

PECONIC LAND TRUST



For immediate release

Contact: Yvette DeBow-Salsedo

631.283.3195/646.284.8028

ydebow@peconiclandtrust.org

Peconic Land Trust Announces Donation by ExxonMobil Corporation of Waterfront Property in Greenport

*The Town of Southold will Hold a Conservation Easement on the Property; the
Village of Greenport will also be a Party to the Easement*

DECEMBER 18, 2012, SOUTHAMPTON, NY – John v.H. Halsey, President of the Peconic Land Trust, today announced that ExxonMobil has donated to the Trust a two-acre parcel in Greenport on Shelter Island Sound, a former terminal property for the company. Additionally, a conservation easement on the property was donated to the Town of Southold. The Village of Greenport will be a party to the easement as well, ensuring that the property is preserved, in perpetuity, as natural habitat and open space.

“ExxonMobil’s decision to conserve this property recognizes the strong desire by the local community to protect valuable natural resources, such as wetlands and shorelines, for the public benefit,” said John v.H. Halsey, President of Peconic Land Trust. “We hope more companies will follow ExxonMobil’s leadership and consider permanently protecting surplus property as a way to sustain Long Island’s natural heritage, including the health and ecology of our shorelines, especially given our recent experience with Hurricane Sandy.”

Site History

A former ExxonMobil terminal, located on the southeastern corner of Fourth and Clark Streets

in Greenport, the site was acquired by ExxonMobil in 1924 and was operated as a petroleum products storage facility until its closure in the mid-1980s. The property is about 2 acres in size, including 1.5 acres of coastal lowland vegetation and about half an acre of undeveloped beachfront, and provides habitat for sea grass and several species of birds and animals commonly found along functioning shorefront.

The property has more than 600 linear feet on Shelter Island Sound--part of the Peconic Estuary, an Estuary of National Significance and a significant recreational and cultural resource for Long Island residents and visitors.

ExxonMobil completed an environmental remediation project at the Greenport site in late 2003, which included excavation and removal of petroleum-impacted soils and subsequent backfilling with clean soil. The scope of the remediation project was determined by a Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) approved by the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in 2002. In 2004, Exxon Mobil received a "no further action" letter from NYSDEC stating that the required remediation activities were completed to applicable state standards.

In April 2012, ExxonMobil secured permits from the NYSDEC and Village of Greenport to voluntarily remove metal sheeting on the beach that became exposed during last winter's storms and created a potential safety hazard for those walking along the beach. That work was completed prior to the donation.

Going forward, the Peconic Land Trust will be responsible for developing and executing a site restoration plan. While still in the conceptual stage, the Trust envisions restoring the property over a period of about five years to include removal of invasive plant species and planting maritime grasses and natural shrubs to enhance natural habitat characteristics. The Trust also

envisions developing “passive” outdoor recreation uses on the property, such as a walking path and water access. Timing to fully restore the property will ultimately depend on project scope and availability of funding. “The Trust is committed to a public engagement process that will consider input from Greenport residents and others interested in the future of the property,” added Project Manager Stephen Searl.

About ExxonMobil

ExxonMobil is the world's largest publicly traded international oil and gas company, providing energy that helps underpin growing economies and improve living standards around the world. ExxonMobil also engages in a range of philanthropic activities that advance education, health and science in the communities where ExxonMobil has significant operations. In 2011, together with its employees and retirees, Exxon Mobil Corporation, its divisions and affiliates, and ExxonMobil Foundation provided \$278 million in contributions worldwide, of which \$120 million was dedicated to education. Additional information on ExxonMobil’s community partnerships and contributions programs is available at www.exxonmobil.com/community.

About the Peconic Land Trust

The Peconic Land Trust was established in 1983 to conserve Long Island's working farms and natural lands. Since its inception, the nonprofit Trust has worked conscientiously with landowners, donors, local government, partner organizations, and communities to conserve over 10,000 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, Southold, Bridgehampton 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.*

####