

**PRESS RELEASE**

**4/9/2014**

**CONTACT: Joan Weir, SE Regional Director, Vermont Land Trust  
802-246-1501, [jweir@vlt.org](mailto:jweir@vlt.org)**

**Your Land, Your Estate Plan  
A Free Workshop for Landowners**

The Vermont Land Trust will offer a free program for landowners on May 1, from 3-5 pm, at the UVM Extension office, Old Guilford Road, Brattleboro, VT.

Your land is part of your legacy. Deciding what will happen to your land after you are gone may be the most important step you can take as a landowner—not just for your own benefit, but for the benefit of your family, your community, and, of course, the land itself.

In order to find solutions that will meet your needs and those of your family, planning ahead is important. An estate plan ensures that your assets—including your land—are distributed in a way that will meet your financial and personal needs. Estate planning helps ensure that the legacy of your land is a positive one.

Learn about estate planning and land conservation options that can help you shape the future of your land at this free 2-hour workshop featuring:

- Jonathan Secrest, estate planning attorney in Brattleboro
- Joan Weir, Vermont Land Trust, Brattleboro, VT
- Wendy Ferris, Franklin Land Trust, Shelburne Falls, MA
- Sam Schneski, Windham/Windsor County Forester, Brattleboro, VT

Please RSVP to reserve your seat. The first 10 people to sign up are eligible for a free individual legal consult. Call Joan Weir at Vermont Land Trust, 802-246-1501 or email [jweir@vlt.org](mailto:jweir@vlt.org)

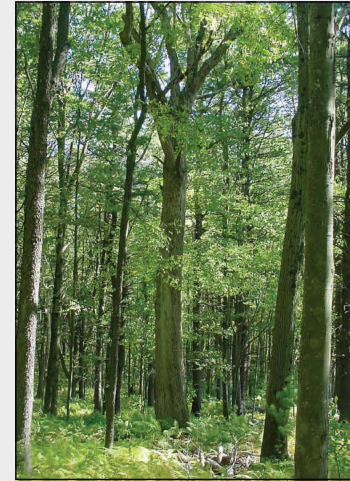
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## Do you have questions about your land?

We are professionals from non-profit conservation organizations and state governments in Massachusetts and Vermont, working together across state boundaries to help you explore your options.

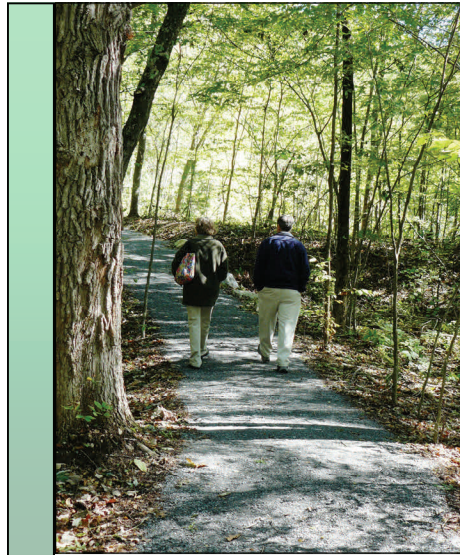
Look for more information by letter in the upcoming weeks designed for new landowners in the 12-town area along the MA - VT border.

- ◆ **Creating wildlife habitat**
- ◆ **Passing land on to future generations**
- ◆ **Harvesting firewood**
- ◆ **Keeping your woods healthy**
- ◆ **Reducing your property taxes**
- ◆ **Protecting special places on your land**
- ◆ **Improving recreational activities**





Vermont Land Trust- SE Region  
54 Linden Street  
Brattleboro, VT 05301  
www.vlt.org



*Working together to keep woodlands in our future*

This project is funded through a grant from the USDA Forest Service.



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SE Region  
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## *MA-VT Woodlands Partnership*

*Working Together To Keep Woodlands in Our Future*



Dear Woodlands Owner,



As a landowner are you curious to learn more about your woods? Your woodlands are part of the landscape where we live and our children play and grow. This vast forested region, spanning the Massachusetts-Vermont border, is vital to us, our communities and the animals that live here. The MA-VT Woodlands Partnership was formed to help folks like you learn more about their woods. We are dedicated to the long term health and viability of the forests in this region.



