



# In a nutshell...

Preserving Simsbury Open Space Since 1976  
**SIMSBURY LAND TRUST**



## The Mission

To protect scenic vistas, geological features and farmland that visually define Simsbury's character and provide healthy habitats for local wildlife and plants.

## The Organization

Founded in 1976, the Simsbury Land Trust is not-for-profit and tax exempt under section 501 (c) 3 of federal law. The organization is governed by a volunteer board of trustees elected by the membership. There are currently over 870 member families.

## Major Accomplishments

- Acquired permanent protection of 26 parcels of land, representing over 750 acres.
- Increased membership from 325 in 1998 to over 870 in 2007.
- Successfully raised over \$4.35 million in public and private donations for the *Campaign for Simsbury*, protecting more than 400 acres of land.
- Celebrated 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October 2006, with over 200 Simsbury residents participating.
- Built the "Bog Walk" off North Saddle Ridge Drive. This allows a close up view of the 40 acres of unique wetland without damage to the fragile surface vegetation.
- Installed informational signs on four recreation trails, providing interesting facts and historical information about the properties.

## Ongoing Activities

- Increases public awareness of land protection issues by producing *Landlines*, a newsletter sent annually to all Simsbury residents.
- Organizes more than 20 recreation and education activities for members and residents, with nearly 500 participants annually.
- Publishes *The Simsbury Walkbook: A Guide to Local Hiking*, available to members free of charge.
- Maintains a website [www.simsburylandtrust.org](http://www.simsburylandtrust.org) to keep members up-to-date on activities, news and events.
- Sponsors an annual photography contest which attracted over 75 entries in 2007.

## Working Together to Preserve Simsbury's Natural Beauty and Healthy Environment

As we approach full development, the choices we make regarding which parcels are best suited for houses and commercial development, and which to leave as permanent opens space become critical. Together we have the opportunity to have growth and the natural beauty we often take for granted. Join the Simsbury Land Trust today and help preserve the natural beauty surrounding us!

*For more information please contact the Simsbury Land Trust at 860-651-8773, P.O. Box 634, Simsbury, CT 06070*