



Livy Strong
Chair

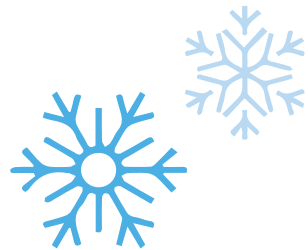
John Koier
Vice Chair

Phyl Newbeck
Secretary

Hilaire Thomas
Treasurer

Sabina Ernst

Michael Lazorchak



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BURLINGTON, VT
PERMIT NO. 357

Forwarding Service Requested

Membership Matters!



LAND TRUST NEWS

Preserving Open Lands In Our Towns

Winter 2019

WINTER THOUGHTS



We have entered the frozen and magical season of winter. Each morning brings a new landscape to be rediscovered. Silent snow has blanketed the ground once more, muffling neighborhood sounds. Naked trees pierce the bright blue sky while the evergreens are draped in white. This quiet season is livened by the joy of children skating, sliding, and playing. Colorfully dressed, they sparkle against a white backdrop. How fortunate we are to experience this enchanted time in a place that we all call home.



Mills Riverside Park

Help Protect our future landscape... TODAY

Please note: All JULT memberships now run on a calendar year from January 1st to December 31st.

Please sign me up for:

- Conservator** Membership \$500
- Steward** Membership \$100
- Sponsor** Membership \$50
- Family** Membership \$35
- Individual** Membership \$25
- Student/Senior** Membership \$10
- Lifetime** Membership \$1,000
(Beat inflation and avoid renewal notices!)

Please contact me regarding:

- Conservation options for my land
- Making a gift of stock
- Other planned giving opportunities
- Volunteer opportunities:
 - Fundraising/Events
 - Office/Administration
 - Trails/Land Stewardship

Other Considerations:

- My employer's matching gift is enclosed.
- Please **do not** send me a "Thank-you" gift.
- I wish to remain anonymous.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Please make **checks** payable to **JULT** and mail to the address below. Or you may **pay by credit card** via our website: www.jult.org. All contributions are tax-deductible.

P.O. Box 80 • Jericho, VT 05465-0080 • 802-899-2693 • julandtrust@gmail.com • www.jult.org
www.facebook.com/Jericho-Underhill-Land-Trust



We're on the web: www.jult.org

Remember to "Like" us on



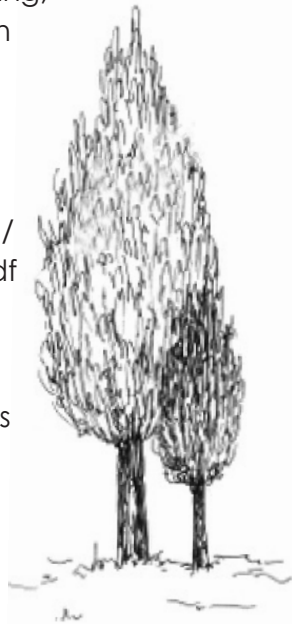
Why Conserve Land?

The subject of land conservation can seem complicated, academic and even irrelevant to many. Indeed, the process can be intricate and the decision to conserve difficult. So, how do people benefit directly from permanent land protection in the broadest sense? How is land conservation "real" in our community? In 2018, The Trust for Public Land conducted an economic analysis in Vermont and discovered many interesting facts. They found that for every \$1 spent in land conservation by the state, \$9 is returned in economic value. For example, land conservation reduces the ongoing fragmentation of our forests and helps to ensure that the forest products industry can continue. This is worth \$1.48 billion and supports 10,600 jobs. Our farming community also benefits from conserved land with \$786 million in agricultural and dairy products. Whether one buys fresh produce at the local farmers' market, farm stand or store, conserved agricultural land helps to safeguard our rural heritage. Conservation lands are also imperative to our state's tourism and outdoor recreation industry. Each year, tourists spend \$2.61 billion in Vermont. What is the attraction? Breathtaking scenic vistas, amazing fall foliage, rural expanses, and year round recreational opportunities. Of course, Vermonters enjoy the outdoors as well with 72% participating. Taken together, residents and tourists generate \$5.5 billion annually in our state and create 51,000 jobs with \$1.5 billion in wages and salaries. What else can land conservation

do? Protected lands enhance water quality, flood resilience and reduce the negative effects of climate change. Diverse wildlife habitats benefit as well. Health care costs are also decreased with exercise as a key component in fighting obesity, chronic illnesses and depression. Improving our "quality of life" helps to retain and attract workers and fuels our economy. Contrary to popular belief, conserved land often reduces property tax bills as municipal service demands do not increase compared to development.

It is clear that Vermont's return on investment in land conservation is extraordinary with a \$1 to \$9 return ratio. Furthermore, every dollar of state funding is leveraged with other non-state monies such as fundraising, grants and town conservation funds. For a more detailed breakdown of the Trust for Public Land's report, please go to: https://www.tpl.org/sites/default/files/files_upload/Vt.ROI_8_16_18final.digital.pdf

Conserved land in your town with some state and/or Town conservation funding includes Mills Riverside Park, Old Mill Park, Casey's Hill, and the Barber Farm.



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Your all-volunteer, local land trust depends on membership contributions to support our land conservation work. Without these funds, we would not be able to reach out to landowners, engage the community, and steward the Wolfrun Natural Area and Kikas Valley Farm. Please consider becoming a member or renewing your membership to keep us active and involved in important and permanent land conservation.

Michael Lazorchak Joins the JULT Board of Trustees

We are excited to welcome Michael to our board. Here is a little about him.

After graduating from Vermont Law School, Michael moved west and worked for law firms, environmental non-profit groups, and as a wildland firefighter for interagency hotshot crews and a helitack crew. While in the western states and working on landscape conservation, federal public land and resources law, and

land transactions, Michael kept an eye towards the Green Mountains of Vermont. Now working as an attorney for a Montpelier based law firm and getting reacquainted with the Northeastern winters, Michael hopes to help the land trust conserve more landscapes in Jericho and Underhill, serve the local community and working lands, and share his love of open spaces with anyone who'll listen.

Volunteer Opportunities with Us

Let's talk about how you would like to contribute your skills and interests to further conservation, environmental education, and help steward JULT owned properties. Jobs vary according to your skills, interests, and availability.

Stewardship – Trail Care and Invasive plant removal

- **Be a Trail Care Partner!** Adopt a favorite trail for a year, make a commitment to monitor the trail at least annually, and conduct light maintenance as needed.
- **Join our Trail Care Crew!** Join our team of volunteers who help build trails, clear deadfall, and reroute for safety under the direction of our Land Stewardship Director. At least several times a year we have a scheduled work day on one of our properties.

Education & Outreach

- Help encourage the next generation of land stewards by assisting with environmental education programs.
- Share your love of the trails by leading guided hikes (offered in Spring and Fall).
- Help us with Information booths and community events.

Events & Administration

- Volunteering at Land Trust events means fun for a great cause! Share your event ideas and your energy!
- If you prefer to work indoors, we'd love to have you help us with some office work.



**Please contact JULT at 899-2693
or julandtrust@gmail.com with any questions.**