

PECONIC LAND TRUST



CONSERVING LONG ISLAND'S WORKING FARMS, NATURAL LANDS, AND HERITAGE FOR OUR COMMUNITIES NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

ISSUE NO. 7

The Latest News from the Peconic Land Trust

SPRING 2019

Conserving our Heritage

Historic Lt. Moses Case House Makes its Move with Your Help!



On a clear and brisk January morning, the historic Lieutenant Moses Case House began its move to Cleo's Corner at Route 48 and Hortons Lane in Southold.

Over four days this winter and early spring, the 120,000 pound house moved across two frozen fields and Young's Avenue. The final move, across Hortons Lane and onto its new foundation, happened on April 1 ... thanks to your support!

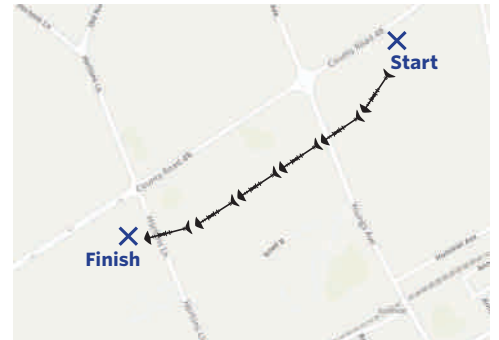
In the summer of 2018, the future of the historic Case House, built in 1747, was in question. Both the Town and the owner realized its history, but what to do with it?



The owner then called the Trust to see if we could

help. He even offered to donate the house to us, if we moved it. Luckily, we had the perfect spot! **Cleo's Corner.**

Cleo's Corner was chosen because it is part of the Trust's *Farms for the Future Initiative* and includes a 5-acre farm field. Combining an historic home with preserved farmland to create a farmstead is exactly what your support enables us to do. It shows how the past and present can not only coexist, but also sustain one another. Our goal is to lease the house and farmland to a local farmer.



"This is a preservation and conservation effort," said Holly Sanford, Peconic Land Trust Project Manager. "By saving the Lt. Moses Case House we are protecting local architecture, our history, and Long Island's local farming."

We need your continued help!

Our work is far from over! The full cost to move and restore the Case House and make it part of our Farms for the Future program is \$500,000. Be part of history by making a special gift today!

For more information or to make a gift go to www.PeconicLandTrust.org/CaseHouse or contact Alison Delaney, Development Officer, at ADelaney@PeconicLandTrust.org.

Our thanks to you for making our work possible, as well as to the teams from Dawn Movers, PSEG, Verizon and Altice/Cablevision for working with us to coordinate this move.

Connections



The Peconic Land Trust is always making connections to the land, the water, the air, and most importantly . . . to You!

Clockwise top from left corner: Jack Formica from Amber Waves chats with guests at the Long Island Grown Series at Bridge Gardens; *hard working hands* circle at Long Island Grown; vibrant orchids at Bianchi-Davis Greenhouses; chatting at Long Island Grown; Rick Bogusch of Bridge Gardens with friends at Long Island Grown; Scott Chaskey stacking seed trays at Quail Hill Farm; Bill Bianchi sharing orchid care tips; tending to the soil that covers freshly planted seeds in the greenhouse at the Quail Hill Farm seeding workshop.

Quail Hill Farm

**2019 is the 30th season at Quail Hill Farm.
Join us in celebrating the past, present and future!**



Interested in learning more about Quail Hill Farm and joining the summer harvest season? Contact Acting Director Layton Guenther at LGuenther@PeconicLandTrust.org.

Getting to Know

Frank Arnold: Agricultural Center Volunteer



Frank Arnold has been a volunteer at the Agricultural Center at Charnews Farm since 2012. If you've attended any of our composting workshops, you may have met him.

"I learned about the Trust when the estate I was managing hosted a Peconic many years ago. In that job, I developed an appreciation of farming and a love of organic gardening.

When I retired 7 years ago, I became involved at the Ag Center, which the Trust acquired two years earlier. There was lots of work that needed to be done in those early years.

"I love the camaraderie and interaction with the community gardeners. I still have ties to the estate where I worked, so I can start tomato plants in their greenhouse for the gardeners to plant in their plots. I have a large plot of my own. With over 40 years of growing experience, I really enjoy helping and sharing my knowledge with the other growers.

"The Peconic Land Trust helps preserve the East End's mix of rural character and the natural beauty of our landscape and waterways. Conservation of land helps keep pollution to a minimum, especially in the bay and sound.

"I support the Trust for the work they do and the sense of community they provide. I've met new people and made long lasting friendships here."

— Frank Arnold

Thank you Frank!

And thank you to all of our volunteers who give so much of their time and energy to our work. We could not do it without you!



To learn more about volunteering your time with the Trust, contact Senior Outreach Manager Kathy Kennedy at KKennedy@PeconicLandTrust.org.



Join the Community Gardens at the Agricultural Center at Charnews Farm and enjoy fresh vegetables all season!



Community gardens provide more than just rich soil for individuals and families to grow their own food, herbs, and flowers. They also build social connections and provide a way to stay active and healthy.

