

2006 Grant Awards - New York State Conservation Partnership Program

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS			
ORGANIZATION	NY OFFICE LOCATION	PURPOSE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT	GRANT AWARD
Genesee Land Trust	Rochester, Monroe County	To enable a 17-year old Rochester-area land trust with 840 acres under fee ownership, 400 acres under conservation easement, and 1100 acres under easement with 3rd party enforcement rights to hire its first land protection specialist and expand professional fundraising capacity. The land trust will utilize its enhanced professional capacity to significantly accelerate the pace of land conservation and pursue new partnership opportunities in the Greater Rochester area.	\$35,000.00
Orange County Land Trust	Middletown, Orange County	To enable a 13-year old land trust to hire a land protection and stewardship director. The land trust, which holds 1,072 acres in fee and 942 acres under easement, will leverage its strong donor base and accomplished communications program to protect critical open space, enhance stewardship practices, and build community support in Orange County, the fastest growing county in New York State.	\$45,000.00
Winnakee Land Trust	Rhinebeck, Dutchess County	To enable a 17-year old Hudson Valley land trust with 180 acres under fee ownership and 1,237 acres under conservation easement, to support its first full time Executive Director and its first full time program assistant. Winnakee Land Trust, which created the 21-mile Historic Heritage Greenway Hike & Bike Trail and the 8-mile Hyde Park Heritage Greenway Trail is a first-time NYSCPP grantee.	\$30,000.00
TOTAL			\$110,000.00



CAPACITY AND EXCELLENCE GRANTS

ORGANIZATION	NY OFFICE LOCATION	PURPOSE OF CAPACITY & EXCELLENCE GRANT	GRANT AWARD
Chenango Land Trust	Norwich, Chenango County	To initiate a campaign to lead board and staff members through a major organizational assessment and facilitate strategic planning process. Founded in 1993, the land trust serves Chenango County, which has the highest percentage of protected state lands outside the Catskill and Adirondack Parks. Chenango Land Trust is a first-time NYSCPP grantee.	\$1,000.00
Columbia Land Conservancy	Chatham, Columbia County	To develop a robust, customized stewardship database, based on the successful Vermont Land Trust model, that will improve management of 19,000+ acres of conservation easement and fee lands and prioritize stewardship needs. Columbia Land Conservancy will share the database model with other land trusts in New York and across the country.	\$9,700.00
Finger Lakes Land Trust	Ithaca, Tompkins County	To enable an eminent organizational development consultant to engage board and staff members of a growing regional land trust in a project to complete a comprehensive fundraising/development audit, a two-year fundraising plan, and a major donor fundraising workshop.	\$6,500.00
Mohonk Preserve	New Paltz, Ulster County	To develop a model partnership-based easement stewardship program that incorporates GIS maps and biodiversity data for Shawangunk Ridge. Grant funds will enable easement management training for Mohonk Preserve and four neighboring land trusts to incorporate state-of-the-art mapping techniques into land protection and to more fully implement the <i>Land Trust Standards & Practices</i> . Mohonk Preserve will also update 15 conservation easements and add biodiversity data to six of easements. Mohonk Preserve, a 43-year old land trust with 6,592 acres in fee and 425 acres under easement, is a first-time NYSCPP grantee.	\$8,750.00
North Elba Land Conservancy	Lake Placid, Essex County	To use GIS modeling and conservation planning experts to help the Lake Placid-area land trust and community identify and prioritize place-based conservation priorities. The project will include a conservation action plan and analysis of funding alternatives for top priority sites. North Elba Land Conservancy was founded in 2005 and is a first-time NYSCPP grantee.	\$13,500.00

