Celebrate the Summer Solstice with CNY Land Trust!

With winter finally(!) behind us, here’s a chance to help usher in the official start of summer by taking a leisurely stroll through one of Central New York’s most stunning gardens in late June—and know that you are simultaneously taking steps to preserve important natural areas throughout the region.

The CNY Land Trust presents its annual Summer Solstice Garden Tour and Craft Sale on Saturday, June 24th. The Land Trust will again mark the Summer Solstice with its annual fundraiser—a Garden Tour and sale of environmentally friendly crafts at Sycamore Hill Gardens (11 a.m. to 4 p.m.) at the Hanford Family’s private gardens at 2130 Old Seneca Turnpike in Marcellus. These extraordinary gardens, spanning over 30 acres of landscaped gardens, paths and ponds, were established, expanded and maintained through a labor of love by owners Karen and George Hanford and are not usually open to the public. However, a few times each year the Hanfords generously share with the public the natural beauty that surrounds them every day.

Key features of the gardens include several large ponds with fountains and colorful koi (large Japanese goldfish) which the children can feed, statuary from all around the world, an exotic bell garden, evergreen maze, thousands of flowering bulbs and perennials, and hundreds of flowering trees and shrubs. A network of paths enables visitors to explore these treasures at their own pace. The setting is truly spectacular, beautiful and very whimsical.

Crafters and artists will also be available this year featuring nature-inspired art, products and other items for sale pertaining to the outdoors, gardens or nature. Please check them out. CNY Land Trust is fortunate that Summer Hanford, author of the Thrice Born series among many other books, will be visiting CNY again this year and will have a book signing on June 24th.

In addition to the tour and the artisans, visitors can enjoy live music performed by area musicians in the afternoon. For children, face-painting, a virtual scavenger hunt, and a nature crafts table will add fun to the day.

Visitors are encouraged to bring their own picnic lunch to enjoy on the grounds either before or after (or as a respite in the middle of) their exploration of the extensive gardens at Sycamore Hill. Chicken Bandit Food Truck & Eatery will return again with food items available for purchase.

In response to popular demand, this year the Land Trust moved its annual plant sale (formerly held in conjunction with the garden tour) to Saturday, May 27th, in order to give gardeners a head-start on integrating the plants purchased at the sale into their yards. Check out the Plant Sale article on page 2.

By Steve Kulick, CNY Land Trust Board Member

Protecting Nature’s Gems - One Acre at a Time
http://cnylandtrust.org
Plant Sale to Benefit CNY Land Trust
Find native plants and more for your yard!
When: Saturday, May 27, 2017
Time: 8:00am – 1:00pm
Where: 5573 Sunview Drive, Elbridge, NY

Come out and find many varied plants, talk with experts about best planting methods, and add some beauty to your land! This is a great opportunity to add to your landscaping, get some interesting new plants, AND help CNY Land Trust. All proceeds of the plant sale benefit CNY Land Trust’s work to protect natural areas in Onondaga and Oswego Counties. This plant sale is free and open to the public.

Find the Plant Sale: Make your way to New York State Route 5, which runs east-west across central Onondaga County. From Syracuse, take I-690 West to NY-695, and continue to State Route 5 West. Sunview Drive branches off State Route 5, 1.5 miles east of the center of Elbridge, and 6 miles west of the Village of Camillus, in western Onondaga County. Turn north onto Sunview Drive from State Route 5, and look for address number 5573.

Plenty of parking is available along Sunview Drive. Find more information about the plant sale at cnylandtrust.org

Purchase tickets in advance at Baltimore Woods Nature Center, 4007 Bishop Hill Road, Marcellus or Dental Arts Group, 1638 West Genesee Street, Syracuse. Check online for more ticket sale locations.

For more information, go to cnylandtrust.org or call (315) 575-8839.
Great Bear Campaign—Match Your Gift with Challenge Grant Funds Today!

Central New York Land Trust and Friends of Great Bear invite you to join the **Save Whiskey Island and Northern Great Bear Campaign**. Friends of Great Bear and the Central New York Land Trust, two local organizations with a deep commitment to the land, have partnered to raise $165,000 to acquire 130 acres of privately-owned land within Great Bear Springs Recreation Area in the Town of Volney.

