land.

The Appendix at the end of this booklet is filled with contact information of groups and programs that can help.

We at The Last Green Valley are always ready to help, and available at:

**860-774-3300, toll free at 866-363-7226 or mail@tlgv.org**

We look forward to hearing from you!

# STEP 1



This booklet is designed for landowners who may want to permanently protect some or all of their land for conservation but aren't sure where to start. The booklet walks you through simple steps that can start you on a land protection plan that fits your family's goals.

The steps are in a suggested order, which you may adjust according to your situation.

## Get specific.

What is it you want protected for future generations? What matters to you? Try to think in terms of protection goals, such as protecting water resources, habitat for wildlife, preserving a scenic vista and/or sustaining a working farm or forest. Some questions to start include:

- Do you want an heir or heirs to someday own the property, or would you prefer a land trust or conservation organization own the title?
- Do you want the public to be able to enjoy some or all of your land, or do you want it to remain private?
- Could you benefit from the income and/or estate tax benefits available to those who voluntarily protect conservation land during their lifetimes?
- Do you want all of the property kept from development, or are specific portions more important than others?
- Do you want to retain the ability to earn income from the property by keeping it as working farmland or woodland?



Legacy

# learn

## STEP 2

### Learn some basics about land protection tools and options.

Many folks assume they have just three options for the future of their land:

- They can donate the entire property;
- They can sell it all for development;
- They can leave it as is to their heirs.

In fact, these are just three options out of many, representing a range of outcomes for the owner and future generations regarding natural resources and potential income.

Perhaps the single most important land protection concept to understand is the notion of “separable rights.” You as a landowner possess many individual, separable, rights, which are “bundled” together in land ownership. Examples include the right to hunt, to fish, to grow and harvest crops or trees, to construct buildings and to subdivide the land according to town land use regulations.

***As a landowner, you can choose to sell, donate or extinguish one or more of these rights from your bundle and still retain all the other rights you currently have.*** A farmer who sells his/her development right to the state department of agriculture is a good example of this principle in action. That farmer can no longer subdivide or develop the land for non-farming purposes but can still do everything else he/she always has, including farming the land, selling the land to another farmer or willing it to heirs.

### Land protection tools, then, come in 3 basic categories:

- You retain ownership of your land but give up certain rights, such as the right to build and/or subdivide. These tools are known as conservation or agricultural easements in CT and conservation or agricultural preservation restrictions in MA.
- You sell or gift the property to a government agency or non-profit conservation group, such as a land trust.
- You combine sensitive and limited development on a portion of the land with permanent protection on the rest.

These tools can be used simultaneously and in any combination. In addition, there are an increasing number of local, state and federal funding programs available for land protection. Which ones you might qualify for depends on the location and attributes of your land. To learn more, contact the The Last Green Valley or consult the Further Reading section at the end of the booklet.

*Many owners are torn between not wanting to see their land developed and not wanting to disinherit children or other heirs. Usually, however, it's not an "either/or" situation. Creative planning and compromise can accomplish both.*



## STEP 3

### **Discuss your thinking with appropriate family members.**

For those with immediate family members, this step is absolutely essential. Many land protection efforts fail, or never get off the ground, because family members either didn't communicate or couldn't agree. Getting things "out on the table" can relieve anxieties, reduce misconceptions and clarify the differences of opinions that may exist.

Many landowners are torn between wanting to conserve their land and wanting to provide for their children or other heirs. However, it's usually not an "either/or" situation. Creative planning and compromise can accomplish both. The key is to open the lines of communication to initiate the planning process. While breaking the ice on discussions of mortality is difficult, planning in advance is the most responsible choice for the future of the family.



# STEP 4

## Make some calls.

After thinking over the first three steps, you've likely developed a clearer idea of your goals for your land, and which of the three types of protection tools seem to make sense for you. If necessary, you've talked things over with appropriate family members. Now it's time to reach out and make some contacts. Who you call, and when, will vary from one situation to another. You might want to start here:

