

GREENWAYS

Newsletter of
Delaware & Raritan Greenway, Inc.
Volume 10, Number 3
Fall 2002

D&R Greenway Preserves 5,000 Acres of Open Space in Central New Jersey

Contrary to popular superstition, Friday, September 13th was a lucky day for Delaware & Raritan Greenway, central New Jersey's regional land trust. On that day, we closed on our 74th property and reached the milestone of preserving over 5,000 acres of environmentally sensitive land in our region. Collectively, these lands are valued at over \$90 million with \$22 million of this total retired through private donations or bargain sales.

These 5,000 acres (approximately 8 square miles) create strategically positioned linkages and constitute five significant Greenways. These Greenways protect fragile watershed recharge areas, provide wildlife habitat and protect biodiversity. They also provide passive recreation opportunities, including hiking and nature study, for the benefit and enjoyment of all.

This achievement is even more remarkable when placed in the context of the pressure for land *development*, not land *preservation* in our area. According to the 2000 Census, New Jersey's population has continued to shift westward and southward into the rural counties that make up the D&R Greenway region. Over the past 10 years, formerly rural townships in Mercer, Hunterdon and Somerset counties have experienced amazing growth rates from 21 to 82 percent. Property values range from \$5,000 to \$100,000 an acre. Despite these challenges, D&R Greenway's success in protecting so much of the precious open space that remains is a nationally recognized model that other land organizations can benefit from.

The momentum of 2002 is unflagging. Through October 31,

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A magnificent cedar tree on the Fullam preserve in Hopewell Township. This property begins a northern extension of the Stony Brook Greenway.

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- D&R Greenway trustee helps to form “Friends for the Marsh”

Foundation Support

D&R Greenway announces new contributions that support our land preservation mission:

An **Anonymous** grant of \$100,000 was awarded to help fund the purchase of Rosedale Woods.

The **Gips Fund** of the Princeton Area Community Foundation awarded a grant of \$1,000 to help fund the purchase of Rosedale Woods.

The **Baldwin Foundation** awarded \$1,500 to fund the purchase of Carson Road Woods.

The **William Penn Foundation** has awarded \$110,000 to support both land purchases and general operations as part of an ongoing grant.

The **Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation** has awarded a renewed grant of \$75,000 in support of our daily operations.

The **Bryce Thompson Foundation** has awarded a \$2,500 grant in support of our daily operations.

The **Kuhn Charitable Foundation** has awarded a \$600 grant in support of our daily operations. ❧

5,000 Acres

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we have protected 508 acres valued at over \$6.5 million. And we expect to close on several more significant properties before the year's end.

Highlights of the year-to-date include:

The North-South Greenway, extending from Sourland Ridge in Hunterdon County to Baldpate Mountain and the Howell Living History Farm in Mercer County.

- **The 14-acre Birum property in Hopewell Township** is an historical 18-century farmstead adjacent to Howell Living History Farm. It was acquired in partnership with Mercer County to be a working addition to the Howell Living History Farm. A grove of maple trees provides a site for the demonstration of the maple sugar production process during the colonial era. George Washington didn't *exactly* sleep here; but his horses did.

- **The 62-acres added to the Moore's Creek Preserve in West Amwell** are situated on a meadow on the crest of a hill, providing a magnificent viewscape of the Delaware River and Pleasant Valley. An active alpaca farm, containing a scenic, heavily wooded stream corridor buffering Moore's Creek, this property represents a critical link in the North-South Greenway.



Moore's Creek Preserve in West Amwell contains a working alpaca farm.

The Sourland Ridge Greenway, covering the Sourland Mountain in Hunterdon County.

- **The 110-acre Perkowski property in West Amwell** is a working cattle farm that includes a scenic pond, important wetlands and a large area of rocky woodland extending upward to the Sourland Ridge. The Rockefeller family once owned the house and stone cut on the property was used in the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge. This protected land adds to an existing block of several hundred acres of contiguous woodland, currently being preserved by West Amwell Township and facilitated by D&R Greenway. Together, these properties will extend eastward to Route 31 and northward to the several hundred acre Alexauken Wildlife Management Area (preserved by D&R Greenway in 2001).

- **The 45-acre Brown property in West Amwell**, owned by noted photographer Pryde Brown, is a scenic working farm with mature woodland that protects the Alexauken Creek. This property provides public access and a critical buffer to the 400+ acre Alexauken Wildlife Management Area (including the 273 acre property preserved by D&R Greenway in 2001). The property also contains good examples of Sourland's geology, including the shale of the Lockatong Formation and volcanic diabase rock.

