

Mon 9/23	7:30 pm	Watertown, CT	Watertown Land Trust	<i>Bears Among Us</i>
Sat 9/28	11 am – 3 pm	Middlebury, CT	Middlebury Land Trust	<i>Fenn's Farm Annual Farm Tour</i>
Sat 10/5	1-3 pm	Patterson, NY	Naromi Land Trust	<i>Hike into the Quarry in the Great Swamp*</i>
Sat 10/5	3-5 pm	Kent, CT	Kent Land Trust	<i>Explore Laurel Loop, Tobin Preserve</i>
Sat 10/5		Salisbury, CT	Salisbury Association Land Trust	<i>Photo Exhibit Opening</i>
Sat 10/5	7:30-9:30 pm	Washington, CT	Steep Rock Association	<i>Stargazing at the Macricostas Preserve*</i>
Sun 10/6	2 pm	Woodbury, CT	Flanders Nature Center & Land Trust	<i>Identifying Wild Mushroomst</i>
Sun 10/6	1 pm	Watertown, CT	Watertown Land Trust	<i>Hike Schienda Preserve</i>
Wed 10/9	10:30 am – 3 pm	Middlebury, CT	Middlebury Land Trust	<i>Hike at Foote Path</i>
Thurs 10/10	7 pm	Litchfield, CT	Litchfield, Morris, Goshen & Cornwall Land Trusts	<i>Invasive Plant Program</i>
Sat 10/12 (Rain date 10/13)	10 am – 3 pm	Southbury, CT	Pomperaug River Watershed Coalition	<i>Pomperaug River Festival</i>
Sat 10/12 (Rain date 10/13)	9 am 10:30 am	Southbury, CT	Southbury Land Trust	<i>Platt Farm Walk and Run Marc J. Taylor Memorial Greenway Dedication</i>
Sat 10/12	9 am	New Hartford, CT	New Hartford Land Trust	<i>Riverfront Invasive Plant Workshop*</i>
Sat 10/12	10 am - noon	Middlebury, CT	Flanders Nature Center & Land Trust	<i>Hike Whittemore Preserve</i>
Sun 10/13	12 noon – 3 pm	Sherman, CT	Naromi Land Trust	<i>Annual Picnic, Hadlow Preserve</i>
Sun 10/13		Roxbury, CT	Roxbury Land Trust	<i>Family Portrait Day*†</i>
Sun 10/13		Roxbury, CT	Roxbury Land Trust	<i>Hike Baldwin Preserve</i>
Sat 10/19 (Rain date 10/20)	1-4 pm	New Milford, CT	Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust	<i>Hike Kahn Preserve</i>
Sat 10/19	6-10 pm	New Hartford, CT	New Hartford Land Trust	<i>Fabulous Fall Frolic at Ski Sundown†</i>
Sun 10/20	4 pm	Roxbury, CT	Roxbury Land Trust	<i>Big Birds Around Us</i>
Sun 10/20	1-3 pm	Washington, CT	Steep Rock Association	<i>Guided Hike, Holiday House*</i>

*Pre-registration required

†Program Fee

Monday, September 23. 7:30 pm. Watertown Land Trust. Walker Hall on DeForest St., Watertown. CT. *Bears Among Us*. Presenting preliminary results of DNA study of the region's bears. Contact oaillhu@aol.com for more information.

Saturday, September 28. 11 am to 3 pm. Middlebury Land Trust & Friends of Fenn's Farm. *Fenn's Farm Annual Fall Farm Tour*. 55 Artillery Road, Middlebury, CT.

Saturday, October 5. 1 PM to 3 PM. *Hike into a limestone quarry on the edge of the Great Swamp*. Naromi Land Trust's monthly hike will be into a large limestone quarry on the edge of the Great Swamp. Gary Metcalf, head of the Patterson Quarry, will give a guided tour of this working property in nearby Patterson NY (near the intersection of Routes 22 and 311). The south-facing cut of the quarry is dry, white limestone with large boulders. But the north-facing cut is a hanging garden of vines and plants fed by seeps from the Great Swamp (start of the Croton River) at the top of the quarry. Fresh water reeds are even growing in the water at the bottom of the quarry. A truly unique place seldom open to the public. Last year this hike was oversubscribed, so pre-registration is requested by email to naromi@sbcglobal.net.

Saturday, October 5. 3-5 pm. Kent Land Trust. Explore the new *Laurel Loop at the Audrey and Robert Tobin Preserve in North Kent, CT*. The first of several linking trails in this new Preserve located at the terminus of Dugan Road in North Kent. Park just past the kiosk to join us for this family-friendly, 1.5 mile loop flanking a gentle streamcourse, navigating twisted laurel groves, and rejoining old wood roads.

Saturday, October 5. Salisbury Association Land Trust. Opening: *Town's Natural Resources Photo Exhibit* at the Academy Building, 24 Main Street, Salisbury (monthlong).

Saturday, October 5. 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM. Steep Rock Association. *Stargazing at the Macricostas Preserve, Washington, CT* (Must register at www.steeprockassoc.org).

Sunday, October 6. 1:00 PM. Watertown Land Trust. *Guided Hike of new Schienda Preserve* led by Jeremy Clark, Forester, who will explain forestland management with passive recreation trails.

Sunday, October 6. 2:00 PM. Flanders Nature Center & Land Trust. Woodbury, CT. *Identifying Wild Mushrooms*. *Stephanie Scavelli. Sugar House*. September and October is one of the best times locally for harvesting wild mushrooms. Learn how to identify edible, poisonous, and medicinal mushrooms, and where to find them. Please join us for this fun workshop as Stephanie Scavelli from the CT/Westchester Mycological Association teaches us the ecological benefits of fungi and how to recognize the differences between the various groups of mushrooms that grow in our area. \$12 members/\$15 members-to-be.