- **Your local land trust.** Land trusts are non-profit organizations run by local, conservation-minded individuals, typically all volunteer. They exist to permanently protect and care for open space. Land trusts can help you explore funding programs, locate good legal assistance, and much more. Contact information is provided for each land trust working in the The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor.
- **Your town conservation commission, open space committee or agriculture committee.** These commissions and committees exist to inventory and protect open space as your community grows. Often, they can work with you and the local land trust to help you realize your land protection goals. Municipal website links are provided to help you find the right board. Your local town clerk, selectman or mayor's office can provide further contact information.
- **A conservation attorney.** If you have a good attorney you like and trust, that's great. But be aware that some attorneys (even those who advertise estate planning services) may not know much more than you do about the specific needs, opportunities and tax issues facing folks protecting their land. Be sure to ask your attorney if they have experience in land conservation law, specifically with standards for federal income tax deductions. If in doubt, ask your land trust or conservation commission for a recommendation. The earlier you consult a land conservation attorney the better, particularly if you need to negotiate the terms of an easement or restriction.
- **A tax professional.** Again, if you have a good tax professional you like and trust, start with them. But be aware that some tax professionals have little experience with land conservation options. If in doubt, ask your land trust or conservation commission for a recommendation.

A lush green forest with a rocky stream flowing through it, featuring a small waterfall. The water is white and frothy as it cascades over mossy rocks. The surrounding vegetation is dense and vibrant green.

# STEP 5

*pro*



## Take stock of what you have.

Think of your land in the same way you would regard a company in which you've invested stock. Just as you would keep track of the company's successes and potential threats, you can do the same with your land: learn how healthy the forest is, what the land and/or timber is worth, and where the boundaries are.

Your land protection effort will likely require:

- Accurate boundary information. Someone should know where your property corners are and how to find them. You will most likely need a survey for a more accurate delineation.
- A property appraisal. Certified general real estate appraisers can estimate the current market value of your land, as well as the value of its development rights. This information isn't required early on and may not be necessary at all. It will eventually be needed, however, if you intend to take advantage of federal income tax deductions for conservation gifts or bargain sales. You will want an appraiser with experience meeting IRS standards for charitable gift income tax deductions.
- Baseline documentation. If you are granting a restriction or easement on your property, a baseline documentation report will be required. This report establishes the condition and uses of your property.
- Clear title. Issues affecting your property's title need to be resolved before a conservation deal can be finalized. Liens, mortgages, ownership and probate issues will need to be addressed.

If some of your land is forested, a forest resource inventory and/or forest management plan can also be helpful. A certified professional forester can provide this service and alert you to such features as unique plant communities, valuable or productive timber stands, valuable wildlife habitats, etc. This information enables you to make the best possible choices about what portions of your land may be the most important to protect. The Last Green Valley can provide you with a list of state-certified foresters working in your area.



# tection



# memory

**ACT NOW!**  
*Who knows what  
tomorrow will bring?*



Legacy



# STEP 6



## Don't forget - now is the time to act!

Contrary to popular practice, protecting family land is not something to put off until just before you die. There are many good reasons why now is the time to act, including:

- If you should die unexpectedly without a plan, the state and/or your heirs will create one for you, which may vary from your wishes.
- Significant income and/or tax benefits could be lost by waiting to protect land via last will and testament. Good planning can not only protect land but can save your family money now and into the future.
- Peace of mind. If you keep thinking about this, you must want to do it. Actually getting it done changes your worry into pride and contentment.
- You're of sound mind at the moment. Who knows what tomorrow will bring?



# FOR MORE INFORMATION

## Information from Land Trust Partners in The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor

### CONNECTICUT

#### **Avalonia Land Conservancy**

Avalonia Land Conservancy, Inc. is dedicated to the conservation via acquisition of natural areas. It is a non-profit, non-political, tax-exempt organization. We believe it is essential to conserve our natural resources for the benefit of wildlife, our present generation, and the generations yet to come.

**Service Area (CT):** Colchester, East Lyme, Franklin, Griswold, Groton, Lebanon, Ledyard, Lisbon, North Stonington, Preston, Salem, Sprague, Sterling, Stonington, Waterford, Windham, Voluntown

P.O. Box 49, Old Mystic, CT 06372

**Office Address:** 6 Hatch Street, Mystic, CT 06355

860-884-3500 • [info@avalonialc.org](mailto:info@avalonialc.org) • [avalonialandconservancy.org](http://avalonialandconservancy.org)

#### **Eastern Connecticut Forest Landowners Association/ Wolf Den Land Trust**

The Eastern Connecticut Forest Landowners Association/Wolf Den Land Trust is a non-profit educational organization run by forest owners for forest owners. Through quarterly newsletters and workshops, we provide information and education on forest stewardship and family lands protection topics. We also preserve diverse habitats and open space for future generations, while demonstrating healthy stewardship activities on the land.

