



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

GOVERNOR NED LAMONT

05/10/2023

Governor Lamont Announces \$3.7 Million in State Grants To Preserve 1,025 Acres of Open Space and Create Five New Community Gardens

Applications Now Being Accepted for Next Round of Grants

(HARTFORD, CT) – Governor Ned Lamont today announced that his administration is awarding approximately \$3.7 million in state funding to aid in the purchase and protection of more than 1,025 acres of open space in 14 communities throughout Connecticut. Additionally, \$46,875 will aid in the creation of five new community gardens and green spaces in a targeted investment community.

Project Name: Cannavo Spring Watershed Property

Sponsor: Winchester Land Trust, Inc.

Location: Pratt Street and Alpha Avenue, Winsted/Winchester

Grant Amount: \$90,000

Size: 25 Acres

Description: The Cannavo Spring is a locally famous landmark a/k/a Winchester's "Fountain of Youth" and Winsted's "Old Faithful." It has been a source of drinking water for cottages without wells on Highland Lake for generations. After the 1955 flood destroyed the Town's municipal water system, many townspeople turned to the spring for drinking water. The small area containing the spring, its piping, the stone monument and faucet will be retained by the Cannavo family and the Winchester Land Trust will acquire the forested watershed area, protecting the quality of the spring water as well as waters in nearby Highland Lake. 17 acres are forested and part of a greater, under-protected 860-acre core forest block. It adjoins a patchwork of smaller open space lands held by the Town and the Highland Lake Watershed Association. Located in downtown Winsted, the property will expand outside recreational opportunities for Winchester and Torrington, both targeted and/or distressed municipalities. An old woods road along the toe of the property's slopes will be made into a linear trail for walking, bird watching, nature photography and other passive recreational activities.