



1997 ANNUAL REPORT

The New Jersey Natural Lands Trust



Statement of Purpose

The New Jersey Natural Lands Trust was created in 1968 by the Legislature as an independent agency with the mission to preserve land in its natural state for enjoyment by the public and to protect natural diversity through the acquisition of open space. The Trust preserves land primarily by donations of open space through acquisition of title in fee simple or of conservation easements, and manages its properties to conserve endangered species habitat, rare natural features, and significant ecosystems. Access to Trust lands is generally not restricted. The Trust invites passive use by the public for recreational or educational purposes wherever such use will not adversely affect natural communities and biological diversity.

The Trust also recognizes that ownership and management alone are not enough to achieve its mission. Public education is an integral function of protecting natural diversity. The Trust distributes printed information and sponsors interpretive programs and seminars designed to convey a conservation ethic for the protection of open space and its natural values.

Photos:

4-Mile Branch at Sicklerville Road Bridge
by Martin Rapp

Front Cover (L to R):
Highfields Preserve, by Martin Rapp;
Milford Bluffs, by Martin Rapp;
Mankiller Preserve, by Martin Rapp.

In 1997...

...the Natural Lands Trust again found little idle time and concentrated on completing 19 individual closings, bringing approximately 944 acres under Trust stewardship. The size of the acquisitions range from the new 382 acre Penny Pot Preserve in Camden County, to a small addition to our Moorestown Preserve in Burlington County. Working closely with the Green Acres Program in the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we were able to secure protection of several parcels significant for their rare species habitat. As we enter 1998, the Trust has responsibility for nearly 10,800 acres throughout the State, and expects to protect additional open space in the future.

In February, the Governor replaced Frank Leary as a member of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Leary was first appointed to the Natural Lands Trust in January 1984. He served with distinction and dedication to the Trust with an outstanding record of attendance and contribution to evaluation of land offerings, often inspecting sites and providing his valuable environmental expertise. In 1996, Mr. Leary was elected Chairperson of the Board and

continued his exuberance in a leadership role, convening a strategic planning session of the Board and staff. His didactic persona will be missed by all. His replacement, Thomas Gilmore, President of the New Jersey Audubon Society, is no stranger to the Trust. Mr. Gilmore was first appointed to the Board in 1993 but replaced in the latter part of 1995. His administrative and environmental background are well known throughout the State and will be a valuable asset to the Board in the future, as it has been in the past.

As a result of the vacancy created, Sally Dudley was unanimously elected as Chairperson of the Board this past March. Ms. Dudley, Executive Director of the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC), was first appointed to the Board in 1993. Her experience as a Trustee dates back further when Ms. Dudley represented the Department of Environmental Protection on the Board in her position as staff to the Assistant Commissioner for Natural and Historic Resources.

Photo:
Vernal Pond at Tilton's Creek
by Martin Rapp



Photo:
3 Rivers Preserve
by Martin Rapp



Photo:
Fire Aftermath at Crossley Preserve
by Martin Rapp



Working Together for a Common Goal

In a display of corporate civic responsibility, 382 acres of dense pitch pine lowlands and hardwood swamp in Winslow Township, Camden County were donated to the Trust by BASF Corporation through a coordinated effort between the Trust and the Trust for Public Land. BASF Corporation is among the top ten producers of chemicals and related products in the United States, Canada and Mexico. As a successful industry and business leader, the company was aware that the donation of the property without support for stewardship would not be sufficient to provide long-term protection to the resources. As part of the negotiations, BASF generously agreed to donate \$33,000 to offset management costs associated with the property now known as the Penny Pot Preserve. Originally purchased for use as a future plant site, some clearing of a small section of the parcel had occurred several years back by predecessor companies later acquired by BASF. The Trust hopes to be able to organize a tree planting event to reforest these sandy areas surrounding several small ponds.

