

2009 Land Trust Grants - New York State Conservation Partnership Program

Capacity & Excellence Grants

Capacity & Excellence Category - Assessment Grants

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>
Battenkill Conservancy	Cambridge, Washington County	Guided Organizational Assessment based on Land Trust Standards and Practices. Battenkill Conservancy is an all-volunteer land trust and a first-time NYSCPP grant recipient.	\$5,000
Farm Catskills	Delhi, Delaware County	Guided Organizational Assessment based on Land Trust Standards and Practices. Farm Catskills is an all-volunteer agricultural land trust and a first-time NYSCPP grant recipient.	\$5,000
Lake George Land Conservancy	Bolton Landing, Warren County	Guided Organizational Assessment based on Land Trust Standards and Practices in preparation for national land trust accreditation by 2011.	\$5,000
Putnam County Land Trust	Brewster, Putnam County	Guided Organizational Assessment based on Land Trust Standards and Practices. Putnam County Land Trust is an all-volunteer land trust.	\$5,000
Rev. Linnette C. Williamson Memorial Park Association	New York, New York County	Guided Organizational Assessment based on Land Trust Standards and Practice. The Park Association owns vest pocket parks and community gardens in Central Harlem.	\$5,000
		TOTAL	\$25,000

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Capacity & Excellence Category--Capacity Grants			
<u>Organization</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>
American Farmland Trust	Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County	Growing Support for Farms and Food in Erie County - Project will enable AFT to partner with Erie County to update the county's Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan and expand support for farmland protection in western New York through community outreach.	\$25,000
Brooklyn Queens Land Trust	Brooklyn, Kings County	Towards Financial Sustainability - Project will enable BQLT to build capacity through development and implementation of a fundraising plan and board training to improve financial management in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices.	\$15,000
Cazenovia Preservation Foundation	Cazenovia, Madison County	Increased Financial Capacity Through Community Engagement - Project will strengthen community connections and build public support for CPF's conservation mission and programs by implementing a new communications, outreach and marketing strategy.	\$8,200
Columbia Land Conservancy	Chatham, Columbia County	Community Assistance Program - Project will develop CLC's Community Assistance Program to provide technical support on land use planning and development practices to municipal governments, local officials, and community groups throughout Columbia County.	\$39,700
Columbia Land Conservancy	Chatham, Columbia County	Conservation Easement Landowner Outreach Program - Project will enable CLC to enhance its conservation easement stewardship program by developing a comprehensive, county-wide landowner outreach program. CLC holds more than 140 easements on over 20,000 acres.	\$25,000
Farm Catskills	Delhi, Delaware County	Community Outreach to Build Support for Farmland Protection in Delaware County - Project will facilitate development of a communications strategy, building local support for farmland protection in the Catskills region. Farm Catskills is a first-time NYSCPP grant recipient.	\$5,000
Genesee Valley Conservancy	Geneseo, Livingston County	Fee Owned Land Establishment Initiative - Project will enable GVC to expand public awareness of and improve access to its fee-owned properties with the addition of interpretive signs, benches, and field tools on two nature preserves open to the public.	\$3,000
Hudson Highlands Land Trust	Garrison, Putnam County	Strategic Land Protection Plan for the Hudson Highlands - Project will enable HHLT to develop a robust GIS based analysis of land and natural resources in HHLT's service area which will help identify priority areas and key parcels to target for conservation. HHLT will use this plan as it seeks a land protection goal of 2,000 acres by 2011.	\$10,000
Indian River Lakes Conservancy	Redwood, Jefferson County	Stewardship and Conservation Plan for the Grand Lake Reserve - Project will enable the all-volunteer IRLC to improve management and stewardship practices on its 1,000-acre Grand Lake Reserve in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices, complete a strategic conservation plan and a long-term organizational development plan, and develop updated trail maps and brochures.	\$10,000
Mianus River Gorge Preserve	Bedford, Westchester County	Visitor Entrance Improvements - Project will enable MRGP to make key improvements to the primary entrance area for the 224-acre Preserve, enhancing access for 10,000 visitors each year. In 1964, Mianus River Gorge Preserve became the first registered National Natural Landmark; it was the first property protected by The Nature Conservancy in the 1950's.	\$14,250