- **The 94-acre Schiller property in East Amwell** is characterized by large boulders and huge mature trees in the heart of the Sourlands. The property contains one of the oldest uncut woodlots in the Sourlands, with trees dating from the 1700's. It protects the headwaters of the Stony Brook and has a colorful local history. Bullets from Revolutionary War skirmishes have been found lodged in trees and, in the early part of the 20th century, neighborhood dances were held on a large, flat outcropping known as "Jacob's Rock."

- **The 18-acre Horsman property in East Amwell** consists of three parcels of deep forest land in the center of one of the largest wooded areas of the Sourlands. The remote location of this land provides habitat for deep forest neo-tropical migrant birds that rely on the Sourlands as breeding ground. The Horsman tract is significant in that it is an eastward extension of our Sourlands Greenway, which will then become part of a newly emerging Greenway, linking existing Preserves in Hunterdon County to the Sourlands Preserves in Somerset County.

The Crosswicks Creek Greenbelt, extending from the headwaters in Monmouth County, to the confluence with the Delaware at the Hamilton-Trenton Marsh in Mercer County.

- **The 19-acre Indian Run property** is one of the oldest and most significant rhododendron collections on the east coast with mature specimen plants of Dexter and Gable rhododendron hybrids in a woodland setting along the Indian Run Creek. The preservation effort was a unique collaboration among the Upper Freehold and Washington Township school districts, Mercer County and the American Rhododendron Society. Students in these two school districts will benefit from a hands-on outdoor classroom for the study of horticulture and everyone will enjoy the magnificent profusion of scent and color during rhododendron season each May.

5,000 Acres

Continued from page 2

The Millstone Valley Greenway (formerly known as D&R Canal, Griggstown), encompassing the stream corridor of the D&R Canal and Millstone River, between New Brunswick in Somerset County and Princeton in Mercer County.

- **The 43-acre Miles property** has been purchased as parkland in collaboration among D&R Greenway and Franklin Township. The farm consists of rolling hills with spectacular views westward into Montgomery Township. The woodlot at the east end of the property adjoins several hundred acres of parkland preserved by Franklin Township in 2001, extending a local greenbelt around the village of Griggstown. D&R Greenway's professional expertise enabled the negotiation of a bargain sale that maximized Franklin Township's open space resources.

The Stony Brook Greenway, following the Stony Brook from Princeton to its headwaters in the Sourland Mountain.

- **The 14-acre Rosedale Woods property in Princeton Township** is a woodland stream corridor connecting to the Stony Brook consisting of a mature canopy of large oaks, maples and ash with several wetlands areas. It serves as an undisturbed habitat for woodland species and wildlife migration. The property's immediate proximity to Johnson Park School will allow for the extension of the nature trails behind the school, utilizing the woods as an outdoor classroom. The land also connects directly with the public bike trail along the Stony Brook. Preservation of this property forever protects a characteristic Princeton viewshed along Rosedale Road, across from Greenway Meadows (preserved by D&R Greenway in 2001).

- **The 86.5-acre Fullam property in Hopewell Township** is a rich mix of woodland and field habitat comprising mature forest, wetland meadow and successional cedar and shrub areas. A tributary of the Stony Brook flows through the

property as does the Cedar Ridge Trail, a popular year-round hiking path. The property is the core of the Cedar Ridge Preserve and D&R Greenway's preservation of this land provides expanded public access to the Preserve. This land also provides a jumping-off point to form northern extension to the Stony Brook Greenway.

- **The 2-acre Potter property in Lawrence Township** is proof that a property doesn't need to be big to be significant. This property encompasses the Shipetauken stream corridor; a little-known treasure of huge old trees, shale ledges and waterfalls that winds along private land and woodlots. The unspoiled beauty of this land can now be seen and enjoyed by the residents of our area through its establishment as a public access linkage between Rosedale Park and the D&R Canal. The property is adjacent to preserved land belonging to the family of D&R Greenway founder Sam Hamill.

- **The 1.5-acre Bridgers property in Princeton Township** is a hidden piece of wildlife habitat in the heart of a residential area. A large, picturesque pond on the property serves as a breeding ground for the Great Blue Heron. The conservation easement on the 1.5-acre building lot effectively restricts development of the entire 5-acre parcel. The land also serves as a neighborhood Greenspace and adds to the assemblage of properties that form a linkage between Coventry Farm and Rosedale Woods/Greenway Meadows.