**Service Area (CT):** Windham County and parts of Tolland County

P.O. Box 404, Brooklyn, CT 06234

[ecfla.org](http://ecfla.org)

#### **Groton Open Space Association**

GOSA is a member supported, all volunteer 501(c)3 non-profit organization, incorporated in 1996, which endeavors to balance the continuing need for protection of land, water, wildlife and passive outdoor recreation with the growing interest in development.

**Service Area (CT):** Groton

P.O. Box 9187, Groton, CT 06340

860-572-5715 • [gosamail@gmail.com](mailto:gosamail@gmail.com) • [gosaonline.org](http://gosaonline.org)





### **Joshua's Trust**

Joshua's Trust, officially, Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust, is protecting more than 4,500 acres in northeastern Connecticut.

**Service Area (CT):** Andover, Ashford, Chaplin, Columbia, Coventry, Eastford, Franklin, Hampton, Lebanon, Mansfield, Scotland, Tolland, Willington, Windham

**Office Address:** 624 Wormwood Hill Rd, Mansfield Center, CT 06250

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 4, Mansfield Center, CT 06250  
(860) 429-9023 • [administration@joshuastrust.org](mailto:administration@joshuastrust.org) • [joshuastrust.org](http://joshuastrust.org)

### **The New Roxbury Land Trust**

The New Roxbury Land Trust is a private, non-profit organization created to preserve and enhance the rural character of the northeastern Connecticut towns of Woodstock, Eastford, Pomfret, Putnam, Thompson and Union, protect open space from industrial, residential or commercial development, promote the use of our acquired land for forestland, agriculture, wildlife habitats, greenbelts and other similar uses and hold development rights, including conservation easements and rights of way, of land in private ownership.

**Service Area (CT):** Eastford, Pomfret, Putnam, Thompson, Union, Woodstock

P.O. Box 98, Woodstock, CT 06281  
860-928-2669 • [info@thenewroxburylandtrust.org](mailto:info@thenewroxburylandtrust.org) • [nrlt.org](http://nrlt.org)

### **Northern Connecticut Land Trust**

The Northern Connecticut Land Trust preserves and protects more than 1,700 acres of natural resources, sponsors outdoor activities on its properties and supports efforts to improve local habitats, maintain farmland and provide recreational opportunities.

**Service Area (CT):** East Windsor, Ellington, Enfield, Somers, Stafford, Tolland, Vernon

PO Box 324, Somers, CT 06071  
[info@northernctlandtrust.org](mailto:info@northernctlandtrust.org) • [northernctlandtrust.org](http://northernctlandtrust.org)

### **Wyndham Land Trust**

The mission of the Wyndham Land Trust is to conserve the natural resources of Northeast Connecticut – the water courses, swamps, woodlands and open spaces, the plant and animal life therein, and the scenic natural and historic sites – all of which are very much a part of the character and beauty of all communities in Northeast Connecticut.

**Service Area (CT):** Brooklyn, Canterbury, Eastford, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Thompson, Woodstock

**Office Address:** 203 Main St, Danielson, CT 06239

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 302, Pomfret Center, CT 06259  
860-963-2090 • [info@wyndhamlandtrust.org](mailto:info@wyndhamlandtrust.org) • [wyndhamlandtrust.org](http://wyndhamlandtrust.org)

*Continued on next page*

# FOR MORE INFORMATION



## Information from Land Trust Partners in The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor (cont.)

### MASSACHUSETTS

#### **Charlton Heritage Preservation Trust**

Charlton Heritage Preservation Trust is a group of conservation minded individuals working to encourage the preservation of critical open space and unique natural resources in Charlton. CHPT exists primarily to protect the natural beauty and rural character of the Town of Charlton, MA.

**Service Area (MA):** Charlton

P.O. Box 92, Charlton Depot, MA 01509  
508-248-5121 • [info@charltontrust.org](mailto:info@charltontrust.org) • [charltontrust.org](http://charltontrust.org)

#### **Dudley Conservation Land Trust**

Working for more than 25 years to preserve and promote the rural, natural and scenic character of the Town of Dudley and surrounding communities for current and future generations.

**Service Area (MA):** Dudley

PO Box 14, Dudley, MA 01571  
508-949-0250 • [DCLTrust@aol.com](mailto:DCLTrust@aol.com) • [dudleyclt.org](http://dudleyclt.org)

#### **Opacum Land Trust, Inc.**

Our aim is to protect the New England charm and rural character of our communities, promote proactive conservation and the creation of greenways and wildlife corridors.