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Capacity & Excellence Category - Capacity Grants (continued)			
Oblong Land Conservancy	Pawling, Dutchess County	Transforming Oblong - Project will enable the all-volunteer OLC to hire a stewardship consultant and build capacity by implementing goals identified in its recently completed strategic organizational plan, in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices. Much of OLC's service area and its protected lands are within the New York City watershed.	\$21,000
Ontario Bays Initiative	Chaumont, Jefferson County	Point Peninsula: A Blueprint for Conservation - Project will enable the all-volunteer OBI to develop a strategic conservation plan for Point Peninsula, an Important Bird Area for Audubon New York and a NYS Open Space Plan priority area, that will identify priority lands for protection and expand OBI's strategies for land conservation in the area.	\$8,000
Otsego Land Trust	Cooperstown, Otsego County	Building Organizational Capacity & Resilience with Community-Based Support - Project will enable OLT to expand its outreach and fundraising program, improve board and staff training, and develop information for landowners to secure resources needed to implement OLT's Conservation Blueprint for the Leatherstocking Region.	\$19,000
Rensselaer Land Trust	Troy, Rensselaer County	Building RLT's Fundraising Capacity - Project will support the development of a comprehensive fundraising plan and related outreach materials to help RLT - one of New York's first accredited land trusts - to build capacity and achieve its conservation and stewardship goals for the Capital District.	\$22,500
Schoharie Land Trust	Cobleskill, Schoharie County	Working Smarter: Building Systems and Infrastructure - Project will enable the all-volunteer SLT to establish sustainable financial, fundraising, and communications programs, develop a landowner and donor database, build a stronger land trust presence in Schoharie County.	\$7,700
St. Lawrence Land Trust	Canton, St. Lawrence County	Little River-Grasse River Conservation Initiative - Project will enable the all-volunteer StLLT to develop a strategic organizational plan and a community outreach program to build public awareness and support for efforts to protect the Grasse River corridor and watershed of the Little River.	\$30,000
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust	Watertown, Jefferson County	Implementing Organizational Assessment Recommendations - Project will enable THTLT to prepare for national accreditation in 2011 and implement recommendations from its recent organizational assessment, including strategic improvements to its conservation easement monitoring and stewardship program.	\$17,450
Wallkill Valley Land Trust	New Paltz, Ulster County	Strategic Plan and Action Proposal - Project will support WVLT's efforts to complete an updated strategic organizational plan to ensure long term success in implementing WVLT's mission and addressing the conservation needs and priorities of communities in southern Ulster County.	\$23,450
Winnakee Land Trust	Rhinebeck, Dutchess County	Strategic Conservation Plan: Developing Comparative Evaluation Tools and Focus Areas - Project will enable WLT to identify priority focus areas and facilitates a proactive, targeted conservation approach in the Town of Red Hook in northern Dutchess County.	\$25,000
		TOTAL	\$329,250

