

# The Warren Conservator

Fall 2015



## Warren Land Trust Board

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Dave Schneiderbeck

### *EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBER*

Craig Nelson

## Warren Land Trust Mission Statement

The Warren Land Trust is an advocacy group dedicated to the preservation of the rural character of Warren. Its mission is to preserve farmland, open space, natural and endangered resources such as wetlands, forests and wildlife habitats, to encourage outright gifting of land for permanent protection and the use of conservation easements to preserve open space.



## From The President's Desk

Dear WLT Friends and Supporters,

When you think of nature-lovers in the great outdoors, you might envision a solitary pursuit – a Thoreau philosophizing by the shore of Walden Pond, or a lone hiker working his or her way along the Appalachian Trail. But in reality, outdoor activities are just as often enjoyed with others. Our CT Trails Day hike is an excellent example, as is the upcoming Cider Run 5K. I hope you'll read more about both events in this issue of The Conservator.

Similarly, land conservation is a group effort. Certainly the WLT couldn't manage our properties or our finances, or run our programming or communications, without the volunteers on our board. More broadly, you may be interested to know that although we are one of a number of surrounding towns, each with its own land trust, that patchwork is in fact an interwoven fabric. Our shared land conservation mission is the common thread prompting us to work alongside and along with each other to preserve forests, waterways, and agricultural land not just in Warren, but throughout Litchfield County and beyond.

On the one hand, we readily partner with other local land trusts when the occasion presents itself. For example, when the Kent Land Trust sought to acquire the old Camp Francis Girl Scout property (now the East Kent Hamlet Preserve), one-third of which is in Warren, we helped promote and fund the project. We hope to lead a group exploration of the preserve in the coming months. We communicate regularly with members of the Steep Rock and Weantinogue boards and staff, as well as with members of the Lake Waramaug Task Force and Lake Waramaug Association boards, and feel confident that they would turn to us or we to them in the event of a shared concern.

We also participate in a number of conservation consortia. These include "SALT" (Small Area Land Trusts) – a forum for land trust representatives from Warren, Kent, Washington, New Milford, Roxbury, and Cornwall, among others, to discuss topics from fundraising and membership to invasives management in the local context. Similarly the Litchfield Hills Greenprint Collaborative, housed under the auspices of the Housatonic Valley Association, joins area conservation organizations in support of projects that transcend town boundaries. The CT Land Conservation Commission and the national Land Trust Alliance provide assistance and information on a larger scale. The former conducts a series of helpful workshops, seminars and roundtables on subjects from outdoor programming to property inspection, and the latter's resources with regard to the accreditation process are invaluable. Both organizations provide updates on conservation-related legislative activities. For more information about these organizations, see our website.

Our board members feel strongly – and we think our supporters agree – that the Warren Land Trust is the first and best resource for land conservation in Warren. We know our town: its landscape, its history, its community. But we are grateful to have a network of equally committed local and regional conservation organizations with which to partner and share best practices and experiences. They, along with friends and supporters like yourselves, help our organization better serve Warren and its community.

Sincerely,

*Rebecca*

## Notice of Annual Meeting:

The Annual Meeting of the Warren Land Trust will be held on Saturday, November 21st, 2015 at 9AM at The Academy, Sackett Hill Road. All Land Trust members are encouraged to attend and participate. Non-members are also welcome to attend – this is an excellent opportunity to learn about our conservation work! The meeting should last approximately one hour. Among the items on the agenda: President Rebecca Neary will provide a general update of Land Trust activities, Treasurer Barbara Page will report on our finances, Outreach and Development Committee Chair Laura Moore Brown will discuss our programming, and Land Acquisition and Stewardship Chair Jamie Browne will summarize recent developments in WLT land management. We hope to see you on November 21st. Refreshments will be provided. Please don't hesitate to contact us at [info@warrenlandtrust.org](mailto:info@warrenlandtrust.org) with any questions. We hope to see you there!