**Service Area (MA):** Brimfield, Brookfield, Charlton, East Brookfield, Holland, Monson, North Brookfield, Palmer, Sturbridge, Southbridge, Wales, Warren, West Brookfield

P.O. Box 233, Sturbridge, MA 01566  
508-347-9144 • [info@opacumlt.org](mailto:info@opacumlt.org) • [opacumlt.org](http://opacumlt.org)

*Opacum Land Trust is part of the MassConn Sustainable Forest Partnership, which provides numerous landowner resources in Connecticut and Massachusetts: [mymassconnwoods.org/woodland-resources](http://mymassconnwoods.org/woodland-resources)*



## MUNICIPAL RESOURCES

### Open Space Committees, Conservation Commissions & Agriculture Commissions

#### Connecticut:

**Ashford** ashfordtownhall.org  
**Brooklyn** brooklynct.org  
**Canterbury** canterburyct.org  
**Chaplin** chaplinct.org  
**Coventry** coventryct.org  
**Eastford** eastfordct.org/eastford  
**Franklin** franklinct.com  
**Griswold** griswold-ct.org  
**Hampton** hamptonct.org  
**Killingly** killingly.org  
**Lebanon** lebanontownhall.org  
**Lisbon** lisbonct.com  
**Mansfield** mansfieldct.gov  
**Norwich** norwichct.org  
**Plainfield** plainfieldct.org  
**Pomfret** pomfretct.gov  
**Preston** preston-ct.org  
**Putnam** putnamct.us  
**Scotland** scotlandct.org  
**Sprague** ctsprague.org  
**Sterling** sterlingct.us  
**Thompson** thompsonct.org  
**Union** unionconnecticut.org  
**Voluntown** voluntown.gov  
**Windham** windhamct.com  
**Woodstock** townofwoodstock.com

#### Massachusetts:

**Brimfield** brimfieldma.org  
**Charlton** townofcharlton.net  
**Dudley** dudleyma.gov  
**East Brookfield** eastbrookfieldma.us  
**Holland** town.holland.ma.us  
**Oxford** town.oxford.ma.us  
**Southbridge** ci.southbridge.ma.us  
**Sturbridge** sturbridge.gov  
**Webster** webster-ma.gov

## STATEWIDE, REGIONAL OR NATIONAL NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

**Connecticut Audubon:** Accepts land or easements adjacent to their existing wildlife sanctuaries in Hampton and Pomfret.

#### **Connecticut Audubon State Headquarters**

314 Unquowa Road, Fairfield, CT 06824  
203-259-0416 • ctaudubon.org

#### **Connecticut Audubon - Center at Pomfret**

218 Day Road, P.O. Box 11, Pomfret Center, CT 06259  
860-928-4948

**Connecticut Farmland Trust:** CFT assists landowners with protection of agricultural land by raising private funds to match with public funding in acquiring conservation easements.

#### **Connecticut Farmland Trust**

77 Buckingham Street, 3rd Floor  
Hartford, CT 06106 • 860-247-0202  
emoore@ctfarmland.org • ctfarmland.org

**Connecticut Forest and Park Association:** A conservation organization and land trust which also manages the 700-mile Blue-Blazed Hiking Trail System. The Connecticut Forest & Park Association (CFPA) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to connecting people to the land in order to protect forests, parks, walking trails, and open spaces in Connecticut for future generations.

#### **Connecticut Forest and Park Association**

16 Meriden Road, Rockfall, CT 06481  
860-346-TREE (8733) • info@ctwoodlands.org • ctwoodlands.org

*Continued on next page*

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Connecticut Land Conservation Council:** CLCC advocates for land conservation, stewardship and funding, and works to ensure the long-term strength and viability of the land conservation community in Connecticut.

***Connecticut Land Conservation Council***

deKoven House, 27 Washington Street, #12, Middletown, CT 06457  
860-852-5512 • ctconservation.org

**Friends of the Shetucket River Valley:** FoSRV's mission is to identify and protect open space in the Shetucket River Valley for the future enjoyment of the public and the preservation of key habitat for fish and wildlife. FoSRV works in Franklin, Lisbon, Scotland, Sprague and Windham, CT.

***Friends of the Shetucket River Valley***

1 Main Street, P.O. Box 677, Baltic, CT 06330 • shetucket.org

**The Last Green Valley, Inc (TLGV):** The Last Green Valley is a National Heritage Corridor – the last stretch of dark night sky in the coastal sprawl between Boston and Washington, D.C. The Last Green Valley, Inc. works for you in the National Heritage Corridor. We help you to care for it, enjoy it and pass it on.

