



MANCHESTER LAND CONSERVATION TRUST
FOUNDED 1972

Lombardo farm purchased by Manchester Land Conservation Trust

A major milestone took place on Friday, June 25, with the real estate closing for the 102-acre Lombardo farm in southwest Manchester and Glastonbury. The Land Trust thanks the community for the 119 donations that raised \$1,700,000 to preserve this open-space land. Donors came from far and wide: members, friends, neighbors, the State of Connecticut, Town of Manchester, Town of Glastonbury, and grant-making organizations: Fields Pond Foundation, Richard P. Garmany Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, Hartford Audubon Society, Meshomasic Hiking Club, and Summer Hill Foundation. Our biggest donations were from the Town of Manchester, \$900,000, the State of Connecticut, \$300,000, and a local resident, \$315,000. These 102 acres will increase our Bush Hill Preserve to 177 acres. Hikers, strollers, bird-watchers, nature lovers, book lovers now have even more room to roam. These natural acres, with their ponds, meadows, trees, and trails are open for the public's benefit — providing clean air, clean water, and habitat for plants and animals. Whether a relaxing stroll or a high-powered hike or run, our properties offer the opportunity to get out into the natural world. The Trust is in the process of planning new trails, signage, entrances, and parking.

The Trust invites the public to an informational walk to view the property on Saturday, July 17, at 1:00 p.m. Meet at 330 Bush Hill Road, Manchester, and drive along the winding dirt road to our starting-off point, and park at the red metal barn on the Land Trust's Bush Hill preserve. Or, arrive at 12:30 p.m., park in the lot at 330 Bush Hill Road, and walk in to the red metal barn, about a half mile. We'll take a walk along farm roads and a field to view the Lombardo meadows and forest. The farm roads are a bit bumpy, but not too steep. After viewing the vista into Glastonbury, you can go back to the parking area, a round trip of 0.6 miles, or continue along an alternative route of about 2 miles, with some steep and rough areas. The event will take about 45 to 90 minutes, depending on which walk you choose. Extreme weather cancels, but we will go if only light rain. Questions may be directed to info@manchesterlandtrust.org or phone Terry at 860-643-1823. Check our Facebook page for weather updates. Free. More info: www.manchesterlandtust.org.

Gretz Pond by Land Trust steward Brad Palmer.



Locator map.