## WLT Celebrates CT Trails Weekend

The Warren Land Trust celebrated Connecticut Trails Weekend this past June with a hike along a newly blazed portion of the Mattatuck Trail in Warren, heading toward the Upper Shepaug Reservoir. Although there had been rain overnight, by morning it had cleared and conditions were good for a walk in the woods. Hikers from Warren and beyond met with land trust board member Dave Schneiderbeck, who has years of experience hiking and orienteering. Fueled by trail mix cookies (<http://m.allrecipes.com/recipe/234288/west-coast-trail-cookies/>) and good spirits, hikers covered about four miles in an out-and-back route featuring scenic woodland views, including a little stream to be forded. Coordinated by the Connecticut Forest & Park Association since 1993, CT Trails Weekend is a celebration of hiking and the great outdoors allowing state parks, town, land trusts, nature centers, and other organizations to showcase their trails, their volunteers, and the work they do to thousands of people statewide. Check our website in the spring for next year's event!



Left:  
Photo Break!

Right:  
Hiking Through  
A Tight Spot



### Want to keep in closer touch with WLT?

Would you like to know what's going on with the WLT in between newsletters? Sign up to receive our email blasts. We will send occasional updates and reminders for WLT and other local land conservation programming and news. Drop us a line with your name and email address at [info@warrenlandtrust.org](mailto:info@warrenlandtrust.org), and keep in touch!



Dave Schneiderbeck and son Asher

### Board Member Profile: Dave Schneiderbeck

It was extremely fortuitous that some Warren Land Trust board members knew of Dave Schneiderbeck even before he moved to town: as a valued member of the Naromi Land Trust in Sherman, his reputation preceded him. Now we are the fortunate beneficiaries of Dave's trail-blazing and -maintenance skills, his wilderness education experience, and his passion and respect for the great outdoors.

Dave grew up in New Fairfield, attended Worcester Polytechnic Institute, where he studied mechanical engineering, and then moved to Sherman. In search of "some peaceful acreage to call (his) own," Dave and his wife Amy settled on a "fantastic spot" on Fiddler's Pond, where they are now raising their young sons Asher and Dennis. For the past twenty years, Dave has worked at Rizzo's Garage, and now is the proud owner of that business. While working at his chosen profession, Dave also pursues his avocation as an outdoor leadership instructor at the Great Hollow Wilderness School.

Dave was a natural candidate for inclusion in the WLT's Land Acquisition and Stewardship Committee, which initiates and reviews proposed land acquisitions and conservation easements, and then inspects and maintains those properties. We also benefit from his experience in outdoor education and orienteering, however: Dave is an engaging hike leader, and will be spearheading a presentation at the Warren School.

In what spare time he can muster, Dave serves as an active member of the Park & Recreation Committee, and coaches basketball and volleyball in Warren. He would also like to put his EMT training to use as a volunteer for the town's fire department. Given the knowledge and care that Dave brings to his many commitments, we feel fortunate that WLT is among them!

### Come see us at this year's Fall Festival!

This year's Warren Fall Festival takes place on October 10th and 11th from 10am to 5pm at Warren Woods. We will have our booth in the usual spot, and look forward to friends and supporters stopping by to say hello. We will have information available about our properties and programming, as well as hats and t-shirts for sale. So drop by...and don't forget to enter our prize drawing! Check our website for further details, or contact Laura Moore Brown at [info@warrenlandtrust.org](mailto:info@warrenlandtrust.org).





**The WLT currently holds over 650 acres under permanent protection.  
IF YOU AREN'T A MEMBER OF THE WARREN LAND TRUST,  
WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN NOW!!**

Becoming a Member of The Warren Land Trust is easy. Simply cut off this page and send it to our mailing address below, along with your check. We will send you a receipt along with our thanks for your generous, 100% tax deductible contribution. Please include your name, address and email so that we may include you in our email updates. Choose the type of membership you would like:

\_\_\_ Family Membership \$25

\_\_\_ Land Protector \$100

\_\_\_ Land Caretaker \$300

\_\_\_ Land Conservator \$500

\_\_\_ Land Steward \$1,000

\_\_\_ Land Grantor \$2,500

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: The Warren Land Trust, Inc.

MAIL THIS FORM AND CHECK TO: The Warren Land Trust, Inc. 50 Cemetery Road, Warren, CT 06754

To join or donate online, visit [www.warrenlandtrust.org](http://www.warrenlandtrust.org)

Please make any necessary corrections to your name and address on the mailing panel and submit to the WLT.

