

# GREENWAYS

Newsletter of  
D&R Greenway Land Trust, Inc.  
Volume 22, Number 1  
Spring 2013

## Land Preservation Update

In 2012, D&R Greenway was instrumental in preserving 2081+ acres valued at over \$34 million. Since 1989 we have placed 17,200 acres into permanent preservation – an area twenty times larger than New York’s Central Park.

This annual edition of Greenways thanks all of our contributors and volunteers and those who have remembered our work through planned gifts. Together we are saving farms and natural areas, creating places to play and reflect, caring for the native landscape, inspiring a conservation ethic and ensuring a green future. All of us – collectively – are D&R Greenway Land Trust.

## Something to Eat: Preserving Land for Food

What does farm-fresh food sound like? On a warm spring day, head to a field of asparagus, like the one at D. Spina & Sons Farm in Mannington Township, Salem County. Stretching before you: acre upon acre of soft brown soil, row upon row of bright green spears reaching for the sun. But what’s that sound? Ask Lyndajean Spina: “You can actually hear the field squeaking as the plants grow.”

When you’re buying asparagus, squeeze the stems together. If you hear that same squeak, you know it’s fresh: still full of the sugars that the plant

created out of warm sunlight, rich soil and spring rain.

The growing season at the Spina farm starts with asparagus in early spring. It continues with an alphabet soup of fruits and vegetables: butternut squash, cucumbers, melons (Sugar Babes and Yellow Dolls), peppers, pickles, sweet potatoes, yellow squash and zucchini. All the produce is sold into the wholesale market.

Dante Spina (Sr.)’s parents started the farm in the 1930’s. Back then it was 22 acres. “We grew tomatoes. My father had a horse – no tractor,” recalls Dante. Today 71-year-old Dante,



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along with his wife Lyndajean, older brother Russell and son, Dante Jr., farm over 800 acres. And there are four grandchildren, the oldest 11, who are already helping with packing. They’re the future of the Spina family farm.

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*The Waddington Farm (right) in Salem County, preserved by D&R Greenway on December 31, 2012.*



*Garden State Bounty, Double Brook Farm in Hopewell, NJ (photo by Tasha O’Neill)*



# Farming

Continued from page 1

## Preserving Farmland

D&R Greenway is playing a significant role in preserving New Jersey's farmland for the future. Salem County is a particularly ripe area for farmland preservation, with vast acres of fields that grow fruits and vegetables for millions of people.

Lyndajeane Spina is positive about exploring the family's options with D&R Greenway, "The people at D&R Greenway are wonderful for a farmer to work with. They are extremely professional, knowledgeable, sensitive and accommodating. They truly understand that every farmer's situation is unique, and what it means to have all your money tied up in your farm. They bring in professional financial, tax and legal advisors, to answer any questions. But there's no pressure. And they're real: they mean what they say."

One of the important components of farmland preservation is finding sources of funding to enable purchase of development rights. In Salem County, D&R Greenway partners with local and state agencies. The state's Farmland Preservation Program, administered in each county by a State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC), purchases farms and agricultural easements directly or through grants to counties, municipalities and nonprofit organizations, including D&R Greenway. In October 2012, the SADC celebrated the preservation of its



*The Spina grandchildren are the fourth generation immersed in a healthy outdoor farming life at D. Spina & Sons Farm in Mannington Township, Salem County. (Photo: davidkellycrow.com)*

200,000th acre, at a ceremony in Upper Pittsgrove Twp. in Salem County.

Salem County has over 110,000 farmland-assessed acres (including woodlands associated with farms), of which 30,000 are preserved. Mannington itself is 40% preserved farmland. One of the biggest SADC preservation successes was the 2008 acquisition of the 1800-acre Seabrook Farms in Mannington. D&R Greenway was instrumental in making that happen, advising the Seabrook family and helping to structure the transaction.

In Salem County's close-knit farming community, everybody knows everybody. Personal relationships built in the Seabrook Farms deal led to D&R Greenway's most recent farmland success, a transaction that closed at the end of 2012 and protected the Waddington farm in adjacent Pilesgrove Township. Mannington Mayor Don

Asay was among a group of landowners and public officials who received D&R Greenway's 2010 Donald B. Jones Award for preserving the local community. Hearing of this latest transaction and new contracts in place for preservation, he contacted D&R Greenway President & CEO Linda Mead to say, "Thank you, once again, for all that you are doing for Mannington Township and all of Salem County!"

Seabrook Farms grows and processes frozen vegetables sold in major supermarkets. Most Salem County farms are smaller than Seabrook. A typical farm is that of Andy Buzby, a next-door neighbor of the Spinas. Andy, his wife Dawn and son Eric farm about 165 acres, 55 of which are rented. The A.T. Buzby Farm grows fruits and vegetables like process tomatoes, pickles, and carrots. Seventy percent of their crops are sold at wholesale; they also sell at area farmers markets. In the spring, there are pick-your-own strawberries, and in the fall, PYO pumpkins. Eric, 31, also operates a 100-member organic CSA farm on 4 of the acres.

