

PECONIC LAND TRUST



For immediate release

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PECONIC LAND TRUST ANNOUNCES THE OPENING OF BRIDGE GARDENS FOR THE 2009 SEASON

*The Gardens will be open weekends beginning May 2;
weekday access to the Gardens will begin after Memorial Day.
Special open day on May 8 in celebration of National Public Gardens Day.*

April 23, 2009. Southampton, New York. John v.H. Halsey, President of the Peconic Land Trust, and Rick Bogusch, Garden Manager, announced the opening of Bridge Gardens for the 2009 Season. The Gardens, a wonderful oasis in the hamlet of Bridgehampton, was donated to the Peconic Land Trust in 2008 by Jim Kilpatric and Harry Neyens.

“Bridge Gardens is truly a wonderful sanctuary here on the East End, and we look forward to welcoming visitors here throughout the summer and into the early fall,” said Halsey. Features of the Gardens include a Spanish-styled knot garden surrounded by culinary, medicinal, ornamental, and textile & dying herbs, topiaries, an ivy maze & walk, bamboo room, lilacs, conifers and lavender, as well as a collection of 800 antique and modern roses.

The Gardens will open on weekends from May 2 through the end of September. Beginning Memorial Day, through Labor Day, the Gardens will expand its open days to

—next—

include Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Additionally, a special open day will be on Friday, May 8 in observance of National Public Gardens Days, from noon to 5:00 p.m.

Hours of Operations

Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sundays: noon to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesdays & Thursdays (beginning May 27): Noon to 5:00 p.m.

Fridays (beginning May 29): noon to dusk.

Admission: \$10/adults; \$20/family.

Seasonal memberships: \$35/individuals; \$50/family.

(Family admission/membership covers 4 individuals.)

The Gardens are also available for group tours. Please call Garden Manager Rick Bogusch at 631.537.7440 to schedule.

In addition to open days, the Trust will offer educational and recreational programming at the Gardens through its *Connections* programming, including a program on growing and using medicinal herbs with certified aromatherapist Donna Penney on June 24 at 10:00 a.m. Visit us online at www.PeconicLandTrust.org for more information on *Connections* programs throughout the year.

Bridge Gardens is also available for events and commercial photo shoots. For more information, contact the Trust at 631.283.3195 or email BridgeGardens@PeconicLandTrust.org.

About Bridge Gardens

Bridge Gardens was established in 1988 by Harry Neyens and Jim Kilpatric, who designed and installed the gardens over the ensuing 10 years. In 1997, Bridge Gardens Trust was created as a charitable corporation to maintain and preserve the gardens.

Bridge Gardens covers five acres and consists of an Inner Garden and an Outer Garden. Developed first, the Inner Garden features a large, meticulously-trimmed knot garden surrounded by beds of 180 different culinary, medicinal, ornamental, and textile and dyeing herbs. Overlooking these plantings, the garden house is the manager's residence/education center. In the Outer Garden, the favorite attraction is a collection of 800 antique and modern roses. Bridge Gardens also contains animal topiaries, a lavender parterre, perennial beds and borders, a water garden, woodland paths, a hidden bamboo room, double hedgerows of privet with viewing ports, and specimen shrubs and trees.

About the Peconic Land Trust:

The Peconic Land Trust was established in 1983 to conserve Long Island's working farms and natural lands. With the help of many, the nonprofit Trust has worked in partnership with landowners, local government, organizations, and communities to conserve over 9,500 acres of land on Long Island. The Trust's professional staff carries out the necessary research and planning to identify and implement alternatives to outright development. While working to conserve the productive farms, watersheds, woodlands, and beachfront of Long Island, the Trust is also protecting the unique rural heritage and natural resources of the region. The Trust has Stewardship Centers in Cutchogue and Amagansett and its Main Office is in Southampton. *A common*

misperception, however, is that the Peconic Land Trust is the recipient of the monies raised through the Peconic Bay Region Community Preservation Fund (also referred to as the 2% land transfer tax or the Peconic Land Tax). This is NOT the case. The CPF tax is collected by Suffolk County and then redistributed to the five East End towns, the distribution of which is based on the location of the property from which the tax is acquired. For more information about the Peconic Land Trust visit www.peconiclandtrust.org or call 631.283.3195.

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