

THE TRUST *for* PUBLIC LAND

CONSERVING LAND FOR PEOPLE



The Preserve

The Last Coastal Forest

The Preserve is a 1,000 acre coastal forest located in Old Saybrook, Essex, and Westbrook, CT. It is the largest unprotected coastal forest remaining between New York City and Boston.

The dense canopy of forest and the Pequot Swamp Pond act as a refueling stop for many migratory birds, and the many freshwater seeps on the property are home to amphibian species such as the northern dusky salamander, spotted turtles, and box turtles. Bobcats and fisher cats have also been spotted on the property.

The land includes 38 vernal pools, 114 acres of wetlands, headwaters of the Oyster River, and tributaries of the Mud and Trout Brook Rivers. These rivers eventually flow into Long Island Sound.

The Opportunity

The property has a fifteen year history of development proposals, foreclosure, and lawsuits by neighbors and conservationists opposing its development. The land is currently owned by Lehman Brothers Holdings, Inc., the holding company that emerged from the 2008 Lehman

Brothers bankruptcy. The holding company has agreed to sell the property to The Trust for Public Land for its fair market value of \$8.09 million. All funds for the purchase must be identified by June 2014.

If protected, this highly unusual intact coastal forest will be preserved and the public will have passive recreational access to the property via trails.

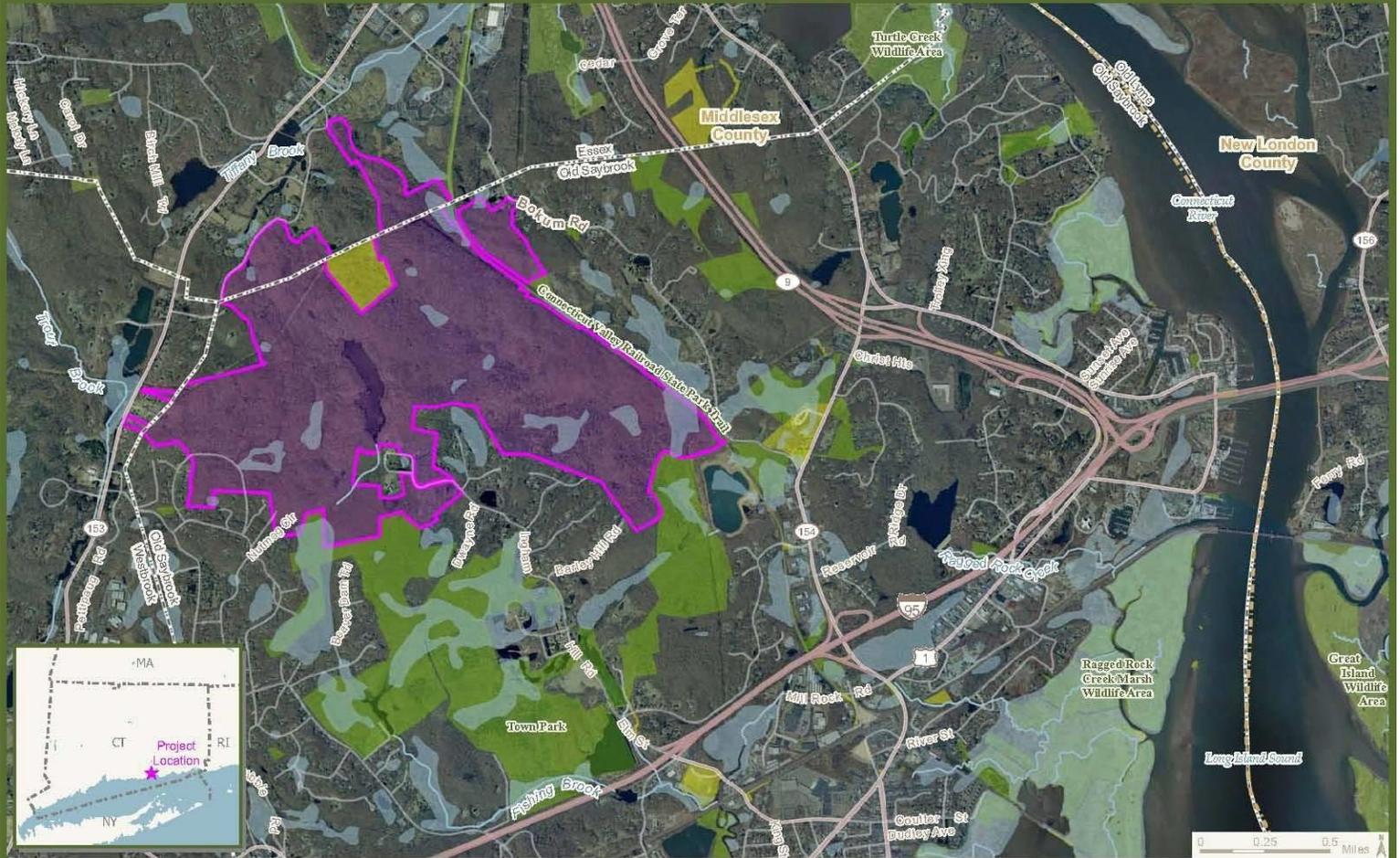
Funding Partnership

The Trust for Public Land is working in partnership with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the Towns of Old Saybrook, Essex, and Westbrook, the Old Saybrook Land Trust, the Essex Land Trust, The Connecticut Fund for the Environment, the Alliance for Sound Area Planning, Audubon Connecticut, The Nature Conservancy, and others to raise the funding necessary to protect The Preserve.

The goal of the fundraising effort is to raise \$10 million to cover the purchase price, costs and stewardship. We expect to raise \$3 million via a private fundraising campaign, to supplement \$7 million in public funding.

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND - CONNECTICUT

THE PRESERVE - MIDDLESEX COUNTY



The Trust for Public Land conserves land for people to enjoy as parks, gardens, and other natural places, ensuring livable communities for generations to come.

- The Preserve Property
- County Boundary
- Town Boundary
- Protected Open Space
- Other Open Space
- Cemetery
- Wetland

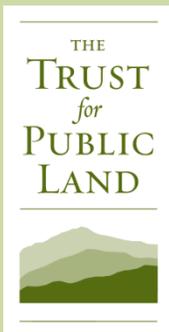
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Cartography by
The Trust for Public Land
www.tpl.org



For more information

www.preserve1000acres.com



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tpl.org

For more information:
Kate Brown
Project Manager
101 Whitney Ave, 2nd Floor
New Haven, CT 06510
203.777.7367, ext. 5
kate.brown@tpl.org

Photo: Robert Lorenz
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