The Buzby farm has been partially preserved and Andy hopes eventually to protect all of it. As Chair of Salem County's SADC, and Board member of the Garden State Preservation Trust, he's an ardent spokesman for farmland preservation. "The world is only getting more populated, and people need a place to live. But viable farm ground is worth preserving," he says. "The best thing to do with good farmland is to grow food on it. It's more profitable to build houses on it. But people have to eat. Agriculture is a profitable industry; it contributes to the local and the state economy. Farmland preservation is an investment in the future of the community and in agriculture."

## Farm work

*Agriculture* is not just a word; it's an equation: *land* plus *work* equals *food*. We can't have food without land ("agri" and "acre" comes from the same Latin word that means "field"). But land by itself won't produce enough food; there must be people who work ("culture,"



*The 2,000-acre Seabrook Farms in Mannington, Salem County was preserved in 2008. Flash freezing of vegetables was invented here in the 1950's bringing frozen vegetables to every household in America.*





*This Salem Co. farm, an original land grant from William Penn was preserved by Preston and Molly Carpenter in 2009. Preston's two brothers are now working with D&R Greenway to preserve their farms.*

from which we also get “cultivate,” means not only work, but care, tend and revere).

“We work year-round,” says Dante Spina, Sr. Winter is time for working on equipment, getting the books done and arranging financing for next season.

By mid-February, it’s time to prepare the fields for planting, and start seeds in the on-farm greenhouses. Dante Jr. sleeps with his cellphone on, in case the greenhouse alarm triggers a call and he has to rush in to fix a failed heater.

Salem County seedlings go into the ground toward the end of March, if the weather’s right. The Spinis hire migrant workers who specialize in transplanting seedlings into tilled fields. “It’s delicate work, and it’s tedious,” explains Lyndajean Spina. Once the plants are in, the farmer can start worrying. “A newly planted field is like an incubator with tiny babies. Conditions have to be perfect.” Those unpredictable March winds can snap the stem of a frail seedling.

The farmer spends anxious weeks and months hoping the weather stays favorable until harvest. “We depend so much on Mother Nature,” says Dante Sr. “She can make us – or break us.” Drought isn’t usually an issue; Salem County farmers irrigate their crops, but with too much rain or humidity, vegetables rot in the fields.

### **Farm bounty**

Assuming everything goes right until the vegetables are at their tasty peak, the farmer must harvest the crop quickly, and sell it immediately.

Fresh vegetables are about 90 percent water; even if stored briefly in an on-farm cooler, they deteriorate rapidly. There’s a narrow window of opportunity to get produce to market so the consumer gets it in its freshest state. The timing is complicated by competition from other regions. If the weather’s good in the South, produce from Florida, the Carolinas and Virginia comes to market at the same time and depresses prices.

The Spinis sell their produce “under the hammer” at the Vineland Produce Auction, a growers’ cooperative. One of the last open-bid markets in the country, the 75-year-old auction – dubbed by the New York Times the “Sotheby’s of vegetables” – is where wholesalers buy Jersey Fresh fruits and vegetables to be sold in markets all over the Eastern US and Canada. In 2012, over \$100 million of produce was sold at the market.



*Robin McConaughy's rosemary-caramel ice cream!*

### **Farm to table**

Jon and Robin McConaughy started their Double Brook Farm in Hopewell Township, Mercer County, because they had a vision for a new way of farming. “We were horrified,” recalls Robin, “to learn about the conventional methods used for raising livestock. It’s not healthy for the animals and it’s not good for us to eat them.” They decided in 2002 to start their own farm and raise animals “lovingly, in an environment that’s humane.” Jon left the New York financial industry to become a full-time farmer. Today the McConaughys are farming more than 800 acres.

Double Brook Farm is based on a rethinking of agriculture, making it sustainable in every way. “With everything we do, we try to make everything healthier,” says Jon. “Healthier” in practice means adopting farming practices that work with nature, not against it, while still producing high-quality food in large enough quantities to supply the community.

“It’s more expensive to raise animals on pasture,” Robin notes, “but the difference in taste can’t be measured.”

The McConaughys are partnering with D&R Greenway to use preserved farmland to showcase sustainable farming practices that promote healthy eating and a healthy environment. On St. Michaels Farm Preserve, they’re leasing grassland as pasture. Because Jon uses rotational grazing, the animals move around the pasture every few days, enabling

grass to regenerate; their manure fertilizes the fields. The fields support pollinating insects, which also provide food for birds. “We create relationships that are symbiotic rather than conflicting,” says Jon.

“This is the best place for those of us who don’t live on a farm to experience one first-hand. At St. Michaels, visitors can walk on trails that wind around pastures of cows and sheep. From the views to the moos, it’s unforgettable,” shares Linda Mead.

*Continued on page 6*

# The Taplin Circle

Frank Taplin was a well-known and respected philanthropist who championed the cause of land preservation. His vision and leadership resulted in the permanent protection of two signature Princeton landscapes, the Institute Woods and Coventry Farm.

