GREENWAYS

Newsletter of D&R Greenway Land Trust, Inc. Volume 21, Number 1 Spring 2012

D&R Greenway Earns National Recognition

D&R Greenway Among First Ten Percent of Land Trusts in Nation to Achieve Accreditation Status

he Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, has awarded accredited status—the highest level of distinction—to D&R Greenway Land Trust.

Among the first 10% of land trusts nationwide to reach accreditation, this seal of approval ensures that D&R Greenway meets national standards for excellence, upholding the public trust and ensuring that conservation efforts are permanent. The Accreditation seal is a mark of distinction in land conservation.

"Accredited land trusts meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever," said Commission Executive Director Tammara Van Ryn. "The accreditation seal lets the public know that the accredited land trust has undergone an extensive, external review of the governance and management of its organization and the systems and policies it uses to protect land."

In speaking of the rigorous review, Alan Hershey, D&R Greenway Board of Trustees Chair and an avid trail builder, shares this analogy, "The path was long and not always straight. We had to ford streams and scale mountains. We were all tied together.... It worked. Congratulations to the staff and the accreditation committee of trustees. We have improved our already excellent practices and achieved something worth celebrating."

D&R Greenway is only the second land trust in New Jersey to achieve this important status. The first, The Land Conservancy of New Jersey (formerly Morris Land Conservancy) provided initial guidance as D&R Greenway began its application in 2010. "The difference in our two organizations is that D&R Greenway holds fee title or easements on over 100 properties, compared to their three," said Linda Mead, D&R Greenway President & CEO. This required a more extensive

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Land Preservation Update

Since 1989, D&R Greenway has preserved 240 properties valued at almost \$331 million. These 15,118 acres could have supported over 8,000 houses—but instead will remain as open space forever.

Inside

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D&R Greenway Trustees and Staff members gather to celebrate Accreditation, a milestone achievement in the organization's 23-year history. Pictured (l-r) Hella McVay, Ted Thomas, Tiffany So, Roberta Kaszuba, Jay Watson, Richard Goldman, Jeff Emde, Tanya Rohrbach, Wendy Kvalheim, Meg Gorrie, Alan Hershey, John Rassweiler, Cate Litvack, Leslie Davis Potter, Christopher DeGrazia, Jim Amon, Phyllis Marchand, Laurie Emde, Brian Breuel, Diana Raichel, Linda Mead, Robert Johnston, Jim Trowbridge, Carolyn Edelmann, Deb Kilmer, Joyce Copleman, Mary Lou Hartman. Not Pictured (trustees): Rosemary Miles Blair, Shawn Ellsworth, Alex Hanson, Margee Harper, Ashton Harvey, Eleanor Horne, Mary Allessio Leck, Robin McConaughy, Tom Poole, Dave Reynolds, Mark Solomon; (staff): Emily Blackman, Susan Charkes, Ilene Dube, Diana Moore, Randy Pease. Photo: Tasha O'Neill, Photographer

Accreditation

Continued from page 1

review that took two years to complete. In the process, D&R Greenway led development of a new easement template that will be used by land trusts in the State of New Jersey, ensuring that the current high IRS standards for easement deductibility are met. Linda notes her appreciation for the guidance received early on, "As the Land Conservancy assisted us, we look forward to guiding other land trusts in New Jersey as they pursue this important status."

Rand Wentworth, President of the Land Trust Alliance, congratulates the 23 newly-accredited land trusts of which D&R Greenway is one. "This is a significant milestone and proves that land trusts of every size and from every region have what it takes to earn the public's trust, as well as the confidence of Congress and the IRS who have granted land conservation special tax

incentives." These land trusts are among the 158 land trusts from across the country awarded accreditation since the fall of 2008.

All of the accredited land trusts have made significant investments in their organizations, even as they faced tough choices about how to allocate resources. "Through the accreditation process land trusts have taken the time to conduct important planning and to make their operations more efficient and strategic," said Commission Executive Director Tammara Van Ryn. "This round of accreditation decisions comes at an important time as land trusts and their supporters work to save land in an uncertain economic environment. Accreditation provides the public with an assurance that land trusts meet high standards for quality and that their conservation work is permanent."



The RWJ Auditorium at D&R Greenway's Johnson Education Center is an inspirational setting for educational workshops and gatherings, furthering the cause of land preservation and stewardship. Photo: Leigh Visual Imaging

Announcing a New Preserve: The Adam Family Land

In September 1957, a young couple arrived in Trenton: refugees fleeing the village of Pacin, Hungary, after the Revolution of 1956 was crushed by Soviet troops. Yolanda and Bill (born Bela) Adam, with sons Laszlo (6) and Zoltan (3), emigrated to America to join Yolanda's sister Margaret and her husband Julius Kovacs.

In Pacin, everyone had a tiny plot of land where they raised a few animals. When they arrived in New Jersey, Bill and Yolanda brought with them not only their two boys, but also a dream: to buy a piece of land to farm. Laszlo Adam says, "The idea of owning land



in the United States was for them of great emotional importance."

Bill and Yolanda held on to their dream for 20 years.

In 1978 they purchased 28 acres on Barry Road in West Amwell, in the midst of a rural landscape replete with farms and forests. There they raised cattle, sheep, chickens, and horses, and walked the wildlife-rich woods.

Even after the boys moved away and started their own families, they loved visiting the farm. The whole family got together for "Hungarian-style picnics," recalls Laszlo. "Nothing would go to waste."

Yolanda lived on the farm until her death in 1998; Bill stayed until he died in 2010. After selling six cleared acres to a farmer, the family decided to preserve the forested remainder.

