



BWLT NEWS

Protecting The Land You Love

April, 2025



Our Passion For Land Protection

*It's What Makes Bridgewater **Bridgewater***

Bridgewater may be a small town but we are mighty and our passion for land protection is fierce! As spring unfolds, we count on everyone to keep our tranquil town unspoiled and full of nature's wonder. Our hopes are high and our dreams are big as we push forward with initiatives that support our natural and working lands.

Your support this year will help:

- Repurpose and remodel the large dairy barn at the Town Line Farm Preserve allowing for programs and space that support future farmers.
- Achieve our "30 x 30" goal of preserving 30% of the natural and working lands in Bridgewater by 2030.
- Enhance recreational opportunities through well-maintained public trails, including the creation and opening of new trails at the Tappen Brook Preserve.

Give Local is April 29-30

A Give-A-Thon With a Competitive Twist

The annual **Give Local** campaign has become our biggest fundraiser of the year. We will cheer on all the wonderful non-profits, but we also will feel our competitive juices flowing.

There will be a sense of pride to see a Bridgewater charity on the leader board especially when we will be competing with much larger communities and organizations.

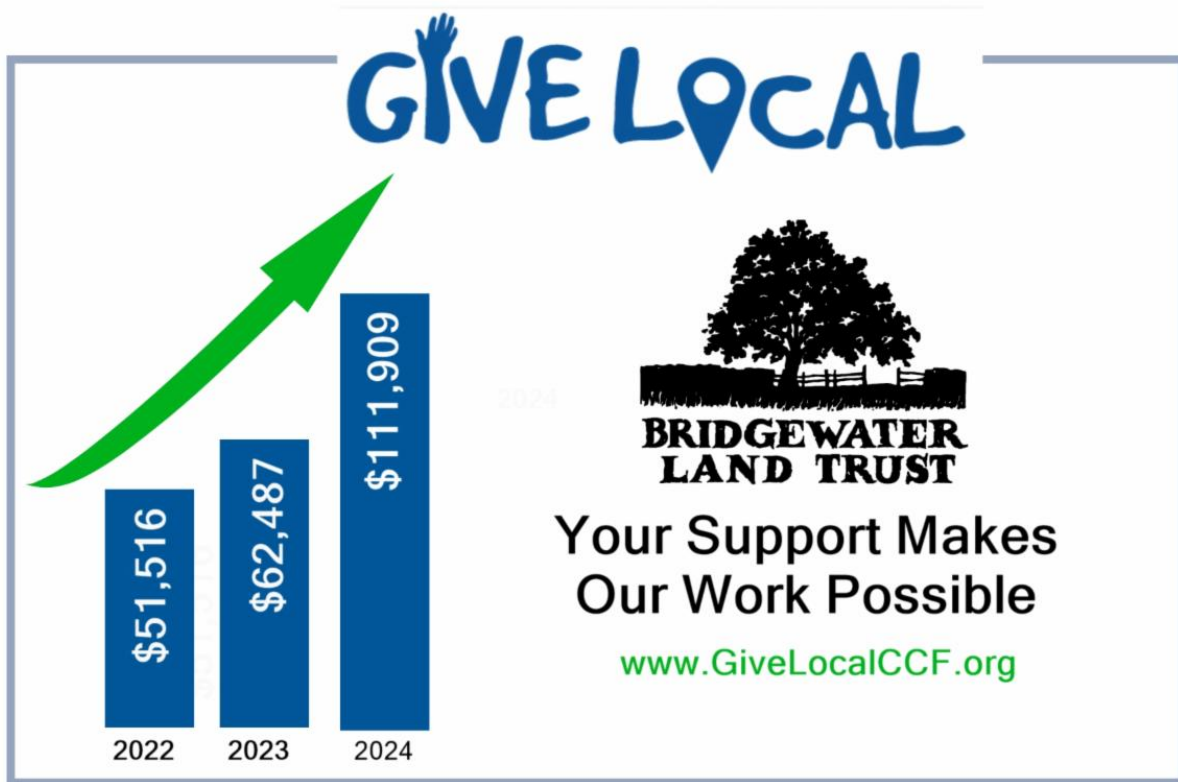
Over 310 non-profit organizations participated in the CT Community Foundations Give Local event in 2024, and likely, there will be as many or more in 2025. This on-line, 36 hour give-a-thon, is filled with excitement! There are cash prizes to win, bonus funds, match opportunities and a leader board that shows in real time who is out front! In 2024 we came in 2nd place overall and 1st place among "small" organizations. Let's try to get there again!