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Capacity & Excellence Category - Stewardship Grants			
<u>Organization</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>
Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve	Rensselaerville, Albany County	Records Update and Boundary Markers - Project will update Huyck Preserve's property records in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices. ENHP holds 28 fee properties on 2,000 acres and is a first-time grant recipient.	\$10,000
Catskill Center for Conservation & Development	Arkville, Delaware County	Building Stewardship Capacity: Keeping Up with the Times - Project will update baseline documentation on CCCD's conservation easements in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices. CCCD holds 17 easements on 1,569 acres.	\$8,000
Genesee Land Trust	Rochester, Monroe County	Corner Monumentation and Survey Maps - Project will update baseline documentation on 6 GLT conservation easements on 58 acres in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices. GLT holds 16 easements on 1,063 acres.	\$10,000
Lake George Land Conservancy	Bolton Landing, Warren County	Surveys on Two LGLC Properties - Project will update LGLC's property records in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices. LGLC holds 6 fee properties on 2,775 acres and is preparing for national accreditation in 2011.	\$10,000
Mianus River Gorge Preserve	Bedford, Westchester County	Survey Work for Five High Priority Parcels - Project will update MRGP's property records in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices. MRGP holds 82 fee properties on 764 acres and is preparing for national accreditation in 2009.	\$10,000
Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy	Slingerlands, Albany County	Winn Property Boundary and Ashford Glen and Phillipin Kill Management Plans - Project will update MHLC's property records in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices. MHLC holds 16 fee properties on 1,133 acres.	\$10,000
Orange County Land Trust	Middletown, Orange County	Fuller Mountain Survey - Project will update property records for the 259-acre Fuller Mountain Preserve in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices. OCLT holds 17 fee properties on 1,083 acres.	\$8,000
Otsego Land Trust	Cooperstown, Otsego County	Enhancing Stewardship Capacity by Updating Baseline Documentation - Project will update baseline documentation on 12 OLT conservation easements in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices. OLT holds 45 easements on 5,200 acres.	\$10,000
Peconic Land Trust	Southampton, Suffolk County	Peconic Land Trust Stewardship Plan - Project will update records for PLT's fee properties and baseline documentation for its conservation easements in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices. PLT holds 83 fee properties on 1,233 acres and 98 conservation easements on 2,507 acres.	\$7,000
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust	Watertown, Jefferson County	West Canada Creek Baseline Documentation Updates - Project will update THTLT's baseline documentation on 3 conservation easements and 17 tax parcels on 477 acres in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices. THTLT holds 29 easements on 4,544 acres and is preparing for national accreditation in 2011.	\$3,600
		TOTAL	\$86,600

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Conservation Catalyst Grants			
Organization	Location	Project Title	Grant Award
American Farmland Trust	Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County	Making the Case for New York's Farmland - Two-year project will utilize AFT's National Assessment of Working Lands at Risk analysis to evaluate where and what type of farmland and open space in New York could be lost to development by 2030. This research supports the recommendations of Governor Paterson's Food Policy Council to increase farmland protection funding and fully integrate farmland protection into the State's Smart Growth efforts and the NYS Open Space Plan. AFT will engage stakeholders from around New York to guide the research and disseminate the results.	\$20,000
Bronx & Manhattan Land Trusts	The Bronx and Manhattan, Bronx and New York Counties	Urban Garden Connections: Community Outreach Program - Two-year project will strengthen a recently established collaboration involving the Bronx Land Trust and Manhattan Land Trust in order to build community support and improve stewardship of more than 30 inner-city community gardens. Working in partnership with neighborhood volunteers, New York City and state agencies, and elected officials, the outreach and education initiative will raise awareness and improve access to community gardens in the Bronx, Harlem and the Lower East Side.	\$39,400
Catskill Center for Conservation & Development	Arkville, Delaware County	Learning Together on the Land: A Catskill Sense of Place - Two-year project will enable CCCD to partner with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection to utilize DEP-protected lands in the New York City watershed and implement its interdisciplinary and hands-on curriculum, "The Catskills" A Sense of Place." The project will engage teachers and hundreds of students from two public school systems, advancing a land conservation and environmental education ethic in the rural Catskills region and inspiring the next generation in stewardship.	\$30,000
Dutchess Land Conservancy & Scenic Hudson	Millbrook, Dutchess County	West Kerley Corners Road Landscape Scale Farmland Protection Project - Two-year project will enable two accredited land trusts, in partnership with Dutchess County, Winnakee Land Trust and the Red Hook Agricultural and Open Space Committee, to launch an initiative that will result in the protection of 15 contiguous properties in the Town of Red Hook. These high-priority lands contain 1,080 acres of prime farmland and an important woodland buffer. This ambitious community-based conservation initiative could leverage \$8 million in capital funds and establish a regional model for coordinated farmland protection.	\$38,000
Finger Lakes Land Trust	Ithaca, Tompkins County	Canandaigua Lake Watershed Protection Initiative - Two-year project will advance a watershed protection initiative, in partnership with local landowners and the Town of Canandaigua through an intensive conservation planning process led by FLLT. The project will result in detailed watershed maps, landowner outreach and 200 or more additional acres of protected land in the Canandaigua Lake watershed, an Important Bird Area for Audubon New York and the local source of clean drinking water to 60,000 residents.	\$40,000
Fire Island Land Trust	Sayville, Suffolk County	FILT Cooperative Management and Education - Two-year project will enable Fire Island Land Trust, established in 2006, to develop relationships with the National Park Service, Fire Island National Seashore, Suffolk County, The Nature Conservancy, and Pines Conservation Society to support cooperative management and increase landowner involvement in efforts to protect the fragile barrier island.	\$20,000
Genesee Valley Conservancy	Geneseo, Livingston County	Wyoming County Farmland Conservation - Two-year project will facilitate GVC's efforts, in partnership with American Farmland Trust, Western New York Land Conservancy, and Wyoming County, to develop a successful purchase of development rights program for farmland protection in Wyoming County. The project will enable GVC to build on successful efforts in Livingston County and expand its farmland protection program into Wyoming County's farming community.	\$16,893