"We never wanted to develop it," says Laszlo. "The whole family loves the outdoors; that's been the cornerstone of the family."

D&R Greenway worked with the Adam family to craft a transaction that provided financial benefits while satisfying the overriding preservation goal that all parties shared. West Amwell Township was an important partner, enabling this preservation. They contributed their allocation of Green Acres funds to the acquisition, which closed in December 2011, and committed to own and manage the preserved land.

Jay Watson notes, "It was a pleasure to work with Laszlo, an attentive and motivated seller, who was always available to do what was needed to make the transaction happen in a timely manner."

For Laszlo, preservation and philanthropy are a part of his family's ideals. Laszlo and Eleanor have established the Alex Adam Foundation, which supports creative artists, in memory of their son Alex, a writer, actor and outdoor enthusiast, who died of cancer at age 23. Alex, along with brothers Nick and Dash, loved the property.

"It's wonderful to think that years from now, people we've never met will have a chance to enjoy this beautiful property, unmarred by development," comments Laszlo. "It carries my parents' legacy forward. The land is something they touched and left behind."

The Taplin Circle

 Γ rank 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. His wife Peg supported his love of the land. We mourn Peg's passing in 2011 as we remember the difference that Frank and Peg made in our community.

In 2004, D&R Greenway Land Trust honored Frank Taplin's memory 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 and Peg's commitment to preserving the land, the historic character and the natural resources of central New Jersey.

Taplin Circle contributors are invited to a special reception annually where they hear first-hand about the accomplishments that their support makes possible, and learn about strategic initiatives before they are publicly announced.

We express our deepest thanks and appreciation our Taplin Circle contributors for their leadership in supporting D&R Greenway Land Trust. Special recognition is given for multi-year pledges that were in effect in 2011 (see page 21). Here, Taplin Circle members are shown at their 2011 pledge payment level. To request a correction to this donor list, please call D&R Greenway at 609-924-4646.

Donations Received January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011

* First-time Taplin Circle member

TAPLIN CIRCLE LEGACY GIFTS Betty Wold Johnson

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

Anonymous

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Gathered for the annual Taplin Circle Reception are: Hosts, Robbie and Shawn Ellsworth, Steve Mead and President & CEO, Linda Mead, Vice President, Jay Watson, Board of Trustees Chair, Alan Hershey and wife, Phyllis Frakt. Photo: Don Addison, Photographer

D&R Greenway 2012 Public Trail Walks

Inaugural Walk at Pryde's Point Trail in West Amwell

Honoring Pryde Brown on her preserved farm

Saturday, May 5, 10:30 a.m.-noon Leader: Chairman, Board of Trustees, Alan Hershey

Be among the first to walk the Pryde's Point Trail when we open it to the public this spring. Start at one of the highest points in Hunterdon County, with long views towards the Delaware Water Gap, and descend to Alexauken Creek, where water tumbles across rock ledges on its course to the Delaware. Enjoy this newest addition to our trails!

Bird Walk at Dry Run Creek Trail

Saturday, *May* 19, 8−10 *a.m.* Leader: Director of Stewardship Jim Amon

The birds are back! Join us to see some of the species that have been away for the winter. The mature, boulder strewn forest and wooded bluff over a rocky stream corridor support migrating warblers and thrushes, resident songbirds and woodpeckers.

Student Led Walk at the J. Seward Johnson, Sr. Woodland Preserve

Wednesday, June 6, 5:30-7 p.m. Leaders: Fifth grade student guides, led by Emily Blackman

Celebrate the beginning of summer and the opening of a new trail managed by Johnson Park School and D&R Greenway. Johnson Park 5th graders will be your trail guides as you learn

about forest regeneration, and see the work we're doing to establish a native pollinator meadow and deer-protected native plant restoration area.

Native Plant Walk and Tour of the Native Plant Nursery at D&R Greenway's Johnson **Education Center**

Wednesday, June 27, 4-5 p.m. Leaders: Emily Blackman and Bill Flemer

Get a behind the scenes tour of our nursery, where we grow over 100 species of native plants. Learn about plant propagation and the ecological importance of native species, and take a walk around our property to see native plants in bloom!

Picnic at Greenway Meadows and Explore the Stony Brook

Co-sponsored with Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Association

Wednesday, July 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Cost: \$5 per person Leader: Jeff Hoagland of SBMWA

Join us for our second annual family picnic and naturalist-led walk along the Stony Brook. Bring your dinner (drinks and desserts provided) and enjoy a picnic on the terrace and then explore the brook. The walk will introduce you to aquatic plants and animals (bring your water-friendly shoes!), and teach you about vital ecological stream functions.



Meadow Walk at Cedar Ridge Preserve

Tuesday, August 7, 9:30-11 a.m. Leader: Director of Stewardship Jim Amon

Native grasses and blooming wildflowers are featured on this summer morning walk through our Cedar Ridge meadow. Along the way you'll learn about the invasive species removal and habitat restoration we have accomplished here.

Beagle Club Field Trials and the Plum Brook Greenway Co-sponsored by the Central Jersey Beagle Club

Saturday, September 15, 2-4 p.m. Leader: Conservation Biologist Diana Raichel

How do Beagle field trials relate to conservation? Come learn how habitat management for field trials also provides critical wildlife habitat, take a walk on our Plum Brook Preserve and watch a field trial in action!