There is no doubt that this is the best time to support land preservation in Bridgewater. We are very grateful to the 225 people who contributed in 2024. We rely completely on your generosity to do our important work.

A special thanks to Bridgewater resident and BWLT Director, Chris Amorossi for the \$35,000 matching challenge (wow!) and to the Will Stuart Team for their \$5,000 donor challenge (if we reach 200 donors, we unlock an additional \$5,000). We are off to an impressive start!

Thank You 2024 Give Local Donors

Christopher Alt	Christian & Cynthia Feuer	Julie & Dave Ledbetter	Gerald Ronan
Ted Alt & Katherine Burke	Sophie Feuer	Jeffrey Lederer	William Rondina
Desiree Alvarez	Nick & Lily Feuer	Lisa Lee	Mairead Rosa
Ann Amorossi	Ann Firestone	Elizabeth MacDonald	Wendy Rothman
Chris Amorossi	Elaine & Bob Flanagan	Kris & Dennis MacDonald	Bill Rube
Jane Anderson	Judith Flaxman	Mike & Carroll Macdonald	Jane Rushton
Lisa Antel & Louise Marble	Catherine Flynn	Danielle McDougall	William Sachs
Carol Arconti	Victoria Forrester	Michael Macko	Julia Sachs
Emily Armstrong	Dale Fournier	Dawn MacNutt &	Yordak Salermo
Smita & Neal Bandyopadhyay	Theresa Fox	Jean Robinson	Rob & Allison Schifini
Walt Barlow	Josh & Kim Francis	Philippa Feigen Malkin	Karen Schmidt &
Richard Bartkus	Edward & Lori Franklin	Rob & Necole Manna	Barry Burgess
Patricia Batten	Sharon & Bob Gawe	Allison Marculitis	Cari Schnipper
Ann & Andy Bazos	Lois Gilmore	Russell Marcus	Ron Seger
Phyllis Beauvais	John Gilpin	Patricia Maxwell	AnnMari Shannahan
Susie Beris	MaryAnn & Brad Goldstein	Jo Mayer	Renee Siana
Zofia Besel	Wendie Grabel	Rebecca & Hal Mayerson	Bruce & Shirley Siana
Jayne Hinds Bidaut	Leslie & Phil Granger	Jill McCafferty	Elizabeth Smith
Alison Birks	Eric & Allison Gsell	Bridget McCarthy	Andrew & Molly Smith
Samantha Bisignano	Patty & Rich Gustavson	Morgan McCarthy	Ricky Smithline
Jasper Block	Lewis Haber &	Adele McCarthy	AJ Souza
Elliot Block	Carmen Dubroc	Maureen McCauley	Tom Sperry &
Tristan Block	Gerardo Hacer	Ryan McLaughlin	Julia Wachtel
Evyn Block	Priscilla Hancock	James & Pam McLaughlin	Ana Strayton
Marla Blumenstock	Lilly Hanlon	Alex McNaughton	Jeffery Streader
Elizabeth Bobroske	Tom & Anita Hargrove	Tom & Kat Messina	Will Stuart
Barbara & Mark Boccuzzi	Chuck & Susan Harris	Mindful Moves Yoga	Christian Stuart
Karen Brand	Jennifer Heaton-Jones	Bob Mnuchin	Joanna Stuart
James Breen	Barbara Heilweil	Jacqueline Mooney	Bill Stuart
Michelle Brown	Robert Hellman	Adele Mooney	Bill Stuart Jr.
Joseph & Eileen Buchheit	Dorothy Hennessy	Edward & Sue Muszala	Dana Stuart-Bulloch
Jason Buchsbaum	Richard & Monica Herrington	Larry & Sandy Neary	Charlene & Jamie Sullivan
Helaina Buzzeo &	Jeffrey Herron	Cheryl Nelson	Kelly Sullivan
William New	Leslie & Andrew Hersom	Susan Niesobecki	Hester Sullivan
Kevin & Tara Cady	Paul & Mary Ann Hines	Juliana Oliaro	Christopher Swasey
William Cardoza	Kevin & Monsie Hobbs	Tom & Mae Orkisz	Barbara & Peter Talbot
Donna Churyk	Christine Hora	Keenan Owens	Lauren Tashma
Larina Cipolla	Robert Huttemann	Jeanne Paparazzo	Jackie Temperato
Alison Colitti	Marie Immohr	William Pape	Schyler Temperato
Joseph Colitti	Ann Jaffe	Brooke Parker	Jordyn Temperato
David & Dera Cooper	Theodora Jameson	Cynthia Parker	John Temperato
David Costabile	Wendy Janesky	Betsy Perlman	Denise Teuber
James Curren	Cheryl Johnson	Freddy Perlman &	Celine & Sebastien Thiebault
Susan & Hugh Delage	Wendy & Dick Jones	Carrie Lindgren	Peg & Gary Toledo
John Delves	Jeffrey Jones	Virginia Perrakis	Jocelyn & Rick Urban
Patricia Dempsey	Glenn Kaplan &	William Perssonatti	Paul & Denise Valeri
Steve DeValk	Evelyn Rodstein	Julie Peterson	Catherine & Eric Vikstrom
Robert & Karen Dinerstein	Paulette Kaplan	Frederick Plescia	Susan & Joe Wilcox
Joseph Dolen &	Richard & Annie Kaplon	Elaine Pratt	Susan Williams Kellogg
Kathy Creighton	Grace Kellogg	Tom & Elaine Presby	Jeff Winter
Lesley Dryden	David & Leland Kellogg	Ben Propper &	Ashley Yozzo
Frank & Sandy Duemmler	Candee Kilian	Marc Rogers	Donna Zaccaro Ullman
Veronique & Tom Dulack	Lynn Kubisek	Evelyne Purdy	& Paul Ullman
Jessica Dumas	Kayla Kurelko	Harold & Joyce Rannestad	Victoria Zandonella
Patrick & Carolan Dwyer	Fran & Pete Lachance	Curtis Read & Julie Stuart	Julie Zee
Hanna Feuer	Patti & Erik Landegren	Barbara Rippis	



