



Woodstock  
Land Conservancy

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Grant awarded to advance the work of Conservancy**

*Woodstock, New York*— The Land Trust Alliance (LTA) has awarded the Woodstock Land Conservancy a grant to expand and strengthen its land protection capacities and community involvement. The \$75,000, two-year grant will be used to hire staff—the first time that the 20-year-old, primarily volunteer-run land trust has done so.

The announcement came at an October 1 press conference in Albany attended by land trust representatives and legislators from across New York State to announce the successful funding in 2009 of the New York Conservation Partnership Program Grant Awards program, which is funded through the State's Environmental Protection Fund and administered by LTA. In total, \$1.4 million was awarded through 65 grants to nearly 50 land trusts across New York. The Woodstock Land Conservancy's grant was one of seven awarded in the category of professional development.

"We are deeply grateful to LTA's leadership and tenacity, and the foresight of legislators in funding the grants program again this year," says Kevin Smith, Woodstock Land Conservancy President. "Even during difficult economic times, they recognized the many environmental, social, and economic benefits of land conservation and how supporting the work local land trusts is a real money saver in the long run."

The Conservancy plans to hire its current Executive Director, John Winter, who has held that position as a consultant since 2007, and a part-time membership and outreach coordinator. This staffing will enable the organization to expand its land protection work, provide more nature-related activities for the public, and work more closely with partners to achieve conservation goals region-wide.

*The Woodstock Land Conservancy is a non-profit organization committed to the protection and preservation of the open lands, forests, wetlands, scenic areas, and historic sites in Woodstock and the surrounding area. Since its founding in 1988, WLC has helped protect more than 1,000 acres through voluntary, cooperative agreements with landowners and the purchase of land. For more information, visit [www.woodstocklandconservancy.org](http://www.woodstocklandconservancy.org), email [info@woodstocklandconservancy.org](mailto:info@woodstocklandconservancy.org) or call 845-334-2418.*