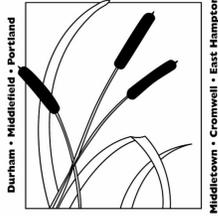


MIDDLESEX



LAND TRUST

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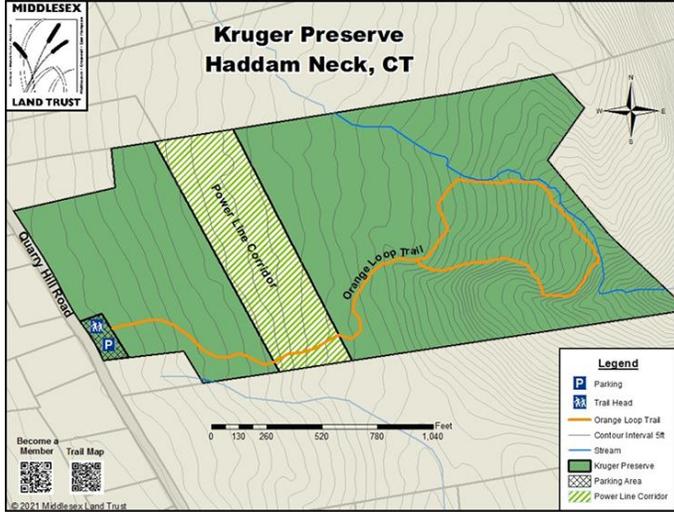


Kruger Preserve, Haddam Neck, in July

Heading into Autumn

The summer always goes by too fast, and this year was no exception – other than August, which seemed to exit in a particularly speedy fashion. The dog days gave way to rain, which continues to replenish our reservoirs and make things grow at an astronomical rate. Our Stewardship crew has been on a mission for the past few months, weed whacking, mowing, and trying to keep the trails accessible and presentable. The anticipated cooler temperatures will be a welcome change for the folks who have been doing this sweaty work!

The summer months were enjoyed, nonetheless. When doing trail work, we take time to observe and appreciate the nature that surrounds us. After installing a new kiosk with map at our Kruger Preserve in Haddam Neck, we were fortunate to spy blooming Canada Lily (*Lilium canadense*) and a beautiful eastern box turtle (*Terrapene carolina carolina*) along the trail. The trail cuts through the powerline corridor – a great birding environment – and continues as a loop into the preserve, taking in various small stream crossings and peaceful waterfalls along a tributary that feeds Pine Brook. Check it out and see what you can find!



Annual Meeting – October 2, 2021

You are invited to join us for our Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 2, at 9:30 AM at the deKoven House in Middletown. Come hear Amy Blaymore Paterson, Executive Director of the Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC), share her passion, knowledge, and infectious enthusiasm for land conservation. (OK, maybe we should avoid the word "infectious.") Amy has been CLCC's Executive Director since its inception in 2010.

The meeting will be held outside under a tent in front of the deKoven House. In the event of bad weather, we will move the meeting inside and masks will be required. If the deKoven House parking area fills up, there is plenty of parking in the adjacent Town of Middletown public parking area.

Don't forget to bring your hiking shoes and water bottle! After the meeting, we will be heading out to enjoy the land we work so hard to protect.

Sellew Preserve 20th Anniversary

In 2001, when MxLT was just over a decade old, the Sellew Preserve, a 37-acre property in East Hampton abutting the Air Line Trail with access at the end of Dogwood Drive, was acquired. The purchase was made possible due to a confluence of circumstances and actions: sellers who wanted to keep the land from being developed; generous donations from MxLT donors and neighbors in the area (every household on Dogwood Drive contributed to the effort); the award of a matching state grant; and the outright persistence of Alan Hurst, MxLT Board Chairman at the time, to make it all happen.

And happen it did! Twenty years later, Alan invited the sellers of the property – the Phil and Giout families (the preserve was named to honor their ancestors, the Sellew family) – along with other people who use the preserve, to commemorate the occasion. In addition, Alan gave a very generous \$1,000 donation to MxLT's Stewardship efforts and suggested we use it as a match challenge to our membership. Our Board members and Executive Director thought that was a great idea, and they contributed another \$1,000 to increase the match challenge to our membership to \$2,000. Consider yourself challenged! **Please contribute to the Stewardship fund to have your donation doubled with this match.** Help keep our preserves protected and

accessible!