The Natural Lands Trust and Trust for Public Land (TPL) also jointly orchestrated the addition of two more pieces of a puzzle making up a potential 1000 acre greenway along Barnegat Bay. Identified in TPL's "Century Plan" initiative, the property lies between Ocean County's Catus Island Park and Dover Township's Shelter Cove Park. The 19 acres of spartina salt marsh with pitch pine along the upland edges was donated to the Trust by TPL and, when joined with the existing Trust Tilton's Creek Preserve and other publicly held lands in the area, provide important stopover habitat for waterfowl along the Atlantic Flyway. Located on the western shore of the Barnegat Bay section of the Intercoastal Waterway, the protection of Tilton's Point will provide added benefits to the citizens of New Jersey, including the preservation of endangered species habitat and expected archeological sites associated with Revolutionary War saltworks and Lenni Lenape Indian activity.

The business of preserving natural diversity through land acquisition can be a complicated matter and often involves the work of a number of organizations. Not all may participate in the direct acquisition of property, but help can take many forms to accomplish the goal of protection. The NJDEP Office of Natural Resource Damages is one associate that insured Trust protection of critical endangered species habitat this year. While working towards closing on a parcel at the Trust's Four Mile Branch Preserve, the payment of substantial back taxes became an obstacle that threatened to stop acquisition. Because of limited funding, the Trust requests each donor of property to pay real estate taxes until the end of the year of closing. However, the donors were not in a position to do so. The Office of Natural Resource Damages manages a fund used to mitigate natural resource damages caused by accidental release of hazardous materials. The presence of a federally-endangered swamp pink population on-site allowed the Office to use funds to pay the back taxes and insure protection of the palustrine hardwood forest habitat. Without the assistance of the Office, the Trust would not have acquired this sensitive land for future protection.

The Legacy and Poetry of the 3 Rivers Preserve

The natural diversity of a property may already be protected by a conservation group but, for a variety of reasons, it may make sense to transfer the land to another preservation entity. In 1984, the Evans family and the members of the Four Way Lodge donated 189 acres of land to the Natural Lands Trust, Inc. (NLTPA), a land protection agency incorporated in Pennsylvania. In 1995, NLTPA and representatives of the original donors suggested a transfer to the New Jersey

Natural Lands Trust since the Trust already owned and managed several other properties in the immediate vicinity of the Evans/Four Way properties. As a part of the negotiations and the cooperative effort to seek the best way to further ensure the preservation of the scenic, historic and natural values of the bucolic property, the parties also agreed to have a conservation easement, to be held by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, placed on the property.

Lying within the heart of the Pinelands National Reserve in Hamilton Township, Atlantic County, this mature pitch pine and oak forest straddles the Great Egg Harbor River at the confluence of the Mares Run and Dead River just northwest of Lake Lenape and the town of Mays Landing. Descendants of the original Evans family continue to use a 5-acre site on the Dead River, retained at the time of the original donation of the properties, as a family vacation respite. Members of the Four Way Lodge had also chosen to retain an additional 5-acre site surrounding the still-existing lodge.

The rustic log cabin, reminiscent of "Teddy" Roosevelt era hunting lodges, was constructed in 1912 to serve as a weekend retreat for a beloved schoolmaster, Thomas K. Brown, and a group of former students from Westtown Friends School. Master Thomas had suggested the name "Four Way Lodge", borrowed from the Kipling poem *The Feet of the Young Men*, reflecting an interest in the wilderness and open air. He had hoped that his students would occasionally meet at the lodge to revive their memories of happy times and common experiences in the woods and on the water. In a sense, it was the legacy of this man, who so ably instilled the love and appreciation of the outdoors and nature in the original membership of the Four Way Lodge, that resulted in the odyssey to preserve this pearl in the necklace of publicly owned parklands along the federally designated Wild and Scenic Great Egg Harbor River. Because of the continued presence of the donors in the immediate area, the Trust looks forward to their assistance in the daily monitoring of the 3 Rivers Preserve.