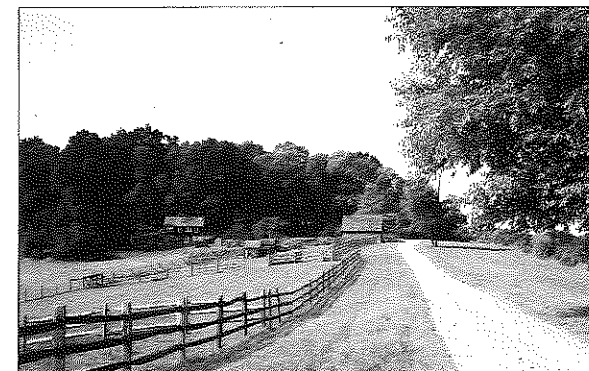
What an exciting year! Thanks to all of you, our supporters, who demonstrate through financial contributions and volunteer efforts your commitment to preserving land, the quality of water and environment and the quality of life for all of us here in central New Jersey. Savor the success of 5,000 acres—and join us in our mission over the next five years—as we preserve our next 5,000 acres! ♣

Pryde Brown Sees Land's Preservation as a Model Solution

Having lived here for 30 years, I never felt the property belonged to me. Instead, I always felt like a participant having access to this great gift. My wish is to share this gift with the community...It is my fondest desire that people in other states recognize what we are doing with land preservation in New Jersey. In my opinion, we could set a pattern for the rest of the country."

The permanent preservation of Pryde Brown's property provided the missing piece in the Alexauken Creek Wildlife Management Area. While maintaining her farm as private property, Ms. Brown is allowing

public access through her land into this 600-acre preserve. Through preservation, a beautiful property will continue as a special home and family center while providing beauty and environmental well-being for us all. ♣



With the preservation of the Brown property, in the past three years D&R Greenway has been instrumental in preserving close to 1,000 acres in West Amwell Township.

D&R Greenway's Liquid Assets

Delaware & Raritan Greenway has just passed the 5,000 acre mark for land preserved in central New Jersey. 5,000 acres may not seem like a lot of land in Wyoming or Alaska, but in the most densely populated state in America, it is a lot of land. And this land has a value beyond protecting our environment, easing the congestion that accompanies development and enhancing our quality of life by providing beautiful landscapes to appreciate and hike through.

As central New Jersey's regional land trust, our job is really very simple: to preserve and protect through acquisition and/or conservation easements those lands that have the greatest impact on the quality and quantity of water. The Greenways we've established surround and protect the streams and rivers that supply our water. We are lucky that in our region, we do not need to import water for our use at the present time. The

Delaware River, the D&R Canal and local watersheds are able to provide all of the water we need. To continue to meet demand, however, these resources must constantly be replenished with clean, filtered rainwater.

The 5,000 acres preserved by D&R Greenway recharge enough water back into these sources to serve the needs of 82,000 people in our region each year. This has a huge impact on keeping us self-sufficient in terms of our water supply.

This is how it works:

- The existing amount of water recharged (the process by which water is absorbed by saturation into the ground) from the 5,000 preserved acres is 257.7 million cubic feet per year.

- If developed, the 5,000 acres would have the potential to support a minimum of 2,500 new houses and would recharge only

201.2 million cubic feet of water per year.

- By preserving these 5,000 acres, 56.5 million more cubic feet of rainwater is recharged into the ground every year than would have been if the land were developed.

- The average daily consumption of water by each one of us in our region is 50 gallons per day.

- 56.5 million cubic feet of rainwater translates into enough water to serve the needs of 82,000 people each year—4,100,000 gallons a day; 14,965,000,000 gallons of water a year.

At the present rate of growth in central New Jersey, we will be required to import water within the next ten years. Delaware & Raritan Greenway sees an urgent need to preserve and protect an additional 5,000 acres in the next five years and a total of 20,000 acres by 2012, to keep that land working to capture, filter and store the water that sustains us all. Your support will help us succeed. ♡

Good Stewards of the Land

On November 18, D&R Greenway hosted a training workshop on monitoring conservation easements.

Trustee John Rassweiler showed volunteers how to navigate a property using aerial and base maps, and a compass. With the help of trustees, volunteers and staff, D&R Greenway will be conducting annual conservation easement monitoring on 28 of our preserved properties. ♡

Pictured here at D&R Greenway offices prior to walking the adjacent Little Valley Farm property are: Back Row (l-r) Ash Harvey, Tom Cawley, Bill Rawlyk, John Rassweiler and Mary Leck. Front Row (l-r): Mary Penney, Cate Litvack, Emily Goldman, Fred Dursch, Bill Grun and Sophie Glover.



Dennis Davidson Joins D&R Greenway as Director of Land Preservation and Stewardship

Linda Mead, Executive Director of Delaware & Raritan Greenway is pleased to announce that Dennis Davidson will be joining the organization as Director of Land Preservation and Stewardship upon his retirement from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection at the end of 2002. Dennis served for 15 years as Deputy Director of the NJDEP Green Acres Program.