Wednesday, October 9. 10:30 AM to 3:00 PM. Foote Path. A 3-mile hike on a blazed Middlebury Land Trust trail that runs from Sperry Pond to Abbotts Pond. There are a number of geocaches along the trail (see www.geocaching.com for details). Families, leashed dogs, and geocachers are welcome. Some areas may be muddy. Shorter hike options are possible. There will be refreshments at the end for those who complete the hike. Meet at the Sperry Pond Preserve, on the west side of Route 63/Straits Turnpike (0.5 miles north of Park Road and 1 mile south of Bunker Hill Road). Drivers please use care turning into the driveway. A shuttle will be provided to return hikers to their cars. Sponsored by Middlebury Land Trust (middleburylandtrust.org). Heavy rain postpones to October 10, 10:30 AM. Pre-registration NOT NECESSARY. Questions: contact Wayne Foote, (203) 758-2854, foote.wayne@gmail.com.

Oct. 10, Thurs, 7 - 9PM Litchfield, Morris, Goshen, Cornwall Land Trusts at the Litchfield Community Center present *We're Being Invaded! Learn How To Protect Yourself, Your Family and The Environment* . Litchfield Community Center, 421 Bantam Road. Logan Senack holds a B.S. in Environmental Science from the University of Connecticut. He serves as the state's Invasive Plant Coordinator at the University of Connecticut, collaborating with others in many state agencies, including the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. He works on a variety of invasive plant activities, including public outreach, applied research, and early detection and monitoring programs. Jeffrey S. Ward, Ph.D., is Chief Scientist-Department of Forestry and Horticulture at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. Author of ninety papers, his research has focused on the dynamics of long-term herbaceous and tree populations, invasive species control, and forest management. He has been secretary of the CT Tree Protection Examination Board since 1998 and is an advisor to Audubon CT, CT State Vegetation Management Task Force, and the CT Endangered Species Committee. The event is free of charge and open to the public. For more information contact the Litchfield Land Trust at trustland@sbcglobal.net.

Saturday, October 12. 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Pomperaug River Watershed Coalition. 3rd Annual Pomperaug River Festival at Platt Farm in Southbury. (Rain date, Sun Oct. 13) Platt Farm, Flood Bridge Rd, Southbury. Come Celebrate Our Beautiful River! Fed by over 200 miles of streams and tributaries, the Pompearug River pulses through the hearts of the Southbury and Woodbury communities and provides our most vital resource: water. Festival activities will include dedication of the Pompearug River Greenway, a live trout demonstration, relay races, a mini-boat float, arts and crafts, games, exhibits, food, and much more.

Festival attendees are also encouraged to participate in the "Race for the River: 5K Run and Walk in Memory of Dr. Marc J. Taylor" that will take place simultaneously at Platt Farm. For more information, call PRWC at [203-263-0076](tel:203-263-0076) or visit www.pomperaug.org. Run/Walk and Greenway Dedication sponsored by the Southbury Land Trust

Saturday, October 12. 10AM-Noon Flanders Nature Center & Land Trust, *Wandering the Wonderful Whittemore* Explore this beautiful sanctuary that contains a range of ecological habitats including a large bog, beaver ponds, Lake Quassapaug frontage, streams, and rocky outcrops. Geoff Whan will guide this hike with some off trail bushwhacking where we are sure to discover some unknown treasures. We'll meet at the Whittemore Sanctuary parking area, just west of Quassy Amusement Park, Rte. 64, Middlebury.

Saturday, October 12: 9:00 a.m. New Hartford Land Trust Riverfront Invasive Plant Workshop at 62 Wickett Street (private back yard) in Pine Meadow section. Walk and learn with Betsy Corrigan, Biologist and Invasive Plant Specialist. E-mail newhartfordlandtrust@yahoo.com or call 860-626-0301 to register or for directions and information.

Sunday, October 13. 12 noon to 3 pm. Naromi Land Trust. *Annual Fall Picnic at the Hadlow Preserve*, Cozier Hill Road, Sherman. This is a family event. Bring a salad or dessert to share; Naromi provides burgers, hot dogs, chips, beverages. Special this year: James Eyring will be flying his birds of prey over the large fields. And bring your kites to fly when the birds are not in the sky! In case of bad weather the picnic will be relocated to the Lake Mauweehoo clubhouse; check the website www.naromi.org that morning. Call the Naromi office, 860-354-0260 for further information.

Sunday, October 13. Roxbury Land Trust. *Family Portrait Day*, contact Tom Hurlbut at tom@THPStudio.com to schedule; \$250 donation to the Roxbury Land Trust.

Sunday, October 13. Roxbury Land Trust. *Hike the Baldwin Preserve (self-guiding)*, access from Good Hill Rd/RT 317 or Lower County Rd.

Saturday, October 19. 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM. Rain date Sunday, Oct 20th. Hike and leaf-peep at the Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust's Kahn Preserve. The walk will take hikers from the banks of the West Aspetuck River to New Milford's highest point at the top of Bear Hill.

Saturday, October 19: 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. New Hartford Land Trust 2nd Annual Fall Frolic at Ski Sundown. Celebrate the harvest with dinner, dancing and great music by the Mighty Soul Drivers. Family friendly event. E-mail newhartfordlandtrust@yahoo.com or call 860-489-4118 by October 9th to get tickets at the low, advance price or for more information.

Saturday, October 20. 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM. Steep Rock Association. *Holiday House: Guided Hike and History of the Site*. (Must register at www.steeprockassoc.org)

Saturday, October 20, 4:00 PM. Roxbury Land Trust. *Big Birds Around Us ~ Owls, Eagles & Hawks* by Ken Elkins, Bent of the River Audubon at Roxbury Town Hall