



BWLT NEWS

Protecting The Land You Love

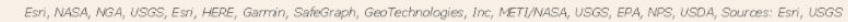
September, 2022

Follow The Forest

New Regional Initiative Underway To Protect Wildlife

Bridgewater, Connecticut lies within the boundaries of a wildlife corridor that extends from the Hudson Valley to the forests of Canada. As our climate changes, this pathway is vital for wildlife as they travel northward through woodlands, fields and wetlands. HVA (Housatonic Valley Association) based in Cornwall Bridge, CT is asking local land trusts to help them protect at least 50% of the forest habitat and its vital linkages across western New England and Eastern New York.

The Bridgewater Land Trust is now one of 47 partners committed to protecting and maintaining this resilient and essential wildlife corridor. HVA has provided us with well-researched data and maps that tell us what parcels of land within Bridgewater are critical. The focus is on forest cores with 250 or more continuous acres, the minimum needed to sustain important woodland species. Bridgewater has six identified areas. We will soon be connecting with the landowners of those parcels to increase awareness of these critical migratory corridors. You can find more information at www.followtheforest.org.



More Options And Fun This Year!

Tickets are on sale now for our highly anticipated Volksmarsch Walk coming up soon on October 1st. The Bridgewater countryside awaits those who want to enjoy a behind the scenes trek through our beautiful town. We welcome all levels of walkers and offer 5K, 10K

and party only options. After the walk, relax and stay a while at the Pratt Pavilion. Enjoy delicious German food, beer, wine and live music with our favorite local band, The Night Birds.

Purchase Tickets Here



Join Us For The 3rd Annual
Volksmarsch Walk
Saturday, October 1st, 2022

Rain date: Sunday, October 2nd

at The Pratt Pavilion, Bridgewater Recreation Center

Join us once again for our European style non-competitive fitness walk. This year participants can chose from three options: 10K Walk, 5K Walk or Party Only. All ticket holders will be treated to an after party featuring catered German food (local bratwurst, warm pretzels and more) along with beer & wine, a live local band and a cozy fire.

Tickets: \$50 per person / Children 12 and under \$15

Start time and registration between 12 - 1 PM. Music begins at 2 PM.

Attendance is limited, pre-registration is advised.

For more information please visit: www.bridgewaterlandtrust.org

Thanks to our initial signature sponsors:

Bridgewater Recreation Commission and Union Savings Bank

Also thanks to station, band, food and souvenir sponsors: Ted Alt & Katherine Burke, Stuart Family Farm, Andrew & Molly Smith, Will Stuart of Berkshire Hathaway



Volksmarsch Float Wins Award

Our enthusiasm for our upcoming walk led to an entry in the annual Bridgewater Tractor Parade. Our efforts landed us a trophy for "Float That Best Epitomizes Bridgewater". Thank you to Bridgewater resident Jeff Jones for donating the impressive 13 foot tall Tulip trees that clearly made an impression on the judges and to Bill Stuart for loaning us the tractor and trailer.

Also thanks to our Tractor Parade crew who danced, sang and encouraged spectators to join us for the upcoming walk: Lisa Antel, Larina Cipolla, Louise Marble, Jean Robinson, Andrew and Molly Smith, Peg and Gary Toledo, Julie Stuart, Julie Wachtel and driver Curtis Read.





New Trail Network Underway

Work Has Begun On Eversource Land

We have begun mapping and marking our new trail network on the 80 acres of Eversource owned land near the Bridgewater Town Park. In addition to our license agreement that allows us to use the land for 10 years, Eversource has awarded us a \$1,500 grant to assist in the creation of this new network. Currently we have a Tappen Brook spur trail identified, as well as a longer lake view loop that hugs the shores of Lake Lillinonah plus trails through an area we refer to as "Fern Valley". Each trail has its own points of interest with attention given to accommodate all levels of walkers and hikers. We anticipate the initial phase to be completed this fall.



A glimpse of the Eversource land that will soon be open to the public.