It's Nature's Busy Season

And You Can Help

Our forests and fields are abuzz with activity as wildlife wakes up for springtime. It is always a thrill to see the beautiful creatures who live among us. There are many things that humans can do to aid in their survival. Here are a few reminders:

- For the pollinators, please resist the urge to clean up your gardens until temperatures are consistently above 50 degrees. Many butterflies, bees and other pollinators are overwintering in the dead leaves and may not survive disruption.
- Do not use poisons to kill yard pests like moles. These poisons can and do kill owls, other raptors, and predatory animals. The most humane way to get rid of moles is to use beneficial nematodes that dine on the grubs that form much of the mole diet.
- While we love to see bears in our yards, do not attract them with easy to open garbage receptacles left out overnight. Bear-resistant garbage cans are a good option. A few choices with high ratings: Toter's Bear Tough Trash or Rehrig Pacific Bear Resistant Roll-Out Carts (used by All American Waste). Also remember to close your grills and only fill your bird feeders in the winter.
- Drive like a turtle! Early morning hours and dusk are the most active times for wildlife. They will be on the move this time of year seeking food for hungry babies.
- Speaking of turtles, if you help them across the road, be sure to place them in the direction they were heading.



A red fox trotting along a Christian Street field.



A black bear (the only kind we have in CT), seen near Henry Sanford Rd.

Celebrating Spring!

Thank you to over 70 people who ushered in spring with us on March 20th at Italia Mia Restaurant. We are so grateful to be part of a generous and supportive community who cares deeply about preserving and protecting our land!

A special thank you to our Auction & Door Prize Donors: Neal & Smita Bandyopadhyay, Bridgewater Chocolate, Cynthia & Christian Feuer, Leslie Granger, Italia Mia Restaurant, David Kellogg, Philippa Malkin, Nutmeg Olive Oil Company, Mae & Tom Orkisz, Andrew & Molly Smith, Alisha Strother, Julie Stuart and Walter Von Egidy.

Spring Patio Party

Welcoming Spring at Italia Mia



CONGRATULATIONS

2025 HIKING CHALLENGE ACHIEVERS

**Chris Amorossi
Lisa Antel
Matt Cariani
Mark Carlson
Cheri Crossley
Mike Cunningham
Cynthia Feuer
Christian Feuer**

**Sharon Gawe
Denise Hantsch
Mike Lyons
Lauren Lyons
Elizabeth Lyons
Gabriel Lyons
Abby Lyons
Rebecca Mayerson
Beth Oberndorfer
Jean Robinson
Julie Stuart
Joanna Stuart**



