

Please Help Our Wildlife in Crisis Land Trust

PO Box 1246, Weston CT 06883

phone: (203) 544-9913

e-mail: wildlifeincrisis@snet.net

Peter & Dara Reid, Directors



The Wildlife in Crisis Land Trust is a supporting member of the Land Trust Alliance and EarthShare.



Yes, I would like to help preserve land for future generations:

I'm interested in land donation

Please send me more information about:

- Conservation Options- A Landowner's Guide
- Protecting Your Land with a Conservation Easement
- Land Protection Methods, Tax Benefits, Appraisal and Valuation

Please send me more information about Wildlife in Crisis

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____

All donations directly benefit land conservation. WIC Land Trust is an all volunteer-run organization. Please make checks payable to: Wildlife in Crisis Land Trust, PO Box 1246, Weston CT 06883

name _____
 address _____
 town, state, zip _____
 telephone _____
 e-mail _____
 comments _____

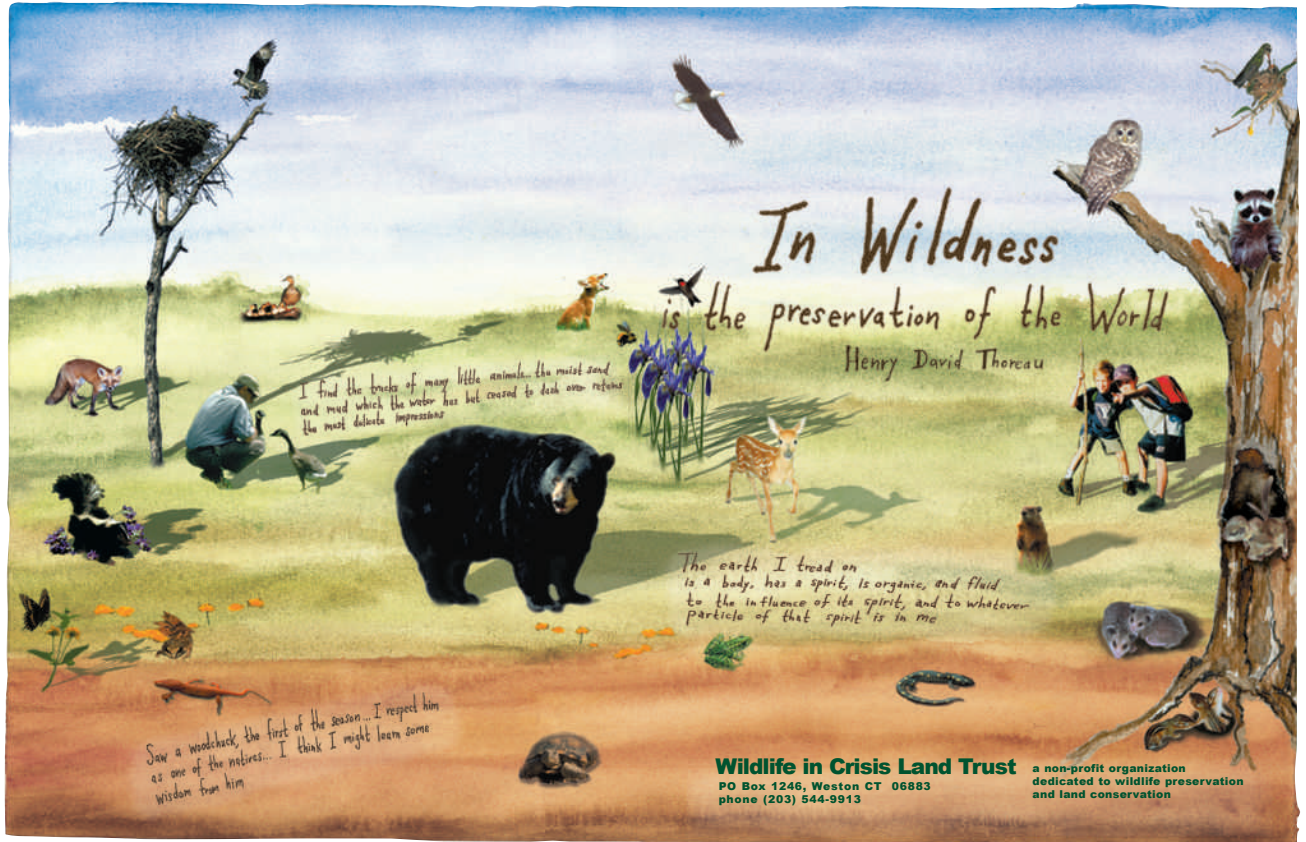
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In memory of Teddy

All donations are tax-deductible. WIC is a non-profit, tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization, relying entirely on donations from people like you.

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Thank you for your support!