Perseid Astronomy Watch at Cider Mill Preserve

Sunday, August 12, 10 p.m.-midnight Leader: Vice President Jay Watson

Experience a great open view of the peak Perseid meteor showers



A group of students enjoying the Johnson Park trail



Cider Mill Preserve. Photo: Michael Abadie

Spring Native Plant Sale

Friday, May 11 3 p.m.– 6 p.m. & Saturday, May 12 1 p.m.– 4 p.m.

D&R Greenway Land Trust Johnson Education Center One Preservation Place Princeton, NJ, 08540



(60+ meteors per hour) from the hill at Cider Mill Preserve! Surrounded by acres of open space and farmland, you'll see one of the darkest skies in the area. While you are there, learn about the importance of Cider Mill's grassland habitat. Bring a blanket or lawn chair.

Fall Foliage Walk in the Sourlands Ecosystem Preserve

Sunday, October 14, 10 a.m.–noon Leader: Director of Stewardship Iim Amon

Fall is the perfect time to appreciate our Sourlands Preserve, part of a larger ecosystem of 20,000 forested acres. Learn about our native plant restoration work and experience the largest intact forest area in Central New Jersey.

Teaching our Future Conservation Leaders to Value Nature: A Family Walk on the Charles Evans Children's Discovery Trail

Sunday, October 21, 9:30–11 a.m. Leader: Conservation Biologist Diana Raichel

Bring your family for a morning of exploration and fall colors. Kids can walk on boardwalks, climb over rocks and play in a stream while learning to listen and think about nature. Interactive, kid-inspired trail signs guide the way. Wear sturdy and water

On Summit Trail Quilt Raffle

E arth Day is celebrated globally throughout the month of April. In honor of D&R Greenway's mission to protect and preserve the precious resources of our Earth, we are providing an opportunity for one lucky supporter to win a beautiful landscape quilt.

"Summit Trail on Baldpate Mountain" was designed, created and donated to D&R Greenway by quilter Deb Brockway. This handmade art was the inspiration for the recent Textures and Trails art exhibit at the Johnson Education Center.

The quilt depicts a welcoming trail built by D&R Greenway Board Chair Alan Hershey and NJ Trails volunteers. Textures evoke the rocks, trees, soils and leaves of the wooded landscape. The quilt measures 33" x 41" and can be viewed at D&R Greenway's Johnson Education Center.

How to Enter: A limited number of only 250 raffle tickets are available at \$25 each!

To buy yours, send a check made out to D&R Greenway Land Trust to One Preservation Place, Princeton, NJ 08540. In the memo section, note: raffle ticket(s). You can also buy a ticket by clicking on the DONATE button at www.drgreenway.org. Be sure to type

"raffle ticket" in the designation field and include your full address so we can send you your ticket(s).

The lucky winner will be announced on Friday, April 20th just in time for Earth Day!

Every ticket is a winning ticket—since the proceeds support D&R Greenway's work to preserve and care for the lands and trails of central New Jersey—something everyone can enjoy.



"Summit Trail on Baldpate Mountain" by quilter Deb Brockway

Business Partners in Preservation

W e 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. We appreciate the investment they have made in the quality of life in our communities, and in caring for future

Donations Received January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011

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

STEWARDS (\$25,000+)

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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 partnering to preserve lands and building communities.

Donations Received January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011

- + First time donors
- * 5+ year donors ** 10+ year donors
- *** 15+ year donors **** 20+ year donors
- LEGACY GIFTS (\$100,000+)

William Penn Foundation***

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The Concordia Foundation** Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation* Larson Land Foundation**

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Decoy Gift inspires protection of Waterfowl Habitat

A permanent exhibit on native waterfowl opened in March at D&R Greenway's Johnson Education Center, thanks to a generous gift from Princeton resident Jay Vawter. The display and interpretive signage will raise awareness about the local wildlife habitats D&R Greenway Land Trust has preserved, and will inspire protection of those still in need of conservation.

"The Board of Trustees was delighted to accept this outstanding collection because it fits so well with the educational part of our mission—to inspire a conservation ethic," says D&R Greenway President & CEO Linda Mead. "Incorporated into the display, which will change from time to time, will be information about the habitat these species need to survive."

Among the birds is a pair of bluewinged teals, a pair of black ducks, a pied-billed grebe, a green heron, a kestrel and a pair of American wigeons, carved by such esteemed decoy artists as Lem Ward and Pat Godin, among others.



"Appreciation in decoy collecting is at an all-time high," says ornithologist Dr. Charles Leck. With Vawter, Dr. Leck will give a talk on April 25th to inaugurate the new exhibit. "Visitors run the gamut from those with interest in sports, the artistic qualities of the

decoys, and the actual birds themselves. This will be an opportunity to see the decoys up close and learn about conservation."

The woodcarvings are so life-like one is tempted to touch them to see if

the feathers are real. They will be kept behind glass to protect them. The Vawter gift included the funds to build a new display case for the collection and complete renovations in the Goldman Family Library, where the decoys will reside at the Johnson Education Center.



Vawter, an investment counselor, has always been interested in birds and is an avid photographer who has traveled the world, from Central America and Antarctica to Africa.

"Whenever I travel, I always bring home a little bird from that country," he says. Vawter's serious collecting began in 1998 when he read an article about Ron Kobli's Decoys and Wildlife Gallery in Frenchtown.

"I always liked wood ducks and wanted a carving," Vawter says. "Ron recommended an artist and I commissioned a pair."

Most decoy collectors will collect a pair, a male and female, for their different colorings. "She's dull to be camouflaged, and drakes are colorful to attract females," says Vawter.

