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Land trust hopes to buy land near Cannavo Spring

25 acres will be used to protect popular fresh water source from developers

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WINSTED — The Winchester Land Trust is raising money to purchase 25 acres of forest land for the preservation and protection of the Cannavo Spring off of Hurlbut Street.

Trust President Jennifer Perga said people have regularly filled up containers with fresh spring water on property owned by the Cannavo family for about 100 years. The trust is not buying the spring itself but rather nearby land to prevent a development that could contaminate the water.

"There are often people with 5-gallon containers, like 10 or 12 in the back of a truck, especially on weekends," Perga said. "People come from all over to come pick up the water."

The Cannavo family "has never charged anybody for the water and they want it to continue in that way," she said.

The trust is trying to raise \$150,000. Thus far, the trust has received three grants, totaling \$105,000 — \$90,000 from the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, \$10,000 from the Farmington River Coordinating Committee and \$5,000 from the Northwest Community Bank Foundation.



CONTRIBUTED

The area outlined in red is the approximate area of where the 25 acres the Winchester Land Trust wants to purchase is located. The trust wants to protect the Cannavo Spring from development. The yellow star is where the spring is located.

In addition, spring users and supporters have donated a total of \$2,000. The trust is also applying for three more grants, but even if the trust is successful in obtaining them, it will still need another \$13,000.

Anyone who wants to help can mail a check to Winchester Land Trust, PO Box 10, Winchester Center, Conn. 06094, or visit the spring site and scan the QR code on the trust's banner.