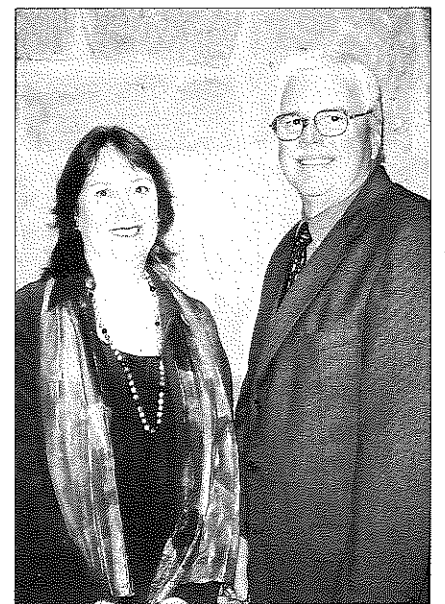
It is an honor and a privilege to have Dennis on board. He is a long-time visionary and proponent of land preservation in New Jersey and has served under every Commissioner of the New Jersey DEP since its inception. Dennis was the DEP representative on the State Agriculture Development Program for 10 years and is a member of the Crossroads of the American Revolution Association. In addition, Dennis represented four governors on the National Association of Outdoor Recreation Professionals for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and is a former Recreation Planner for the New Jersey Division of Parks, Forestry and Recreation.

Dennis has served as an advisor to D&R Greenway since 1989 when the organization was still an idea in the making. When asked his reasons for joining D&R Greenway's staff, Dennis cited the effectiveness and excellence of the organization, noting that D&R Greenway is blessed with "a great staff, a great board, and great leadership."

In a recent letter to The Conservation Fund regarding Executive Director Linda Mead's national conservation award, Dennis noted, "D&R Greenway has become a critical partner in reaching the State's ambitious open space goals in New Jersey. They know how to get things done, with their success rate growing to the highest level in the State." In fact, under Dennis'

leadership, the New Jersey Green Acres Program acknowledged D&R Greenway to be at the top of the list in successfully completing transactions with Green Acres money to achieve land preservation results. D&R Greenway has been granted more state funding for land preservation than any other organization in New Jersey.

We hope you will join us in welcoming Dennis to D&R Greenway. In addition to being a wonderful person to work with, he will also be an invaluable asset to us as we pursue and achieve our land preservation goals for central New Jersey. ♡



Linda Mead welcomes Dennis Davidson to D&R Greenway



D&R Greenway staff in front of our temporary headquarters and Bill Rawlyk's beautiful garden. Front row: Louise Wilkens, Linda Mead, Jo-Ann Munoz. Back row: Mary Penney, Peg Benton, Bill Rawlyk, Carol Christofferson, Kate Buttolph, Laurie Emde, Nancy Breden.

In addition to the good-looking group in the photo above, D&R Greenway has had the benefit of two new part-time staff members. Emily Goldman is working with us in the capacity of Land Preservation and Stewardship Assistant, primarily in GIS mapping and easement monitoring. Emily graduated from Hamilton College in June of 2002 and is looking to pursue a career in land and environmental preservation. Laura Wiley has been providing general office assistance. She is a 2002 graduate of Stuart Country Day School and is looking forward to starting at Ohio-Wesleyan University next fall. She is planning on studying environmental sciences.

D&R Greenway Celebrates Galas' Success

A good time was had by all at the summer-fall collection of 2002 *Good Time Galas for the Greenway*. D&R Greenway supporters were able to enjoy a wide range of events while raising funds to help further D&R Greenway's efforts to preserve open space in our area.

We would like to extend special thanks to our *Gala* hosts who contribute so much time, creativity and generosity to make each and every *Gala* unique and enjoyable.

Wine Tasting at D&R Greenway Barn

A warm summer's evening provided the perfect atmosphere to enjoy delicious French and Italian wines and hors d'oeuvres. Our thanks to hosts Leslie Campbell (Galas Committee Co-Chair) and husband Mark Zaininger who created a delightfully rustic picnic setting at Greenway Meadows for all to enjoy.



D&R Greenway supporters Ellen Carlson and Marilyn and Thomas Zucosky enjoy the summer's wine tasting

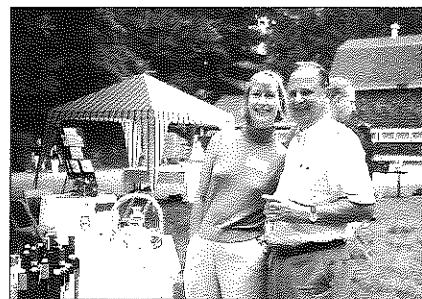
Family Portraits at Meadowgate Farm

We would like to extend our appreciation to Pryde Brown (who preserved her family's 45-acre farm with Delaware & Raritan Greenway in October 2002) for donating her time and talent to create beautiful portraits. Thanks also to Diane and Leon Rosenberg for allowing us to use their picture-perfect Meadowgate Farm as a backdrop and Liz Ebel (Galas

Committee Co-Chair) who organized the event.