Vawter's collection soon grew to about 80 decoys. He decided they would make a perfect gift to D&R Greenway. "D&R Greenway preserves lands full of these," he says.

Some have won awards, such as a Merganser drake that won best in show at the Ward World Championships.

If the name "Ward" appears frequently in talking of decoys, that's because brothers Lem and Steve Ward, hunters and fisherman, also carved decoys to sell in their barbershop in Crisfield, Maryland in the 1920s. A

The Ward brothers weren't trained artists but developed their ability to create lifelike birds by observing birds in the marshes and waterways. Lem's specialty was painting and Steve did the carving.

decade later, the decoy business took

off as fishing became a necessary way

to feed families during the Depression.

Even as the economy recovered, the

sport hunting became popular.

decoy business continued to grow as

In the 1950s, plastic factory-made decoys replaced hand-carved decoys. The Wards moved toward carving more accurately to create decorative decoys that could be put on a mantel.

In 1975, the Ward Museum opened in Salisbury, Maryland. Every decoy in the Jay Vawter collection was carved by an artist who has something in that museum, including a few by Lem Ward.

"These are art," Vawter says of the collection.

"These have gone from hunters' tools to art and well beyond," says Dr. Leck. "They are incredibly accurate."

With this generous gift, D&R Greenway and Jay Vawter have partnered to make an impact on conservation by inspiring stories of stewardship like that of the wood duck. Wood ducks are "the most beautiful ducks in the world," says Dr. Leck. "Theirs is a success story, conservation wise. In the wild they make cavities in trees for nesting, but have adapted to nest boxes in preserved habitats." In the 1930s and 1940s, wood ducks were rare in this range but have made a comeback.

Steadfast Stewards

D onors 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.

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Founder, Bob Johnston is a 20+ year steward of D&R Greenway. Pictured with his wife, Grace, a watercolor artist who has exhibited at the Johnson Education Center's Gallery.

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Fifteen+ year supporters, John Rassweiler and Scott McVay at the Taplin Circle Reception. Photo: Don Addison, Photographer



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The Garden Club of Princeton generously provides floral arrangements for D&R Greenway art openings. Here, they prepared an exhibit demonstrating how an arrangement is created.

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Taplin Circle member, John Harper, along with his wife, Margee, was a leader in the fundraising campaign that created Greenway Meadows park. Photo: Mary Michaels, Photographer

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The New Jersey Green Acres Program has been a partner from the beginning. D&R Greenway was the first organization to complete a land acquisition with Green Acres when they established their nonprofit grants in 1991. Second from left is Richard Boornazian, Administrator of the NJ DEP's Green Acres Program and third from left is Amy Cradic, Assistant Commissioner for Natural and Historic Resources, NJ DEP. Photo: Don Addison, Photographer

Public Partners

2011 Private Contributions were Leveraged with \$6.8 million in Public Funds to enable D&R Greenway to achieve our goals for land preservation and stewardship.

In addition, Bargain Sales from landowners totaled \$461,900 through donation of all or a portion of the land value for preservation.

AND

We're excited to report that D&R Greenway was awarded \$3.24 million in 2011 from the NJ Green Acres Program, the State Agriculture Development Committee and the Federal Farm and Ranchlands Preservation Program for future land preservation.

Our private donors support our staff work that allows us to use these public funds to buy land and easements for permanent preservation.

Preserving the Whole by Connecting the Pieces

"When we try to pick out anything by itself we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe." — John Muir

Holistic landscape preservation

Viewed from above, the Sourlands ridge extends like a spine across central New Jersey: knobs of land interlaced with perpendicular creeks that run down like so many ribs to long flanking valleys. It is a connected entity; we almost expect it to move, raise its head, and wonder at the commotion.

From above, we see landscape as a whole. Galen Rowell named the Apollo astronauts' 1968 photograph of Earthrise over the moon "the most influential environmental photograph ever taken." Humankind for the first time could see the planet as one entity, all the parts connected by global systems: white clouds, blue water, green land.

This startling change in orientation sparked a new way of thinking about Earth, as a single biological organism. As James Lovelock stated, "The air, the ocean, and the soil are much more than a mere environment for life; they are a part of life itself."

Whether metaphor or scientific theory, the holistic perspective—seeing the whole beyond the sum of its parts-compels us to pursue land stewardship by protecting connected ecological systems. We don't keep our bodies healthy by focusing on a cell here, and a neuron there. We take care of the connections that sustain us: circulatory, digestive or skeletal systems; cognitive and psychological systems. In the same way, we protect a healthy environment by taking care of connected systems that sustain life on Earth: biological and ecological systems; economic, cultural and social systems—all of which also interact with each other. So, for example, by preserving forests that contain stream headwaters, we protect water quality that sustains a network of farms to feed us and support a thriving local economy.

For conservationists, a "landscape" is more than pretty scenery. Landscape is the whole picture: all the systems that connect to create a coherent place that supports life.

As stewards of the land we care about, D&R Greenway takes a holistic view of landscape. A healthy landscape stays that way when it is treated as a whole entity, a network of



Partners gather to dedicate D&R Greenway's Cider Mill Preserve located to the north of the Sourland Ridge. Pictured: Tony Petrongolo, NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife; Jay Watson, D&R Greenway Land Trust; Michael Catania, Conservation Resources Inc.; Tom Gilbert, Keep it Green Coalition; Glorianne Robbi, East Amwell Township Open Space Committee.

dependencies. Connecting protected land into a landscape supports resilient communities that can better adapt to change. Not only are connected landscapes more diverse, with more kinds of habitat and more species, they are also more dynamic, with more opportunities for wildlife to move within them to take advantage of resources.