Left: Former Board Chair Alan Hurst presents current Board Chair, Stu Winquist, with donation. Right: Stu Winquist presents the Phil and Giout families with MxLT swag.

Keeping it in the Family: General John Hoar Preserve, Portland

Several descendants of Brigadier General John Hoar undertook a sign rehab project at this little gem of a preserve, which is located at the intersection of Cox and South Roads in Portland.

Donated in his memory in 1993 by his widow, Luva Hoar, this preserve is a delight to visit, a quiet spot to watch Carr Brook flow by. Hoar family members, who visit the preserve regularly recalling their younger days spent on the property, noted the aging sign and offered to refurbish it. The sign was removed and placed in the capable hands of Joe Lovett, who repainted and repaired the structure. He also thoughtfully preserved the original sign, an Eagle Scout project by Robbie Rosenthal, on the reverse side. It was truly a family affair to reinstall the sign in a more prominent location. Thanks to the Hoar family for their much appreciated efforts!



From left to right: Paul Hoar (son) of S. Glastonbury; Matt Hoar (grandson) of Santa Cruz, CA; Jason Hoar (grandson) and Kingston Hoar (great-grandson) of San Antonio, TX; Joe Lovett (son-in-law) of Marlborough; Syris Sciremammano (great-grandson) of Colchester; Jackie Lovett (daughter) and Casey Lovett (great-grandson) of Marlborough.

As a member-supported volunteer organization, we depend on your support.

[Donate Now!](#)

Women's Hikes at Mica Ledges Preserve

on October 10th and 12th

Join Director of Everyone Outside, Mica Ledges Preserve steward, and naturalist, Lucy Meigs for a 3- to 4-mile hike at Mica Ledges. The hike will include a beautiful new section of the Mattabesett that winds up the ridge from Pyramid Rock. Hikers will also get to enjoy the view from the ledges and the reflections of fall leaves in Whitney Pond. This hike is part of [Everyone Outside's Women of the Woods](#) program.



To keep the group small, Lucy is offering this hike on both **Sunday, October 10, at 2 PM** and **Tuesday, October 12, at 9 AM**. Meet at the Mica Ledges parking lot at the south end of Cream Pot Road in Durham. Registration is required. To register and for more information about these and other Everyone Outside offerings, see [the event calendar on their website](#) or contact Lucy Meigs at Lucy@EveryoneOutside.org.

Ambling with Alan

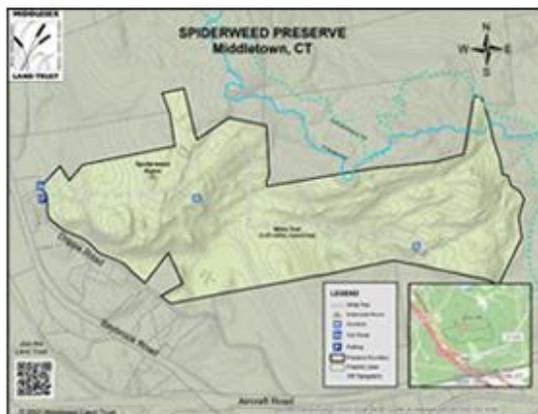
Our very own Steward, former Chair of the MxLT Board, and hike leader extraordinaire, Alan Hurst, is scheduling hikes on two properties in the next couple of months. If you have an interest in experiencing their beauty and learning more about these preserves that you have helped to protect, **please contact Alan at 860-510-3870** and plan to join him for the following:

Spiderweed Preserve, Middletown – Friday, November 5 at 9:00 AM

A 5-mile hike around Spiderweed Preserve from the trailhead off Dripps Road in Middletown. Hiking boots are recommended. Bring water and snacks. Kids and well-managed dogs are welcome. Steady rain cancels.

Air Line State Park Trail to Sellew Preserve, East Hampton – Tuesday, November 16 at 9:00 AM

Starting at the Cranberry Bog parking lot off Smith Street in East Hampton, explore the Sellew Preserve from the Air Line Trail entrance. Hiking boots are recommended. Bring water and snacks. Kids and well-managed dogs are welcome. Hike will be 5 miles on mostly level ground. Steady rain cancels.



**open space in northern Middlesex County (Durham, Middlefield, Middletown,
Cromwell, Portland, and East Hampton).**

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