

PECONIC LAND TRUST



Peconic Land Trust at a Glance

Mission: The Peconic Land Trust conserves Long Island's working farms, natural lands and heritage for our communities now and in the future.

Founded: The Peconic Land Trust was established in 1983 by President John v.H. Halsey and a small group of local East End residents.

Area of Interest: Long Island, New York; primarily in the towns of Riverhead, Southampton, East Hampton, Southold and Shelter Island. The Trust has also facilitated preservation in Smithtown, Brookhaven and Nassau County. The Peconic Land Trust works with landowners and municipalities to identify and implement alternatives to development for working farmland and natural lands.

Acres of Land Preserved (as of March 2009): Peconic Land Trust has preserved over 9,500 acres of land in partnership with landowners, local governments, partner organizations, communities and donors.

Fundraising: The Peconic Land Trust raises most of its operating budget through charitable gifts and payment for professional services, **not**, as many believe, through the taxes raised by the 2% real estate transfer fee. The 2% real estate transfer fee is collected by Suffolk County and redistributed to the Town where the property is located.

Locations: Peconic Land Trust's main office is in Southampton, NY. The Trust has stewardship centers located in Cutchogue and Amagansett.

Quail Hill Farm: One of the original Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farms in the US, the farm is located on land donated to the Trust by Deborah Ann Light in Amagansett.

Shellfisher Preserve: Located on the site of the former Shelter Island Oyster Company shellfish farming facility in Southold, the preserve was donated to the Trust by John and Anna Plock in 1996. An extensive restoration project is currently underway, funded in part by the KeySpan Foundation and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Rural Development.

The Peconic Land Trust is a member of the **Land Trust Alliance** (www.lta.org); a national organization that promotes voluntary private land conservation to benefit communities and natural systems. The LTA represents more than 1,600 land trusts across America. Currently, there are more than 90 land trusts in New York State.