FIELD NOTES



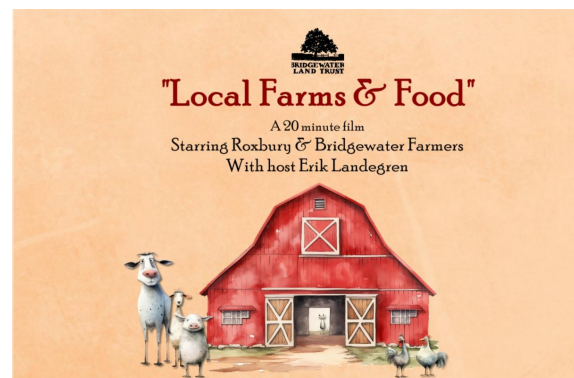
Impact Report

The BWLT 2024 Impact Report has been sent to residents and members. If you did not receive one and would like to read it, here is the link to the report on our website: <https://bridgewaterlandtrust.org/2024-impact-report/>

Local Farms & Food Film

Click below to watch our 20 minute video promoting local farms. Thank you to Maple Bank Farm, Riverbank Farm, Nature View Farm, Stuart Family Farm and the Mine Hill Distillery for sharing their insight with us!

Local Farms And Food





Earth Day Celebration

Celebrate Earth Day on April 27 at Hollow Park in Woodbury. This free event offers a day filled with interactive exhibits, eco-friendly vendors, live music, hands-on workshops, children's activities, and much more. Get details here: www.woodburyearthday.com

Big Night

March 16th was a very rainy evening with temperatures in the mid-50's. Bridgewater roads were full of amphibians making their way to safe vernal pools to lay their eggs. A small brigade of volunteers assisted over two dozen frogs to cross our roads.



UPCOMING/RECENT EVENTS

Lend A Hand

Keep Bridgewater Green (and Clean)

Let's clean our roadsides! Come by the front of the Town Hall for your supplies and to pick your street. Families are welcome and kids will love to find one of our amazing prizes (adults will like them too).

Help Keep Bridgewater Green (and Clean)!

TOWN CLEANUP

Saturday, April 26, 2025

(rain date Sunday, April 27)

10 AM to 12:30 PM

Keep
our
town
neat!

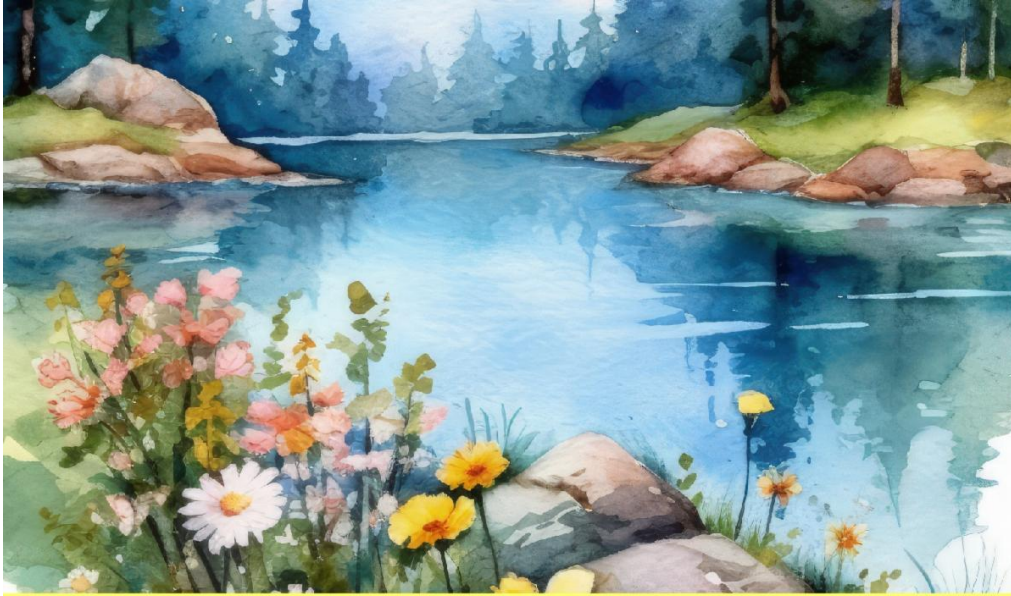


Stop by our booth at the
Town Green (in front of
Town Hall) to pick up your
supplies and let us know
where you will clean.
Check out our prizes!
You could be a winner!

Please
help
clean
your
street!

Sponsored by the Bridgewater Land Trust and HRRRA

Questions please contact HRRRA at education@hrra.org or
Julie Stuart at julie@bridgewaterlandtrust.org



Join Herbalist Alison Birks at the Bridgewater Land Trust to engage our senses and experience the natural world as a source of healing. We will gather to deepen our connection with the living world and our inner selves through meditation, energy work, focused awareness and gratitude. No experience necessary. All spiritual paths are welcome!