Creating, nurturing and sustaining a whole landscape—a network of interconnected systems—is the 21st-century way to approach land preservation. By focusing on connections, and by facilitating the preservation of whole landscapes with our partners, we make preservation

efforts more effective, and make the most of funding resources.

As stated by the Regional Plan Association in a February 2012 report (Landscapes: Improving Conservation Practice in the Northeast Mega-Region): "Landscape conservation means looking beyond property boundaries and political jurisdictions. A holistic perspective is vital for managing watersheds and habitats and addressing long-term issues such as climate change. With funding scarce, it's also crucial to build partnerships that can set mutual priorities, share resources and collaborate effectively. As the population grows and development expands, conservation needs to help shape—and not simply react to—decisions about land use and urban infrastructure."

Sourlands landscape

The Sourlands landscape is a prime illustration of D&R Greenway's holistic landscape preservation approach. Twenty miles long, the forested ridge stretches from the Delaware River near Lambertville, northeast almost to Somerville. The largest intact forest in central New Jersey, it comprises almost 20,000 wooded acres, creating unparalleled habitat for neotropical songbirds, sustaining native wildflowers, protecting headwaters for countless streams. It is as culturally and politically complex as it is ecologically rich. Encompassing rural, suburban, and urban areas, it covers three counties and eight municipalities.

D&R Greenway's vision is to protect Continued on page 14



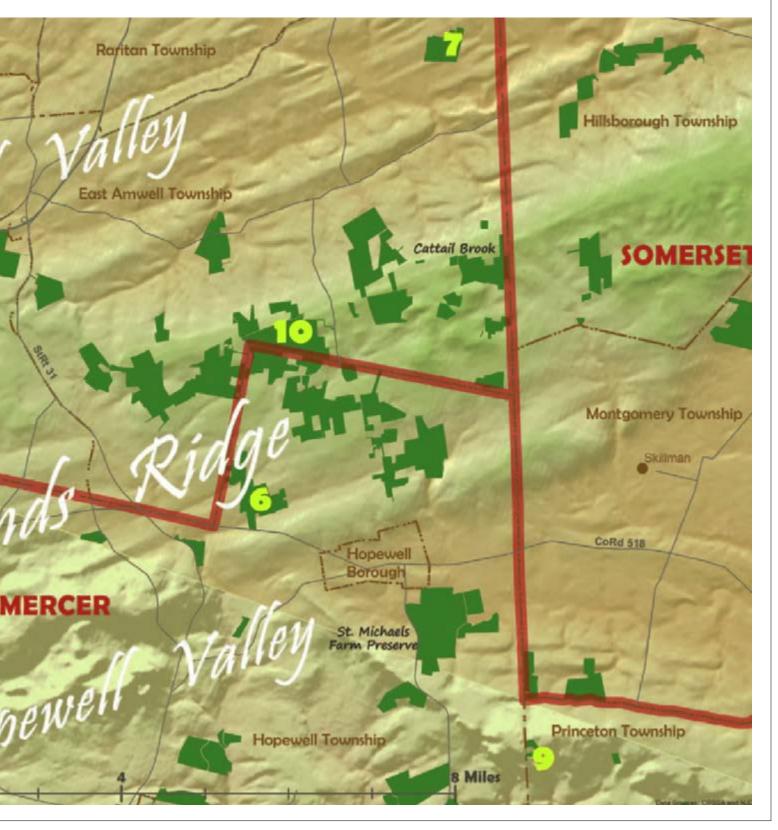
Marsh marigold is a sure sign that spring has sprung!

Preserving the Whole by Connecting the Pieces:

Preserving Habitats Across the Sourlands



The Sourland Mountain ridge and its flanking valleys comprise a holistic landscape of connected systems, much like our bodies are composed of bodily systems that maintain life. D&R Greenway's preservation of contributing habitats is creating a healthy whole landscape and central New Jersey's most expansive greenway.



Preserving the Whole

Continued from page 11

a connected, contiguous landscape that sustains the unique Sourlands ecosystem. It is a holistic vision that is effectuated piece by piece, property by property. Within the Sourlands, smaller sub-landscapes of diverse habitat are now taking shape.

On the north side of the ridge, Pryde's Point winds along low rolling hills; Cedar Ridge on the south side preserves small wet meadows at the foot of the ridge along Stony Brook; the Sourlands Ecosystem Preserve is a continuous deep forest extending along both sides from the crest to the base of the rocky ridge, harboring numerous small streams.



Showy orchis (Galearis spectabilis) flowers in the Sourlands. Photo: Alan Hershey

Dry Run Creek landscape

The Dry Run Creek sub-landscape, at the western terminus of the Sourland ridge, is a steadily growing preservation success story.

Route 518 ascends the ridge from Lambertville, then follows its crest eastward. Dry Run Creek, a tributary of Moore's Creek, flows down the southern face of the ridge southwest from Barry Road, past the Howell Living History Farm to Pleasant Valley Road, under steep slopes thick with forests of oak, sycamore and sugar maple. Surrounding the valley is a patchwork of pastures and woods. On the north face of the ridge, a rugged bouldered hillside rich with native orchids tumbles down to a reservoir that empties into Swan Creek. The two sides are united by their shared

Save the Date for the 2012 Greenway Gala

D&R Greenway's annual celebration of people and the land honoring the 2012 Donald B. Jones Conservation Awardee!

Sunday, September 9, 4 p.m.–6 p.m.

