

# West Boylston Land Trust



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[www.wblt.org](http://www.wblt.org)

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*The Land that we  
save together is  
FOREVER*

**Saturday November 3**

*Pine Glen Fall Cleanup  
9-12*

*Bring gloves, and hand tools.  
Many hands make light work!*

*Rain date November 10*

## **Community Preservation Act (CPA) Town Committee**

In April of this year, West Boylston voters chose to adopt the CPA, joining more than 120 other cities and towns who have decided to participate in this important program. We are pleased to note that several Trustees had an active roll in connection with this effort.

The CPA provides a dedicated source of matching state funds for annual distribution to participating communities. As enacted in West Boylston, the local source of funds will be a 2% surcharge on the real estate tax bills, with an exemption of \$100,000. from the assessed valuation, as well as exemptions for low income households and for moderate income senior households.

The allocation of funding must be 10% for open space preservation, 10% for affordable housing and 10% for historic preservation, with the remaining 70% used for recreation or any of the 3 categories mentioned above. Open space is defined to include, but is not limited to the following:

- Agricultural land
- Well fields, aquifers, recharge areas, and other watershed lands
- Grasslands, fields or forest lands
- Stream, lake and pond frontage
- Scenic vistas
- Land for wildlife habitat or biodiversity, or nature preserves

Under the act, a Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is established to screen project proposals and make recommendations to town voters at Town Meetings. Voters can approve or reject, or reduce the proposed spending plan. The members of the CPC have been appointed with the initial membership consisting of the following:

- Larry Salate, representative of the Planning Board
- Heather Feland, as representative of the Conservation Commission

- Beverly Goodale, as representative of the Historical Commission
- Dennis Mulryan, as representative of the Parks Commission
- One person to be named as representative of the Housing Authority
- George Bernardin (President of the WBLT), appointed by the Town Administrator
- Charles Greenough (Clerk of the Town Wide Planning Committee) appointed by the Town Administrator
- Patrick Crowley (member of the Finance and Capital Investment Committees) appointed by the Town Administrator
- Christopher Rucho (member of the Board of Selectmen) appointed by the Town Administrator

The CPC will soon begin its work. Projects may be proposed by town committees, civic organizations, local institutions, neighborhood groups or individual citizens. If you have suggestions for the Committee, or questions, or would like information pertaining to possible projects, please contact any member of the Committee. Although the CPC is just getting organized, it will have many resources available as it proceeds. We encourage all of our readers to provide their input and support.

### **Pine Glen Update**

We have set November 3rd from 9–12:00 for our fall cleanup. Please plan to meet us there for as much time as you are able to donate. Bring gloves, hand tools and energetic friends!

Dave's Tree and Landscaping Services has proposed some pruning, and support cables be done to the Five leader Eastern White Pine on the lot. They have also recommended a significant reduction in Norway Maple trees at the site which block light and hinder other tree food production.

Please contact us if you have the time to walk through the site on a routine basis, perhaps quarterly, and inform the trustees of any land maintenance issues requiring attention.

We are also looking for volunteers to help design and build the entry path and a nice meeting place beneath the big white pine.

### **Wachusett Area Land Trusts (WALTz)**

The group of land trusts in Holden, (White Oak Land Trust), Paxton, Princeton and West Boylston plan to meet again early this month to discuss the Greater Worcester Land Trust providing contracted services in the following areas:

- General administrative
- Technical administrative
- Project management

We will keep you informed of these efforts.

### **Membership Renewals**

Fall is time for our annual membership drive, we appreciate your renewed support. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join the land trust. The land that we save together is forever!

### **Officers and Trustees**

George Bernardin, President  
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