**Seeking Volunteers and New Board Members**

Volunteers are very important to the Warren Land Trust (WLT). There are numerous opportunities throughout the year to help WLT. Whether you have a few hours or a full day to volunteer; whether you could attend a meeting or event, or would prefer to do something from home; whether you have a special skill or just enthusiasm, please consider donating your time to help protect Warren's unique resources and open space.

**Here are some ways in which we could use your help:**

- Trails and property maintenance; lead a nature walk
- Warren Fall Festival Booth
- Town Clean Up and Swap Meet
- Write for our newsletter
- Help with mailings
- Tech support
- Event planning

We are also looking for new volunteer Board Members who can bring experience to the board in areas such as working with nonprofits, fundraising, finance, law (particularly CT bar), land trust operations, surveying and property inspection.

To volunteer, please contact **Rebecca Neary** ([info@warrenlandtrust.org](mailto:info@warrenlandtrust.org) / 860-868-7939) and indicate how you would like to help.

If you are interested in joining the Board, please contact Rebecca Neary ([info@warrenlandtrust.org](mailto:info@warrenlandtrust.org) / 860-868-7939), along with a copy of your resume or other description of your experience and interest. All board members are elected at the annual board meeting in November. However, we may add an interim board member during the course of the year.

**Thank you for "Giving Local!"**

We are happy and grateful to report a generous response to the "Give Local" campaign sponsored by the CT Community Foundation on May 5-6. We raised \$4000 from 11 donors, and even qualified for bonus funds from CCF. Thank you to our supporters!



For up to date information please visit [www.warrenlandtrust.org](http://www.warrenlandtrust.org)

**Are you WLT's neighbor?**



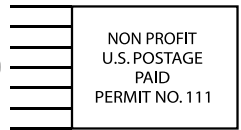
Do you live near one of the Warren Land Trust's fee properties or easements? Check out the interactive map on our website, [www.warrenlandtrust.org](http://www.warrenlandtrust.org), and see. If you are, we'd like to make a "conservation connection!" Our aim is to maintain these properties in a largely natural state, and we could use your help. If you're interested in helping us oversee or otherwise steward a Warren Land Trust property near you, please let us know: contact Tim Angevine at [timothyangevine@hotmail.com](mailto:timothyangevine@hotmail.com)

## The Warren Conservator

50 Cemetery Road  
Warren, CT 06754

Email: [info@warrenlandtrust.org](mailto:info@warrenlandtrust.org)

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



### Important Dates:

- Oct. 10/11 - Fall Festival
- Oct. 17 - Cider Run 5k
- Nov. 21 - Annual Meeting

For up to date information:  
[www.warrenlandtrust.org](http://www.warrenlandtrust.org)

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### WLT Acquires New Property on Above All Road

We are excited to announce the very recent acquisition of a 50-plus-acre parcel on Above All Road, to be named the Strong Preserve after the family who owned the property for many years. Stay tuned for further details and photos in our spring issue!

### The 7th Annual Cider Run 5K

Calling all runners...calling all runners! The 7th annual Cider Run 5K is scheduled for October 17th at 10am. This is a great community event – an opportunity to come together, enjoy the beautiful fall weather, and contribute to a good cause: all proceeds go towards supporting the Parks & Rec Scholarship Fund.

For the little kids, there will be a children's run starting at 9:45, followed by pumpkin-painting. Although we may have some local speedsters participating, this is very much a "fun run". For those non-runners, the Cider Run is a 5-kilometer event that can easily be walked. Feel free to join us with walking shoes. We also will allow strollers and dogs on a leash to encourage broad town participation.

There will be prizes for the first three male and female finishers, as well as for age-group first finishers. And cider and donuts for all!

To register, go to [www.fasttracktiming.com](http://www.fasttracktiming.com). Questions? Contact Bill Mansfield at [info@warrenlandtrust.org](mailto:info@warrenlandtrust.org).

We hope to see you at Warren Woods on the 17th!

## Warren Parks & Rec and Warren Land Trust



Warren, Connecticut  
Saturday, October 17, 2015

**WHEN:** STARTS AT 10:00 AM

Kids Fun Run STARTS AT 9:45 AM

**WHERE:** Warren Woods, Brick School Road, Warren, CT