



Capacity & Excellence Grants			
Organization <small>*Denotes Accredited Land Trusts</small>	Project Location	Project Summary	Grant Award
Brooklyn Queens Land Trust	Brooklyn, Kings County	Grow Young Leaders - Save the Land - Grant will enable Brooklyn Queens Land Trust to grow an internship initiative that will strengthen its outreach, environmental education, and stewardship program.	\$33,000
Buffalo Niagara River Land Trust	Buffalo, Erie County	Fostering Sustainability Through Operational Excellence - Grant will allow the Buffalo Niagara River Land Trust to continue expanding organizational capacity while advancing efforts towards accreditation.	\$24,000
Buffalo Niagara River Land Trust	Buffalo, Erie County	Ship Canal Conservation Area: Engaging the Community in Education, Restoration and Preservation - Grant will be used by the Buffalo Niagara River Land Trust to provide the public access to the water and an existing trail system via the Ship Canal Conservation Area, as a part of a phased greenspace Master Plan designed to engage the community.	\$50,000
Cazenovia Preservation Foundation*	Cazenovia, Madison County	Increasing the Pace of Conservation by Aligning Acquisition & Land Management Practices - Grant will enable Cazenovia Preservation Foundation to update its policies and practices in order to increase the rate of land conservation.	\$15,000
Cazenovia Preservation Foundation*	Cazenovia, Madison County	Strategic Planning for Sustainable Growth and Long-term Financial Stability - Grant will enable Cazenovia Preservation Foundation to revise its Strategic Organizational Plan to increase the pace of land conservation and work towards long-term financial stability.	\$22,400
Dutchess Land Conservancy*	Millbrook, Dutchess County	Jesse and Gayle Bontecou Wildlife Conservation Preserve Biodiversity Assessment - Grant will support the Dutchess Land Conservancy in conducting a biodiversity assessment for their first-ever public preserve in order to guide management of the property moving forward.	\$45,000
Genesee Land Trust*	Rochester, Monroe County	Building Conservation Easement Stewardship Capacity and Diversity - Grant will be used to support Genesee Land Trust as they add 29 conservation easements to their portfolio of 36 over the next 2 years, and help expand their capacity by hiring conservation professionals via The Bridge Program.	\$49,400
Genesee Valley Conservancy*	Geneseo, Livingston County	Development of Integrated Pest Management Strategy for Genesee Valley Conservancy - Grant will support the Genesee Valley Conservancy in developing a new, comprehensive strategy for managing invasive species and meeting the goals of their fee land stewardship.	\$14,300



Capacity & Excellence Grants (continued)			
Organization <small>*Denotes Accredited Land Trusts</small>	Project Location	Project Summary	Grant Award
Hudson Highlands Land Trust*	Philipstown, Putnam County	From Golf Course to Healthy Habitat: Creating a Plan and Path Forward for HHLT's Newest Preserve - Grant will be used by Hudson Highlands Land Trust to create a conceptual master plan for restoring a former golf course into a healthy habitat.	\$50,000
Indian River Lakes Conservancy*	Redwood, Jefferson County	Increasing Community Engagement and Support for Land Conservation via an Interactive Website - Grant will enable Indian River Lakes Conservancy to create a new website providing interactive content that will increase community engagement and support.	\$45,800
Lake George Land Conservancy*	Bolton Landing, Warren County	Strengthening Organizational Capacity and Scope through Technology - Grant will be used by Lake George Land Conservancy to invest in technology that strengthens growing organizational needs and improves stewardship capabilities.	\$23,800
Mohonk Preserve*	Gardiner, Ulster County	Visitor Experience Plan - Grant will enable Mohonk Preserve to engage an experienced consultant to create a cohesive Visitor Experience Plan designed to improve visitor accessibility, inclusivity, and navigation.	\$27,500
OBI Land Trust	Lyme, Jefferson County	30 Years of OBI Land Trust: Looking to the Future and Celebrating our Past - Grant will support OBI Land Trust to plan for the future as they work towards accreditation, and will allow them to digitize files and records, acquire an office space, and fund events celebrating their 30-year anniversary as an all-volunteer land trust.	\$18,850
Outdoor Promise	Newburgh, Orange County	Rep Nature - Grant will enable Outdoor Promise to partner with Scenic Hudson to develop youth leaders who will help provide education & access to diverse audiences, advancing greater inclusion in and support of land conservation.	\$24,700
The Nature Conservancy*	Colonie, Albany County	Equitable Preserve Communication Initiative - Grant will enable The Nature Conservancy to develop and update information on preserve websites and at trailhead/preserve kiosks, to meet accessible and equitable communication guidelines for preserves across the state.	\$50,000
New York Agricultural Land Trust	Elbridge, Onondaga County	Increasing NYALT's Organizational Sustainability and Community Engagement - Grant will be used by The New York Agricultural Land Trust to focus on its long term sustainability by expanding funding and increasing community engagement.	\$37,900



