THE MASHANTUCKET LAND TRUST INC. · 1968 ·

MASHANTUCKET TRAILS

P.O. Box 49
Old Mystic, Connecticut 06372

DEDICATED TO PRESERVING LAND AND WILDLIFE HABITATS

SPRING 1990

EARTH DAY 20

Twenty years ago the first Earth Day was a major event in the awakening of concern for the earth's environment. This year's Earth Day 20 is time to rejoice in the natural areas preserved in Southeastern Connecticut and to take stock of our responsibilities and concerns and the task ahead to ensure the same for future generations.

"We did not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children."

Come and Celebrate Earth Day 20 With us

The Mashantucket Land Trust is taking part in three events on Earth Day. Take this opportunity to enjoy the natural beauty that is ours in Ledyard, Mystic, and North Stonington. Others events are scheduled for the following weekend to wind up a glorious celebration of Earth Week. Please join us as we join with other organizations for this special week.

Earth Day, Sunday, April 22

Ledyard -- 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. -- Walks on the Avery Preserve, Glacial Park, and White-Hall Park and Forest.

Guides will be at all sites. Continuous bus service will run from the Dow Chemical Company parking lot to the walk sites; the last bus will leave at 3:00 p.m. Refreshments will be available. Porta-johns will be located at each site. Watch The Compass and The Day for details. Advance registration is preferred to help in planning for bus service.

Mystic -- 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. -- Earth Day Festival at The Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, Pequotsepos Road.

The Mashantucket Land Trust will have a display. Nature and archaeology walks, including a walk by Dr. William Niering of Connecticut College, will be led on the Nature Center property. Many children's activities and adult exhibits, lectures, and workshops are planned. Cooking with grains and other foods low on the food chain will be demonstrated. Healthy and delicious food will be available.

The Nature Center Store is featuring Earth Day items and environmental products, including string bags and tote bags. Admission charge: $3.00. Children under 12: free with small fees for some activities.

North Stonington -- 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. -- Join the North Stonington Citizens' Land Alliance for guided walks on the Eleanor and Flood Reed Memorial Woodlands or selected North Stonington roads.

You are asked to bring your camera to record the beauty of North Stonington on this special Earth Day. Meet at the North Stonington Grange and car pool to the walk sites at 1:30 p.m. If you plan to walk on the Flood and Eleanor Reed Memorial Woodlands on Northwest Corner Road, meet there at 1:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to return to the Grange for refreshments, music, brief presentations, and surprise gifts at 3:00 p.m. after the walks.

Other Earth Week Events

Saturday, April 28 -- 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon -- The Nature Conservancy Field Trips on 30 nature preserves across the state.

Land Trust Vice President and Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center instructor Ms. Maggie Philbrick is leading the walk on the **Poquetanuck Cove Preserve,** recently donated to The Nature Conservancy by the late Miss Desire Parker. An knowledgeable birder and botanist, Ms. Philbrick will follow the gentle trail through a mixed hardwood forest on the south side of Poquetanuck Cove. The preserve is well marked on Avery Hill Road, Ledyard (starts at Cider Mill Road in Preston).

Sunday, April 29 -- Perry Natural Area and Randall's Ordinary

7:30 a.m. -- Wake-up Spring walk on the Perry Natural Area on North Anguilla Road, Stonington, followed by

9:30 a.m. -- Breakfast from the open hearth at Randall's Ordinary. Reservations and advance payment are required. Adults, $13.00; children, $6.50. (Call Anne Nalwalk, 887-5878) Followed by

10:30 or 11:00 a.m. -- Late Sleeper's walk on the Perry Natural Area atarting at Randall's Ordinary, Route 2, North Stonington. You are welcome on any combination of these activities or just a walk.

"MASHANTUCKET" IS A PEQUOT INDIAN WORD DENOTING A WELL-WOODED COUNTRY.

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ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 16, 1990
Blonder Pavilion and Recreation Area
Colonel Ledyard Park, Ledyard, CT*

4:30 p.m. -- Bring your family and enjoy the play area and ball field
6:00 p.m. -- Picnic supper -- bring your own -- Bring a dessert to share
7:00 p.m. Annual Meeting -- Nominations and Election of Directors -- Brief Reports --- Discussion

*Colonel Ledyard Park is on the west side of Colonel Ledyard Highway, Ledyard, 0.6 mile south of its intersection with Route 117 and 3.7 miles north of its intersection with Route 184.

The format of the Annual Meeting is being changed to allow more time to discuss the Land Trust and to let us hear from you. How are we doing? How would you like to help us? What would you like to see the Land Trust doing?

In previous years, in spite of some excellent programs, the Annual Meeting has not been very well attended by membership. We hope that this relaxed format will provide the opportunity to visit and share ideas, while avoiding the expense of a formal program and setting.

We know you are there and support the Land Trust -- your dues and generous gifts tell us that. We look forward to seeing you May 16

Ledyard Walks

The Avery Preserve on Avery Hill Road is owned by the Mashantucket Land Trust and features gentle woodlands walks of varying lengths by streams and stone walls.

The Glacial Park of Whalehead Road, owned by the Town of Ledyard, has a kettle hole and a rugged boulder moraine left by the glacier.

White-Hall Park and Forest, 0.5 mile south of Route 2 on Shewville Road, is also owned by the Town of Ledyard. Part of the Sidney Hall farm, this park has fields, ponds, woodlands, and uplands. From the bluffs you can see Lantern Hill, Preston Plains, and the surrounding farmland in Ledyard and Preston.

Flood and Eleanor Reed Memorial Woodlands

This rugged, 111.8-acre parcel was given to the Mashantucket Land Trust in December 1989 by the four heirs of the Reeds. Since the first walk in January, several trails have been marked and cleared. Some of the walk may be exploring Main Brook, the many rock outcrops, and the other special places in this remarkable parcel.

The preserve is located on Northwest Corner Road, North Stonington, about 1.5 miles east of Route 164 and 3.5 miles west of Route 201. Parking is on the grassy area beside the road.