In 2004, D&R Greenway Land Trust honored Frank Taplin's memory and his wife Peg's continuing support of land preservation by creating the Taplin Circle, to recognize individuals who contribute \$1,000 or more annually to support D&R Greenway's critical work. Members of the Taplin Circle share Frank's commitment to preserving the land, the historic character and the natural resources of central New Jersey.

All members of the Taplin Circle are invited to a special reception annually where they hear first-hand about the accomplishments that their support makes possible, and learn about upcoming projects before they are publicly announced.

Please note that Taplin Circle members who have made a multi-year pledge are listed here at their most recent pledge payment level. Multi-year pledges in effect in 2012 are noted on page 6.

We express our deepest thanks and appreciation to the members of the Taplin Circle for their leadership in supporting the work of D&R Greenway Land Trust.

To request a correction to this donor list, please call D&R Greenway at 609-924-4646.

## Donations Received January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012

+ First time donor

### TAPLIN CIRCLE LEGACY GIFTS

Jay Vawter and the Lawson Valentine Foundation

### TAPLIN CIRCLE ENVIRONMENTAL HEROES (\$50,000 to \$99,999)

James & Amy Regan and the Piper Sutton Foundation, Inc.

C. Schuyler & Liza Morehouse and the George G. and Elizabeth G. Smith Foundation, Inc.

### TAPLIN CIRCLE STEWARDS (\$25,000 TO \$49,999)

Shawn & Robbie Ellsworth  
Alex & Laura Hanson and the Alex & Laura Hanson CGF, Inc.  
Adelaide Kuhn  
Edward D. & Penny Thomas and the Thomas Fund of the Princeton Area Community Foundation

### TAPLIN CIRCLE LEADERS (\$10,000 TO \$24,999)

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John & Margee Harper  
Alan Hershey & Phyllis Frakt  
Betty Wold Johnson  
Grant & Wendy Kvalheim  
William Lifschutz  
Scott & Hella McVay  
John & Carol Spears and the John D. Spears Charitable Fund at Schwab Charitable Fund

### TAPLIN CIRCLE CONSERVATORS (\$5,000 TO \$9,999)

David & Patricia Atkinson and the David R. & Patricia D. Atkinson Foundation  
Christopher & Barbie Cole and the Griffin-Cole Fund  
Robert & Stephanie Harris and the Harris Fund of the Princeton Area Community Foundation  
Charles & Edith Howard+  
Bert Kerstetter and the Evergreen Foundation+  
Carroll King and the King Family Foundation  
Jeff & Betsy Sands and the George H. & Estelle M. Sands Foundation  
John & Kathy Winant

### TAPLIN CIRCLE BENEFACTORS (\$2,500 TO \$4,999)

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### TAPLIN CIRCLE PARTNERS (\$1,000 TO \$2,499)

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Greg Usberti  
Jim & Rhonda Vinson+  
John & Louise Wellemeyer  
Ralph & Joan Widner  
Anne Williams & Antonio Elmaleh and the World-Wide Holdings, Inc. Fund  
Susan Wilson



*Richard and new Trustee Michelle Preston of Hopewell, landowners of preserved lands.*



# Business Partners in Preservation

We are especially grateful to our Business Partners in Preservation who share their resources to support our mission. These local businesses and corporations clearly demonstrate their appreciation for the natural lands, farms

and open spaces that shape the character of our region. D&R Greenway encourages our supporters to patronize these businesses in appreciation for the investment they, in turn, have made in the quality of life in our communities.

## Donations Received January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012

+ First time donors  
\* 5+ year donors  
\*\* 10+ year donors

### STEWARDS (\$25,000+)

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company\*\*  
Drinker, Biddle & Reath LLP\*\*  
Martin Rizzo Group – Morgan Stanley Smith Barney\*\*  
Pepper Hamilton LLP\*

### LEADERS (\$10,000-\$24,999)

Church & Dwight Employee Giving Fund  
PSEG Services Corporation

### CONSERVATORS (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Anonymous  
Bloomberg LP\*  
Novo Nordisk  
The Glenmede Trust Company\*\*

### BENEFACTORS (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.\*\*  
Music Together, LLC

### PARTNERS (\$1,000-\$2,499)

APPRISE, Inc.+  
Leigh Visual Imaging Solutions+  
Haveson & Otis+  
Julius Gross Painting & Home Improvement Company\*  
PNC Financial Services Group\*

### TRIBUTARY DONORS (\$500-\$999)

Amy S. Greene Environmental Consultants, Inc.  
Curran Realty Advisors – Appraisers LLC+  
Jack & Charlie's 23+  
Martin Appraisals Associates, Inc.\*\*  
Sir Speedy Printing & Marketing Services  
Stellitano Heating & Air Conditioning  
Woodwinds Associates, Inc.\*\*