Ketchum Children's Trail

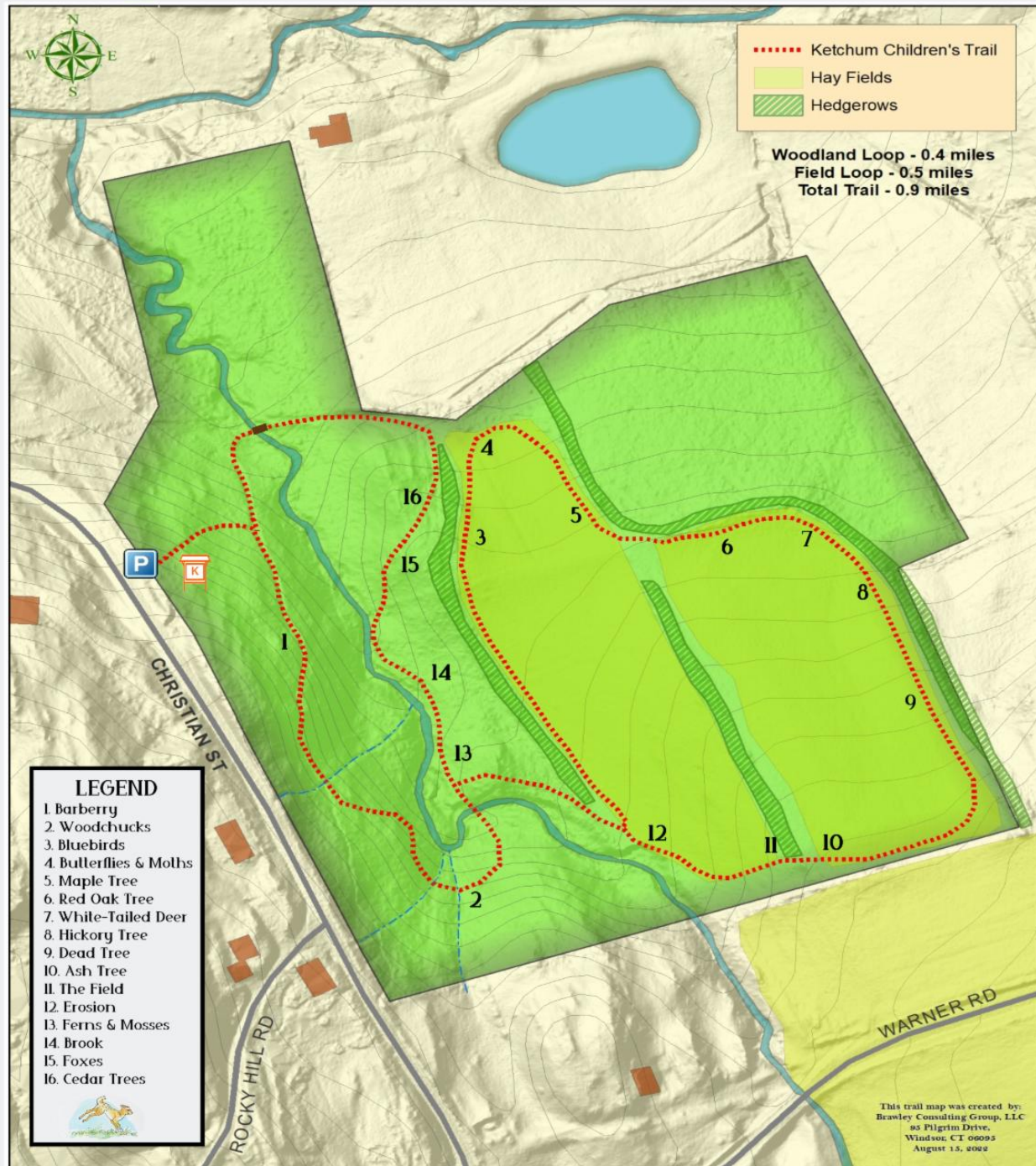
Refurbished Trail Ready For Families

Major improvements to our Ketchum Children's Trail at the Le Vaillant Nature Preserve are nearly complete, thus paving the way for our youngest residents to come explore. Improvements include: new signage and placement of signs, new trail sections, new bridge, removal of invasives, new trail map and markers, improvements to wet areas of the trail, five new bluebird houses and a new kiosk. While it is still a work in progress, we plan to host Burnham school students this fall.



Ketchum Children's Trail

Le Vaillant Wildlife Preserve



Our new trail map is located on the kiosk near the trail head on Christian Street. There is a QR code on the map so walkers can scan and view it from their cell phone.

Support Us

The Bridgewater Land Trust is a federally recognized 501(c) (3) charitable organization, and all your

Stay Social

P.O Box 8
Bridgewater, CT 06752

contributions are tax deductible.

DONATE

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