***The Last Green Valley, Inc.***

203B Main Street, P.O. Box 29, Danielson, CT 06239-0029  
860-774-3300 • 866-363-7226 (toll free) • mail@tlgv.org  
thelastgreenvalley.org

**Massachusetts Audubon:** Accepts conservation easements and donations to create wildlife sanctuaries or expand existing ones.

***Land Conservation Department***

2018 South Great Road, Lincoln, MA 01773  
781-259-2155 • land@massaudubon.org  
massaudubon.org/get-involved/conserves-land/conserves-your-land

Wildlife Sanctuary in The Last Green Valley:

***Pierpont Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary***

Marsh Road, Dudley, MA  
978-464-2712 • centralproperties@massaudubon.org  
massaudubon.org

**Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition:** a non-profit that advances land conservation throughout Massachusetts.

***Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition***

18 Wolbach Road, Sudbury, MA 01776  
978-443-2233 • info@massland.org • massland.org

**The Nature Conservancy:** TNC works with willing landowners to preserve lands important to the conservation of biological diversity, with particular focus on specific regions within the The Last Green Valley.

***The Nature Conservancy, Connecticut Chapter***

55 Church Street, Floor 3, New Haven, CT 06510-3029  
203-568-6270 • ct@tnc.org • nature.org/Connecticut

**New England Forestry Foundation (NEFF):** NEFF helps the people of New England sustain their way of life, protect forest wildlife habitat and ecosystem services, and mitigate and adapt to climate change.

***New England Forestry Foundation***

32 Foster Street, PO Box 1346, Littleton, MA 01460  
978-952-6856 • newenglandforestry.org

**The Trust for Public Land (TPL):** TPL's mission is to create parks and protect land for people, ensuring healthy, livable communities for generations to come.

**CT Office:** 101 Whitney Avenue, 2nd Floor, New Haven, CT 06510  
203-777-7367 • connecticut@tpl.org • tpl.org

**MA Office:** 6 Beacon Street, Suite 615, Boston, MA 02108  
617-367-6200 • massachusetts@tpl.org • tpl.org



## STATE AGENCIES

### **CT Department of Agriculture**

Farmland Preservation Program: purchases development rights on existing working farms with significant prime or productive farm soils.

#### *Director, Farmland Preservation Program*

#### *Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture*

450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 701, Hartford, CT 06106

860-713-2511 • DoAg.Farmland@ct.gov

ct.gov/doag

### **CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection**

Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program: acquires land adjacent to existing state land or other large tracts that meet specific criteria.

#### *DEEP Division of Land Acquisitions and Management*

79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106

860-424-3080 • ct.gov/deep

**CT Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Program:** provides grants to municipalities and land trusts to protect important land and water resources.

#### *DEEP Land Acquisition Unit*

79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106

860-424-3016 • ct.gov/deep

### **Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources**

Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program: protects productive farmland through the purchase of deed restrictions

Boston: 617-626-1704 • Amherst: 413-548-1903

mass.gov/service-details/agricultural-preservation-restriction-apr-program-details

### **Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game & Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife) Land Protection Program:**

expands existing wildlife lands, enhances public access to lands and waters for wildlife-related recreation, and protects key fish and wildlife habitats.

508-389-6300 • Mass.Wildlife@mass.gov

mass.gov/service-details/masswildlife-land-acquisitions

### **Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Commonwealth Conservation Land Tax Credit (CTLTC):**

offers tax credits to landowners who donate their property (or through a conservation restriction) to be permanently protected.

617-626-1013

mass.gov/service-details/commonwealth-conservation-land-tax-credit-cltc

### **Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Office of Grants and Technical Assistance:**

provides funding for conservation projects.

100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114

617-626-1177 • mass.gov/orgs/eea-office-of-grants-and-technical-assistance

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

**The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Forestry Division** and the **Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation** have Service Foresters who can provide professional planning and technical assistance to woodland owners through site visits.