ORGANIZATION	NY OFFICE LOCATION	PURPOSE OF CAPACITY & EXCELLENCE GRANT	GRANT AWARD
Putnam County Land Trust	Brewster, Putnam County	To bring the land trust's stewardship program into compliance with the <i>Land Trust Standards & Practices</i> by improving baseline documentation for 17 publicly accessible open space preserves, which comprise 510 acres held in fee. The project will develop a plan for managing future fee acquisitions and upgrading record keeping systems. Putnam County Land Trust, established in 1969, is a first-time NYSCPP grantee.	\$1,600.00
St. Lawrence Land Trust	Canton, St. Lawrence County	To refine and implement a strong board development plan, strategic financial plan, and strategic land protection plan, building on work funded by a NYSCPP grant awarded in 2005. This capacity-building project enable the land trust to serve a lead role in the Little River Conservation Initiative and more implement the <i>Land Trust Standards & Practices</i> .	\$10,000.00
Three Village Community Trust.	Setauket, Suffolk County	To complete a strategic planning process, working with the Board of Trustees and community partners in Setauket, East Setauket, South Setauket and Stony Brook, to review and refine the current strategic plan (2003-2008). This project will strengthen the land trust's fundraising plan and result in a work plan for targeting protection on 800 acres of potential conservation properties (5 acres or larger) that remain in this key part of eastern Long Island. Three Village Community Trust, established in 2004, is a first-time NYSCPP grantee.	\$4,000.00
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust	Watertown, Jefferson County	To enable Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust to partner with the local municipalities and Cornell University's Regional Planning Department to develop a comprehensive strategic land conservation plan. Grant funding will help to prioritize the proactive conservation and new partnership opportunities for the entire Tug Hill Plateau region, which includes numerous priority conservation areas listed in the 2005 NYS Open Space Plan, such as the "Tug Hill Core Forests & Headwater Streams".	\$5,500.00
Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park	Gansevoort, Saratoga County	To complete a comprehensive financial and board development plan and facilitated fundraising training for WWPP staff and board members. This project will elevate a community-based organization dedicated to protecting habitat sites for the federally-listed Karner blue butterfly to the next level of organizational capacity and financial independence. Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park, founded in 2001 in partnership with the State of New York, the Town of Wilton, and The Nature Conservancy, is a first-time NYSCPP grantee.	\$5,750.00
TOTAL			\$66,300.00

COLLABORATION GRANTS			
ORGANIZATION	NY OFFICE LOCATION	PURPOSE OF COLLABORATION GRANT	GRANT AWARD
American Farmland Trust - Northeast Region and Western New York Land Conservancy	Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County & East Aurora, Erie County	This collaboration will engage local governments and other new constituencies to accelerate the pace of farmland conservation across Western New York. This collaborative project will expand the organizations' operational, programmatic and fundraising partnership and provide regional training for other agricultural land trusts in the region. The collaboration will engage new partners, funders, and communities in farmland protection in areas of the state with limited farmland conservation experience. AFT is a first-time NYSCPP grantee.	\$14,500.00
Bronx Land Trust, Brooklyn Queens Land Trust, and Manhattan Land Trust	New York, New York County	This collaboration will initiate an integrated program of strategic planning for the three pioneering New York City land trusts. The project will include organizational "visioning" based on extensive community outreach, long-range planning, and a joint fundraising program for 64 community gardens held by the trusts. Grant funding will support organizational and capacity assessments of each of these urban land trusts and result in a plan to recruit and train board members and volunteers for the community gardens. These New York City land trusts, which benefitted from an organizational development grant awarded to the Trust for Public Land in 2004, are first-time NYSCPP grantees.	\$22,500.00
TOTAL			\$37,000.00



CONSERVATION CATALYST GRANTS			
ORGANIZATION	NY OFFICE LOCATION	PURPOSE OF CONSERVATION CATALYST GRANT	GRANT AWARD
Adirondack Land Trust/Nature Conservancy	Keene Valley, Essex County	To support and enhance a partnership between the Adirondack Land Trust, Tug Hill Commission, Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust, and other stakeholders to develop a joint forest protection strategy for the Black River Valley. This high-leverage grant project will provide funding that will help maintain and restore essential linkages and landscape-scale connectivity between the Adirondacks and Tug Hill Plateau.	\$16,350.00
Agricultural Stewardship Association	Greenwich, Washington County	To work with local towns, landowners, agencies, and other conservation partners to undertake a major conservation initiative within the Hudson River-Route 40 Corridor in Washington and northern Rensselaer counties. This project is expected to conserve 1,000-1,500 acres of high-quality farmland in a rapidly developing and agriculturally significant area that serves as a viewshed for Saratoga National Historical Park, a NYS Open Space Plan focus area.	\$16,000.00
Open Space Institute	New York, New York County	To develop a regional model for building land conservation partnerships in the Hudson Valley. OSI will work directly with two local land trusts, Wallkill Valley Land Trust and Woodstock Land Conservancy, by developing an innovative mentoring and training program. Grant funds will enable OSI to provide fundraising and conservation finance expertise to the land trusts, enabling them to access challenge grants and other resources necessary for accelerating local land protection. This initiative will serve as a model for collaboration amongst land trusts in the Hudson Valley and New York State. Open Space Institute, established in 1967 and responsible for protection of 90,000 acres in New York State, is a first-time NYSCPP grantee.	\$10,000.00
Somers Land Trust	Somers, Westchester	To support a partnership led by Somers Land Trust and involving Westchester Land Trust and Teatown Lake Reservation in support of the 654-acre Angle Fly preserve. Grant funds will help provide conservation planning assistance and targeted outreach to landowners and community partners to ensure long-term management and stewardship of the recently protected Angle Fly preserve, one of the largest single open-space purchases in Westchester County history. Somers Land Trust, founded in 1993, is a first-time NYSCPP grantee.	\$9,000.00
Western New York Land Conservancy	East Aurora, Erie County	To launch the Niagara Escarpment Legacy Project, an initiative to protect high-conservation value areas in the Niagara Escarpment landscape and its vicinity as a contiguous natural environment. This project will help the land trust work with municipal and community partners and funders to protect the last remaining undeveloped parcels along the Niagara Escarpment and to further ecological restoration of oak savannah forests and native grasslands in this priority conservation area.	\$16,800.00
TOTAL			\$68,150.00

