

BWLT NEWS

Protecting The Land You Love

April, 2024

You Are A Hero! Your Support Makes Our Work Possible

Our donors are the heroes of every story we tell. We rely completely on your generosity to do our important work. Your contributions have bolstered our efforts in 2023 and we hope to keep the momentum going in 2024.

The Connecticut Community Foundation is hosting its annual Give Local campaign on April 24th and 25th. Last year we received \$60,528! This remarkable amount came from 194 generous donors. We finished in 2nd place overall among 287 non-profit organizations and 1st place in our size category. **Thank you for your continued belief and investment in us!**

We encourage each of you to become a member or renew your membership in 2024 during our Give Local campaign. The matching funds, the bonus dollars, and potential for cash prizes mean any amount you give is more than doubled! The link to donate will be sent to you when the give-a-thon begins on April 24th.

Highlights Of Our Work In 2023

You Are Making An Impact!

The Lamont Preserve: Permanently protected another 45 acres!



Opened new trail network: Tappen Brook Trails



Began new 5K course



Planted a wildflower meadow at The Jim Allen Preserve

Installed a new roof at our Town Line Farm Preserve

Partnered with Eagle Scouts



Presented engaging community programs



Connected Burnham students to nature



Cleaned up our roadsides







Our Give Local Matching Donors *With Deep Appreciation to Chris and Will*

Chris Amorossi and Will Stuart grew up in and around Bridgewater and both want to see the town remain as they remember it: rolling hills, working farms, tree-lined roads, and fresh, clean air. Chris shared her reasons for her support: "The Bridgewater Land Trust does more

than just protect trees. They also own and care for two, large working farms. This makes them unique and it is something I want to invest in." Will expressed his thoughts "I want to keep Bridgewater Bridgewater for future generations to enjoy like I have. It is important to have more deed restrictions on large parcels of land so that it will be protected forever."

Chris's extraordinary match is given in memory of her late husband, Butch Thompson who was a life-long resident of Bridgewater. Butch was a fixture in town with a great sense of humor, and who could remember and share those "back in the day" stories like no other. The Chris Amorossi "Match Our Way to 60K" means that Chris will match up to \$30,000 for the 2024 Give Local campaign!

Will has offered a 2 x 2 x 2 Donor Challenge: During the 2 giving days, we need 200 individual donors to unlock another \$2,000! Thank you to The Will Stuart Team of Berkshire Hathaway Home Services for funding this challenge.



Chris Amorossi and Will Stuart



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



Bridgewater Land Trust!

\$30,000 to unlock this match!

We need to raise We need 200 donors to unlock this match!



Happy Hour Fun! Spring Has Sprung

Thanks to the many supporters (familiar and new) who attended our Happy Hour event on the first day of spring. With special thanks to Italia Mia Restaurant, our generous host!



Lend A Hand If You Can Our Roadsides Need A Cleanup





Burnham Students To Experience The Marvels Of Nature & Art

The BWLT is thrilled to sponsor "Marvelous Metamorphoses" a live puppetry performance of song and dance for Burnham students in honor of Earth Day. The live puppets capture the annual cycles of life with captivating raps and movements to show the transformations from caterpillar to butterfly, polliwog to frog, and more!

Plant Exploration Hike On Tap Learn About Trees, Plants & More

Alison Birks will lead a hike this spring and will share her vast knowledge of plants, trees, flowers, and fungi. Please be sure to RSVP as we anticipate a full group of curious walkers.



Learn about the edible and medicinal uses of common weeds, trees and native plants of **Bridgewater with** seasoned forager and expert herbalist Alison Birks, MS, RH (AHG), CNS. We will nibble, touch, smell and engage our senses in the plant world around us as we wander. **Topics to be covered** include: sustainable foraging, plant identification, folklore and more!

Join Us! Plant Exploration HHKE All are welcome to this free event.



Sat., May 18th 11 AM - 12:30 PM Hike begins at 11 AM Bridgewater Town Park 221 Tappen Road

Heavy rain cancels. Space is limited RSVP is required: julie@bridgewaterlandtrust.org

Party On The Ridge Returns

Kick Off Your Summer With Us

We are looking forward to another exciting gathering On The Ridge this summer. Mark your calendars and get ready for some spectacular live music, tasty food and drink, and scenic hayrides with breathtaking views of Bridgewater and beyond. Tickets are available here:



Correction: In the BWLT 2023 Impact Report, Renee Siana was omitted from our donor list. Renee has been a member and supporter for many years and we deeply apologize for the oversight.



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



Stay Social

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