The MA-VT Woodlands Partnership can help you explore how to:



- Create wildlife habitat
- Pass land onto future generations
- Harvest firewood
- Keep your woods healthy
- Reduce your property taxes
- Protect special places on your land
- Improve recreational activities.



Just mail back the enclosed prepaid post card to indicate your interests and we will provide you with customized information. If you are interested, we can also come to walk your woods with you for free to explore your options.



Please don't hesitate to contact us with questions. We can also work with you to put you in touch with the most appropriate professional from our group. To reach us please contact Joan Weir, (802) 251-6008 or [jweir@vlt.org](mailto:jweir@vlt.org).



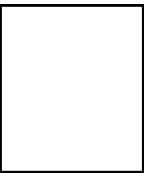
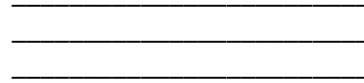
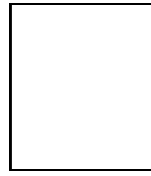
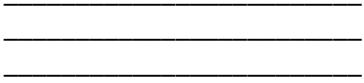
We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Joan Weir

Vermont Land Trust – SE Region, on behalf of the MA-VT Woodlands Partnership

*This collaboration is made possible by a grant from the United States Forest Service to focus on cross-boundary conservation in Massachusetts and Vermont.*

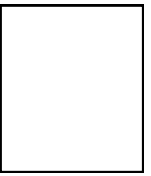
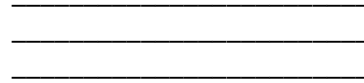
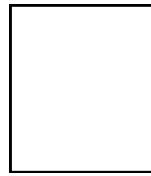
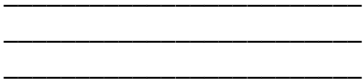


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## The MA-VT Woodlands Partnership

*Working Together to Keep Woodlands in Our Future*



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Please let us know what your level of interest is. Thank you!

- Yes, I am interested in a free visit and/or woods walk.***
- I am not interested in a visit right now, but please keep me informed of future events intended for landowners like me.
- I am not interested, please do not contact me again.

**YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION**

Name & Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Preferred method of contact:* phone/email/mail (please circle one)

**Please let us know which subjects you are most curious about.**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Habitat in Your Woods                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting Timber or Firewood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Protecting Special Places for Future Generations | <input type="checkbox"/> Keeping Your Woods Healthy    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Landscape History                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Building                |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Programs         |

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Do you have questions about your land? Would you like to learn more about wildlife, trails, passing land onto the next generation, keeping your woods healthy, or harvesting trees?

The MA VT Woodlands Partnership, a group of non-profit organizations and state agencies, is offering a **free** collection of informational books, pamphlets, a CD of bird songs, wildlife identification cards, and more. Call us at (802) 246-1501 or email us at [jweir@vlt.org](mailto:jweir@vlt.org) to set up a visit or a time to pick up yours. We're here to help!





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# Please join us!

## Southern Vermont Woods Forum

Wednesday, April 9, 7:00-8:30 PM (snow date April 16)

Broad Brook Grange

3940 Guilford Center Rd, Guilford, VT

- Is your property enrolled in Current Use (also called Land Use and Use Value Appraisal)?
- Do you have a timber harvest scheduled?
- Are you confused by the Current Use program or wondering what a timber harvest involves?

Come share your questions and experiences. This informal discussion will be a chance to get advice and recommendations on all aspects of forest management, including wildlife habitat and recreational enhancement. Hear from the county foresters, staff from Vermont Land Trust and, most important of all, fellow landowners. We need you to be part of the conversation, so come tell us what's on your mind regarding your woods.



Refreshments will be served. For planning purposes, please let us know if you will be there by calling Pieter van Loon at Vermont Land Trust, 802-246-1502 or email [pieter@vlt.org](mailto:pieter@vlt.org).



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***The MA-VT Woodland Partnership is a collaboration of non-profits and state conservation agencies working together to keep woodlands in our future.***

Vermont Land Trust

Vermont Audubon

Vermont Coverts

Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation

Franklin Land Trust

Mass Audubon

MA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation

North East Foresters Association



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