Capacity & Excellence Grants (continued)			
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Pitney Meadows Community Farm	Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County	Pitney Meadows Community Farm's Development of a Stewardship Plan that Prioritizes Conservation - Grant will enable Pitney Meadows Community Farm to work with a consultant to develop a community-centered Stewardship Plan that identifies and prioritizes conservation values, natural resources, and biodiversity within a publicly accessible working farm.	\$23,600
Rensselaer Plateau Alliance*	Averill Park, Rensselaer County	A Plan to Scale our Success - Grant will enable Rensselaer Plateau Alliance to develop a new strategic plan with input from a wide range of stakeholders to scale their past success and engage a wider and more diverse community.	\$23,100
Saratoga P.L.A.N.*	Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County	Setting up Saratoga PLAN for the Next 20 years - Grant will support Saratoga PLAN in providing staff development for new leadership within the organization, and updating their strategic plan to ensure the greatest impact in Saratoga County.	\$23,520
Western New York Land Conservancy*	Buffalo, Erie County	The Riverline: Advancing Equity and Community Engagement Activities - Grant will be used by Western Land Conservancy to expand community engagement to strengthen and build relationships with The Riverline communities, and to improve equitable access to nature.	\$50,000
		TOTAL	\$651,870



Conservation Catalyst Grants			
Organization <small>*Denotes Accredited Land Trusts</small>	Project Location	Project Summary	Grant Award
American Farmland Trust	Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County	Smart Solar for New York Land Trusts, Technical Advisors & Farmers - Grant will support American Farmland Trust in developing a guide for landowners that are considering solar with the use of findings from a needs assessment, listening sessions, and with assistance from five accredited land trusts.	\$85,000
Columbia Land Conservancy*	Chatham, Columbia County	Columbia County Outdoors: For All - Grant will enable the Columbia Land Conservancy to partner with a diverse coalition of local organizations to create a multi-format, more accessible Columbia County Outdoors Guide.	\$27,100
Columbia Land Conservancy*	Chatham, Columbia County	Hudson Valley Conservation & Affordable Housing Implementation Action Plan - Grant will enable Columbia Land Conservancy to create a collaborative plan alongside other lands trusts and affordable housing groups to respond to the Hudson Valley's affordable housing crisis and conserve the region's open spaces with a cross-sector approach.	\$88,100
Finger Lakes Land Trust*	Ithaca, Tompkins County	Finger Lakes Forest Conservation Initiative - Grant will enable Finger Lakes Land Trust to assess and prioritize forest conservation opportunities, increase landowner and municipal outreach, provide conservation and forest management education, and protect lands in identified priority areas.	\$60,700
Scenic Hudson Land Trust*	Newburgh, Orange County	The Quassaick Creek Greenway Master Plan - Resilience Through the Advancement of a Community Vision - Grant will enable Scenic Hudson Land Trust to advance the findings of a 2023 feasibility study for the Quassaick Creek Greenway Master Plan through participatory planning, schematic trail design and an approach that focuses on ecology, history, and community connections.	\$100,000
Western New York Land Conservancy*	East Aurora, Erie County	Catalyzing the Western New York Wildway - Grant will enable Western New York Land Conservancy to catalyze the Western New York Wildway, an ambitious plan to protect and connect the region's largest forests, through partnerships, community engagement, and habitat restoration that builds upon previous investments.	\$100,000
		TOTAL	\$460,900