A Tasting at Tusculum

Thanks to the oenophilic expertise of hosts Chuck Hartman (board chair) and Tom Moore (trustee), four couples enjoyed a series of extraordinary wines complemented by a fabulous five-course dinner. Once again, the most sought-after *Gala* ticket in town provided yet another memorable evening.



Wendy Mager, President of Friends of Princeton Open Space and John Rassweiler, D&R Greenway trustee, at the Wine Tasting at D&R Greenway's barn.

Tracking the Treasured Trails

A special hike across preserved lands in the heart of Princeton Township was rendered even more

special, thanks to Princeton University Geology Professor Lincoln Hollister and his fascinating commentary on the geologic history of our area. Thanks as well to Sophie (Galas Committee Co-Chair and trustee) and Curtis Glovier for hosting a lovely picnic lunch at their home, Sign of the Fox Farm.

Bird Banding and Bagels

For the third year in a row, D&R Greenway supporters were treated to a demonstration of bird banding and learned why preserving lands in our region is so important for the continued health and survival of so many species of birds. Many thanks to noted ornithologist Hannah Suthers for lending her expertise to this perennial *Gala* favorite.

1st Annual Great Greenway Balloon Festival

A bright and clear early fall afternoon set the stage for a new perspective on land preservation in our area. Ten hot air balloons took to the sky from the fields of Coventry Farm (preserved by D&R Greenway in 2001) and thirty-seven D&R Greenway supporters had an unforgettable view of the beautiful countryside of Princeton Township. Light winds kept the balloons close to home—all the better for enjoying the wonderful post-flight celebration provided by Kathy and John Winant, owners of Coventry Farm. Many thanks to Kathy and John for hosting such a memorable event.



Balloons preparing to launch on the beautiful fields of Coventry Farm in Princeton as the Great Greenway Balloon Festival gets underway.

Galas Success

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Plans are already in the works for next year's festival!

The Rapture of Raptors

Thanks to local falconers Carol Katona and her daughter Melanie, who presented a fascinating exhibition of the art and sport of falconry. Children were invited to get up close and personal with several of the birds at the conclusion of the event. We would like to extend our appreciation to host Jay Gompper (who preserved his 28-acre property with D&R Greenway in 2001).

Octoberfest

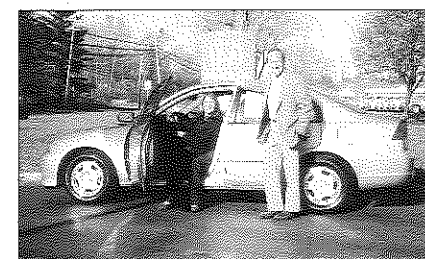
A little rain didn't stop the fun for families at this southern-style barbecue. Delicious food was trucked up overnight from Bill's Barbecue of Wilson, North Carolina, thanks to hosts Fred (trustee) and Irvine (Galas Committee member) Gaskin. Children enjoyed the autumn outdoors by painting pumpkins and building a hay bale

fort (with a little help from their dads, including Stuart Essig and Wayne Carlson). We would like to express our gratitude once again to Martha and Frank McDougald for hosting the event at their beautiful farm and to Liz Ebel (Galas Committee Co-Chair) for organizing.

We would especially like to thank *Gala* sponsor Robert Burt and Honda of Princeton. A Honda representative was on hand to demonstrate the new Honda Civic Hybrid. This unique transportation alternative for environmentally



Falconer Carol Katona shows off a kestrel (a small European hawk) to Gala attendees Fred Graham, Alexander Essig and Jackson Graham.



Linda Mead enjoys a test drive of the new Honda Civic Hybrid as Robert Burt of Honda of Princeton looks on.

conscious drivers is powered by gasoline-electric technology that allows the car to travel 650 miles on a single tank of gas.

Sourlands Lecture

Jim Luce, Princeton professor emeritus and author of *New Jersey's Sourland Mountain*, provided an engrossing discussion of the history of this environmentally significant region. Many thanks to host Andrea Bonette who provided both a lovely reception and the perfect setting—her home (protected by D&R Greenway in 1999) is in the heart of the Sourlands. 🌿

Galas Spring Collection

The 2002 *Good Time Galas for the Greenway* spring collection will be here before you know it. If you haven't already signed-up, we hope you will consider these events.

