



# BWLT NEWS

*Protecting The Land You Love*

March, 2022

## Spring Brings Opportunity Events And Preserve Improvements Are Underway

Spring is almost here, and when nature begins to flourish and grow, we get busy. Warmer temperatures bring opportunities to tend to our land and offer a full lineup of events that we hope will entice you to enjoy the great outdoors along with us.

### Pollinator Webinar

In preparation for gardening season, on April 2nd we are co-sponsoring a one hour webinar on "**Pollinator Plants for Containers and Small Spaces**" with horticultural expert and highly regarded speaker Mark Dwyer. For details and to sign up go to:  
<https://bridgewaterlandtrust.org/events/>

### Town Cleanup

We will hold a much needed **roadside cleanup** on Saturday, April 23rd. This is an annual event that we co-sponsor with HRRRA (Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority). See details below. Many thanks to JBM Carting for donating their time and equipment for the event. New this year, we will be "littering" prizes on roadsides to be redeemed by those who are lucky enough to find them. The success of this cleanup relies heavily on volunteers. Lend a hand if you can.

### Exhibit For Earth Day

For the first time, we will be an exhibitor at the **Earth Day Festival** at Hollow Park in Woodbury on April 30th. We hope you will stop at our booth (look for the tan colored tent) while enjoying this expansive event complete with food trucks, earth-friendly vendors, nature demonstrations and more. The BWLT will be enticing guests to "Protect The Pollinators". Those who take on our challenge, will receive a bee-friendly favor.

### Give Local Campaign

Our annual **Give Local campaign** will be on April 26th and 27th. Thanks to the Connecticut Community Foundation and Ion Bank for hosting this exciting 36-hour online give-a-thon. This is the best time to join the BWLT or renew your membership, as any support of \$10 or more, is boosted by the Connecticut Community Foundation. In addition, we have an exciting opportunity thanks to the generosity of Ted Alt and Katherine Burke! See article below. The giving spirit of our community is impressive. Please consider a donation to all of the participating Bridgewater non-profits!

Help keep our town CLEAN and GREEN!

# BRIDGEWATER TOWN CLEANUP

Green Bridgewater Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> (rain date is April 24<sup>h</sup>). Stop by the town green between 10 AM-2 PM to pick up supplies to clean-up litter along the roads of Bridgewater. The Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRRA) in partnership with the Bridgewater Land Trust will provide, bags, gloves and safety vest for volunteers.

***NEW twist** - In an effort to make clean up more fun this year we are "littering" the town with prizes. While cleaning up your street you might be a lucky winner. More details will be shared when you pick up your supplies on the Green.*

**Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022**  
**10 AM to 2 PM**



Questions?

Contact Jen Heaton-Jones at [Jennifer@HRRRA.org](mailto:Jennifer@HRRRA.org) or Julie Stuart at [JulieStuartCT@gmail.com](mailto:JulieStuartCT@gmail.com)  
More information about the event is available at [www.HRRRA.org](http://www.HRRRA.org)

## Double Your Dollars 10K Challenge

*An Exciting Give Local Campaign Is Ahead*

Thanks to the generosity of Bridgewater residents Ted Alt and Katherine Burke, we have a \$10,000 matching challenge opportunity for this year's Give Local campaign on April 26th and 27th. This means your donation is doubled by Ted and Katherine! Don't miss this chance

to maximize your impact and help protect Bridgewater's unspoiled land, clean air and water, wildlife habitat, and natural places for all of us to explore, reflect and enjoy.

Ted and Katherine “found” Bridgewater in 2006 when they responded to an ad in the New York Times for a rental property described as “a fishing cottage with a canoe”. After 9 years as part-time residents in a sweet bungalow on Lake Lillinonah, they purchased a home on Northrup Street and became full-time residents.

They were both attracted to the rural landscape of Bridgewater as it reminded Ted of the small town in New Hampshire where he grew up spending his summers. “My father cultivated and sold Christmas trees in Tamworth, NH on beautiful forested land among the White Mountains. I have very fond memories of my time there. Eventually we permanently conserved the land and built trails for the public to access and enjoy.” Ted’s experience with land conservation drew him to join the Board of Directors of the Bridgewater Land Trust. He now willingly shares his insights with others who may want to restrict development and preserve open space.

We are very grateful to Ted and Katherine for their generosity and “challenging spirit” for this year’s upcoming Give Local Campaign. The “Double Your Dollars 10K Challenge” is on!



Make the most of your donation to  
the Bridgewater Land Trust!



Double  
YOUR  
Dollars  
10K CHALLENGE  
April 26th through April 27th

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## A Facelift at the Le Vaillant Wildlife Preserve *Volunteers And Students Are Pitching In*

The 17 acre Le Vaillant Wildlife Preserve was the first piece of land donated to the BWLT. It is also home to the Ketchum's Children's Trail, which is unique in it's many educational "stops" along the trail.

This spring, with the help of town volunteers and Shepaug Agriscience students, we will be enhancing, cleaning up and extending the trail. Plans include: a small bridge to allow easier stream crossing, removing invasives from signs, clearing fallen trees, adding and replacing bluebird houses, improving access to the preserve and creating a new trail map. A new section of trail will be added to a wooded area which will require clearing and marking. These improvements will enable young families and others to use this revitalized preserve.



*One of many educational nature signs along the trail at the Le Vaillant Wildlife Preserve*



But if we stop loving animals, aren't we bound to stop loving humans too?

- ALEXSANDR SOLZHENITSYN

*Stuart Family Farm piglet, Bridgewater. Photo by Julie Stuart*

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## Support Us

The Bridgewater Land Trust is a federally recognized 501(c) (3) charitable organization, and all your contributions are tax deductible.

**DONATE**

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## Stay Social

P.O Box 8  
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