Johnson Education Center, One Preservation Place, Princeton

Join a community of land lovers for cocktails on the Frederick P. & Carroll King Terrace, overlooking Greenway Meadows park and surrounded by Meredith's Garden of Inspiration.

forested habitat, within which a variety of soil, light, wind and water conditions supports diversity of plants and wildlife, as well as a still-vital rural culture of small farms.

"In this region we're partnering with different entities using varied funding sources to preserve this continuous landscape," notes Jay Watson, D&R Greenway's Vice President. Much of the north side of the ridge, owned by United Water, is protected by a conservation easement. D&R Greenway facilitated its preservation in 2003. On the south side, a large block of contiguous protected farmland, much of it preserved by D&R Greenway and partners, spreads over the valley. A trail system created by NJ Trails volunteers connects both sides of the landscape: Rockhopper Trail climbs from Lambertville to Route 518 where it links to Dry Run Creek Trail, which winds down to the Howell Farm.

Consistent with the holistic vision, in 2011 D&R Greenway embraced

the opportunity to protect the 22-acre Adam property on Barry Road (see page 2). This forested tract extends a large block of adjacent preserved land to the west, where the Dry Run Creek trail runs. "Surrounding the property are active farms, with pastures and meadows crowning the small hills, and forests

of sugar maple, linden, ironwood, witch hazel and sycamore," notes Jim Amon, D&R Greenway's Director of Stewardship.

In preserving the Adam property, D&R Greenway continues to build on past successes. "This was a great opportunity to partner with West Amwell Township, enabling them to leverage Green Acres funds, and to preserve a property directly across from a wooded tract that they had previously preserved with Green Acres funding," says Jay Watson.

Preservation is a process

The ultimate goal in the Sourlands is to protect a continuous landscape made up of connected pieces. Preservation is more than saving land. It is a process of making connections. We connect with partners, we connect natural and social systems, and we build landscapes. Landscapes sustain our community—the sum of all our human connections.



Sourlands Ecosystem Preserve. Photo: Jim Amon

2011 Partners in Preservation

D &R Greenway Land Trust thanks our Partners in Preservation for their investment in our mission. With your support we are able to:

- Permanently preserve and care for natural areas, farms and historic landscapes for the public's benefit;
- Lend our expertise to communities in New Jersey to ensure preservation of local lands;
- Implement a vision of interconnected *greenways* that optimize the protection of wildlife, plants and water resources and that provide opportunities for recreational trails; and
- Inspire a conservation ethic by connecting people with the land.

Perhaps the most significant benefit to preserving the natural and agricultural landscapes surrounding our cities, towns and villages is that it strengthens these communities by providing, quite literally, "common ground"—a shared continuity of experience with the land that extends across the generations.

We would particularly like to welcome first-time donors to our organization, and members of the Princeton Photography Club for their collective support.

We are most grateful to the families and individuals who have provided steady support for D&R Greenway's work through the years; see pages 8–10 for acknowledgment of our Steadfast Stewards. We are grateful for your unfailing generosity each and every day.

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

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In January, former Trustee Chair, Rich Goldman passed the baton to new Chair, Alan Hershey. Pictured: Trustee, Eleanor Horne, Rich Goldman, President & CEO, Linda Mead and Alan Hershey.

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Several times a year, walks along the Scott and Hella McVay Poetry Trail engage the community in a celebration of the poetry of nature.

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Teachers enjoying their students' art and poetry featured in the "Born of Wonder" art exhibit supported by The Charles Evans Foundation.



St. Michaels site manager, Bill Flemer (right, with stand up bass) and his Riverside Bluegrass Band provide music for one of many D&R Greenway events. Photo: Don Addison, Photographer

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The new electric Tesla sedan was previewed for the first time in Princeton in the summer of 2011 at the Johnson Education Center. Tesla sportsters lined up to create a colorful display of sustainability.



2011 Donald B. Jones Conservation Awardee, Sophie Glovier with her family at the annual Greenway Gala. Photo: Mary Michaels, Photographer

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Supporter, Joe Mollica and his grandchildren dedicate the new potting shed for D&R Greenway's Native Plant Nursery in memory of his wife, Mary Jean.



Three of eight 2011 Interns. Pictured: Kimberlee Davies, Peter Smith and Sonja Favaloro.

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MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of Mollie Batey: Institute for Advanced Study In memory of Candace Boetsma: Garrett & Renee Boetsma In memory of Tiny Carrillo: Elizabeth Patton In memory of Edward T. Cone: Nini & Ledlie Borgerhoff

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In memory of Ralph Copleman:

HONORARY GIFTS

In honor of Ilene Dube: Everett Schlawin

In honor of James Everett, Sr.: Deborah Hill

In honor of Larry Filler & Nancy Johnson: Ann Summer

In honor of Bill & Louise Flemer: Louise Gross

In honor of Friends of Deb Kilmer: Deb Kilmer

In honor of Friends of Carolyn Edelmann: Carolyn Edelmann

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In honor of the Helde & D'Alessandro Families of Hopewell: Joseph & Hellin Desiderio

In honor of David & Karen Holmes: Tonya Parnak

In honor of Leslie Davis Potter: Gail Heinzman, James & Claire Orr, Julie Orr, Kari Spaeth, Peter Yeager

In honor of Jared Rosenbaum: Master Gardeners of Mercer County, Dorothy Shepard

In honor of Rebecca Sachs Mackey: David Mackey In honor of Philip & KathyAnn Tunison: Audra Tunison

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Emily Blackman, Charles Evans Future Conservation Leader, Rutgers University Kimberlee Davies, University of

Oklahoma Celestine Farrell, Raritan Valley

Community College Sonja Favaloro, Bates College

Kiana Simpson, Trenton Catholic Academy

Peter Smith, Princeton University Michael Tanis, Rutgers University Eric Teitelbaum, Princeton University

D&R Greenway Welcomes New Trustees and Celebrates Retiring Trustees

D &R Greenway Land Trust is proud to welcome three new members onto its Board of Trustees as we also celebrate the contributions of three retiring members.