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Agricultural Stewardship Association*	Town of Greenwich, Washington County	More Stewardship Capacity = More Conservation for ASA - Grant will enable the Agricultural Stewardship Association to hire a full-time Stewardship Manager to meet the current and future stewardship demands as their conservation easement portfolio grows and their engagement with community conservation projects increases.	\$100,000
Champlain Area Trails*	Westport, Essex County	Community Engagement and Outreach Manager Position - Grant will enable Champlain Area Trails to hire a full-time Community Engagement and Outreach Manager, who will focus on creating partnerships, oversee volunteers, and lead programming to help community members better understand the issues related to natural resources protection, land conservation, and stewardship.	\$100,000
Greene Land Trust*	Catskill, Greene County	Stewardship and Acquisitions Manager - Grant will enable Greene Land Trust to hire a part-time Stewardship and Acquisitions Manager to support officers and board in carrying out current stewardship activities and taking on responsibility for acquiring and protecting additional land.	\$78,000
Thousand Islands Land Trust*	Clayton, Jefferson County	Establishing a Land Protection Specialist Position at TILT - Grant will enable Thousand Islands Land Trust to hire a full-time Land Protection Specialist to provide much needed acquisition support and increase capacity to further the land trust's conservation mission.	\$80,000
The Trust for Public Land*	Manhattan, New York County	Growing TPL NY Capacity with New York Community Trails Program Manager - Grant will enable The Trust for Public Land to hire a New York Community Trails Program Manager, who will lead work on the Long Island Greenway, QueensWay, and explore other trail opportunities. greatly increasing the land trust's capacity.	\$100,000
Westchester Land Trust*	Bedford Hills, Westchester County	Director of Urban Engagement - Grant will enable Westchester Land Trust to hire a full-time Director of Urban Engagement to support the land trust's renewed commitment to increasing the pace of land conservation in urban areas.	\$100,000
		TOTAL	\$558,000



Stewardship & Resource Management Grants			
Organization *Denotes Accredited Land Trusts	Project Location	Project Summary	Grant Award
Adirondack Land Trust*	North Elba, Essex County	Improving Hiking Access at Cobble Hill Trail, Lake Placid - Grant will be used by Adirondack Land Trust to improve accessibility at Cobble Hill Trail, by creating a new pedestrian-friendly entrance near downtown Lake Placid, and making improvements to a .8-mile trail so that people with a wide range of abilities will be able to use and enjoy it.	\$93,300
Genesee Land Trust*	Rochester, Monroe County	Improving Accessibility on Key Genesee Land Trust Preserves - Grant will enable Genesee Land Trust develop a relationship with Rochester Accessible Adventures, hire a seasonal Land steward to expand capacity, and install four parking lots to provide visitors with increased accessibility to nature preserves.	\$74,400
Grassroots Gardens WNY*	Buffalo, Erie County	Improving Stewardship of and Public Access to GGWNY's Land Trust Gardens - Grant will be used by Grassroots Gardens WNY to improve stewardship of the community gardens by installing water spigots at two gardens, and providing informational signage at all three gardens for enhanced public access.	\$36,600
Green Guerillas	Bronx, Bronx County	Improving Public Access & Key Infrastructure at the Bronx Land Trust - Grant will enable Green Guerillas to support the efforts of the Bronx Land Trust to make their gardens more accessible for children and adults with physical disabilities or difficulties.	\$29,650
Green Guerillas	Manhattan, New York County	Mitigating Risk at Manhattan Land Trust Gardens - Grant will enable Green Guerillas to support Manhattan Land Trust in mitigating risk against injuries and lawsuits by undertaking vital sidewalk repairs and replacements at four of their community gardens.	\$14,970
Hudson Highlands Land Trust*	Philipstown, Putnam County	Critical Health and Safety Improvements at HHLT's Two Newest Properties - Grant will enable Hudson Highlands Land Trust to implement health and safety improvements at two newly acquired fee properties, in order to protect natural resources and human health.	\$100,000
Lake George Land Conservancy*	Hague, Warren County	Removing Barriers to Recreation Through Accessibility at Peggy's Point - Grant will enable Lake George Land Conservancy to improve accessibility to Peggy's Point as well as increase the ecological resilience of the property's riparian buffer with native plantings.	\$44,500
Mianus River Gorge*	Bedford, Westchester County	Restoring Native Biodiversity to a Newly Acquired Mesic Meadow and Adjacent Wet Meadow - Grant will enable Mianus River Gorge to restore the ecological function of two adjacent meadows, and re-establish a diverse native composition of plants and shrubs to create a meadow complex that supports birds, pollinators, and other wildlife.	\$39,700