### TRAIL DONORS (\$250-\$499)

Environmental Resources Management+  
Pinto and Butler\*

### WILDFLOWER DONORS (\$100-\$249)

Clarke Caton Hintz, PC  
Continuum Dynamics, Inc.\*  
Field & Higgins, P.C.\*

### IN-KIND BUSINESS CONTRIBUTIONS

Acadia Marketing & Design LLC  
Alma Offset Co.  
Camden Bag & Paper Company  
Cherry Grove Farm  
Cifelli Electric

Clarke Caton Hintz, PC  
CoolVines  
Don Addison Photography  
Double Brook Farm, LLC  
Drinker, Biddle & Reath LLP  
Duplication Solutions - Digital Services  
Greenbelt Native Plant Center  
Joe Canal's Discount Liquor Outlet  
Lucy's Ravioli Kitchen & Market  
Martin Appraisal Associates, Inc.  
McCaffrey's Princeton Market  
Mercer County Park Commission  
Merrill Lynch  
MTiC Consulting  
Orchard Farm Organics  
Paul John's Tree Service  
Pennington Market  
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Princeton Township Recreation Department  
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Small World Coffee Corporation  
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Terra Momo Restaurant Group  
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The Catering Company  
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Tom Rodriguez Associates  
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CNA Foundation  
ExxonMobil Foundation  
GE Foundation  
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Merck Partnership for Giving  
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program  
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
The Coca-Cola Foundation Matching Gifts Program  
The Glenmede Corporation, Matching Gifts Program  
The Prudential Foundation Matching Gifts Program  
Verizon Foundation

## Total farmland in New Jersey: 733,450 acres

Between 1997 and 2007 the state lost more than 102,000 acres, or nearly 15 percent, of its farmland.

- Average size of NJ farm: 71 acres
- New Jersey has 16,000 farmers, that is, people who describe their occupation (primary or otherwise) as farming.
- 92 percent of the state's 10,327 farms are operated by 1 or 2 individuals.
- NJ farms produce nearly \$986 million in market value annually.
- NJ preserved farmland: 201,327 acres
- Salem County has 110,000 farmland acres, 29,532 preserved, on 231 farms. Salem County has 14.7 percent of New Jersey's preserved farmland, the highest percentage as well as the highest total of preserved acreage.

(Sources: NJ Dept of Agriculture, Jan. 2013; USDA Agricultural census, 2007)



Linda Mead, D&R Greenway and Wade Martin of Morgan Stanley Smith Barney expanded their local partnership to a national level in 2012 with the first-ever training program for land trusts and financial advisors.

# Foundation & Non-Profit Donors

The support of our foundation and non-profit partners is critical to D&R Greenway's work. We especially welcome new supporters, and recognize those who have joined us in our mission for many years. Together, we are preserving lands and building communities.

*Donations Received January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012*

- + First time donors
- \* 5+ year donors
- \*\* 10+ year donors
- \*\*\* 15+ year donors
- \*\*\*\* 20+ year donors

## LEGACY GIFTS (\$100,000+)

Open Space Institute+  
William Penn Foundation\*\*\*\*

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEROES (\$50,000-\$99,999)

Fidelity Charitable  
George G. & Elizabeth G. Smith Foundation, Inc.+  
Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation\*\*\*\*  
J. Seward Johnson, Sr. 1963 Charitable Trust\*\*\*  
Piper Sutton Foundation, Inc.+

## STEWARDS (\$25,000-\$49,999)

Alex and Laura Hanson CGF, Inc.  
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The Edward T. Cone Foundation\*

## LEADERS (\$10,000-\$24,999)

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Lawson Valentine Foundation  
Mary Owen Borden Foundation\*\*\*\*  
Michael A. Peterson Foundation\*  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Robert Wood Johnson 1962 Charitable Trust+  
Schwab Charitable Fund+

## CONSERVATORS (\$5,000-\$9,999)

George H. and Estelle M. Sands Foundation  
King Family Foundation  
The David R. & Patricia D. Atkinson Foundation\*\*

The Evergreen Foundation+  
The Griffin-Cole Fund

## BENEFACTORS (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space  
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W. Bryce Thompson Foundation  
Washington Crossing Audubon Society

## PARTNERS (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Carol and Richard Hanson Fund\*\*  
David H. and Mary B. Blair Charitable Fund\*  
Dolotta Family Charitable Foundation\*  
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Princeton Photography Club  
The New York Community Trust+  
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## TRIBUTARY DONORS (\$500-\$999)

Darwin Foundation+  
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## WILDFLOWER DONORS

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Garden Club of Princeton\*\*\*  
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Robert and Kristen Callahan Family Fund  
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The J.P. Morgan Charitable Giving Fund+  
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## IN-KIND NON-PROFIT CONTRIBUTIONS

Princeton Day School  
Princeton Photography Club  
Stretto Youth Chamber Orchestra  
Wetlands Institute

## Multi-Year Pledges

We are especially grateful to these supporters who have pledged a significant gift over two or more years, showing their strong belief in D&R Greenway Land Trust and our mission.