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Conservation Catalyst Grants (continued)			
Hudson Highlands Land Trust	Garrison, Putnam County	Hudson Highlands Land Trust Regional River of Words Project - Two-year project will assist HHLT, in partnership with DEC and Garrison's public schools, to develop a Hudson Highlands version of the River of Words curriculum, an acclaimed program that is connecting children and communities around the world to their local watersheds. The project complements education goals in the NYS Open Space Plan and will enhance HHLT's presence in the Hudson Highlands.	\$20,000
New York-New Jersey Trail Conference	Rockland, Orange, Sullivan, Ulster, and Green Counties (project locations)	West Hudson Community Trail Program - Two-year project will enhance public access and promote community support for open space protection by expanding trail networks and improving links between public parks and preserves in Rockland, Orange, Sullivan, Ulster, and Greene counties. Funding will enable NY-NJTC to provide assistance to local municipalities and private landowners in DEC Regions 3 & 4, bringing thousands of New Yorkers closer to trailheads and local protected areas.	\$40,000
Northeast Wilderness Trust	Essex, Essex County	Split Rock Partners Outreach Project - Two-year project will help the recently accredited NWT, in partnership with the Adirondack Council, Adirondack Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy's Adirondack Chapter, Eddy Foundation, and New York State, to accelerate the pace of land protection in the Split Rock Wildway. The project will result in a regional strategic conservation plan and expanded community outreach and education programs. The project is ultimately intended to conserve a 20,000-acre biodiversity and wildlife habitat corridor linking the Adirondacks and the Lake Champlain Valley.	\$35,000
North Shore Land Alliance	Westbury, Nassau County	Expanding Environmental Education and Stewardship Programming at Roosevelt Preserve - Two-year project will enable NSLA, in partnership with Nassau County and the Town of Hempstead, to develop an innovative environmental education and stewardship program in the Roosevelt Preserve, a 70-acre forested parcel within a highly developed area of Nassau County. Through this community service program, NSLA will greatly expand stewardship and environmental education opportunities for minority and low income residents in this underserved area.	\$25,000
Orange County Land Trust	Middletown, Orange County	Community Gardens in the Cities of Orange County - Two-year project will help OCLT establish community gardens in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods in the cities of Middletown and Port Jervis and make improvements at OCLT's Peoples Garden in the city of Newburgh. This project will depend OCLT's constituency and increase urban green space and local food production in Orange County, the fastest growing suburb in New York City's metropolitan area, providing residents new opportunities to engage in community conservation and stewardship.	\$19,500
Peconic Land Trust	Southampton, Suffolk County	Charnews Farm Outreach Project - Two-year project will enable PLT, in partnership with the Town of Southold's Farmland Protection Program and North Fork community volunteers, to develop and implement a sustainable agriculture and outreach program at the 23-acre Charnews Farm. The project will build on PLT's successful Quail Hill Farm model, a protected farm that supports a popular community supported agriculture and apprenticeship program in Amagansett.	\$30,000
Westchester Land Trust	Bedford Hills, Westchester County	Connecting with Nature Through Questing - Two-year project will help WLT, in partnership with North Salem Open Land Foundation, develop a new Quest program on four public access nature preserves. The Quests will attract new visitors and connect children and adults to these special places using an innovative educational game that highlights the area's natural and human history. This project could serve as a model for other land trusts, state agencies, and municipalities interested in enagaging local communities in local parks and preserves through discovery and experiential nature education.	\$12,100
TOTAL			\$385,893