Stewardship & Resource Management Grants (continued)			
Organization <small>*Denotes Accredited Land Trusts</small>	Project Location	Project Summary	Grant Award
Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy*	Delmar, Albany County	Putting the Past Before Us: Kiosks to Incorporate Land Acknowledgement - Grant will allow Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy to update and install kiosks at 21 public preserves to provide education to the public that reflects the rich historical presence of Indigenous peoples in the region.	\$20,900
Mohonk Preserve*	Gardiner, Ulster County	Increasing Forest Resilience against Negative Climate Change Impacts - Grant will enable Mohonk Preserve to carry out active interventions such as silvicultural thinning, invasive species control, and expanding firebreaks in vulnerable forest habitats to promote biodiversity and resilience against negative climate change impacts.	\$50,000
The Nature Conservancy*	Southampton, Suffolk County	Creating accessible access to nature at Wolf Swamp Preserve - Grant will allow The Nature Conservancy to improve accessibility at Wolf Swamp Preserve by installing a new parking area and upgrading the existing loop trail according to the FSTAG standards.	\$100,000
North Shore Land Alliance*	Locust Valley, Nassau County	Nature Education Annex at Humes Preserve - Grant will enable North Shore Land Alliance to create a Nature Education Annex at the Humes Preserve, which will be used to host environmental lectures, programs, and demonstrations that will promote a strong conservation education and ethic within the community.	\$50,000
North Shore Land Alliance*	Lattingtown, Town of Oyster Bay, Nassau County	Restoring the Williams Preserve for All - Grant will be used by North Shore Land Alliance to implement a habitat restoration plan at the Williams Preserve to establish and enhance natural communities, which will benefit wildlife and educate visitors about the importance of conserving open spaces.	\$42,700
Open Space Institute*	Newcomb, Essex County	Adirondac Upper Works Trail Improvement Project - Grant will enable the Open Space Institute to make needed safety and accessibility improvements to the scenic Upper Works Trail at Adirondac Upper Works, a 212-acre property that serves as the primary southern recreational access point to the Adirondack High Peaks Wilderness Area.	\$75,000
Peconic Land Trust*	Riverhead, Suffolk County	Grantham Preserve Trail - Grant will support Peconic Land Trust in resurfacing the new Grantham Preserve Trail, as well as installing a parking area, fencing and kiosk, which will improve public access to outdoor recreation.	\$61,200
Pound Ridge Land Conservancy*	Pound Ridge, Westchester County	Preserving the Hemlock Forest at Halle Ravine - Grant will be used by Pound Ridge Land Conservancy to preserve the endangered hemlock trees at Halle Ravine Preserve through insecticide treatment of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, which will allow enough time to secure long-term biocontrol treatments through the NYS Hemlock Initiative.	\$35,000



Stewardship & Resource Management Grants (continued)			
Organization <small>*Denotes Accredited Land Trusts</small>	Project Location	Project Summary	Grant Award
Putnam County Land Trust*	Brewster, Putnam County	Access Improvements to 3 Preserves - Grant will enable Putnam County Land Trust to make access improvements to three preserves, including bridge reconstruction, installation of raised boards, and a new parking area, which will help promote outdoor recreation and accessibility.	\$26,000
Teatown Lake Reservation	Ossining, Westchester County	Croft Pond Wetland Restoration - Grant will support Teatown Lake Reservation in the restoration of Croft Pond, a wetland ecosystem, to improve wildlife habitat and climate resilience, while also improving educational experience and fostering community engagement in stewardship.	\$51,700
Wallkill Valley Land Trust*	Town of Rosendale, Ulster County	Phase 1 Improvement and Habitat Restoration on the Hutton Property - Grant will enable Wallkill Valley Land Trust to conduct a survey that confirms the boundaries of the climate resilient Hutton Property, located adjacent to the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail, as the first phase of developing it into a pocket park with new trail systems and significant habitat restoration.	\$32,500
Woodstock Land Conservancy*	Saugerties, Ulster County	Israel Wittman Sanctuary: Parking Area Expansion, Signage, Maps - Grant will enable Woodstock Land Conservancy to expand parking capacity and install new signs and maps at the Israel Wittman Sanctuary, in order to meet the demands of increased visitors and enhance the user experience.	\$15,000
		TOTAL	\$993,120