\* Denotes pledges completed in 2012

Alex & Laura Hanson CGF, Inc.  
Rosemary & David Blair  
Shirley & Brian Breuel  
Derek Bridger & Roxanne Mancherje  
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Ted & Penny Thomas  
Greg Vafis & Lisa Canzano\*  
Joe & Paul Zito

## FOUNDATION PLEDGES

The Michael A. Peterson Foundation\*  
The William Penn Foundation

## Farming

*Continued from page 3*

In 2013, the McCaughys' plan to open a market and restaurant to sell products sourced from the farm: meat, fruits and vegetables as well as an on-farm cheesemaker and bakery. "Demand for fresh local food has been overwhelming," comments Jon.

### Farm love

Preserving farmland enables farmers to work hard growing food so the rest of us don't have to. Andy Buzby says, "I love what I do, feeding people. We farmers want to be good stewards of the land and water, work hard, make a living, and raise our kids. We change with the times; we change our practices. I want the landscape to be unchanged so that 200 years from now, Salem County will still be growing produce for the community." 🌱

## Cooking Jersey Fresh

Spring brings a bounty of Jersey Fresh vegetables to your table. Here's a quick, easy and delicious preparation based on a method suggested by Lyndajean Spina. It works for asparagus as well as peppers or zucchini.

For each serving, take a handful of chopped vegetables (for zucchini, slices); sauté in olive oil with a little chopped onion in a small pan; add two beaten eggs and cook on medium heat, stirring occasionally. When eggs are set, flip the mixture over, sprinkle with shredded cheese (such as Parmesan or cheddar), and serve on a crisp Italian-style roll. You can increase the amount but make in batches as it is easier to flip in a smaller skillet.

## Steadfast Stewards

Donors who contribute consistently to support D&R Greenway's mission clearly show their belief and confidence in our work. These donors are Stewards of D&R Greenway through their steadfast support. We want to especially thank those who joined us in the early years for seeding what has become one of the leading land trusts in New Jersey – D&R Greenway Land Trust.

### STEWARDS FOR 20+ YEARS

James & Kathleen Amon  
Wendy Benchley  
David & Rosemary Blair  
Ruth Blattenberger  
Joyce Copleman  
Dorothy Fullam  
Richard & Cheryl Goldman  
Alan Hershey & Phyllis Frakt  
Henry & Betty Horn  
Robert & Grace Johnston  
James & Cate Litvack  
Peggy McNeill  
John Rassweiler  
Daniel & Sandra Shapiro

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Susan Attix  
Louis & Gloria Beck  
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Gerald Berkelhammer  
Peter & Helena Bienstock  
Martin & Anne Bloomenthal  
John & Gloria Borden  
John & Jenifer Nina Burghardt  
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*Representative Rush Holt (D-NJ) won't soon forget D&R Greenway's invitation to bring his chainsaw and be "just another member of the crew." Volunteer intern Jason Warrington was thrilled to clear invasive species with the Congressman.*



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*The 2012 launch of D&R Greenway's first book Plant Local to a packed house just in time for spring gardening. To purchase your copy, call D&R Greenway, (609) 924-4646.*

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*Celebrating 2011 and 2012 (left-to-right): Chairman of the Board, Alan Hershey with retiring Trustees, John Rassweiler, Thomas Poole, Jim Trowbridge, Robert Johnston, Robert Harris, Joyce Copleman, Ashton Harvey, Shawn Ellsworth and (seated) Rosemary Blair. (Photo: Carl Geisler)*



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We are most grateful to the families and individuals who have provided steady support for D&R Greenway's work through the years; see page 7 for acknowledgment of our Steadfast Stewards. We are grateful for your unflinching generosity each and every day.

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*DanceSpora dancers interpret stories of the land, September 2012. (Photo: Ed Greenblatt)*



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*Kris Tompkins, wildlands philanthropist, is partnering with D&R Greenway and Terra Momo to offer a tour of Patagonia National Park and Chilean wineries. For additional information, call D&R Greenway at 609 924-4646.*





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*"Music and Poetry of the Earth" a magical evening at the Princeton University Chapel with renowned musician (l) Paul Winter and poet Jane Hirshfield, was generously created and sponsored by Hella and Scott McVay, October 2012.*

## Think About Spring and Going Native

Visit D&R Greenway's

# Native Plant Sale

Friday, May 17, 3 – 6 p.m.

Saturday, May 18, 9 a.m. – noon

Beginning on May 17 and every Friday  
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**The D&R Greenway EverGreen Circle**

The D&R Greenway EverGreen Circle was created in 2009 to recognize donors who have remembered D&R Greenway in their wills or revocable trusts, or who have made a planned gift to D&R Greenway through a charitable gift annuity, their retirement plan or by other means.

D&R Greenway is grateful to the following persons for their thoughtful and generous support in leaving a legacy for the land that will be entrusted to future generations.

To join with these foresighted contributors, contact D&R Greenway President & CEO Linda Mead or Director of Development Leslie Davis Potter at 609-924-4646.



