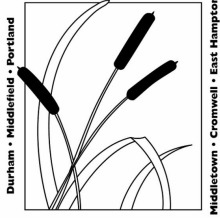


MIDDLESEX



LAND TRUST

The MIDDLESEX LANDSCAPE

Serving the towns of Durham, Middlefield, Middletown, Cromwell, Portland, and East Hampton

Welcoming Our Incoming Executive Director

I am pleased to welcome Jeb Stevens to the Middlesex Land Trust as our new incoming Executive Director. Jeb shares my passion for land conservation and I know he will serve the land trust and our mission well.

Over the next few months I'll be working closely with Jeb to ensure a smooth transition of operations, and I am committed to supporting both Jeb and the land trust as he takes on his new responsibilities. I look forward to continuing to work with him on land acquisition and conservation projects as I step into a new role on the Board of Directors in the future.

Thank you for your continued support of the Middlesex Land Trust.

David Brown
Immediate Past Executive Director, Middlesex Land Trust

[Read a letter from Jeb Stevens...](#)

An Interfaith Celebration of Giving and Thanks

"Thanks & Giving," an interfaith celebration, will take place on Sunday, November 24, 2024, at 2:00 PM, at Trinity Episcopal Church, 345 Main Street, Portland. Featuring prayers, readings, and songs honoring Native Americans, the event includes guest speaker Gary O'Neil (Red Oak), a Wangunk Elder. A reception with coffee, tea, and cookies will follow. Offerings will benefit the Middlesex Land Trust and Portland Food Pantry. For more, visit trinitychurchportlandct.org or call 860-342-2860. [Download Flyer](#)

AN INTERFAITH CELEBRATION OF
Giving AND Thanks
IN HONOR OF NATIVE AMERICANS
original caretakers of all that is in, on, and above this land
November 24, 2024 | 2:00 PM
Trinity Episcopal Church
345 Main Street, Portland
PRAYERS, READINGS & SONG
GUEST SPEAKER: Gary O'Neil (Red Oak), Wangunk Elder
Representatives from: Bahá'í, Congregational, Episcopal, Jewish,
Lutheran, Methodist, Native American,
Roman Catholic, True Vine Holiness
ALL ARE WELCOME
Reception with Coffee, Tea and Cookies to follow Celebration
Contact 860-342-2860 or www.trinitychurchportlandct.org for further information
Collection/Offering for Middlesex Land Trust
and Non-Perishable Food Collection for the Portland Food Pantry

Fall Birds

Until a few days ago, the crickets were still chirping, but it was clear that change was on its way. Fall is a quiet time in the woods, and the once-background ring of crickets comes to the foreground as other sounds drop away, and everything quiets in preparation for winter. As the ferns senesce to a pale yellow, the quality of the light changes, and the smell of mildewing leaves drifts up from the ground. The sun is still warm, but the light streams in at a weaker angle.



Collins Preserve - Photo by Catie Resor

The other day, we spotted a lone thrush quietly moving through the undergrowth. Those that have lingered are all business, filling up for the long journey south. Although the chorus of birdsong of summer is past, you can still find yourself occasionally surrounded by raucous bands of chickadees, titmice, and nuthatches as they pass through the landscape. [Read more...](#)

Invest in the future of our planet. Join or renew your membership today.

Become a member!

Highland Pond Preserve Work Party Recap

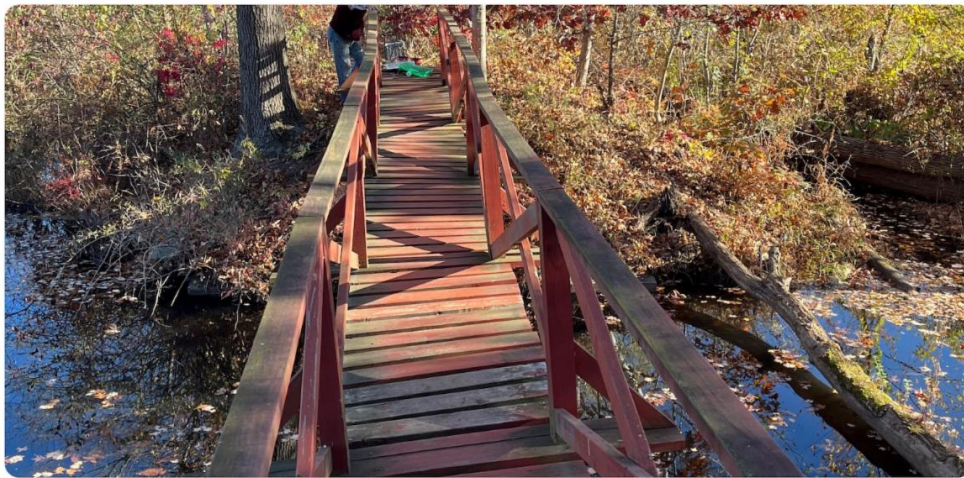
To the sound of helicopters flying in and out of the forest fire battle in Berlin, our dedicated stewards recently took on a bridge-painting project.

Battling the cold and steady winds, they completed the task in three hours without a break, carefully prioritizing the bridge's rails, sides, and finally, its treads for a fresh, resilient finish.

Thanks to their hard work, the bridge looks fantastic and is ready for years of use. We're grateful for the commitment and teamwork that keeps our trails and structures in top shape, even amid challenging conditions.



Here's to our stewards for another job well done!



The bridge: before and after

Help Us Care for Our Beautiful Preserves

We are always looking for new stewardship volunteers. No experience is necessary, and training will be provided. If you're interested in helping to care for Middlesex County's natural treasures, please contact the Land Trust at stewardship@middlesexlandtrust.org.

The Middlesex Land Trust is a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve open space in northern Middlesex County (Durham, Middlefield, Middletown, Cromwell, Portland, and East Hampton).

Board of Directors

Ralph Urban, Marlborough (*Chair*) • Jon Porzuc, Enfield (*Vice-Chair*) • Nicole Lee, Cromwell (*Treasurer*) • Andrew Meigs, Durham (*Secretary*) • Doug Bonoff, East Hampton • Chris Dibble, Cromwell • Thomas Heidel, East Hampton • William Howard, Middletown • John LeShane, Portland • Kate Miller, Middletown • Catie Resor, East Hampton • Matt Marrotte, Middletown (*Alternate*)

Staff

Jeb Stevens, *Executive Director*

The Middlesex Land Trust, Inc.
860-343-7537
info@middlesexlandtrust.org

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