

Take a healing walk outdoors



Take a healing walk in nature at the Norwalk Land Trust's Farm Creek Preserve, above, at 34 Sammis Street, or the White Barn Preserve, right, at 70 Cranbury Road. Both are open dawn to dusk; please practice social distancing and always leash pets.

*"Nature is doing her best
each moment to make us well.
Why, nature is but another
name for health."*

— Henry David Thoreau



BEHIND THE SCENES



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Norwalk Land Trust
News is published by
the Norwalk Land
Trust.

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Above, Amy Paterson, Executive Director of the CT Land Conservation Council, leads the NLT annual board of directors retreat January 11. Directors discussed long-term priorities and process improvements.

Right, NLT President D. Seeley Hubbard addresses the Norwalk Conservation Commission in December, in opposition to a developer's request to modify a Norwalk conservation easement to facilitate a project in Westport. The commission denied the request in January.



Despite the pandemic, conservation work continues, guided by NLT board Zoom meetings. Left to right from top, directors Peggy Holton, Bob Welsh, Lisa Shanahan, Tammi Lazarus, Midge Kennedy, Connie Bennett, Lynne Pratt, Bill Wrenn, D. Seeley Hubbard, and Rich Baskin participate in the July 14 board meeting.

EDUCATION



Throughout the summer, Land Trust volunteers welcomed Norwalk Maritime Aquarium day campers to the Farm Creek Preserve, where they learned the function and benefits of tidal estuaries. Above, aquarium educator Lisa Pinney leads youth on a tour July 23.

Far left, a camper wrings water out of her shoe after washing off estuary mud. Left, campers played a game in which the two girls in the foreground had to maintain a straight face as everyone else tried to make them laugh.



Campers had their temperatures taken before leaving the aquarium, and wore masks during the van ride to and from the preserve.



A day camper practices tree hugging during a July 9 visit.

STEWARDSHIP



Volunteer Susan Carlson clears invasive vines at the Farm Creek Preserve July 15 during a regular work session. “I’ve found that violence works,” in helping remove the persistent plants, Carlson said. She is a master gardener and a much-appreciated fixture at weekly work sessions, where volunteers can take their frustrations out on invasives; email info@norwalklandtrust.org to join.

NLT President D. Seeley Hubbard places a stake marking the desired location for an American Chestnut Tree sapling in the White Barn Preserve. Public relations guru Marven Moss donated six trees as part of a larger effort to repopulate the species, which was left nearly extinct by a blight during the first half of the 20th century. The young trees are blight-resistant. “The chestnut tree was a part of my youth in Canada - we would play a game in October called Congers,” which involved tying chestnuts to strings, Moss said. “I thought it would be a fitting memorial to my late mother and father,” Annie and Bill Moss.



GROWTH PROJECTS



Above, Paul Buellesbach of Norwalk Boy Scout Troop 222 (third from left) peers out from behind a wood duck house he built and installed on the White Barn Preserve as part of his Eagle Scout service project. Buellesbach added two wood duck houses, two bee houses, and two bat houses to support these vital species. He also improved the trail by the pond.

Left, Oliver McGovern of Norwalk Boy Scout Troop 14 waters a newly-planted American Chestnut tree on the former tennis court at the White Barn Preserve. For his Eagle Scout service project, McGovern led fellow scouts as they cleared the space of weeds and invasives, and planted trees. NLT directors Kate Davies and Lynne Pratt erected the wire fencing. Mature trees can grow to 100 feet tall, and provide food for humans and wildlife.

IN MEMORIAM



Peter Law served as an NLT board member from 2005-2012, and chaired the acquisitions committee during major purchases of the Farm Creek and White Barn Preserves.



Michael Poler was on the NLT board from 2004-2011. Poler placed signage at all NLT properties, and served on the stewardship, finance, and audit committees.



John Verel was chair of Norwalk's Conservation Commission, and participated in countless NLT events. He was the husband of longtime board member Mary Verel.



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Facebook.

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share promotes
Norwalk
conservation.

Thank you!





**NORWALK
LAND TRUST**

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Fall 2020

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