Photo:
Penny Pot Preserve
by Martin Rapp

Partnerships Work

Partnerships can be elaborate contractual arrangements or as simple as the informal referral network of potential donors that exists within the New Jersey conservation community. One illustration of this pervasive spirit of cooperation is the New Jersey Conservation Foundation's referral of the Adelstein family land donation resulting in the protection of 16 acres now known as the Cemetery Bend Preserve in Monroe Township, Middlesex County. Another, albeit a bit more complicated, example was an offer by Mr. and Mrs. Francesco Cataldo to sell their 86 acres of forested wetlands in Franklin Township, Gloucester County to the Green Acres Program. While the purchase did not meet Green Acres' criteria, the Trust's Real Estate Coordinator, Beverly A. Mazzella, thought the South Jersey Land Trust might be actively acquiring land in the area and referred the offer of sale to that organization. The local land trust was able to determine that a donation of the property would also meet the Cataldo's financial needs. The South Jersey Land Trust did not, however, wish to hold the land in perpetuity and asked that the Natural Lands Trust accept the donation, which became known as the Black Acres Preserve. This dense wetland, known locally as White Oak Swamp, is dominated by the trees of its namesake with an understory of black huckleberry abundant along the narrow paths.

Partnerships can also be the attainment of personal objectives by each of the participants. The Green Acres Program acquires land for open space, often referring potential donations of land for preservation by the Trust. This year's establishment of the Trust's Buckhorn Creek Preserve in White Township, Warren County resulted from such a situation. Located at the base of Scott's Mountain and transected by Buckhorn Creek, the 38 acres, including an active beaver colony, was offered to Green Acres and, subsequently, to the Trust by Leonard and Lois Green. Working with the Trust, the owners were able to see the property preserved for the benefit of the public while meeting their financial need to liquidate the assets of their business corporation.

Photo:

Ash Trees at Cemetery Bend
by Martin Rapp



Grandma's Place

Through the continuing generosity of Robert C. Vanderbilt, the Trust received the donation of an additional 27.7 acres of land lying adjacent to more than 213 acres of public lands located in Byram Township, Sussex County. Included in this total are an elementary school, municipal park, township recreation area, and the Trust's 63 acre Lubbers Run Preserve.

The Preserve is named after the meandering, cold, clear waterway "Bobby" Vanderbilt fished in as a boy on holidays while visiting grandma's in the country. Through the years, Mr. Vanderbilt came to own "grandma's place", the site of many fond memories. Unfortunately, times change and he is now living out of the area, has married and taken on other responsibilities which don't allow him to visit as much as in the past. Sadly, he has had to make the decision to sell the house. He was enthusiastic when he realized that he could play a part in the preservation of the Lubbers Run watershed which is so dear to him while selling the home to another for enjoyment. In 1996, Mr. Vanderbilt donated all but the 3 acre homesite of "grandma's place" on the south side of Lackawanna Road. But, he didn't stop there.

Trust staff worked with him on the 1997 donation of additional acreage in order to expand the Preserve to the north side of Lackawanna Road. Mr. Vanderbilt's appreciation of the value of open space preservation and his sentimental ties to the land resulted in the preservation of these boulder strewn uplands and emergent marsh maintained by an active colony of beavers. Secure in the knowledge that Trust ownership would protect the lands from indiscriminate development, Mr. Vanderbilt was to find that his benevolence would also afford him some attractive federal income tax advantages. At the same time, he enjoys the thought that perhaps another little boy may have the same memories of "the big one that got away"!

Additions Increase Size of Preserves

In order for staff to be in a position to act quickly in both negotiations and transfer of property rights, the Board of Trustees has pre-approved selected project areas encompassing defined limits of Trust preservation interest. Small acquisitions gradually fill in the pieces of a project area until they become large preserves of protected open space. The 5-acre parcel donated by Paul R. and Dolores J. Lorey represents the twelfth addition to the 458 acres held by the Trust within the Costa Preserve in Hamilton Township, Atlantic County. Likewise, the small lot donated by Norma Lehmberg in memory of her mother, Elsie Geder, became the fifty-first addition to the Moorestown Preserve which is designed to provide protection for one of the largest stands of trees in Moorestown Township, Burlington County.