Easter Egg-Stravaganza

April 19, 2003, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Erik Jan and Deborah Walson are hosting an old-fashioned Easter-Egg hunt at their eighteenth-century farmhouse, Willow Gate, in Lawrenceville. Springtime games and crafts will delight children and adults alike. Light refreshments will be served. *Price per family: \$50.*

Bald Pate Mountain Hike

May 4, 2003, 1:00 pm

Join noted naturalist John Kuser (who grew up on Bald Pate Mountain) for a spring hike of this special place. Bald Pate Mountain is home to many plant and animal species,

offers splendid views that stretch as far as the Philadelphia skyline and is rich in history that reaches back before the Revolutionary War. A picnic lunch will be served before the hike. *Price per person: \$50.*

Outdoor Painting Workshop – to be Rescheduled

Rain prevented the capture of the beauty of fall foliage; let's hope that the blossoms of spring give us more luck. Hosts Barbie and Chris Cole will provide the refreshments; the wonderful views and vistas of their preserved farm will provide the inspiration. Some of the areas most noted artists will be on hand to demonstrate and instruct. Please bring your own materials. Our next newsletter will have the rescheduled date. *Price per person: \$75.*

Tour of Rhododendron Gardens at Indian Run Nursery

May 17, 2003, 10:00 am

Preserved by D&R Greenway in May 2002, Indian Run Nursery contains one of the oldest and finest collections of Rhododendrons on the east coast. The gardens will be at their most colorful and fragrant as you tour them with nationally recognized experts from the American Rhododendron Society. Specimen plants will also be offered for sale. Light refreshments will be served. *Price per person: \$50.*

For more information or tickets to these *Galas*, please call Nancy Breden at D&R Greenway, 609-924-4646 or use the enclosed reservation card. We hope you will join us in our celebration of the land and work with us to protect our area's most precious and threatened natural resource. 🌿

We Did It! Rosedale Woods Preserved Forever

Delaware & Raritan Greenway is proud to announce that the final piece of the Robert Wood Johnson property on Rosedale Road in Princeton Township was permanently preserved in October. With the purchase and protection of Rosedale Woods, or "The 14 Acres" as it is commonly known, a piece of Princeton Township is saved from development forever. These 14 acres mark the entrance into Princeton along Rosedale Road and are considered a signature view of our community. These woods are directly across Rosedale Road from Greenway Meadows, the 60-acre Princeton Township Public Park (preserved by D&R Greenway in 2001).

D&R Greenway brokered a sale price of \$850,000 for this remaining tract of woods from the estate of the late Mrs. Robert Wood Johnson. (The appraised value of the property was \$1.5 million.) D&R Greenway partnered with Friends of Open Space (FOPOS) to secure NJDEP Green Acres funds and additional funds from Mercer County. Private contributions were raised through Princeton Day School's *Walk for Open Space* and matched by D&R Greenway. FOPOS dedicated \$25,000 to the preservation effort. Still, with the contract deadline fast approaching, we were in a race to

raise the remaining \$96,000 by October 23rd.

The retention and sale of a two-acre building lot presented a possible solution to the funding shortfall. This notion was quickly discarded. Executive Director Linda Mead expressed her feelings, shared by the members of the

We chose to redouble our efforts to save the entire tract of land for the benefit of the community and the environment."

Last minute fundraising by D&R Greenway and FOPOS galvanized the neighborhood. Forty-five neighbors generously responded to a series of family room meetings and calls for help. The final gap was closed with a contribution from a family foundation interested in saving this prominent Princeton woodland.



Rosedale Woods — preserved forever for all to enjoy.

Board of Trustees, "While we knew that a building lot in the area would be highly valued and would solve our funding problem, we felt that this was not the right answer, nor was it sending an accurate message about how we at D&R Greenway view the value and importance of land preservation.

The land saved and now called Rosedale Woods consists of a mature canopy of large oaks, elms, maples and ash. It provides a wildlife migration corridor and an undisturbed habitat for woodland species. Wildlife includes a variety of forest breeding birds such as ovenbirds and other warbler species, owls, woodpeckers and wild turkeys. This land provides another link in *The Stony Brook Greenway* and contributes recharged water to the Stony Brook itself.

