

Westbrook Land Conservation Trust

Land Parcel Spotlight: Timberlane and Toby Hill Chase Connection

The Timberland Drive and Toby Hill Chase properties illustrated below are the Trust's largest properties, and have trails that connect in the middle! The parcels were acquired in 2006 as part of a town regulation requiring the designation of open space in subdivisions. Timberland Drive consists of 15 acres that includes wetland, hilly forest and Trout Brook, and can be accessed from Lake Louise Drive, off Timberlane Drive. Toby Hill Chase is 26 acres of upland forest on Autumn Ridge, off Toby Hill Rd. Look for Land Trust sign posts. The trail is clearly marked. If you are looking for an extended hike or bike ride, you could exit to Lake Louise, turn right on Timberlane Drive, head south on Route 153, then enter the Preserve off Rt 153. The 41 acres of these two properties help protect our natural resources, provide an excellent opportunity for outdoor recreation, and are an important part of the town's plan of development. If the town can purchase the adjoining 146 acre Toby Hill VIII land, a large gap would be filled in the continuation of the McVeagh Greenway, envisioned in the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development. in northeast Westbrook. Below, you can see the Trust properties near the center bottom, and the access roads. The proposed open space acquisition is outlined. Note Trout Brook, which permeates the area, as well.

The Westbrook Land Conservation Trust came into being in 1968 when there was concern over the development of ecologically invaluable salt marshes. With the donation of a privately held piece of salt marsh that year on Hammock Road, the Trust began its journey in preserving open space, now totaling 31 land parcels equalling over 150 acres, as well as the conservation rights to 51 acres. If you live near one of our signs, and would like to join in stewardship of its property, or simply appreciate the protected open space we preserve, please consider joining this organization. Write us at: WLCT, PO Box 1124, Westbrook, CT 06498. Email is WestbrookLCT@gmail.com. Also, visit our new website at <https://westbrookctlct.wixsite.com/landtrust>.