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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 26, 2025

TRANSFER OF FOUNDERS PRESERVE FROM TOWN OF LEDYARD

- 334 Colonel Ledyard Highway Tract – .4 acres
- 332 (rear piece) Colonel Ledyard Highway Tract – 89 acres

Mystic, CT, August 26, 2025-

Avalonia Land Conservancy, Inc. has received an important former mill pond and surrounding habitat of wetland and mature growth forest in a transfer from the Town of Ledyard. The large greenway parcel had been slated for a development that was not completed and was foreclosed on by the Town. The Preserve, with wetlands that host nesting birds, will provide excellent opportunities for passive recreation and wildlife protection and viewing and is included in the Ledyard bow-hunting ordinance properties.

Avalonia Board President Dennis S. Main noted that “since this exceptional parcel was foreclosed on for back taxes by the Town of Ledyard, it has been a top priority for conservation by Avalonia. An MOU with the Town of Ledyard will allow for the continued deer bow hunting per Town ordinance in season, and for the protection of historic features on the site as well as protection of the nesting wading birds noted there (see photos.) A single-entry point will be established at 334 Colonel Ledyard Highway with an accessible parking area at the site where the Town removed a dilapidated building. Two of the first items to complete will be a forestry plan and a comprehensive habitat study. Like the recent Pike Marshall acquisition, this also feeds into Red Brook and ultimately to the Mystic River watershed area.”

Main further noted that “this parcel is the second large parcel recently obtained in Ledyard by Avalonia and contributes to an expanding greenway and blueway north to south and adds to a considerable amount of land previously conserved by Avalonia. This parcel had been trailed with well-maintained paths and wildlife viewing areas and will be retained as such in accordance with a Management Plan to be formalized over the next several months. It will include accessible parking at the primary entrance to the Preserve that will be constructed almost immediately.

This is another in a series of collaborations between the Town of Ledyard and Avalonia. Ledyard has transferred over a dozen parcels to Avalonia management and provided several open space grants to assist acquisition of high value conservation parcels. Volunteers will work to clear old woods trails and erect appropriate signage at the entrance to the Preserve.

This is another of more than a dozen expected closings on conservation tracts throughout New London County by the land conservancy during 2025.

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For more information about Avalonia, please contact Mary Anne Sherman via email at avalonialc@yahoo.com.





Photos by Dennis S. Main





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