Transaction Grants			
Organization <small>*Denotes Accredited Land Trusts</small>	Project Location	Project Summary	Grant Award
Agricultural Stewardship Association*	Town of Argyle, Washington County	Valley View Farm - Grant will be used by the Agricultural Stewardship Association to cover a portion of the transaction costs associated with the donation of the 121-acre Valley View Farm property in Washington County.	\$8,480
Delaware Highlands Conservancy*	Town of Highland, Sullivan County	Kohler Conservation Easement - Grant will enable Delaware Highlands Conservancy to conserve 46 acres of forest, wildlife habitat, and water resources directly abutting NYS DEC's 1,036-acre Hickok Brook Multiple Use Area in the Town of Highland.	\$27,700
Dutchess Land Conservancy*	Millbrook, Dutchess County	The Jesse and Gayle Bontecou Wildlife Conservation Preserve Acquisition (Bontecou Preserve) - Grant will help support the acquisition and conservation of 1,258 donated acres that will serve as the Dutchess Land Conservancy's first-ever public preserve.	\$75,000
Finger Lakes Land Trust*	Auburn, Cayuga County	Owasco Lake Watershed Protection and Restoration - Post Conservation Easement - Grant will support Finger Lakes Land Trust in conserving the 160-acre Post property, which will protect farmland, scenic views, and water quality within Owasco Lake, while also demonstrating the viability of stream buffer restoration on private lands.	\$13,000
Indian River Lakes Conservancy*	Redwood, Jefferson County	Redwood Hill Preserve Addition - Grant will enable Indian River Lakes Conservancy to cover the transaction costs of the 3 acres of land and one office building being added to the existing Redwood Hill Preserve management plan.	\$2,960
Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy*	Delmar, Albany County	Wolf Hollow Conservation Corridor – Hagen Easements - Grant will support Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy in protecting the Hagen easement lands, two properties totaling 106 acres, growing their existing land protection along Wolf Hollow Road, which is a known historic and ecologic resource for people and the environment.	\$19,440
Northeast Wilderness Trust*	Webb, Herkimer County	Bear Pond Forest - Grant will support Northeast Wilderness Trust in protecting Bear Pond Forest, which is the largest inholding in the Five Ponds Wilderness and Pepperbox Wilderness complex of the Adirondack Park, and is critical to the integrity of this region's wilderness area.	\$31,000
Northeast Wilderness Trust*	Russell, St. Lawrence County	Grasse River Wilderness Preserve - Grant will enable Northeast Wilderness Trust to protect the 1,410-acre Grasse River Wilderness Preserve, which is a strategic opportunity to protect a highly resilient landscape of important habitats and waterways in the A2A corridor and will create new public recreation opportunities.	\$69,000
OBI Land Trust	Henderson Harbor, Jefferson County	Rocky Ridge Conservation Easement - Grant will be used by OBI Land Trust to cover the documentation, assessment, planning, surveying, and legal costs associated with the acquisition of the 243-acre Rocky Ridge conservation easement.	\$7,880



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Transaction Grants (continued)			
Organization <small>*Denotes Accredited Land Trusts</small>	Project Location	Project Summary	Grant Award
Orange County Land Trust*	Chester, Orange County	Palmer-Sugar Loaf Mountain - Grant will be used by Orange County Land Trust to help purchase 323 acres of land as an extraordinary addition to Goosepond Mountain State Park, and will provide trail connections from the thriving "Sugar Loaf Arts & Crafts Village" into the Highlands Trail and the surrounding region.	\$49,750
Rensselaer Plateau Alliance*	Petersburgh, Rensselaer County	Dill Brook Community Forest - Grant will allow Rensselaer Plateau Alliance to conserve the 150-acre Dill Brook Community Forest and make the land open to the public.	\$18,900
Rensselaer Plateau Alliance*	Averill Park, Rensselaer County	Lanford Wood Community Forest - Grant will allow Rensselaer Plateau Alliance to conserve the 519-acre Lanford Wood Community Forest and make the land open to the public.	\$29,600
Thousand Islands Land Trust*	Clayton, Jefferson County	The Chaumont River Conservation Easement Project - Grant will support Thousand Island's Land Trust with the recent acquisition of the 470-acre Wiltse property on the Chaumont River, and will cover the property survey and easement appraisal costs.	\$21,000
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust*	Town of Norway, Herkimer County	Burt Farm Conservation Easement - Grant will enable Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust to protect Burt Farm, totaling 431 acres, which has remained undeveloped since it was purchased back in the early 1800's.	\$20,000
Westchester Land Trust*	Yonkers, Westchester County	Preserving Historic Park Hill, Yonkers - Grant will enable Westchester Land Trust to protect five vacant parcels of open space in Park Hill, a historic neighborhood located in Yonkers.	\$17,400
		TOTAL	\$411,110

Summary of 2023 Conservation Partnership Program Grant Awards		
Grant Category	Grant Funding	# of Grants
Capacity & Excellence Grants	\$651,870	20
Conservation Catalyst Grants	\$460,900	6
Professional Development Grants	\$558,000	6
Stewardship & Resource Management Grants	\$993,120	20
Transaction Grants [6,298 acres]	\$411,110	15
TOTAL	\$3,075,000	67