



Avalonia Land Conservancy, Inc.
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AVALONIA LAND CONSERVANCY RECEIVES LAND DONATIONS IN NORTH STONINGTON AND PRESTON

Ledyard, CT, October 7, 2025:

Gift From Anne Nalwalk Adds Another 2.23 Acres To Deer Run Preserve

Avalonia Land Conservancy, Inc. has received another important conservation land donation from former Avalonia President Anne Nalwalk. This will augment her other four (4) contributions given in 1989, 1996, 2007, and 2024, that currently make up Deer Run Sanctuary and will bring the total preserve size to over 73 acres.

Anne Nalwalk was Avalonia's first female president and Avalonia's longest serving president, from 1986 to 2008. During her tenure, Avalonia grew from 600 acres to 2600. She also oversaw Avalonia's name change in 1995, from the original "Mashantucket Land Trust".

Avalonia board president Dennis S. Main noted "this is another shining example of Avalonia members supporting the organization in so many ways. Anne is not only a life member of Avalonia, but also one of our honorary life Board of Directors members and has adopted conservation as a 'lifestyle', not just as a membership role."

Land Donation From Margaret Jones, Trustee Adds Another 2.35 Acres To The Yannatos And Jones Nature Preserve, Avalonia's First North Stonington Preserve:

This parcel will expand the Robert O. Jones Tract of the preserve and protect important and historical aspects of the former mill site. Avalonia recently completed an accessible parking and fishing site improvement there and is planning an enhanced bridging to the rear of the Preserve.

Gift From James A. Mattern Grantor Retained Income Trust Adds 5.09 Acres Conserved In Perpetuity In Preston:

Avalonia has added an important parcel abutting the Preston Town Hall property to its protected spaces. This strategic parcel protects wetland habitat, open cropland field and forest. It also abuts a large farmland tract of over 150 acres.



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These are three of nearly a dozen conservation tract acquisition transactions closed throughout New London County by the land conservancy this year.



Anne Nalwalk 2024



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Anne Nalwalk in 1989 putting up the sign for Deer Run Preserve