Sometimes project areas are established by the Trust because of an opportunity to connect with and enlarge open space held by the Trust or others. The small lots donated by Rose Ziegler and Frank and Marion Czirok added 3 acres to Trust holdings within the West Plains Project Area in Barnegat Township, Ocean County. The area lies adjacent to a much larger portion of the West Pine Plains, a pitch pine forest where trees rarely grow to more than five feet high. This portion of the Plains, stunted by the natural cycle of wildfires, is managed by the Division of Parks and Forestry. The properties are also located in the Pinelands Preservation Area, providing property owners the opportunity to apply for and receive Pinelands Development Credits (PDC's), removing from the land the right of development. Many landowners then look to an organization, such as the Trust, to accept the remaining title and manage the land in perpetuity as open space.

Similar to PDC's, Hamilton Township, Atlantic County has adopted transfer of development rights practices where the density credit from an environmentally sensitive area can be transferred to a more appropriate location for development. This is done

through deed restricting an environmentally sensitive "building" lot for the benefit of an undersized building lot hoped to be developed, with the restricted lot being transferred to an organization like the Trust. This was the case when Daniel G. and Linda Gross asked Guy Tunney, a local real estate entrepreneur and a previous Trust donor, for his guidance on such a transaction. The 9.73 acre wooded parcel is bisected by the Jack Pudding Branch of the Great Egg Harbor River and lies directly adjacent to five other parcels at the Trust's Mankiller Preserve.

Many Stewards with a Common Goal

Overlooking the Delaware River, it is a majestic, yet peaceful place known as Milford Bluffs. You can see for miles across the sparkling water to the rolling hills of Pennsylvania. It is an area of unique beauty and hidden natural values. The Natural Lands Trust in concert with the New Jersey Chapter of The Nature Conservancy has undertaken an effort to wisely and responsibly manage this Preserve for its diversity of species. The 202-acre Milford Bluffs Preserve managed by the Trust is a area of forest and field adjacent to the 37 acres of red shale bluff carved out along the bank of the Delaware and owned by The Nature Conservancy. "The Trust and Conservancy are working together here, each an independent property owner with a mutual goal to see the bluffs and adjacent lands maintained in a natural setting for the benefit of species diversity" says Andrea Stevens,

the Conservancy's Director of Science and Stewardship.

A management plan is being written to provide specific direction and guide the wise stewardship of this land. The first step in such an endeavor is careful monitoring, observation and reporting, a necessary but time consuming element in the process. For this, the Trust has enlisted the aid of its on-site tenant, Wendy Chase. Trust Ecologist Martin Rapp says "Wendy has lived here for years and truly has a rooted love for this property. By her regular walks and observations, the Trust is always aware of public use, seasonal changes and the wonders of nature." Wendy files a report each month and calls immediately if a problem arises, giving Martin time to focus on ecological management objectives at the preserve. Volunteers Greg Wentzel and John Slowinski have also helped the Trust, and Martin, dedicating an entire weekend to cutting 14 acres of old field. Using their own tractor and equipment, Greg and John began implementing an important field management plan that will keep 50 acres in various stages of old field succession for grassland songbirds.

Likewise, the Conservancy is calling on the assistance of volunteers to assist with monitoring the spread of non-native invasive vegetation along the top of the bluffs. It has trained a person to identify invasive plants within a designated monitoring plot, chosen to represent a typical plant community. By documenting the species and the percentage of the area they cover, a baseline is set in time to determine the relative spread of invasive plants in future years. In the future, the Conservancy will be calling on volunteers to begin supervised removal of invasive plants at targeted locations in an effort to protect habitat for rare and sensitive native plants.

Photo:
Mankiller Preserve
by Martin Rapp

Photo:
Installing Fence Post at Sands Point
by Martin Rapp

Communities Rally for the Resources

Open space is an important and necessary component of all communities. Parks and nature preserves provide citizens with an opportunity for outdoor retreats from hectic daily activities, allowing the simple pleasures of walking, fishing and nature observation. These open spaces also provide protection for local wildlife though the preservation of forests, fields, marsh and other natural communities. Fortunately, residents of the communities within which the Natural Lands Trust manages properties understand and appreciate these values. Individuals and groups are joining together to insure that the Trust Preserve in their community continues to be a local asset.

