

# PECONIC LAND TRUST



## **For immediate release**

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### **PECONIC LAND TRUST ANNOUNCES THE OPENING OF BRIDGE GARDENS FOR THE 2011 SEASON**

*The Gardens will be open weekends starting April 16,  
with free admission opening weekend;  
weekday access to the Gardens will begin after Memorial Day.*

*The 2011 season will see the return of the outdoor sculpture exhibition in mid-June and the family friendly Fridays at Six music series in July & August. A fundraising benefit is planned for Bridge Gardens on June 18, featuring special guest B. Smith.*

**April 1, 2011. 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 2011 Season on April 16. Bridge Gardens, a horticultural oasis in the hamlet of Bridgehampton, was donated to the Peconic Land Trust in 2008 by Jim Kilpatric and Harry Neyens.

The gardens will offer free admission opening weekend (April 16 & 17) as well as the weekend of May 6-8 in celebration of National Public Gardens Day. *(Please note that Friday, May 6 is a special open day in honor of National Public Gardens Day.)* The Gardens will also be open on Friday, April 22 in recognition of Earth Day.

New this season, Garden Manager Rick Bogusch will host tours of the gardens the first Saturday of each month, beginning May 7 at 11:00 am. The guided walk will give visitors the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the Gardens' evolution

and future plans.

### **Sculpture in the Garden: Uncommon Ground II**

The Gardens will once again host an outdoor sculpture exhibition, curated by Cheryl Sokolow of C Fine Art, Inc. titled "Uncommon Ground II." The exhibition is slated to open on June 8, with a "meet the artists'" reception on Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Benefit: An Evening of Wine & Roses**

On Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> the Trust will celebrate its third anniversary at Bridge Gardens with a benefit, **An Evening of Wine & Roses, with special guest B. Smith**. The evening will feature live music with **Jim Turner** and a silent auction. Tickets are \$125/person. Corporate sponsors of the event include **BNY Mellon Wealth Management** and **Hildreth's Home Goods**.

### **Fridays at Six Music in the Gardens**

Beginning July 1, our Friday night music evenings will kick off for a third season. This family friendly evening has grown in popularity, and features a wide array of local musical talent. Scheduled to perform this year are:

- **Charles Certain Duo**: July 1 and August 5
- **Bridgehampton School Marimba Band**: July 8, July 15, and July 22
- **Alfredo Merat**: July 29 and August 12
- **Southampton String Ensemble**: August 19 and August 26
- **Joe Hampton & the Kingpins**: September 2

### **Education in the Gardens**

In addition to Rick's monthly tours, other educational programs scheduled this season include:

- April 16: Vegetable Gardening 101 with Rick Bogusch
- May 21: Rose Care 101 with Rick Bogusch
- June 25: Vegetable Gardening for Summer Harvest with Rick Bogusch
- July 16: Entomologist Talk with Rebeckah Schultz of Ray Smith & Associates
- August 20: Cooking with Herbs with noted chef and cookbook author Sylvia Lehrer

“We hope to see many new faces at Bridge Gardens this Spring, Summer and Fall. This is a wonderful place to explore and enjoy,” said Rick Bogusch.

The Gardens will open on weekends from April 16 through the end of October. Beginning Memorial Day, through Labor Day, the Gardens will expand its open days to include Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

### **Hours of Operations**

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

Sundays: noon to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesdays & Thursdays (beginning May 25): Noon to 5:00 p.m.

Fridays (beginning May 27): noon to dusk.

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

Seasonal memberships: \$50/individuals; \$75/family.

*(Family admission/membership covers 4 individuals.)*

Corporate memberships are also available.

The Gardens are also available for group tours as well as for private events and commercial photo shoots.

For more information, contact Rick Bogusch at 631.537.7440 or Justina Fargiano at the Trust's office at 631.283.3195 or email [BridgeGardens@PeconicLandTrust.org](mailto:BridgeGardens@PeconicLandTrust.org).

Visit us online at [www.PeconicLandTrust.org](http://www.PeconicLandTrust.org) for more information on *Connections* programs and the Friday music series.

### **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. In 2008, Neyens and Kilpatric donated Bridge Gardens to the Peconic Land Trust. Rick Bogusch is the Garden Manager.

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 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 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, 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](http://www.peconiclandtrust.org) or call 631.283.3195.

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