

CONNECTICUT
Land Conservation Council

**Land Conservation
Call to Action!
March 23 - 25, 2015**

WHAT: Take ONE of the following actions this week!

- Write your State Legislators
- Call your State Legislators
- Schedule a visit with your State Legislators (*We can help!*)
- Write an op-ed or letter-to-the-editor for your local paper

WHY: **It is a critical time for conservation!**

CT is in a budget crisis. The General Assembly is considering cuts and legislation that will have lasting impacts on conservation, *including:*

- A complete sweep of the Community Investment Act over the next 2 years (plus an additional \$10 million taken from existing open space funds)
- Cutting \$2 million/year from our State Parks
- Eliminating the funding for the Council on Environmental Quality
- Conveying public lands to municipalities and private entities

WHO: **People and organizations like you who care about conservation!**

HOW: **Send a strong message to your lawmakers that conservation matters to you and your community.**

(See reverse side for a suggested format)

GOAL: **Every State Legislator receives at least one conservation contact this week.**

To find your legislators and their contact info, visit:

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/CGAFindLeg.asp>

In your own words ...

Dear State Rep/State Senator _____:

I am concerned about the proposed cuts to the Budget targeting the Community Investment Act, State Parks and the Council on Environmental Quality. I also feel very strongly that the protection of state-owned conservation lands is a matter of public trust and that they should not be sold or given away by the state without a comprehensive review and ample opportunity for public input.

The CIA/State Parks & Forests/CEQ are important to me and my community because:

[Provide your own examples of how the cuts and state land transfers will impact you and your community, such as:

- a story, an experience and a photo exemplifying the importance of conservation to you & your town*
- a description of the work of your organization, its volunteers, and the impacts your programs have had on your community]*

Thank you, in advance, for your support on this/these important issues!

Your Name & Organization (if applicable)

Thank you! Now more than ever, we need to stand together!

CLCC Steering Committee

Alicia Sullivan, Chair (Trust for Public Land), **Catherine Rawson, Vice-Chair** (Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust), **Tim Abbott**, (Litchfield Hills Greenprint), **David Bingham** (Salem Land Trust), **David Brown** (Middlesex Land Trust), **Sandy Breslin** (Audubon Connecticut), **Margot Burns** (Lower Connecticut River Council of Governments), **Kevin Case** (Land Trust Alliance), **Eric Hammerling** (Connecticut Forest & Park Association), **Michael Hveem** (Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust), **Elaine LaBella** (Housatonic Valley Association), **Connie Manes** (Kent Land Trust), **Elisabeth Moore** (Connecticut Farmland Trust), **Shirley Nichols** (Darien Land Trust), **Tom ODell** (Connecticut Assn. of Conservation and Inland Wetland Commissions), **David Sutherland** (The Nature Conservancy), **Humphrey Tyler** (Lyme Land Conservation Trust)

Staff

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The Connecticut Land Conservation Council's mission is to advocate for land preservation, stewardship and funding, and ensure the long term strength and viability of the land conservation community.

www.ctconservation.org

For more information contact: abpaterson@ctconservation.org