For several years, the Edison Greenways Group and Edison Wetlands Association, working with other local environmental organizations, have sponsored clean up days and guided walks at the Trust's Stevens Preserve. This year, their efforts also included constructing a permanent sign identifying the Preserve. In Ocean County, at the Sands Point Harbor Preserve, it wasn't too long after posting boundaries that neighbors contacted the Trust, excited and wanting to know more about the site and what they could do to maintain it. For a long time, the neighbors had been picking up trash along the bayshore and roadside in the area. After learning that the Trust would be managing the property, they wanted to do even more.

Not only did the Trust want to keep vehicles from driving along the sensitive bay shore, it was a goal of the

local residents as well. With a common goal in mind, and neighbor working with neighbor, the community gathered pilings, lumber, nails, shovels and post hole diggers from backyards and garages. Husbands, wives and the Trust ecologist began constructing a barrier to keep trucks off the sensitive beach. Working with friends, the job goes quickly. Now the beach is still accessible for walkers but the vehicles stay parked on the pavement.

In Sussex County, the Byram Township Environmental Commission and representatives of the Planning Board joined the Trust ecologist for a nature walk through the Lubbers Run Preserve. A study commissioned by the Township had identified areas, including this Trust property, as part of a greenway along the Lubbers Run, a trout maintenance stream which flows into the Musconetcong River. "The evening walk was informative and a pleasure", said Margaret McGarrity of the Byram Environmental Commission. A trail planned at the Preserve will join with a small nature trail already in place at the elementary school next door. The Preserve is becoming an example of how open space can provide linkages within a community; further enhancing the resident's quality of life.

Photo:
Volunteers at Stevens Preserve
by Walter Stocher, Jr.



Love of the Land

Each cool morning, the woodstove is lit by Goyn Reinhardt and lovingly tended to as it has been for a decade or two. Just as assuredly, the cats he has grown to love come from the fields and woods to warm themselves by the heat of the stove. To this small cabin at the corner of Reinhardt and Clove Roads, Goyn makes his ten mile drive from Port Jervis each morning and late afternoon to take care of his "kitties". He also comes to watch over the land he and his family have loved for years, land that he has donated to the Natural Lands Trust.

Goyn grew up in a farm house across from the small cabin on Clove Road in Montague Township, Sussex County. Goyn knows every trail and detail of the forest and meadows that surround this small cabin. This land of tall oaks, hemlock, hickory and maple have been passed down through the Nearpass generations, his mother's side of the family. A barn on Clove Road was built by his grandfather in 1840 to house the cows that pastured down along Clove Brook and to store hay cut from the adjacent fields. Goyn's love for this land is genuine and his stories about it fascinating. Stories of long walks over the mountain, to play a game of checkers with the neighbor; of the limestone quarry where his grandfather worked, and how the old lime kiln fire glowed days at a time on property along Clove Road.

Photo:

Goyn and One of His Kittens



The way Goyn looks at it, the farm had been passed down to him for his care, a responsibility Goyn gladly accepted and upholds to this day. However, in 1973 the property tax assessments in Montague began to increase substantially. Goyn was finding taxes too costly but didn't want to let his family's legacy go for development. Conservation options seemed limited then and Goyn wanted assurance that the land would always be protected and kept natural. The objectives of the Trust to hold property in its natural state for lasting preservation, and elimination of the property tax burden, was a perfect solution for Goyn. That year, he donated 240 acres of his land to the Natural Lands Trust.