Eastern Hemlock  
 (Tsuga canadensis)

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## Volunteer Recognition

D&R Greenway Land Trust volunteers are vital to our success and make an important contribution to our work in a variety of ways:

- In 2012, our **Native Plant Nursery** volunteers planted and cared for close to 18,500 native plants. These trees, shrubs, grasses, sedges and wildflowers are being used to restore native landscapes on D&R Greenway preserves, on partner lands such as Mountain Lakes Preserve and Cadwalader Park in Trenton and in our supporters' own backyards.
- Our **New Jersey Trails** volunteers cleared many miles of trails that contribute to a greenway network through our region. They field-check information that D&R Greenway makes available on [www.njtrails.org](http://www.njtrails.org). Led by D&R Greenway Board Chair, Alan Hershey, volunteers from age 16 to 80+ move boulders, forge through brush and build charming pedestrian bridges to create special places for people to connect with the land.
- Our **Stewardship** volunteers multiply the work of our interns and staff, enjoying the community spirit of volunteering together as they ensure that this important work gets done. The next time you enjoy a D&R Greenway preserve, think about all of the volunteer efforts that go into caring for the land. D&R Greenway preserves require careful

tending to remove invasive species, restore habitats and maintain trails among other tasks.

- The **Native Seed Project** volunteers have been remarkable in every way! From the initial planting of seedlings to harvest, their work has been invaluable. The resource commitment required on this project exceeded our expectations and without the support of our volunteers in planting, weeding, mowing and harvesting, we could not be successful. We are most grateful for their commitment to the success of this unique project!
- **Willing Hands** assist special events, art openings and educational programs at the Johnson Education Center and in the community. They generously ensure that the latest information about D&R Greenway activities and seasonal fund-raising drives reaches our supporters. Willing Hands archive press coverage, and provide hospitality and welcoming smiles at D&R Greenway events.

D&R Greenway Land Trust especially thanks each of our volunteers for their unique partnership in our mission. To learn about volunteer opportunities with D&R Greenway Land Trust, please call (609) 924-4646 or visit our website at [www.drgreenway.org](http://www.drgreenway.org).

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Local corporations Bristol-Myers Squibb, Bloomberg LP and Merrill Lynch have each supported D&R Greenway by donating a day of employee stewardship service in 2012. Bristol-Myers Squibb has supported development of D&R Greenway's Native Seed Initiative. Growing fields at St. Michaels are shown on a beautiful summer day, 2012.

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Adriana Todorov  
Ruth Widmer



# D&R Greenway Charitable Gift Annuity

*A Way to Support Something You Believe In and Receive Something in Return*

Ted Thomas first became interested in land preservation because of a lifelong passion for hiking. A native of Elizabeth, New Jersey, he studied engineering at Princeton University. He and his wife Penny chose to remain in the area after graduation and four years in the Navy. "I prefer open space to tall buildings and pavement," says Ted. "Princeton has always been an attractive place to live for both of us."

He wanted to help keep it that way. Over the years, Ted became involved with the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, Montgomery Friends of Open Space, and Friends of Princeton Open Space (FOPOS). As Chair of FOPOS Trails Committee, he is responsible for building and maintaining trails in several areas of Princeton. He is a stalwart member of the NJ Trails Association trail crew that works under the leadership of D&R Greenway Board Chair Alan Hershey, moving boulders and creating trails in the broader region. "I've spent years working with the NJ Trails Association on maps for hikers in central New Jersey, and I volunteer with Alan Hershey, working throughout Mercer County."

Five years ago, when Ted was asked to join the D&R Greenway Board of Trustees, the decision was a no-brainer. "I believe strongly in land preservation and stewardship," he said.

In 2010, Ted and Penny set up a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA)



*Trustee and supporter, Ted Thomas.*

with D&R Greenway. A CGA provides an income stream for life to the donor/donor's spouse or other named beneficiary. The annuity rate, set by the American Council on Gift Annuities, is often higher than investors can get on their own, and the remainder is a charitable gift to the organization.

"It's a good way to donate money because you get something in return," says Ted. "You are rewarded both financially and by supporting something you believe in."

"It is an important tool for donors to know about," says Linda Mead of

annuities to the donor may include:

- Guaranteed fixed income for life;
- Charitable tax deduction in the year the gift is made (for those who itemize their deductions);
- Appreciated assets may be gifted;
- Part of each annuity payment received is tax free.

The minimum gift for D&R Greenway to accept a CGA is \$15,000 and the donor must be at least 65 years old. Donors should contact their tax advisors to discuss the benefits of charitable gift annuities in their specific situation.



*The Bedens Brook from the Aunt Molly Road trail, created in 2012, at St. Michaels Farm Preserve.*

D&R Greenway. "It's a win-win for both the donor and the organization." The Glenmede Trust Company, N.A. provides philanthropic advisory services and investment management on D&R Greenway's behalf.

A charitable gift annuity is a simple agreement between the donor and D&R Greenway. For a gift of cash or securities, D&R Greenway agrees to pay one or two people, for life, a fixed amount of income. After the donors/beneficiaries pass away, D&R Greenway will use the remaining balance for its mission of land preservation, stewardship and education.