Various plot sizes are available as well as fencing, irrigation and expert help.

Sign up today to reserve your spot!

The community gardens at the Agricultural Center are located at 3005 Young's Avenue in Southold.

Interested in learning more and joining the community? Contact Senior North Fork Stewardship Manager Denise Markut at DMarkut@PeconicLandTrust.org.

Preserve Update

Widow's Hole Preserve, Greenport

Restoration to Accelerate in Spring

It's been a little while since we've given you an update of what's happening with the restoration efforts at Widow's Hole Preserve.



In 2019, expect to see many changes to the landscape as the restoration begins in earnest! Over the past several years, our stewardship team



has worked with Cornell Cooperative Extension's Marine program to develop a long-term restoration and management plan for this waterfront preserve. Our thanks go out to the Peconic

Estuary Program for their funding of this project.

To begin the restoration, we had to submit the plan and get permission from several government agencies. Those agencies include the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Village of Greenport.



We're pleased to report that most of the paperwork is behind us and restoration is now underway.

Visit www.PeconicLandTrust.org/WidowsHole, for more details about the fencing for the preserve, the removal of non-invasive plants, and an important *Spartina* grass planting program we are conducting in partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Combined, these steps will help build resiliency in the face of storm surge for the surrounding community.

Interested in volunteering to help with the beachgrass plantings this spring? Contact Director of Stewardship Matt Swain at MSwain@PeconicLandTrust.org or Senior Outreach Manager, Kathy Kennedy at KKennedy@PeconicLandTrust.org.

Increase Your Impact by Becoming a Monthly Donor



Make a difference every single month by joining our Monthly Giving Program.

For as little as \$5 a month you can ensure that the Trust has a steady stream of income to protect the working farms, natural lands, and heritage you care about.

Monthly giving is the easiest and most efficient way to support the Peconic Land Trust.

It's convenient. Donate through your bank account or credit card.

You are in total control. You can easily start, change or stop your gift at any time.

You'll receive less mail because we won't send you multiple solicitations.

That means more of your gift goes directly to protecting the places you love.

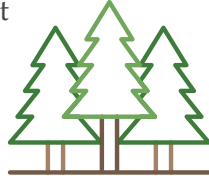
Best of all, by giving each month, you'll know that you are maximizing your impact for today and tomorrow!

To learn more about how your contribution sustains the land, water, and farms that are so important to us all, contact Amanda Abraham, Director of Development, at AAbraham@PeconicLandTrust.org.

Water Quality

Peconic Land Trust & NYS DEC Preserve Land in Brookhaven to Protect Drinking Water

In late January, the Peconic Land Trust and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) preserved a one-acre parcel in Ridge as part of a program to protect local drinking water. This is the first to close under this new grant program.



“Protecting Long Island’s sole source aquifer is among the state’s top priorities, and DEC commends our partners at the Peconic Land Trust for their assistance with the successful completion of this acquisition,” DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos said in a press release in late January announcing the acquisition.

Funding for the project comes from a \$2.3 million DEC grant. It was awarded to the Trust in December 2017 to implement a Regional Aquifer Protection Land Acquisition Program (**RAPLAP**).

While small in size, this property will provide significant groundwater benefits when combined with other protected parcels nearby, affording greater protection to Long Island’s drinking water supplies.

- Basil Seggos, DEC Commissioner

The property was identified by the Town of Brookhaven as a priority for conservation. This was due to its location in the Central Pine Barrens Core, adjacent to other conservation easement-protected Suffolk County and Pine Barrens lands, and its proximity to land owned by the Suffolk County Water Authority (SCWA).

The Trust will maintain the property for passive recreational uses such as hiking and bird watching.

“The Trust is pleased to work with the DEC and the Town of Brookhaven to protect our important drinking water resources. This is the first of what will be proactive preservation of land that will contribute to the health and well-being of Brookhaven residents,” said John v.H. Halsey, President, Peconic Land Trust.

Our sincere thanks go to the landowner for choosing to sell this land to protect it instead of building on it. We also extend our appreciation to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the New York State Senate and Assembly, and the staff of the DEC for making this funding available; and to the Town of Brookhaven and the Peconic Estuary Program for partnering with us. We look forward to announcing additional conservation efforts in Brookhaven later this year.



RAPLAP Funding Coming to Riverhead, Shelter Island and Southold



Peconic Land Trust and partner organization Peconic Estuary Program will work together with the towns of Riverhead, Shelter Island and Southold to identify and acquire land or development rights to support watershed protection.

At the end of 2018, the Trust was awarded \$3 million to implement Phase II of the Regional Aquifer Protection Land Acquisition Program (**RAPLAP**). The State will cover 75 percent of the costs to acquire properties that will benefit our local drinking water resources.

Trust staff will continue to work with the Peconic Estuary Program, the Towns, Suffolk County, water supply specialists and geologists to identify appropriate parcels for prioritization. We look forward to updating you on conservation efforts as they happen.