Robin McConaughy, manager and co-owner with her husband Jon of Double Brook Farm, LLC, a sustainable, all-natural livestock and vegetable operation, brings expertise in marketing as well as first-hand farm experience.



Robin McConaughy

The McConaughys are raising grassfed Devon cattle in Hopewell. They are a partner at D&R Greenway's St. Michaels Farm Preserve, where they lease farmland for rotational grazing of their cows, sheep and chickens. This spring they plan to open Brick Farm Market and Brick Farm Tavern, creating a full farm-to-table operation. The store and restaurant will sell locally-raised products from their farm.

Prior to her farming career, Robin co-founded a sports media firm and served as Vice President of an executive search firm. Her grandfather was Peter Cook, an accomplished artist with a large farm in Kingston, N.J. A Princeton University hockey coach, Cook is known for paintings of hockey players on Carnegie Lake, including legendary Princeton University hockey player Hobey Baker. Carrying on the family tradition, Robin plays ice hockey in a competitive women's league.

A long-time supporter of D&R Greenway, Robin says she joined the board because she has seen how the organization "works at making every dollar of support go toward land preservation, education and making the community aware of the need to conserve land. It's something you have to do. No one's making any more land—once the land is gone, it's gone forever."

Robin says she is grateful to be a beneficiary of the good work done by D&R Greenway in the community where she lives and works.

Dave Reynolds, a managing partner of The Princeton Eye Group, first became involved with D&R Greenway when he assisted with fundraising for the St. Michaels Farm Preserve, hosting events in his home. He is a committed outdoor enthusiast, antique barn collector and part-time farmer as well as a neighbor to the St. Michaels Farm Preserve. He is motivated to spread the word about the importance of land preservation. "I joined the D&R Greenway Board because I believe it is each generation's firm responsibility to leave succeeding generations a better world," says Dave. "The organization's mission of conservation and preservation helps to achieve that obligation. Further, it intuitively appeals to me to participate in the permanent preservation of lands that help achieve a sustainable balance in our world."



Dave Reynolds, M.D.



Christopher DeGrezia, Esq.

Christopher DeGrezia, an attorney who works with past Board Chairman Rich Goldman at Drinker Biddle & Reath, LLP, has lent his legal expertise to open space transactions for D&R Greenway and Montgomery Friends of Open Space. In his new role as trustee, Christopher will become more involved in the overarching strategy for land preservation. His practice focuses on complex transactions and guidance for governmental entities including municipal committees, planning and zoning boards. He is past president of the Princeton Bar Association.

"As a land use attorney, I've been assisting D&R Greenway pro bono for over 10 years and have had the opportunity to see first-hand the wonderful things they do," he says, citing the St. Michaels and Salem County preservation achievements. He has observed the stumbling blocks municipalities have faced, and how D&R Greenway has served as a catalyst for preservation projects that might otherwise not have happened. "The preservation of land is so important for future generations, and I'm excited and honored to get involved."

Retiring members of the board

D&R Greenway honors Ashton Harvey, who joined the board in 1997. A member of the Taplin Circle with his wife Marion, Ash is frequently seen at D&R Greenway events. "Ash has played a significant role on our Executive Committee. He chaired the Audit committee, has provided critical service on Investment and Budget committees, served on the Stewardship Committee, and at one time assisted with monitoring of easements," says Alan Hershey, D&R Greenway Board Chair. "Importantly, the Board has asked Ash to help us establish a new committee of Strategic Advisors, where he will serve in an ongoing role."

"It's been a long stretch," says Ash.
"I became involved because of the
nature of the conservation work and
felt I could add financial expertise to
the research and tactical work people
were already doing. I quickly became
involved in the spirit of what they do.
The organization has great leadership,
a great staff with interesting and
challenging jobs. It was remarkable
and fun to be a part of a board that did
such good work, so I stuck around."

Bob Harris retired from the Board at the end of 2011 after six years. He and his wife Stephanie preserved their family farm with D&R Greenway in 2005. As a landowner with a personal commitment to preservation, Bob understood the value that D&R Greenway provides—for landowners and to the community. After preserving

his land, Bob joined the Board during negotiations for the purchase of the St. Michaels Farm Preserve. He played a critical role with his company ENVIRON, Inc.

D&R Greenway President & CEO Linda Mead, who worked closely on this effort for six years to bring it to fruition, speaks of his contribution, "There is no doubt that Bob's gift of pro bono expertise made this dream a reality. He led us through the myriad of environmental assessments and approvals necessary to get to closing."

In yet another act of generosity, Bob and Stephanie made a significant gift to D&R Greenway that named the Neil Upmeyer Partnership Room at the Johnson Education Center. This is the very place where the Board of Trustees gathers to strategize how to make an effective impact on preservation of the landscape.