CONSERVATION TRANSACTION GRANTS			
ORGANIZATION	NY OFFICE LOCATION	PURPOSE OF CONSERVATION TRANSACTION GRANT	GRANT AWARD
Agricultural Stewardship Association	Greenwich, Washington County	To help enable the bargain purchase of a conservation easement on the 244-acre Mulligan Farm, a scenic farm in the Route 372 special project area and Battenkill River Watershed.	\$4,600.00
Dutchess Land Conservancy	Millbrook, Dutchess County	To facilitate a purchase of development rights (PDR) project will protect the 189-acre Abel Tree Farm, owned and operated as a farm since 1850. The property includes a historic tree farm and 113 acres of prime and statewide important soils. The Abel Family plans to use the PDR funds to expand and diversify their Christmas tree operation by increasing their protection of landscape trees.	\$14,000.00
Finger Lakes Land Trust	Ithaca, Tompkins County	To help cover transaction costs associated with the purchase of a 33-acre property at the heart of Grimes Glen. The project will include providing primary public access to this important attraction, to be conveyed as a gift to Ontario County and subject to a conservation easement.	\$4,750.00
Genesee Land Trust	Rochester, Monroe County	To enable Genesee Land Trust to purchase 14 acres of Salmon Creek Wetlands immediately adjacent to the land trust's Salmon Creek Preserve and to 200 acres of New York State & town-held land recently acquired as part of the Braddock Bay Fish and Wildlife Management Area.	\$2,000.00
Genesee Valley Conservancy	Geneseo, Livingston County	To help the Genesee Valley Conservancy negotiate and complete an agricultural easement on a 233-acre working dairy farm in Groveland. It is hoped that project will serve as a successful model for future land protection efforts with local area farmers. (2006 grant award will be combined with \$3550 in previously allocated transaction grant funds, awarded in 2003 and remitted to LTA due project delays.)	\$1,000.00
Hudson Highlands Land Trust	Garrison, Putnam County	To facilitate a fee simple donation of a 27-acre undeveloped property in the North Highlands area of the Town of Philipsburg. HHLT will develop a preserve management plan that will result in permanent conservation of a critically important complex of wetland habitat in the Highlands Greenway Corridor, a priority area in NYS Open Space Plan.	\$8,250.00
Lake George Land Conservancy	Bolton Landing, Warren County	To help defray survey and other transaction costs incurred by the Lake George Land Conservancy, which will protect a 1,450 acre parcel in the Town of Lake George that contains the headwaters of West Brook, a major tributary to Lake George. Grant funds will support a detailed plan to protect and preserve critical near-shore and upland areas in the watershed; reduce discharge of untreated stormwater from nearby roads and highways; and minimize land use development impacts to the West Brook watershed. This is the largest single project funded to date by a NYSCPP transaction grant.	\$10,000.00