This year Goyn again favored the Trust with a wonderful donation of 13 forested acres to add to the Reinhardt Preserve, named in his honor. When the family were active farmers, this land was field, as evidenced by stone walls now forming lines through the woods of maples and oaks. These woods hold a particularly sentimental value to Goyn and he has requested that these 13 acres of woods never be touched or disturbed by bulldozer. Of course, the Trust will respect that request, once an existing old dwelling on the property is demolished. Goyn's love of the land has inspired his neighbors as well. Two of them have donated conservation easements to the Trust totaling 57 acres and linking the Reinhardt Preserve and High Point State Park.

Goyn is now 90 years young, though "19" might be more descriptive of his spirit as he chops wood for the stove, and gathers up the kitties for their afternoon treats. Hiking around the Preserve, he still looks both ways before crossing Clove Road. An old ham radio operator, Goyn turns up the volume on his hearing aid a bit higher these days, but his is a story we should all know. If we take time to listen to Goyn Reinhardt and learn the same love of the land, we too will look both ways—to protect our land for future generations as we admire all that it holds from the past. Learning from a truly wonderful man has been a delight for the Trust staff. Thank you, Goyn.

Photo:

Goyn Reinhardt Posting
by L. DiCola



Wildfire in the Pines

A long dry spell with hot gusty winds, and the volatile fuels of the New Jersey pine barrens have all the ingredients for a wildfire to erupt and burn with a fury. In August, just such a fire ignited and burned more than 800 acres of the Crossley Preserve.

Directly adjacent to several housing communities, this was one of those intense summer fires having all the elements in place to cause major property damage. Quick action by the State Forest Fire Service, and luck, saved many homes from destruction. The pine land ecology is well adapted to fires like these, even as hot and violent as this summer fire was. The pine trees can somehow withstand tremendous heat. Although blackened and charred, they do manage to spring forth new green needles, often only from the top most shoots. In fact, green has already returned to the blackened ground surface that once was lush with blueberry, pepper bush, smilax, sedges and grasses, plus multiple species of mosses, and lichens. The green clumps of turkey beard get a recharge after a fire, resulting in a splendid contrast of white flowers on tall stalks against the black ashes that remain.

However, not even in a fire-adapted community type like the pine barrens can all of nature escape the heat and flames. Some zones of the fire were very hot, burning everything down to mineral soil. The heat at the head of the fire melted the vinyl siding and

asphalt roof shingles on several homes and, only with the aid of helicopter support could enough water be sprayed to actually save the homes. This fire, like most of the forest fires reported each year, was not of natural causes, but the result of human carelessness. An illegal campfire, left unattended, caused this destruction of a public nature preserve, damaged personal homes and property and placed hundreds of volunteer and paid fire fighters from the State Forest Fire Service and surrounding municipalities at risk.

With time, new plants will colonize the barren mineral soil and may provide basking areas for pine snakes, or just the right conditions for rare plants suited for these new open conditions. Now that travel by foot is so easy, seven previously unknown colonies of Federally protected Knieskerns beaked rush have been identified, as have relic pieces of equipment such as rail car axles, rail burms, cables and hardware, once used to mine clay from the old pits of Crossley. Work is underway to repair damage to the self-guided nature trail that served as access for a fire plow line, and replace many of the interpretive signs that burned. Like the turkey beard's showy flowers, the Crossley trail will be spruced up to welcome visitors very soon.

Photo:

Fire Aftermath at Crossley Preserve
by Martin Rapp

One Million Acres For Open Space— by Sally Dudley

Preserving more open space—to protect drinking water quality, to preserve wildlife habitat or to provide recreational opportunities—has become a widely accepted goal for citizens throughout New Jersey. In January and February, Governor Whitman, Senate President DiFrancesco and the Governor's Council on New Jersey Outdoors, (chaired by former Assemblywoman Maureen Ogden) all called for additional funding for open space protection. The Governor and the Council support an annual financial commitment of \$200 million—1/10 of what New Jersey spends on transportation each year. Senator DiFrancesco proposes a specific funding program that would raise some \$36 million a year for the counties and municipalities with open space trust funds.

Poll after poll shows that citizens support open space protection—and are willing to pay for it. Voting records bear this out. Nine Green Acres bond issues have passed with decisive margins since 1961. And over the last decade, citizens have voted to raise their property taxes in 13 counties and 53 municipalities for the sole purpose of dedicating funds to open space preservation.