The benefits of charitable gift

D&R Greenway offers two types of immediate gift annuities: A single life annuity, which can be purchased for oneself or to benefit another individual such as a sibling or parent, and a joint and survivor annuity in which the benefit is paid to both annuitants jointly and after one dies, then all to the survivor. The two annuitants do not need to be married, but both must meet the minimum age requirement.

Donors who contribute in this way are recognized in the D&R Greenway EverGreen Circle. This special, foresighted group is creating a stable future for D&R Greenway and a legacy of green for all who come after them. 🌱

## 2013 Guided Trail Walks

Some walks have a limited capacity so please call (609) 924-4646 or email [rsvp@drgreenway.org](mailto:rsvp@drgreenway.org) to reserve a spot. For locations and directions, please visit [www.drgreenway.org](http://www.drgreenway.org).

### Sourland Birds and Botany, Sourlands Ecosystem Preserve

*Tuesday, May 14, 9 – 11 a.m.*  
*Leaders: Jim Amon, Director of Stewardship, and Sharyn Magee, Ornithologist*

The Sourlands Preserve is part of the largest intact forested ecosystem in central NJ. The trail network takes you across streams and around boulders where surrounding development has occurred more slowly than in other areas. On this walk, you will learn about the plants native to this ecosystem, and see some migratory songbirds.

### Butterflies at the Beagle Club, Plum Brook Preserve

*Saturday, June 15, 10:30 a.m. – noon*  
*Leader: Diana Raichel, Conservation Biologist*

Management of our Beagle Club conservation easement results in a rare habitat type that attracts a wide variety of butterflies, such as the red spotted purple. On this walk, you will learn about the other species that benefit from this habitat as well as the advantages of promoting native pollinators.

### Native Plant Nursery Tour and Garden Walk

*Wednesday, June 19, 5 – 6 p.m.*  
*Leader: Emily Blackman, Native Plant Nursery Manager*

Why is genetically local seed ecologically important? What are the details of the propagation process? Learn the answers to these and other questions at a behind-the-scenes tour of our nursery and see some established native plant gardens. Native plants and *Plant Local* books will be available for purchase.

### The Second Annual Hopewell Community Campout at St. Michaels Farm Preserve

*Saturday, June 22; Sunday, June 23*

For additional information, contact Leslie Davis Potter at (609) 924-4646 ext. 121, or [lpotter@drgreenway.org](mailto:lpotter@drgreenway.org).



*A Spring 2012 walk at the new Pryde's Point trail in West Amwell.*

### Perseid Meteor Shower Watch, St. Michaels Farm Preserve

*Monday, August 12, 10 p.m. – midnight*  
*Leader: Jay Watson, Vice President*

Offered in partnership with the Amateur Astronomers Association of Princeton, join us for our second annual Perseid meteor shower watch, this year at our St. Farm Michaels Preserve in Hopewell.

### Urban Park Creation in Bordentown City

*Saturday, September 7, 10 – 11 a.m.*  
*Leader: Diana Raichel, Conservation Biologist*

See an urban park creation and ecological restoration project in the making at Lime Kiln Alley Park in Bordentown City. Preserved parcels along freshwater tidal Blacks Creek create a greenway in this historic area. In partnership with the City, we have converted these once highly disturbed properties into parkland.

### Native Seed Production, St. Michaels Farm Preserve

*Sunday, October 6, 2 – 4 p.m.*  
*Leader: Bill Flemer, Manager, St. Michaels Farm Preserve*

The St. Michaels Farm Preserve is home to grassland birds, sustainable farming, a future “edible hedgerow”

and our bulk native wildflower and seed production project. Join us to tour the seed fields when they are in full bloom and walk the trail network while learning about the history of the preserve.

### Fall Foliage and Land Stewardship, Cedar Ridge Preserve

*Saturday, October 12, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.*  
*Leader: Jim Amon, Director of Stewardship*

At our Cedar Ridge Preserve we successfully created vernal pools for amphibians and turtles, enhanced the wildflower meadow's species diversity, and are working to establish a native reforestation area. On this walk, you will learn about stewardship work while surrounded by Cedar Ridge's spectacular fall foliage!

### Inaugural Walk on Hollystone Trail

*Coming in October – to be announced*  
*Leaders: Alan Hershey of D&R Greenway, and Michael Van Clef of Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space*

South of Fiddler's Creek Road, the creek drops down into a stunning 80-foot deep ravine before emptying into the Delaware River. A network of new trails crosses open fields that are part of a major reforestation project, and then drops down into the ravine with its polished creek bed and jutting stone outcroppings.

