

CONNECTICUT
Land Conservation Council

January 5, 2026

Watertown Conservation & Inland Wetlands Commission
61 Echo Lake Rd
Watertown, CT 06795-2638

Dear Members of Watertown Conservation & Inland Wetlands Commission,

Across Connecticut, municipal conservation and inland wetland commissions play a vital role in protecting open space and natural resources. At the Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC), we are proud to stand beside you in this work — connecting local efforts like yours to a strong, statewide community dedicated to keeping land conservation a priority at every level of government.

As part of our recent efforts to strengthen and clarify how we serve our partners, CLCC formalized a *Land Trust Membership Program* for Connecticut's land trusts. Through that process, we realized that municipal land use commissions — longtime supporters and collaborators in our work — were left without a clear way to stay connected.

Your leadership and partnership have always been an essential part of Connecticut's conservation story, and we're excited to reestablish that connection through our new *Municipal Commission Affiliate Program*.

By joining as an Affiliate, your commission will remain an active part of the statewide conservation community — gaining access to educational resources, networking opportunities, and discounted registration for the Connecticut Land Conservation Conference, while directly supporting the advocacy that benefits your town and others across the state.

Importantly, your affiliation helps sustain CLCC's work at the State Capitol, where we advocate tirelessly for continued and increased funding for the Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition (OSWA) Grant Program and other critical conservation initiatives. OSWA has helped dozens of municipalities acquire and protect the lands that define their communities.

When commissions like yours affiliate with CLCC, you strengthen that collective voice for open space funding and ensure that Connecticut's commitment to conservation remains strong.

We've enclosed a one-page overview of the Affiliate Program outlining the benefits, dues structure, and how to get started.

We hope your commission will join CLCC as an Affiliate this year — reconnecting with colleagues across the state, accessing valuable resources, and standing united for the lands and waters that make Connecticut such a special place to call home.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy', written in a cursive style.

Amy Blaymore Paterson
Executive Director

P.S. Your commission's affiliation helps keep the conservation community strong, visible, and united — both locally and statewide. Thank you for your partnership and leadership in protecting Connecticut's open spaces.

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About the Municipal Commission Affiliate Program

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO BECOME AN AFFILIATE? CLCC welcomes applications for affiliation from municipal commissions that support land conservation in Connecticut. Land trusts are not eligible for affiliation and should refer to CLCC's land trust membership program.

WHY JOIN CLCC AS AN AFFILIATE? Joining as an affiliate connects your commission to statewide conservation efforts. Affiliates also receive benefits, including resources and discounted access to the Connecticut Land Conservation Conference. Please see the reverse side for details.

HOW CAN I MAKE THE CASE FOR AFFILIATION? Affiliation demonstrates your commission's commitment to conservation, provides access to resources and networking opportunities, and gives your group a stronger voice in statewide advocacy. It's also a way to show visible support for CLCC's work while directly benefiting from the tools and connections CLCC provides.

WHAT ARE THE ASSOCIATED DUES? Dues are based on the affiliate's annual operating expenses. Please review the dues schedule on the reverse side for details.

HOW LONG DOES AFFILIATION LAST? Affiliation lasts for the duration of a calendar year. Renewal notices are sent out annually in January, and applicant commissions are considered affiliates through the end of the calendar year. CLCC does not pro-rate or extend affiliation for applications made later in the year.

Affiliation Benefits

Online Resources	
Grant Opportunities Database, CT Conservation Job Board, Conservation Service Provider Directory, and more	✓
Resource Library, including workshop recordings, sample documents, and other helpful conservation resources	✓
Access to CT Land Trust ListServ	✓
Conference-Related Benefits	
Discounted access* to the largest conservation gathering in Connecticut	✓
Advocacy	
Timely updates on important legislation and conservation issues, both at the State and Federal level, via CLCC eNews	✓
A voice for land conservation at the State Capitol	✓
Other CLCC Resources	
Practical assistance from CLCC staff	✓
Free printed copies of CLCC publications, by request	✓ - 5 Copies/Year

**Discounted registration fees apply only to current commission members*

2026 Dues Schedule

Annual Operating Expenses	Annual Dues	Defining Annual Operating Expenses
Under \$10,000	\$100	Annual operating expenses are defined as the annual expenses that support the general, year-over-year function of your commission or department.
\$10,001 - \$25,000	\$250	
\$25,001 - \$50,000	\$500	
\$50,001 - \$100,000	\$750	
\$100,001 and over	\$1000	

Land trusts are not eligible for affiliation and should refer to CLCC's land trust membership program. CLCC defines land trusts as nonprofit organizations that: 1) Hold conservation interests; 2) have a primary mission of conserving land and stewarding that land in perpetuity; and 3) identify themselves as land trusts.

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2026 Municipal Commission Affiliate Application

You can also apply and pay online by visiting ctconservation.org/ways-to-give/affiliate

Contact Information

Please note: a complete application is required to activate your affiliate status

Municipality Name: _____

Commission Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Commission Phone: _____ Commission Email: _____

Chair Name: _____ Chair Email: _____

Affiliate Dues

Annual Operating Expenses	Annual Dues <i>Check the appropriate box</i>	Defining Annual Operating Expenses
Under \$10,000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	Annual operating expenses are defined as the annual expenses that support the general, year-over-year function of your commission.
\$10,001 - \$25,000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	
\$25,001 - \$50,000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500	
\$50,001 - \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$750	
\$100,001 and over	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	

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*Please return this form to: Connecticut Land Conservation Council, 27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT
06457*