



Connecting People with Nature- LISA LANE FARM- Joint Project

Wintonbury Land Trust
PO Box 734, Bloomfield, Ct. 06002

10.537 acres. Acquisition Cost: \$300,000. Town of Bloomfield awarded a \$195,000 DEP Grant

In 2010 a joint effort by The Town of Bloomfield and the Wintonbury Land Trust resulted in a \$195,000 Connecticut DEP Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition grant for the Town to acquire the Lisa Lane Farm. The farm is located in a dense and diverse residential neighborhood near the Windsor town line along Cottage Grove Road. The sponsors are seeking additional funding in the amount of \$105,000 to complete this purchase during 2011.

SITE DATA:



- The farm has been cultivated or managed continuously by the Tomasiello-Pitz family using sustainable farming methods since the 1930's.
- 75% of the nearly level farmland has NRCS Significant State Farmland soil with high amounts of organic matter.
- The land is leased to Desmond Samuda who maintains a successful produce business specializing in high quality produce for the West Indian Community.
- This urban farm, ringed by a wooded buffer, sustains wildlife habitat and is adjacent to the Town of Windsor Meadow Brook wildlife corridor. A wide variety of trees and shrubs line the property edges including red maple and wild blueberries.
- Two on-site wetland areas have vernal pools. Observed wildlife

includes woodpeckers, killdeer, red-tailed hawks, red-winged blackbirds, cardinals, blue jays, goldfinches, black-capped chickadees and hummingbirds. The wetland areas have attracted bullfrogs and several other types of frogs, as well as snakes and nesting ducks.

COMMUNITY SIGNIFICANCE:

- The purchase of Lisa Lane Farm will promote environmental equity by protecting in perpetuity productive farmland and open space in the most densely populated part of the Town of Bloomfield, CT.
- Provides neighborhood access to a walking trail that will circle the fields and have views of the wetlands, vernal pools and the working farm. Children raised in an urban setting typically have limited opportunity to see how their food is grown.
- Allows 'on the ground training' for Bloomfield High School Harris Vocational Agricultural Center students in agricultural and environmental education for the community. The Harris Center is only 2.2 miles from Lisa Lane Farm. And, under the proposed management plan, it will provide space for residents to have community gardens.



Bloomfield's efforts to preserve the farm have generated significant neighborhood interest and support. In July 2010, more than fifty people attended a tour of the farm organized by the Wintonbury Land Trust.

Lisa Lane Farm

Lisa Lane, Bloomfield