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Professional Development Grants			
<u>Organization</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>
Agricultural Stewardship Association	Greenwich, Washington County	Two-year grant will enable this 19-year old agricultural land trust with 8,361 acres under conservation easement to hire its first Outreach and Program Coordinator to assist with fundraising and expand its community outreach programs in Washington and northern Rensselaer counties. Grant includes a guided organizational assessment in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices.	\$65,000
Genesee Land Trust	Rochester, Monroe County	Two-year grant will enable this 20-year old Rochester-area land trust with 1,229 acres under conservation easement and 859 acres in fee ownership to raise its Executive Director and two other staff to full-time status and become a regional leader in conservation. Grant includes technical assistance in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices.	\$55,000
Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy	Slingerlands, Albany County	Two-year grant will enable this 17-year old Capital District land trust with 631 acres under conservation easement and 1,133 acres in fee ownership to hire its first Development Director, increase fundraising capacity and implement a major development plan. Grant includes technical assistance in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices.	\$60,000
New York Agricultural Land Trust	Preble, Cortland County	Two-year grant will enable this 3-year old regional agricultural land trust to protect 5,000-10,000 acres in next 5 years by hiring its first Director of Conservation Programs and increasing assistance and services to landowners and state, county, and municipal partners in farmland protection. Grant includes a guided organizational assessment in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices.	\$75,000
Saratoga P.L.A.N.	Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County	Two-year grant will enable this 22-year old land trust with 1,583 acres under conservation easement and 1,514 acres in fee ownership to hire its first Director of Development & Community Support, expanding PLAN's regional presence and strengthening its community outreach program throughout Saratoga County. Grant includes a guided organizational assessment in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices.	\$55,000
Western New York Land Conservancy	East Aurora, Erie County	Two-year grant will enable this 18-year old land trust with 3,500 acres under conservation easement and 603 acres in fee ownership to hire its first Development Coordinator, develop a major fundraising program, and expand community outreach throughout Erie and Niagara counties. Grant includes a guided organizational assessment in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices.	\$75,000
Woodstock Land Conservancy	Woodstock, Ulster County	Two-year grant will enable this 21-year old Hudson Valley land trust with 157 acres under conservation easement and 208 acres in fee ownership to hire its first full time Executive Director and a part-time Outreach and Membership Coordinator to transform the capacity of WLC's conservation and education programs in Woodstock and the eastern Catskills. Grant includes a guided organizational assessment in accordance with Land Trust Standards and Practices.	\$75,000
		TOTAL	\$460,000

