

# iroquois report

January-February-March 2005

## TEN YEARS OF LEAF GRANTS

Ten years ago, Iroquois established the Land Enhancement and Acquisition Fund (LEAF) to help pipeline communities preserve open space, establish and improve parklands, and enhance community-based recreational facilities. LEAF provides funding for the enhancement or acquisition of important open space or park properties, which represent unique environmental and recreational opportunities, as well as for projects that are beneficial to the environment.

Each year Iroquois accepts applications for LEAF grants through September 30th. All proposals are then reviewed by our LEAF Advisory Committee which meets to make recommendations for funding. The role of the committee is to assist Iroquois in analyzing the environmental, educational, and recreational value of projects submitted for consideration. Members include representatives from The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, National Fish & Wildlife, and Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District.



During the past ten years, LEAF has helped many communities realize their ideas for preservation of open space and improved recreational opportunities. Here, a sampling of proposals that were successful in being funded through LEAF—many provide enhancements to projects previously funded by Iroquois' initial grant program, the Land Preservation & Enhancement Program (LPEP).

### CONNECTICUT

*1995, Long Island Soundkeeper.* Develop, design, print, and distribute a 32-page coloring and activity book based on theme of protecting and preserving the Sound and its watershed. A follow-up to the successful Soundbook, funded by LPEP, and presents hands-on solutions for protecting the LI Sound watershed.

*1996, Pratt Center.* Construct a partially elevated trail that will pass through a new wetland formed on a 13-acre parcel of the East Aspetuck River's flood plain.

*1997, Monroe.* Extend the existing nature trail system at Wolfe Park.

### NEW YORK

*1995, Town of Edwards.* Received funding to develop a recreation area located near the nature trail that the town established through LPEP. The recreation area included the construction of an ice skating rink.

*1996, Greene County Soil & Water Conservation District.* Develop, in conjunction with the Columbia Greene Community College, an environmental field station on the grounds of the Cohotate Preserver/Greene County Environmental Education Center along the Hudson River in Athens, NY.

## ROW WORK PLANNED

This spring, Iroquois will continue to monitor the reliability and integrity of its pipeline system. As they do every year, field crews will conduct cathodic protection and pipeline integrity surveys along Iroquois' right-of-way. These activities are part of our ongoing effort to ensure the safety of our pipeline system.

We anticipate this work will take a few days to complete on each individual property and may be conducted in several phases. All Iroquois field crews will carry identification authorizing their presence on our right-of-way. Please contact your ROW representative if you have any questions or require additional information:

**Phil McDonald**  
Herkimer, Lewis, Oneida,  
Montgomery, and St.  
Lawrence Counties  
(315) 346-1615, ext. 228



**Spencer Robinson**  
Albany, Columbia,  
Dutchess, Greene,  
Schenectady, Schoharie  
Counties, and Connecticut  
(518) 945-2685, ext. 226



**Arthur L. Rossetti**  
Bronx and Long Island  
Counties  
(203) 925-7245



Landowners may also use our toll-free Landowner Hotline:  
800-253-5152.

For emergencies, please call 800-888-3982.

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# 2004-2005 LEAF GRANTS



## **Shelton Land Conservation Trust Fairfield County, CT**

Funding provided to expand an invasive plant species management program at the trust's Nicholdale Farm in Shelton.

## **Shelton Economic Development Corporation Fairfield County, CT**

Funding provided for the creation of a "Shelton Tribute Walk" and public open space in the downtown revitalization area. The project will include strategic planting of trees to accentuate the view of the river and provide an educational benefit.

## **Town of Trenton Oneida County, NY**

Funding provided for the expansion of the town's Municipal Trail. The project will include the installation of handicap-accessible, removable fishing docks and picnic areas at two locations along the trail.

## **The Nature Conservancy Long Island Chapter Suffolk County, NY**

Funding provided for the production and installation of interpretive materials and signage at the Uplands Farm Nature Sanctuary in Cold Spring Harbor.

## **Town of Duanesburg Schenectady County, NY**

Funding provided for the construction of a stand-alone pavilion at the town's Robert B. Shafer Memorial Park.

# TEN YEARS OF LEAF

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## CONNECTICUT

*1999, Brookfield Conservation Commission.* Develop a wildflower garden and nature center on Gurski Farm. Phase I consisted of removing invasive non-native plants, clearing and marking trail system, clearing unhealthy trees, and establishing an apple orchard.

*2000, City of Milford/Environmental Concerns Coalition.* Enhance and restore the wildlife sanctuary at Wilcox Park. Included removal of invasive species and introduction of plant material to meet food, cover, and nesting needs of various wildlife species; construction of ADA-approved paths; and provision of seating and viewing in designated scenic vista areas.

*2001, Soundwaters.* Implement a collaborative educational program, connecting fifth grade students in Milford, CT with students across Long Island Sound in Northport, NY. Program focused on different aspects of Long Island Sound ecology.

*2002, Town of Sherman Preservation & Conservation Comm.* Funding provided for production and distribution of comprehensive Natural Resources Inventory Report, to be used as an educational tool and to help guide the town's conservation efforts.

## NEW YORK

*1997, New York: Town of Root.* Purchase a 50-acre parcel of wooded open space for the Root Town Park, the community's first park.

*1998, Town of Waddington.* Install handicap-accessible docks and access paths from the parking area to make the Main Street waterfront accessible to all.

*1999, Town of Greig.* Improve the Town of Greig Community Park with the addition of a walking track and installation of safety fencing.

*2001, Landis Arboretum.* Purchase and install directional and interpretive signage on their 163 acre garden of trees and shrubs.

*2002, Town of Dover CAC.* Funding provided for the purchase and installation of a gate, sign, and plantings at the entrance to the town's Boyce Park, a park previously enhanced through LPEP.

*2003, Town of Canajoharie.* Funding provided to create a town swimming and picnic area.

## IROQUOIS OFFICES & CONTACTS

### **Northern New York District**

Agent: Phil McDonald  
7267 Old State Road  
Croghan, NY 13327  
(315) 346-1615, Ext. 228

### **Communities Covered**

*St. Lawrence County:* Waddington, Lisbon, Canton, DeKalb, Hermon, Edwards, Pitcairn  
*Lewis County:* Diana, Croghan, New Bremen, Watson, Greig, Turin, West Turin, Leyden  
*Oneida County:* Boonville, Remsen, Trenton  
*Herkimer County:* Russia, Cold Brook, Newport, Norway, Fairfield, Salisbury, Manheim, Danube  
*Montgomery County:* Minden, Canajoharie, Root, Charleston

### **Long Island District**

Agent: Arthur Rossetti  
One Corporate Drive, Suite 600  
Shelton, CT 06484  
(203) 925-7200

### **Communities Covered**

*Long Island/Bronx:* Huntington, Smithtown, Hunts Point

### **Southern New York/ Connecticut District**

Agent: Spencer Robinson  
915 Schoharie Turnpike  
Athens, NY 12015  
(518) 945-2685, x226

### **Communities Covered**

*Schoharie County:* Carlisle, Esperance, Schoharie, Wright  
*Schenectady County:* Duanesburg  
*Albany County:* Knox, Berne, Westerlo  
*Greene County:* Greenville, New Baltimore, Cocksackie, Athens  
*Columbia County:* Greenport, Livingston, Clermont  
*Dutchess County:* Milan, Clinton, Pleasant Valley, LaGrange, Union Vale, Dover  
*Connecticut:* Sherman, New Milford, Brookfield, Newtown, Monroe, Shelton, Stratford, Milford