### Focus on Seed Collecting, Cedar Ridge Preserve

*Sunday, November 3, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.*  
*Leader: Emily Blackman, Native Plant Nursery Manager*

Late fall is a great time for seed collecting, when summer-blooming plants' seed matures. Examples include Boneset, Asters, and Milkweeds, whose pods produce seed with silk-like threads to aid wind dispersion. Join us to learn how to recognize mature seed and learn about plant strategies to increase the chances of seed survival. ♡



# Inspiring a Conservation Ethic

## Art & Educational Programs at D&R Greenway's Johnson Education Center

### Sky Gazing Art Exhibit

Through May 2, 2013

Exhibiting Artists: Deb Brockway, Merrilee Drakulich, Lora Durr, Donna Gratkowski, Ann Guidera-Matey, Donna Levinstone, Charles McVicker, Lucy Graves McVicker, Paul Mordetsky, Stefanie Silverman, Neil Thompson, Mary Waltham

Is there nothing so infinite as the sky? This art exhibit encourages visitors to look up through the screen of branches, falling snow and the gentle movement of clouds to experience the sky through artists' eyes.

### The Inaugural Annual Science Forum on Strategic Techniques and Innovations in Land Preservation and Stewardship

"Princeton's Christopher Robin: Oswald Veblen and the Six-Hundred Acre Woods," with Guest Lecturer George Dyson

Thursday, March 21, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Mr. Dyson, author, historian, canoe-designer and former fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study will describe how Oswald Veblen's childhood on a Norway farm inspired



Curious tufted titmouse on Institute Woods grounds. (Photo: Professor Vladimir Voevodsky)

his love of land, leading to reassembling lands set aside by William Penn that became home to the Institute. The preservation of these lands by D&R Greenway, Princeton Township and partners was the catalyst for large-scale landscape preservation throughout Princeton during the first decade of the 21st century.

Presented in partnership with The Institute for Advanced Study and supported by John Rassweiler's family in recognition of his stewardship of New Jersey lands.

### The Role of the Past in Our Environmental Future

"From Shakespeare's London to Urban Gardening," with Professor Ken Hiltner

Thursday, April 4, 7– 8:30 p.m.  
(April is Earth Month!)

Co-Sponsored by  
Princeton Environmental Institute

What can we learn from history about the relationship that human beings have with nature? Starting with some of the earliest stories in western

literature, Ken Hiltner, PEI Visiting Professor in the Environment and the Humanities, will speak from research and personal experience growing up on a farm in New Jersey. He is the author of five books including *What Else is Pastoral?* and the forthcoming *Essential Ecocriticism*.

### Dangerous Blossoms Art Exhibit

*Ecological Disaster or Evolutionary Destiny*

May 13 – July 19

Opening: Friday, May 17, 5:30 – 7 p.m.

The soft petals and gladdened leaves of flowers and exotic plants may be beautiful to look at, but their hidden dangers are more than "skin-deep." Discover the artistic interpretation and potent secrets of the poisonous plants author Agatha Christie and other writers favor as a means of demise for unsuspecting victims, and learn how certain pretty but dangerous non-native blossoms are killing native plants in our landscape. ♡

## Olivia Rainbow Gallery Hosts Special Events

### Perspectives Photography Exhibit

A juried exhibit of the Stony Brook Garden Club

Through April 4, 2013

Read juror's comments and experience *A Birds Eye View*, *View from Above*, *A Worm's Eye Perspective*, *Historical Perspective* and photographs from youngsters in the family. The Kuenne family is, among others, featured in this special exhibit.

### Plantscapes Photography Exhibit

April 8 – May 3, 2013

The Princeton Photography Club and D&R Greenway sponsor this annual competition for local high school students. This juried exhibit showcases digitally-manipulated images that show the use of plants in the natural landscape. Prizes awarded at the reception on Wednesday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.

The Marie L. Matthews Gallery features local and renowned artists. The Gallery includes a permanent decoy exhibit (rotating semi-annually) donated by Jay Vawter. The Olivia Rainbow Gallery, named for Olivia Kuenne, hosts special exhibits and young artists whose imagination captures the magic and beauty of the outdoors.

Galleries are open business hours, Monday – Friday; call ahead to ensure the rooms are available for viewing. Art sales include a donation to support D&R Greenway's work.

Events take place at the Johnson Education Center and are free to all. To RSVP for the receptions (doors open ½ hour prior to event), please send a message to [rsvp@drgreenway.org](mailto:rsvp@drgreenway.org) or call (609) 924-4646.

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## D&R Greenway Land Trust, Inc.

D&R Greenway Land Trust, Inc., is a regional, 501(c)(3) nonprofit land conservancy dedicated to the preservation and stewardship of open space throughout New Jersey.

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## CELEBRATE THE LAND

### The Down-to-Earth Ball

*Saturday, June 1, 6:30 – 11 p.m.*

Hosted by D&R Greenway Trustee Dr. David Reynolds, on his farm next to our St. Michaels Farm Preserve, Hopewell, New Jersey



### The Greenway Gala

*Sunday, September 8, 4 – 6 p.m.*

A Garden Party in Meredith's Garden of Inspiration at the Johnson Education Center Princeton, New Jersey



Our 2012 Down-to-Earth Ball was hosted by Johan and Emily Firmenich in Montgomery, surrounded by preserved land.

To reserve your space and learn more, call 609-924-4646. Sponsorships available.