**We thank Governor Cuomo and the
New York Regional Economic Development Council
for recognizing this important initiative.**

Interested in learning more? Contact Melanie Cirillo, Director of Conservation Planning, at MCirillo@PeconicLandTrust.org or Josh Halsey, Program Coordinator at JoshHalsey@PeconicLandTrust.org.

SAVE THE DATE

Through Farms & Fields

A COUNTRY SUPPER IN CELEBRATION OF OUR LOCAL BOUNTY



SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2019 | OCEAN VIEW FARM | BRIDGEHAMPTON | 4 PM

Wesnofske Planting Fields courtesy of Casey Chalem-Anderson

Future Farmers

Peconic Land Trust Selected as LI Regional Navigator for American Farmland Trust's Farmland for a New Generation

The new program provides statewide resources connecting young or expanding farmers with farmland.



The 2012 Census of Agriculture reports that nearly one third of the farmers in New York State are over the age of 65 and 92% of those farmers do not have anyone working alongside them ready to take over their farm.

Studies also find that access to affordable farmland remains one of the main barriers to new and young farmers getting started.

American Farmland Trust's (AFT) Farmland for a New Generation program creates a centralized statewide Resource Center. This includes a farmland finder website — www.nyfarmfinder.org — to connect farmers with farmland. The program is funded by a grant from New York State.

In February, AFT announced 20 new regional navigators for its Farmland for a New Generation Program, including the Peconic Land Trust.

Regional Navigators across the state will work together to make connections to help keep New York's agriculture thriving.

The Trust will integrate this program into our Farms for the Future Initiative.

We look forward to making new connections and helping our local farms and farmers secure the resources they need.

For more information, contact Director of Agricultural Programs Dan Heston at DHeston@PeconicLandTrust.org or Stewardship Manager Jessie Marcus at JMarcus@PeconicLandTrust.org.



Donor Spotlight

Tom Steele: Photographer

Our thanks go to photographer Tom Steele who donated an extraordinary print of our Phillips Pond Preserve, which now graces our office in Southampton.

The print is 32" x 60" and captures the beauty of this coastal pond and the ocean dunes protected by the Trust.



Phillips Pond Preserve, the first gift of land in the Trust's 36-year history, would not have happened if not for the generosity of the late Burton Brous. The land was donated to the Trust in 1984 with the assistance of The Nature Conservancy. An adjacent parcel was also donated to the Trust in 1986 by Mr.

Brous. Tom's iconic image of the property has been featured in numerous stories about the preserve.

"In 2005 I organized the first "Labor Day Landscape Show" which was at Ashawagh Hall in Springs and the Peconic Land Trust was the beneficiary," explains Tom of his earliest involvement with the Trust. "It's an honor for me to donate this iconic image to the Trust for its permanent collection."



Thank you Tom for turning your lens on our beautiful East End landscapes!

To learn more about Tom's work, visit his website: www.TomSteeleStudio.com.

Conservation News

Peconic Land Trust Awarded Grant from the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets to assist Farmers in Suffolk County



In March, the Peconic Land Trust was one of five land trusts across the state to receive funding in support of farmland conservation.

Thanks to a new grant from New York State Ag and Markets, the Trust will assist Long Island landowners in obtaining qualified appraisals for their farmland with no cost or obligation to them.

This critical information will inform landowners who own prime agricultural soils on Long Island what the current value of their land is including the value of their development rights.

The Trust will also advise them of the various conservation options available to them and the potential tax liability and benefits of permanently protecting their farmland.

To find out further details, contact Melanie Cirillo, Director of Conservation Planning, at MCirillo@PeconicLandTrust.org, or Julie Wesnofske, Project Manager, at JWesnofske@PeconicLandTrust.org.

Farms for the Future

Peconic Escargot and our Farms for the Future Initiative Featured on PBS's TASTEMAKERS

Journalist and host Cat Neville, of *TASTEMAKERS* on PBS, journeyed out to Cutchogue to catch up with farmer/chef Taylor Knapp of Peconic Escargot.



Cat met up with Taylor at our North Fork Stewardship Center in Cutchogue, as well as took a tour with the Trust's Dan Heston to learn more about the Farms for the Future Initiative — the program Taylor joined to help launch his snail farm.

The episode — *Not So Fast* — is available on PBS stations and online at: www.pbs.org/video/not-so-fast-v8dy1m/#



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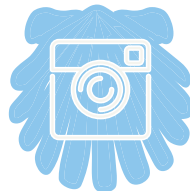
**Peconic Land Trust conserves Long Island's working farms,
natural lands, and heritage for our communities
now and in the future.**

Enclosed are highlights from our eNewsletters from November 2018 through March 2019.
Join our email list to receive updates from the Trust each month.

Please help us further reduce our carbon footprint. If you change your address, or would like to receive all (or some) of your communications from the Peconic Land Trust by email, let us know!

Contact Janet Schutt, Senior Manager of Donor Services at
631.283.3195 ext. 24 or JSchutt@PeconicLandTrust.org.

Follow us...



A copy of the last financial report filed with the New York State Attorney General may be obtained in writing to:
New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau, Attn: FOIL Officer, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271
or Peconic Land Trust, PO Box 1776, Southampton, NY 11969