The Governor's January inaugural speech set the tone. She enthusiastically supported the preservation of one million additional acres of open space and the authorization of \$200 million a year for acquisition and maintenance. Noting that New Jersey has lost nearly 1 million acres of farmland to development and hundreds of thousands of acres of forest, meadows and wetlands to development since the 1950's, the Council recommends the preservation of 1 million additional acres of open space and the establishment of a stable source of funding to provide \$200 million annually over the next ten years for open space acquisition and management. Of the \$200 million, \$140 million would be directed at land preservation and \$60 million at public

Photo:
3 Rivers Preserve
by Martin Rapp



land management. Land preservation funds would go for 500,000 additional acres of farmland, 100,000 acres for watershed protection, 200,000 acres of Greenway linkages and 200,000 acres of recreational open space. Land management funds would be used on state-owned lands, matching grants for maintenance in urban aid communities, historic preservation projects, and in-lieu tax payments to municipalities with over 500 acres of state-owned open space. The Council's report describes 12 potential funding sources but does not recommend one particular source or combination. In its research, the Council used two primary criteria: how appropriate the revenue source is for dedication to natural resources and whether it could reasonably be increased without imposing an undue burden on the taxpayer. Among the Council's preferred revenue options are—increasing the motor fuel tax: each additional penny would raise \$41 million and cost the average consumer \$6 a year;—a mortgage fee: \$1 per \$1000 value would generate \$25 million from residential mortgages alone;—raising the current tax on water to 10 cents per 1000 gallons would raise \$29 million and cost the average consumer \$8 more per year;—a surcharge on car rentals: \$1 per day surcharge would raise at least \$10 million annually and largely be paid by out-of-state residents; and—redirecting unclaimed lottery funds, currently running \$11-\$14 million a year. These funds are currently appropriated on discretionary basis.

The Stockton Alliance, a group of 20 business and environmental organizations, has adopted passage of a stable source of funding for open space as its primary goal for 1998 and is using the theme "Pennies for Preservation" in its campaign to build broad-based support for a stable funding source for natural resource preservation. Environmental groups and commissions, land trusts, watershed organizations, trail and hiking groups and sportsmen's organizations are also working together to get stable source legislation passed in 1998. I am proud that the Natural Lands Trust is part of this team committed to preserving and managing open space through a stable source of funding.

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The New Jersey Natural Lands Trust Board of Trustees

Policy for the Trust is set by an eleven-member Board of Trustees. Six members are appointed by the Governor from the recommendations of a nominating caucus of conservation organizations and five members are State officials.

Michael Catania, Executive Director of New Jersey Field Office of The Nature Conservancy. Resides in Mendham Borough, Morris County.

Emile DeVito, Director of Conservation Biology, New Jersey Conservation Foundation. Resides in South Plainfield Borough, Middlesex County.

Sally Dudley, (Chairperson), Executive Director, Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions. Resides in Harding Township, Morris County.

Ruth Ehinger, Land Use Regulation Program, Department of Environmental Protection. Resides in Hopewell Township, Mercer County.

Betsy Foster, member New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs. Resides in Haworth Borough, Bergen County.

Thomas Gilmore, President, New Jersey Audubon Society. Resides in Franklin Lakes Borough, Bergen County.

George Gross, Administrator, General Services Administration; Representing State Treasurer. Resides in Mendham Borough, Morris County.

James Hall (Vice Chairperson), Assistant Commissioner for Natural and Historic Resources, Department of Environmental Protection; representing the Commissioner. Resides in North Hanover Township, Burlington County.

Theresa Lettman, Pinelands Preservation Alliance. Resides in Manchester Township, Ocean County.

Honorable John A. Lynch, Senator from District 17 and member of the State House Commission. Resides in the City of New Brunswick, Middlesex County.

Thomas Wells, Administrator, Green Acres Program, Department of Environmental Protection. Resides in Mendham Borough, Morris County.

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