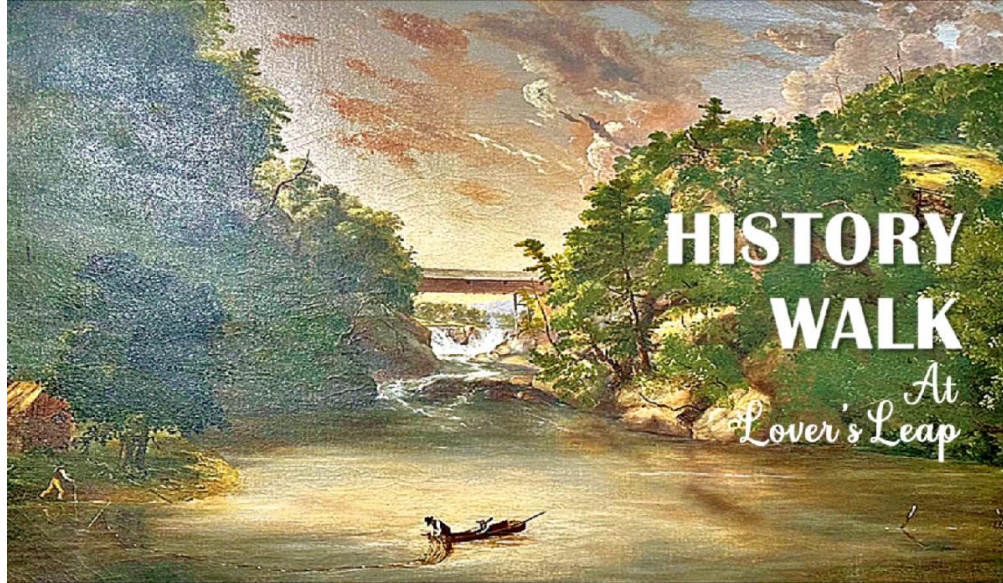
Join Us!
**Healing Yourself with
Nature
Spirituality**

**Sat., May 17th
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**Meet at
Bridgewater Town Park
221 Tappen Road**



**All are welcome to this free event
Heavy rain cancels. Space is limited RSVP is required:
julie@bridgewaterlandtrust.org**



The Bridgewater Land Trust
& the Bridgewater
Recreation Commission
invite all residents to hike
with us among the ruins at
Lover's Leap! We are
offering a guided, 3 mile
moderate hike at Lover's
Leap State Park.

RSVP to Julie
julie@bridgewaterlandtrust.org

Join Us! CT Trails DAY HIKE

Sat., June 7th
9 AM - 11 AM

Hike begins at 9 AM
Lover's Leap State Park
(off Grove Street)
New Milford, CT



Save The Dates

Hold on to your hats for two new and exciting events coming in June! In partnership with the Roxbury Land Trust, we are offering a **Farm Crawl** to celebrate our farming communities. Guests have the opportunity to visit six local farms, talk to the farmers about their operation and experience a special feature at each stop. In late June, we are partying "**Under The Dome**" a one-of-a-kind, not to be missed shindig. Get ready to mingle among the cows and hay bales, with live music by RivaJean, hayrides, Luigi's wood-fired pizza, cocktails and much more. Tickets for both of these events are available now on our website on the Upcoming Events tab.

Riverbank

Maple Bank

Nature View

Join The Fun!
Farm Crawl

Visit six local farms, learn about their operation
and celebrate our farming communities!

**Sponsored by the Roxbury Land Trust
& The Bridgewater Land Trust**

Saturday, June 14th

1 PM - 4 PM rain or
shine



Tickets: \$25
Kids Free



For details & tickets
bridgewaterlandtrust.org
roxburylandtrust.org

Sunny Meadow

Ox Hollow

Stuart Family



Featuring live music
by Riva Jean

Scenic hayrides!
Wood-fired pizza
Cocktails

Please Join Us

Under The Dome

A Benefit For The Bridgewater Land Trust

Saturday, June 28th

5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Town Line Farm Preserve, 38 Town Line Road, Roxbury, CT

Tickets:

bridgewaterlandtrust.org/events

Checks: BWLT PO Box 8
Bridgewater, CT 06752

Benefactor: \$500

Friend: \$250

Guest: \$150

Table Sponsor: \$1,200
(includes 8 tickets)

Support Us

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

DONATE

Stay Social

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Bridgewater, CT 06752

Phone: (860) 355-8233

E-Mail: julie@bridgewaterlandtrust.org
www.bridgewaterlandtrust.org



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