



“Creating Community Through People, Parks and Programs”

Information: Jason Cohen, Director of Parks & Recreation  
127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, CT 06415  
(860) 537-7295 | Fax: (888) 468-6093 (toll-free) | [jcohen@colchesterct.gov](mailto:jcohen@colchesterct.gov)

### **For Immediate Release**

### **Colchester Organizations Receive Grant to Promote Environmental Stewardship**

Dateline: March 9, 2010, Colchester, CT

The Colchester Land Trust, Garden Club, Community Wildlife Habitat Committee and Parks & Recreation Department are excited to offer a free interactive seminar about Environmental Stewardship to the Colchester community on Wednesday, March 24, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The cost for this seminar is being funded through the inaugural round of grants by the recently formed Colchester Learning Foundation.

“We were thrilled to learn that we had been approved for the grant,” said Jason Cohen, Director of Parks & Recreation. “We are honored that the Foundation felt this program would be a worthy educational opportunity for our community.”

Fred Brown, President of the CLF agreed: “The Colchester Learning Foundation is happy to assist people and organizations with their ongoing learning opportunities. Area residents deserve the best Colchester has to offer.”

The presentation has been developed by the National Recreation and Park Association as a tool for training citizens and professionals alike about the basics of environmental stewardship. According to the course description, learners will recognize: the definition of stewardship; the definition of sustainability and its purpose as a goal of stewardship; the essential nature of action as the execution of stewardship; the core "pillars" of environmental stewardship including providing leadership for sustainable communities, promoting sustainable landscapes, and fostering the next generation of stewards; the ways in which agencies and individuals may take a leadership role; the processes, tools, innovations, and techniques which may be used to promote sustainable landscapes; the ways in which youth can be connected with nature and inspired to engage in environmental stewardship; and the role of advocacy in relationship to environmental stewardship. Together, the audience will learn about these various topics, pausing to collaborate on periodic group quizzes throughout the session to reinforce key learning principles. Aside from covering the cost of the course, the grant funding will also allow the organizations to provide light refreshments during the session.

“Environmental stewardship is everyone’s responsibility whether the land is public or private; large or small; owned, rented or used. Expanding understanding and knowledge related to this

responsibility will help ensure a healthier, sustainable environment for children, adults and wildlife in our community by the choices each make,” said Katherine Kosiba, President of the Colchester Garden Club and one of the Co-Chairs of the Community Wildlife Habitat volunteer team.

Lisa Hageman, President of the Colchester Land Trust agreed: “Environmental stewardship is a key component in the long term health of lands in both private and protected states. The Colchester Land Trust is looking forward to participating in this workshop and supporting landowners throughout Colchester who are interested in being good stewards of their property.”

While attendance is free, interested parties are asked to contact the Parks & Recreation Department at [parksandrec@colchesterct.gov](mailto:parksandrec@colchesterct.gov) or 860-537-7297 to register in order to ensure sufficient space and materials are provided.