Tom Poole is a retired marketing executive who joined D&R Greenway's Board of Trustees in 1993 when it was still a relatively young and unknown organization. With Tom's guidance, D&R Greenway became a household name among New Jersey environmentalists and is now recognized widely throughout the

State. As former Chair of the Outreach Committee, Tom created the message and the tools to get the word out about goals and accomplishments, and the benefits they bring to everyone who lives and works in the region. Tom is being modest as he says, "I am grateful to D&R Greenway for letting me participate and having the chance to watch the organization and its accomplishments flourish. Wow! I never realized it has been so long (referring to his near 20 years on the Board). What is the old saw? Time flies when you're having fun. And it has been fun, rewarding fun. The principal reason why, of course, is the wonderful people one gets to work with: staff, the Board and other volunteers." D&R Greenway is grateful to Tom for all he has done over the years to make it a better organization.

New Jersey is a better place—forever—thanks to the impact of each and every one of these individuals, and their personal commitment. A well-known statement by anthropologist Margaret Mead says it all, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

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. Their gift benefits 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.

Founding Members of the EverGreen Circle (in alphabetical order)

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Multi-Year Pledges

W e 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 2011 Anonymous Charlie & Demi Ashton Rosemary & David Blair Shirley & Brian Breuel Derek Bridger & Roxanne Mancherje François & Sheila Johnson Brütsch* Norman & Lisa Callaway Angelo A. Carnevale Joyce Copleman Thomas & Kathleen Dallessio Shawn & Roberta Ellsworth Jerry & Andrea Farber Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Figge The Alex & Laura Hanson Charitable Gift Fund John & Margaret Harper Bob & Stephanie Harris Alan Hershey & Phyllis Frakt'

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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 2011, our Native Plant Nursery volunteers planted and cared for close to 12,000 native plants. These trees, shrubs, ferns, grasses and wildflowers are being used to restore native landscapes on D&R Greenway preserves, on partner lands such as Baldpate Mountain and in our supporters' own landscape.

Our New Jersey Trails volunteers cleared many miles of trails that contribute to a greenway network through our region. They collect information in the field to support the maps and field guides that D&R Greenway makes available on 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.

D&R Greenway preserves require careful tending to remove invasive species, restore habitats and maintain trails among other tasks. 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.

Willing Hands support special events, art openings and educational programs at the Johnson Education Center and in the community. They generously ensure the preparation and mailing of the latest information about D&R Greenway activities and seasonal fund-raising drives. Willing Hands members regularly archive press coverage, so that it is up-to-date and available to staff, visitors and donors. Our community of committed volunteers greatly enhances D&R Greenway's success in fulfilling our preservation and stewardship mission.

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.

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Simcha Rudolph

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Be Inspired by Art

Upcoming Exhibits in the Marie L. Matthews Gallery at D&R Greenway's Johnson Education Center

Babbling Brooks and Silent Springs

March 5 through May 4, 2012

This exhibit gives a voice to the fleeting and ephemeral nature of water to evoke the beauty of soothing streams that carry us to still lakes and ponds of reflection.

Sound inspired by water is incorporated into the exhibit with the opportunity to enjoy both poetry and song.

Also featured: "Voices for the Marsh," a juried photography show focusing on the Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh.



Trout Lily (Erythronium americanum)



Announcing the Inaugural Exhibit of the Vawter Decoy Collection

On permanent display at the Johnson Education Center, generously donated by Jay Vawter, this collection features a rotating variety of beautifully crafted decoys.

Water, Water Everywhere: A Juried Poetry Reading

Thursday, April 12, 2012, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Reception sponsored by Scott and Hella McVay

Surrounded by historic beams and warm wood, the art and the poetry draws attention to a critical resource—water—a substance that sustains all life.

Decoys and Dessert: A Special Lecture and Reception

Wednesday, April 25, 2012, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Presented by Jay Vawter and Charlie Leck, Ph.D.

Enjoy dessert while you learn about the decoys, their carvers and the interesting habits of ducks.

Crossing Cultures

May 14 – *July* 27, 2012

Opening Reception: Wednesday, May 23, 2012, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

From all corners of the earth to all corners of the canvas, the Crossing Cultures exhibit will bring together a diverse and rich variety of artistic traditions, all expressing the artists' relationship to his or her local environment. Experience how artists and musicians from different cultures, and from different perspectives, think global and act local.

Planned for Fall 2012

The following exhibits will be featured at the Johnson Education Center in September, October, and November:

- Sustainable Harvest Art Exhibit
- Urban Landscapes Art Exhibit



(Matteuccia struthlopteris)

Events take place at the Johnson Education Center and are open to all. For Gallery hours and to RSVP for the Receptions and Poetry Reading, please send a message to rsvp@drgreenway.org or call (609) 924-4646.





One Preservation Place Princeton, New Jersey 08540 Tel (609) 924-4646, Fax (609) 924-5577 www.drgreenway.org

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.

Executive Assistant

Randy Pease, Esq.

James C. Amon

Land Preservation Specialist

Director of Stewardship

Deb Kilmer

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Don't miss a step—come on out for D&R Greenway's

Upstairs Downstairs Earth Ball

Friday evening, May 18, 6:30 p.m.–11:00 p.m. Hosted by Emily and Johan Firmenich at Eastbrook Farm on Mountain View Road in Princeton

Committee Co-Chairs, Emily Firmenich and Robin McConaughy

Celebrate land preservation with a TGISpring cocktail on the tennis court! Enjoy Sunset Views of preserved land from the "upstairs" deck of a one-of-a-kind "pool house"! Dance under the stars to Bill Flemer's Riverside Bluegrass Band on the "downstairs" patio!

Denim, boots—and tennis whites optional—make for a fun and casual evening you won't soon forget!

All proceeds benefit the land preservation and stewardship mission of D&R Greenway. For more details, call (609) 924-4646.