Students at Johnson Park School and participants in Princeton Family YMCA programs and summer camps will be able to learn more about the environment through the expansion of the nature trails through the woods. Community residents can access the woods from the bike path along the Stony Brook. And all of us can enjoy the beautiful view of Rosedale Woods as we drive along Rosedale Road, knowing that through the efforts of D&R Greenway and our supporters, this land will remain forever as it is today. ■

Proposed Legislation Could Help You Help D&R Greenway

The Charity Aid, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Act of 2002 is designed to provide new charitable giving tax incentives.* As currently drafted, the act has several provisions to make charitable contributions easier to make including:

- A charitable contribution deduction for taxpayers who do not itemize their deductions on their federal income tax returns. Cash contributions in excess of \$250 for individuals and \$500 for

married couples filing jointly would apply. The deductions would be capped at \$250/\$500.

- Tax-free distributions from individual retirement accounts (IRAs) for charitable purposes.

We urge our donors to check with their tax, accounting or legal professionals about the status of the Act and its relevance to particular circumstances. We all may benefit from its application. ■

* Source: Merrill Lynch: *Nonprofit News* Fall 2002.

D&R Greenway Co-Sponsors Two Trail Initiatives

Land preservation is a critical factor in sustaining the health and well-being of our environment, our water and our wildlife. But it is equally important in sustaining the health and well-being of the individuals in our community. One of the benefits of preserved land is that it allows people new access to unspoiled natural surroundings. Whether walking, biking or hiking, they can appreciate the physical pleasures open space offers everyone." Linda J. Mead, Executive Director, D&R Greenway

Land preservation in central New Jersey has gained tremendous momentum in the past five years. (Thanks in large part to the efforts of D&R Greenway, central New Jersey's Regional Land Trust!) As a result, our region has an unparalleled opportunity to become a model for the integration of protected natural lands and developed trail systems. Steps are needed, however, to increase awareness about walking opportunities that already exist, and to link together protected lands with new trails that can provide both enjoyment and an alternative means of transportation within our communities.

To accomplish these goals, D&R Greenway has joined in partnership with corporate, public and private interests to take the first step toward making central New Jersey one of the most walkable and bikable communities in our nation. As a charter member and active supporter of two significant trail development initiatives, we are pleased to share the vision behind The Central New Jersey Trails Association and The Lawrence Hopewell Trail with our supporters. These efforts represent excellent opportunities for residents of central New Jersey to become more physically active while enjoying the great outdoors that you, our supporters, have helped us to protect.

The Central New Jersey Trails Association has been organized to provide convenient information about walking trails and thus promote healthy outdoor recreation. Many residents in our area live within short distances of beautiful natural areas and existing walking trails, but don't know anything about them. Families who are interested in walking find it difficult to know where to go. It is the overriding goal of the CNJTA to make this type of information readily accessible and to promote active use of existing trails on parks and protected lands.

Under the leadership of D&R Greenway Trustee and Treasurer Alan Hershey, this new initiative complements the efforts of land preservation organizations and parks agencies. The CNJTA has established four key efforts to pursue in its first year:

1. Identifying and maintaining a database of trails throughout central New Jersey;
2. Creating a website to publicize and provide information about these trails;
3. Communicating information about the trails to health professionals; and
4. Helping to identify lands that can contribute to a comprehensive trail network.

The association operates as a special cooperative project under the aegis of the D&R Greenway, who is providing office space and support. The Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association will provide computer mapping of trails that are documented by CNJTA volunteers. Additional funding has been provided through a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

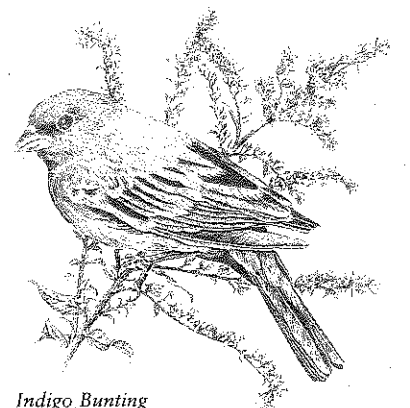
The Lawrence Hopewell Trail is a planned 20-mile path through county parks, corporate lands and protected open space and along existing roadways. It is the initiative of an extensive alliance of public and private partners consist-

ing of nonprofit groups, corporations, environmental, healthcare and recreational organizations, schools and governments at the municipal, county and state level. D&R Greenway is a charter member of this coalition and is providing both environmental and fundraising consultation and support.

Bristol-Myers Squibb and Educational Testing Service provided the initial project leadership, spearheaded by Becky Taylor, Director of Corporate Affairs for BMS and Eleanor Horne, Vice President and Corporate Secretary for ETS (and D&R Greenway Trustee). Both companies have made significant financial contributions to further this effort. Already, \$3 million of the estimated \$6 million price tag has been committed from Mercer County, BMS, and ETS. As Eleanor Horne has noted: "We think of our Rosedale Road campus as a park that is open to our neighbors to enjoy. The Lawrence Hopewell Trail expands the recreational possibilities for all."

