



# The Land Trust News

## Kuchta Family Fen Dedicated at Annual Dinner

Our annual dinner was held on May 14<sup>th</sup>. President Al Fiorillo presented a plaque to Bob Kuchta to commemorate naming the land trust's bog property in honor of the Kuchta family. Mr. Kuchta discovered the fen, also referred to as a bog, when he was a boy. His discovery deepened his interest in nature and science and eventually he studied the fen for his thesis for his Master's degree.

We were delighted that Mr. Kuchta was able to speak of his lifelong interest at our meeting. A duplicate plaque was made for his parents, as they were instrumental in preserving the bog and in helping the land trust.



Bob Kuchta accepting plaque from Al Fiorillo

## New Nature Series on our Website

Each month our website, [www.southingtonlandtrust.org](http://www.southingtonlandtrust.org), will feature a plant or tree of the month and a bird or animal. This will be a great way to learn more about our local flora and fauna.

## Welcome New Members!

We are delighted to welcome:  
Marissa Drivdahl,  
Sal Magnano  
Chet & Ginny Protrepka  
Steve Theriault

## Check Us Out!

Look at our website, come to a meeting, join us at a work party, make a donation!

[www.Southingtonlandtrust.org](http://www.Southingtonlandtrust.org)  
P.O. Box 369,  
Southington, CT 06489

## Christmas Tree Collection a Success

Our annual Christmas tree recycling fundraiser was the most successful ever! 90 trees were collected by our members and recycled into wood chips. Residents donated \$15 per tree.

Home Depot delivered their unsold trees to the chipping site, which provided bonus income. Thanks to all who helped!

## Tree I. D. Trail Begun

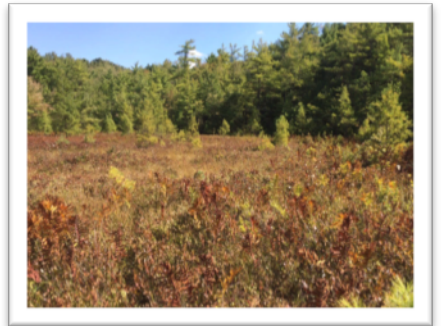
Fred Murray has begun labeling trees on a tree identification trail created by Fred with Val Guarino. This project was Fred's idea and he obtained and installed the labels. Great work, Fred!

## Earth Day Clean Up

Land trust members joined with town residents to clean up invasive plants along the linear trail.

## Foresters Evaluate Property

We have been very fortunate to have the assistance of the UConn Extension Foresters in evaluating our properties and making plans for their preservation and improvement. Forester Nancy Marek has inventoried tree species, etc. and has helped us apply for grants to eliminate non-native invasive plants and improve habitat for wildlife. We expect to learn soon if we are going to receive grant funds. Ms. Marek is very interested in the fen and plans to study it and make a film about her findings.



## Save Undeveloped Property

SLCT invites any or all people to will their undeveloped property to the Land Trust or give it in the form of a Conservation easement. You can conserve this property in perpetuity and it will be preserved for all time. You will be recognized for your donation and appreciated for your improvement to the Town of Southington. Please contact Bill Knoegel at (860) 621-5217 with any questions.