The campaign is in the home stretch and the news is good - most of the funds raised so far have come from individuals such as yourself, local businesses, and community organizations. In other words, you and your neighbors! Now here’s the exciting part: Friends of Great Bear and the Central New York Land Trust were successful in applying for a matching grant from the **Richard S. Shineman Foundation**, a catalyst for change in Oswego County. The Central New York Land Trust was one of sixteen not-for-profit organizations awarded grants in late March from the Shineman Foundation in the first of three funding cycles this year.

Our team received a “champion” pledge of $50,000 to the Great Bear campaign. The Shineman Foundation’s pledge serves as a challenge to the community to support the campaign, by matching new gifts dollar-for-dollar, but only until July. We have raised $27,000 toward the $50,000 challenge grant – needing just $23,000 to meet the July deadline. Your donation and show of support will mean Great Bear Springs Recreation Area has a chance to remain intact. **Please consider a contribution to help our community rise to the challenge. Your gift of any size makes a big difference!**

The back page of this newsletter is a coupon to simplify donating to the campaign. You can donate securely online at [cnylandtrust.org/donate/](http://cnylandtrust.org/donate/). Online, be sure to scroll to the button, “Donate to the Great Bear Campaign.”

**Thank you** for helping to preserve the landscape of Central New York, and particularly for helping to save Whiskey Island and Northern Great Bear!

Mary Arnold, Sandy Bonanno, Margaret Bocsor, Meredith Perreault, Naneen Drosse, & Richard Drosse celebrate the award at Great Bear with Kathy Fenlon, Karen Goetz, & Penny Halstead, Shineman Foundation.

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Board of Directors News

The CNYLT Board of Directors recognizes **Richard Brickwedde** for his service to the board. Dick stepped down in June 2016 after six+ years of dedicated service. Dick lent his expertise with oversight of CNY Land Trust’s investment accounts, and served as steward for Woodchuck Hill Field & Forest Preserve, managing leased buildings and natural areas of this diamond preserve in Manlius/DeWitt. Dick continues to volunteer for the CNY Land Trust’s Finance Committee.

**Peggy Ries** is rejoining the board for a new term. Peggy is a Marketing Manager at Barton & Loguidice, a 250+ person engineering, planning, environmental science and landscape architecture firm. Peggy is a passionate advocate for environmental causes, social justice, and animal welfare. She also serves as board secretary for Spay and Neuter Syracuse, a non-profit veterinary clinic, and previously served as secretary and board member of the Society For Marketing Professional Services. The CNY Land Trust board welcomes Peggy.
The challenge is on! Wondering how you can make a difference in your community? Join your friends, neighbors, other CNY Land Trust members, and the Richard S. Shineman Foundation to permanently protect the northern third of Great Bear Springs Recreation Area between Fulton and Phoenix in southern Oswego County. See Page 3 of this newsletter for an update on the Campaign for Whiskey Island and Northern Great Bear. The Shineman Foundation is matching gifts—but only until July. Help your community rise to the challenge - use this coupon to make your gift today!

Match my gift to the Campaign for Whiskey Island and Northern Great Bear!

☐ $1-$999 Friend
☐ $1,000-$4,999 Streamkeeper
☐ $5,000-$9,999 Naturalist
☐ $10,000-$19,999 Steward
☐ $20,000-$49,999 Trail Blazer
☐ $50,000+ Champion

Name:_______________________________________________________
Address:____________________________________________________
City:_______________________ State:____ Zip + 4:______________
Phone:_______________________________________________________
Email:_______________________________________________________

Mail to:
CNY Land Trust
P.O. Box 9417
Syracuse, NY 13290

A copy of Central New York Land Trust, Inc.’s latest annual report may be obtained, upon request, from the Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271 or at www.charitiesnys.com

Please make checks payable to Central New York Land Trust, Inc. Thank you for your gift!

Thank you for helping preserve the landscape of Central New York, and particularly for helping to save Whiskey Island and Northern Great Bear!

☐ This gift is a donation in honor of:
(Name and mailing address—we’ll send an acknowledgement to your honoree)

Spring 2017

Plant Sale-May 27, Garden Tour-June 24