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Conservation Transaction Grants			
<u>Organization</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>
Agricultural Stewardship Association	Greenwich, Washington County	Braymer Farm Property - conservation easement (149.4 acres). Project will enable ASA to partner with The Conservation Fund to purchase a bargain-sale conservation easement on a working farm in the Batten Kill River watershed, expanding a significant block of conserved land near the New York/Vermont border.	\$7,500
Delaware Highlands Conservancy	Bethel, Sullivan County (project location)	Bethel Farm Property - conservation easement (119 acres). Project will help DHC, in partnership with Sullivan County, to acquire a conservation easement on a high-priority property with wetlands, wildlife habitat, and agricultural potential in the Upper Delaware River watershed.	\$13,250
Finger Lakes Land Trust	Ithaca, Tompkins County	Grimes Glen Protection Project - fee acquisition (32 acres) - Project will enable FLLT, in partnership with DEC and Ontario County, to acquire and permanently protect the heart of Grimes Glen, one of the Finger Lakes Region's premier gorges. FLLT will maintain public access to this cherished natural area.	\$14,907
Mohonk Preserve	New Paltz, Ulster County	Giant's Ledges - fee acquisition (175 acres) - Project will facilitate a partnership involving Mohonk Preserve and the Open Space Institute to acquire and manage two properties at the extreme northern end of the Shawangunk Mountain range. The project will protect some of the last stands of healthy hemlocks on the Shawangunk Ridge and habitat for rare plant and animal species.	\$20,600
New York-New Jersey Trail Conference	Monroe, Orange County (project location)	Shirazi-Monroe Property - fee acquisition (63 acres). Project will help NY-NJTC, in partnership with the Palisades Interstate Park Commission and Orange County, to complete the bargain-sale purchase of a key parcel adjacent to the Sterling Forest State Park, expanding an important natural area in close proximity to the New York City metropolitan area.	\$3,000
Orange County Land Trust	Middletown, Orange County	Kezialain Farm Property - conservation easement (166 acres). Project will help OCLT, in partnership with the NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets and Orange County, to facilitate the purchase of development rights on a family farm in the Town of Minisink. The working farm has been in the Lain family since 1775 and is now one of the few producers of USDA certified organic grass-fed beef in the greater Hudson Valley region.	\$9,500
Saratoga P.L.A.N.	Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County	McNight Property - fee acquisition (60 acres). Project will allow Saratoga PLAN to conserve woodland and wetland habitat for the threatened Blanding's Turtle, providing educational, recreational, and scenic benefits to the public. The project abuts the Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park and is in the NYS Open Space Plan's Saratoga County Wetlands and Sandplains Recovery Area.	\$10,000
St. Lawrence Land Trust	Canton, St. Lawrence County	Grasse River Property - conservation easement (182 acres). Project will help StLLT protect an environmentally significant property that contains farmland, wetlands and 2,500' of riparian habitat on the Grasse River, approximately one mile south of Canton and the Little River confluence. This project will triple the number of acres protected by the all-volunteer StLLT.	\$7,500
The Trust for Public Land, Mid-Atlantic Regional Office	Marlborough, Ulster County	Milton Riverfront Park Project - fee acquisition (14.5 acres). Project will help TPL, in partnership with the Town of Marlborough, Scenic Hudson, and the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, to acquire the Milton-Agway property and create a natural public recreation area, establishing the community's first direct public access to the Hudson River.	\$40,000
Wallkill Valley Land Trust	New Paltz, Ulster County	Old Ford Farm Project - conservation easement (51 acres). Project will enable WVLT to put a conservation easement on property containing quality agricultural soils and wetlands along the Wallkill River, a NYS Open Space Plan priority area. The parcel is contiguous to the first property conserved by WVLT in 1989 and is the site of a recently established farm that grows locally grown food for the New Paltz community.	\$4,500
		TOTAL	\$130,757

2009 Land Trust Grants - New York State Conservation Partnership Program

Summary of 2009 Conservation Partnership Program Grant Awards

<i>Grant Category</i>	<i>Grant Funding</i>	<i># of Grants</i>
Capacity & Excellence Grants	\$440,850	34
Assessment Grants (5)	\$25,000	
Capacity Grants (19)	\$329,250	
Stewardship Grants (10)	\$86,600	
Conservation Catalyst Grants	\$385,893	14
Professional Development Grants	\$460,000	7
Transaction Grants	\$130,757	10
TOTAL: 2009 NYSCPP GRANTS	\$1,417,500	65