The Lawrence Hopewell Trail is expected to break ground in the fall of 2003 with new construction designed to link and extend currently existing trails.

We encourage all D&R Greenway supporters to find the time to experience the beauty and benefit that our preserved open space provides. For more information on either of these groups please call us at 609-924-4646. ■



Indigo Bunting
(*Passerina cyanea*)

THANK YOU to our Donors

Delaware & Raritan Greenway relies on contributions from you to support our efforts to preserve and protect open space in central New Jersey. Because every dollar earmarked for land acquisition goes directly toward purchase, without your contributions to general operations we could not support our professional staff, who are critical to negotiating and executing our land preservation successes. Publicly acknowledging the extraordinary generosity we enjoy from you is very important to us.

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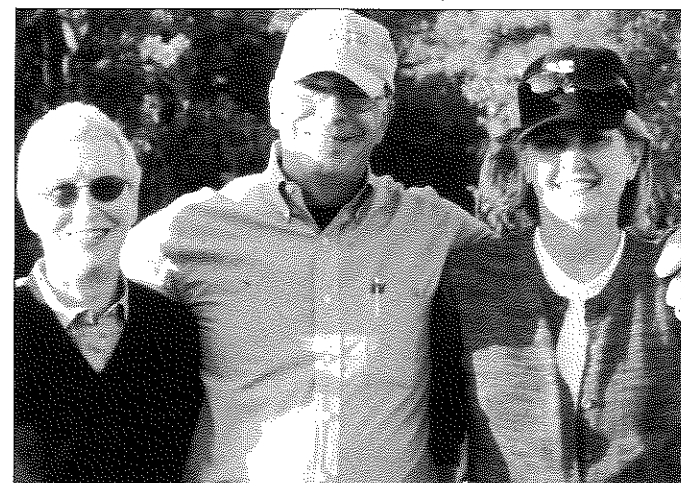
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White-throated Sparrow
(Zonotrichia albicollis)



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Bequest Information

We hope that you have put Delaware & Raritan Greenway in your will as a recipient for a Bequest. Sample wording to give to your attorney for inclusion in your will:

"I devise and bequeath to DELAWARE & RARITAN GREENWAY, INC., a not-for-profit corporation whose address is 1327 Canal Road, Princeton, New Jersey, the sum of \$_____ [or _____ percent of my residuary estate] for its general uses and purposes."

Delaware & Raritan Greenway's mission is the preservation and protection of open space in central New Jersey. Including Delaware & Raritan Greenway in your will is one of the most significant things you can do to save our landscape for your children and their children. It is a true legacy.

If you are interested in other giving opportunities such as a charitable remainder trust or the donation of your land for tax benefits, call Carol Christofferson at D&R Greenway (609-924-4646).



White Oak
(Quercus alba)

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Announcing Formation of Friends for the Marsh

A group of concerned citizens who care about the future of the Hamilton/Trenton Marsh have joined together as *Friends for the Marsh*. Spearheaded by naturalist and D&R Greenway trustee Dr. Mary Leck and by local resident Andy Cosentino, the group's mission is to build a constituency to support the preservation and stewardship of the Marsh, and to support educational and recreational activities that complement conservation of Marsh resources.

The Hamilton/Trenton Marsh has been an active initiative of D&R Greenway for ten years. In 1999 D&R Greenway gathered a partnership that included state, county and local governments with corporate and private interests to produce a Management Plan with five agreed-upon goals:

- Protection and Preservation
- Stewardship
- Education
- Recreation
- Long-term Management

In response, an education committee of teachers and environmental educators has become active in scheduling regular programs and walks at the Marsh. The State and Mercer County have been active in land preservation. And D&R Greenway is working with a

number of partners to raise awareness about the national significance of this unique resource.



The Hamilton/Trenton Marsh

Did you know that the 1,250-acre Hamilton/Trenton Marsh is home to:

- 812 species of plants (including a new species discovered in February 2002 by Professor Mary Leck)
- 28+ species of butterflies
- 60 species of fish
- 19 species of amphibians and reptiles
- 237 species of resident or migratory birds
- 17 species of mammals

"Friends for the Marsh" is considering several charter projects that could prove to be exciting and beneficial.

To become a "Friend" and join in the fun, call Nancy at D&R Greenway at 609-924-4646 or contact Mary A. Leck at 609-895-5420 or by email leck@rider.edu.

Delaware & Raritan Greenway, Inc., is a regional, 501(c)(3) nonprofit land conservancy dedicated to the preservation of open space throughout central New Jersey. Mahlon Lovett, design; Heather Lovett, illustrations. Printed on recycled paper

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