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OCTOBER 7, 2016

Westchester Land Trust & Putnam County Land Trust
Permanently Protect 81-Acre Nature Preserve in Southeast, NY

SOUTHEAST, NY— The eighty-one acre Garden Recreational Preserve is now permanently protected thanks to an ongoing collaboration between the Putnam County Land Trust (PCLT) and the Westchester Land Trust (WLT). Named in honor of the family that generously donated the property, the Preserve has been owned by PCLT and managed as a public sanctuary since 2014. In early October 2016, PCLT granted WLT a conservation easement on the Preserve, which extinguishes all future development rights and establishes a framework for how the two organizations will co-lead the long-term stewardship of the property. The Garden Recreational Preserve is the eighth joint preservation project completed by WLT & PCLT.

David Emerson, Land Project Manager at WLT, said that by combining the local knowledge of PCLT with WLT’s professional staff, the two groups are helping to preserve some of eastern Putnam County’s most ecologically significant lands. “This is exactly the kind of result we were hoping for”, said Judi Terlizzi, President of PCLT’s Board of Trustees. “Together, we’ve not only preserved a significant parcel but we’ve furthered both organizations’ missions by working collaboratively in this unique landscape.”

“Westchester Land Trust looks forward to continuing our work with PCLT to ensure that the woodlands, scenic views, and recreation corridors remain preserved forever,” said Westchester Land Trust’s President, Lori J. Ensinger.

One of the first land trusts in the nation to be accredited, Westchester Land Trust stewards nearly 200 easements on over 5,300 acres spread throughout Westchester and eastern Putnam Counties. PCLT’s preserves cover more than 1100 acres, and offers opportunities for hiking, biking, fishing, birdwatching, along with other forms of passive recreation. For more information on the Garden Recreational Preserve, visit: pclt.net/preserves/

ABOUT WESTCHESTER LAND TRUST
Based in Bedford Hills, the Westchester Land Trust works with public and private partners to preserve land in perpetuity and to enhance the natural resources in Westchester and eastern Putnam counties—a densely populated region under persistent threat from the pressures of development. Through the use of conservation easements and acquisition of land, WLT’s efforts benefit the long-term health of these communities by safeguarding air quality, food supply and community character, as well as critical watershed areas. Since its founding in 1988, WLT has preserved almost 8,000 acres of open space including more than 700-acres of preserves owned by the organization which are free and open to the public year round. For more information about WLT, please visit westchesterlandtrust.org and connect with us on Facebook & Instagram (@WestchesterLandTrust) as well as Twitter (@WLT_NY).
ABOUT PUTNAM COUNTY LAND TRUST
Established in 1969, Putnam County Land Trust is one of the oldest land trusts in New York State. Working with various governmental agencies, conservation organizations, and the public, PCLT has protected natural resources through ownership of sensitive lands, easements, planning strategies, and environmental education. To date, over 1,100 acres of diverse habitat have been protected. In addition, PCLT has spearheaded the creation and adoption of legislation -- Resolution R-555. The measure has, in turn, preserved over 2,000-acres as Putnam County Conservation Areas. To learn more, visit: pclt.net

IMAGE
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