ORGANIZATION	NY OFFICE LOCATION	PURPOSE OF CONSERVATION TRANSACTION GRANT	GRANT AWARD
Mianus River Gorge Preserve, Inc.	Bedford, Westchester County	To help cover acquisition costs related to protection of a 3-acre parcel in the Town of Pound Ridge that will serve as a critical hardwood buffer to the Mianus Gorge. This compact protection project is crucial to the integrity of the Mianus River Gorge Preserve, the site of the The Nature Conservancy's first habitat protection project more than fifty years ago. Mianus River Gorge Preserve, which holds 753 acres in fee and 183 acres under easement, is a first-time NYSCPP grantee.	\$5,250.00
Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy	Slingerlands, Albany County	To enable the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy to cover survey and legal costs associated with the acquisition of a conservation easement on the 37-acre Crauer property in Wolf Hollow. This project will help protect Chaughtanoonda Creek, a Mohawk River tributary, and important archeological and geological research sites.	\$4,250.00
Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy	Slingerlands, Albany County	To help cover transactions costs associated with donation of a conservation easement on the 100-acre Schmidt property in Wolf Hollow. This project will add to a complex of protected lands in the Wolf Hollow/ Hoffman Fault area that were threatened by development. (2006 grant award will be combined with \$3500 in previously allocated transaction grant funds, awarded in 2003 and remitted to LTA due project delays.)	\$1,000.00
Mohonk Preserve	New Paltz, Ulster County	To help enable Mohonk Preserve to leverage additional funding and purchase a conservation easement on the multi-parcel Patinkin assemblage. This project will protect 49 acres of wetlands, streams, forest, and meadow habitat along the Rock Hill Ridge, located in the viewshed of the popular Mohonk Preserve Trails.	\$4,250.00
Northeast Wilderness Trust-NY Office	Essex, Essex County	To enable the Northeast Wilderness Trust to complete purchase and preservation of the 96-acre Murphy property, an key parcel located in the Boquet Mountain Forest Block and Split Rock Wildway, a habitat linkage extending from Champlain Valley lowlands to the Jay Range Wilderness in the Adirondack Park.	\$5,500.00
Peconic Land Trust	Southampton, Suffolk County	To help complete the bargain sale of an important Suffolk County farm that has been in agricultural use for over 100 years. This project will result in permanent conservation of an historic 17-acre farm in an area facing extreme development pressure.	\$8,500.00
Putnam County Land Trust	Brewster, Putnam County	To facilitate the acquisition of 90-acre property in Great Swamp with wetlands and surrounding uplands and to develop a plan allowing public access to this new preserve. Putnam County Land Trust, established in 1969, holds 510 acres in fee and is a first-time NYSCPP grantee.	\$8,250.00
Saratoga P.L.A.N.	Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County	To assist in the completion of a transaction resulting in donations of a 20-acre fee title property and conservation easement that will create an important new public access to a forest preserve in the Kayaderoseras Creek Corridor, designated for protection in the NYS Open Space Plan.	\$5,000.00

ORGANIZATION	NY OFFICE LOCATION	PURPOSE OF CONSERVATION TRANSACTION GRANT	GRANT AWARD
St. Lawrence Land Trust	Canton, St. Lawrence County	To enable the St. Lawrence land trust to close on its first conservation easement, a 40-acre property containing historic structures, old growth hardwood forest and 700' of riverfront on the Oswegatchie River. The project will protect habitat in the Lower St. Lawrence River area, listed as a an Important Bird Area by New York Audubon. historic structures.	\$5,700.00
The Nature Conservancy, Central & Western New York Chapter	Rochester, Monroe County	To assist with the critical acquisition of 600-acres of forest in three forest blocks totalling 21,000 bank feet of Cattaraugus Creek frontage. This project will help connect currently protected acreage into an intact landscape of contiguous, permanently protected blocks of forestland.	\$7,750.00
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust	Watertown, Jefferson County	To complete a conservation easement on a 262-acre property in the town of Osceola, Lewis County. This project will secure an important parcel in the The Nature Conservancy's Tug Hill buffer area, which surrounds its 14,000-acre Tug Hill preserve and working forest.	\$2,250.00
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust	Watertown, Jefferson County	To complete a conservation easement on a 248-acre property in the town of Osceola, Lewis County. This project will protect a privately owned parcel that is close to the The Nature Conservancy's Tug Hill prserve and in watershed of the the East Branch of Fish Creek State Forest. area, which surrounds its 14,000-acre Tug Hill preserve and working forest.	\$2,250.00
Wallkill Valley Land Trust, Inc.	New Paltz, Ulster County	To defray land protection costs and help the Wallkill Valley Land Trust achieve the objectives of its \$926,000 <i>Two Farms Campaign</i> , an initiative to conserve two historic farms in the Town and Village of New Paltz. The purchase of conservation easements on the Jewett and Huguenot Street farms will protect 180 acres - including the last remaining working farmland in the Huguenot Street Historic District - and nearly a mile of frontage along the scenic Wallkill River.	\$14,000.00
TOTAL			\$118,550.00

2005-2006 NYSCPP GRANT SUMMARY

GRANT CATEGORY	#	TOTAL GRANT AWARD
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS	3	\$110,000.00
CAPACITY & EXCELLENCE GRANTS	15	103,300.00
CONSERVATION CATALYST GRANTS	5	\$68,150.00
CONSERVATION TRANSACTION GRANTS	20	\$118,550.00
TOTAL NYSCPP GRANT AWARDS	43	\$400,000.00