***CT State Forester Program Administration Office***

79 Elm Office, Hartford, CT 06106  
860-424-3630 • [deep.forestry@ct.gov](mailto:deep.forestry@ct.gov)

***MA Service Forestry Program Director***

***DCR Bureau of Forest Fire Control and Forestry***

40 Cold Storage Drive, P.O. Box 484, Amherst, MA 01004  
413-545-5753  
[mass.gov/service-details/service-forestry](http://mass.gov/service-details/service-forestry)

**You may also contact any of the CT DEEP Forestry Division or MA Service Forestry Districts.**

***Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Division of Forestry - Eastern District***

209 Hebron Road, Marlborough, CT 06447 • 860-295-9523

***Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation***

Eastern Administration Office, 355 West Boylston Street  
Clinton, MA 01510 • 978-368-0126

***MA Service Forestry District 5*** (covers Brimfield, Charlton, Dudley, East Brookfield, Holland, Southbridge, Sturbridge) - 978-368-0126

***MA Service Forestry District 2*** (covers Oxford, Webster) - 617-719-4460

**State university extension systems** can provide information about farm management, forest stewardship, estate planning and other related topics.

**University of Connecticut Extension Centers:**

***Windham County Extension Center***

139 Wolf Den Road, Brooklyn CT 06234  
860-774-9600 • [windham@uconn.edu](mailto:windham@uconn.edu)  
[extension.uconn.edu/extension-centers/windham.php](http://extension.uconn.edu/extension-centers/windham.php)

***Tolland County Extension Center***

24 Hyde Avenue, Vernon CT 06066 • 860-875-3331

***New London County Extension Center***

562 New London Turnpike, Norwich, CT 06360  
860-887-1608 • [newlondon@uconn.edu](mailto:newlondon@uconn.edu)  
[extension.uconn.edu/extension-centers/newLondon.php](http://extension.uconn.edu/extension-centers/newLondon.php)

**University of Massachusetts Extension**

Woodland landowner website - [masswoods.org](http://masswoods.org)

**University of Massachusetts Extension Regional Offices:**

***Central Massachusetts Region Extension*** (services Worcester County)

237 Chandler Street, Worcester, MA 01609 • 508-831-1223  
[ag.umass.edu/extensionoutreach/umass-extension-in-your-community/extension-in-central-massachusetts](http://ag.umass.edu/extensionoutreach/umass-extension-in-your-community/extension-in-central-massachusetts)

***Western Massachusetts Region Extension*** (services Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire Counties)

319 Stockbridge Hall, 80 Campus Center Way  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003 • 413-545-4800  
[umass.edu/extensionoutreach/umass-extension-in-your-community/extension-in-western-massachusetts](http://umass.edu/extensionoutreach/umass-extension-in-your-community/extension-in-western-massachusetts)



## FEDERAL FUNDING PROGRAMS FOR LAND PROTECTION

**U.S. Forest Service Forest Legacy Program:** purchases conservation easements on important forestland threatened with conversion to other uses.

*Forest Legacy Coordinator*

*CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection*

*Division of Forestry, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106*

860-424-3630

[ct.gov/deep](http://ct.gov/deep)

*Forest Legacy Coordinator*

*Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation*

355 West Boylston Street, Route 110, Clinton, MA 01510

978-368-0126

[mass.gov/service-details/forest-legacy-program](http://mass.gov/service-details/forest-legacy-program)

### **Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)**

**Farmland and Ranchland Preservation Program:** purchases conservation easements on prime, unique or other productive soils for the purposes of limiting conversion to non-agricultural uses of the land.

*Connecticut State Office*

344 Merrow Road, Suite A, Tolland, CT 06084-3917

860-871-4011 • [ct.nrcs.usda.gov](http://ct.nrcs.usda.gov)

*Massachusetts State Office*

451 West Street, Amherst MA 01002-2953

413-253-4350 • [nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/ma/home/](http://nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/ma/home/)

## FURTHER READING

*Protecting the Land You Love.* Connecticut Land Conservation Council.  
[ctconservation.org](http://ctconservation.org)

*What is a Land Trust?* Connecticut Land Conservation Council.  
[Ctconservation.org](http://Ctconservation.org)

*Protecting Your Legacy - A Massachusetts landowner's guide to conservation-based estate planning.* University of Massachusetts Amherst, North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership, Franklin Land Trust.  
[masswoods.org](http://masswoods.org)

*Using a Will to Pass On Your Land.* University of Massachusetts Amherst, Mount Grace Land Trust, Franklin Land Trust.  
[masswoods.org](http://masswoods.org)

*What You Can Do: Conserve Your Land.* Land Trust Alliance.  
[landtrustalliance.org/what-you-can-do/conserv-your-land/getting-started](http://landtrustalliance.org/what-you-can-do/conserv-your-land/getting-started)



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