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 PO Box 1246, Weston CT 06883
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a non-profit organization
 dedicated to wildlife preservation
 and land conservation



Wildlife in Crisis, Inc.

Wildlife in Crisis of Weston, Connecticut, was founded in 1989 to rescue and care for injured and orphaned wildlife. Over the years, we've cared for species ranging from turtles to owls to coyote pups. But we've realized that nothing is more threatened than the habitat upon which these reptiles, birds and mammals depend.

To address the umbrella issue of habitat loss, we formed the Wildlife in Crisis Land Trust and became a supporting member of the Land Trust Alliance in Washington, DC. Our land trust exists to help protect open space in perpetuity, and we're seeking people who share our vision—a desire to preserve the beauty and integrity of our natural landscape. Every bit of land that we can preserve in its natural state will improve the quality of life for future generations.

The fabric of our environment is becoming frayed

Suburban sprawl claims 160 acres of U.S. farmland and forest every hour. Irreplaceable wildlife habitat is being destroyed—lot by lot, bit by bit. The result is an increasingly fragmented ecosystem, bisected by the pavement of new roads, driveways and parking lots. Some species survive reasonably well in this degraded patchwork, but many important animal populations are dwindling in numbers, retreating into ever shrinking wild enclaves. Many songbird populations, for example, are declining precipitously, in large part because the deep woods habitat these birds need to reproduce is disappearing.



Turn over any leaf

and you might find a spotted salamander. This creature is just one small link in the intricate chain of biodiversity, but an important one. It is an "indicator" species, so-called because its fragility makes it most vulnerable when environmental degradation occurs. Amphibians like the spotted salamander get their start in seasonal wetlands called vernal pools. These vernal pools are peculiar incubators of animal life, serving as nurseries for countless species every spring. However, since these pools are often gone by summer, they have never received the protection given more obvious wetlands. When vernal pools are filled to make room for a new subdivision, fragile species such as the spotted salamander simply disappear. Now many of these bellwether species are threatened with extinction, and unbridled development is one of the chief culprits.



Wildlife in Crisis Land Trust

Working together with landowners to preserve precious open spaces

Keep Your Undeveloped Land Pristine Forever

Many landowners would like to keep their land undeveloped, but may not be familiar with the means to do it. That's where we can help. We'll provide you with the information you need to make an informed decision on preserving your land. There are significant tax advantages to donating land or granting a conservation easement. Most importantly, it's a way to leave a lasting legacy for future generations of people and wildlife.

The Wildlife in Crisis Land Trust can guarantee that your land will stay pristine, now and in the future. We won't ever swap or sell donated land, and usage of the land in the future will be dependent entirely on the donor's wishes. Landowners interested in preserving their land have several options. All of these options have the same goal—helping you, the landowner, keep your land as you want it forever.



Donation of Land

Land donated for its conservation value to the Wildlife in Crisis Land Trust will be permanently protected as wildlife habitat. Through outright donation, the property owner is relieved of paying property taxes and the cost of managing the land. In addition, donation of land can provide landowners with considerable income tax deductions and estate tax benefits, while avoiding capital gains taxes triggered by sale of a property. Wildlife in Crisis Land Trust will provide continuing stewardship as per your wishes. We will make a written compact with you, partnering to ensure that your land stays as you want it to stay—forever.

Reserved Life Estate

If you're living on your land or farming it, you don't have to completely rule out preservation measures. An arrangement called a Reserved Life Estate allows you or any other persons you choose to live on and use your property until you and those you have specified have released their interests in the property. By donating a remainder interest, you and the people you have named can enjoy your land for years to come, and will be eligible for an income tax deduction when the donation is made.

Conservation Easement

A conservation easement is an increasingly popular means of preserving open space, because it allows a landowner to protect land without giving up ownership. It can be a flexible agreement structured to meet the financial and personal needs of the landowner. In some states a conservation easement can reduce property taxes. A conservation easement can also qualify the owner for a federal income tax deduction based on the difference between the land's value with the easement and value without the easement. Likewise, easements can help a landowner reduce estate taxes. An easement can be granted in life, or in a codicil to a will. Both methods ensure that estate taxes will be reduced, and that heirs will not be forced to sell off land.

Cash Gift

If you don't have land in need of preservation, you can still support land conservation in your community. Your monetary gift to Wildlife in Crisis Land Trust can help us purchase land for wildlife sanctuaries. Every acre we can save will make an enormous difference for future generations of people and wildlife. Wildlife in Crisis is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and all donations and gifts are tax-deductible. Your contribution will make a difference!

"I sense that tree is much more than what I directly see of it... for other sentient organisms, for the birds that nest in its branches and for the insects that move along its bark, and even, finally, for the sensitive cells and tissues of the oak itself, quietly drinking sunlight through its leaves!"

David Hoopes



Preserving Land for Future Generations