

Dear Friend of Westport Land Conservation Trust,

May 8, 2025

Thank you for your past support of the Westport Land Conservation Trust. WLCT relies on your support to keep growing--**membership donations are the seeds that keep WLCT flourishing season after season**. Last year, members like yourself preserved 186 acres of critical habitat and 32 acres of working farmland, restored habitat and enhanced agricultural soils on over 20 acres, and hosted over 120 mostly free public programs across town. I hope you have had the opportunity to explore the trails, take in the view from a bench, join a program, or simply enjoy the landscapes that make Westport special.

2025 will be a year of continued land preservation. Three current projects include 129 acres, **conserving freshwater streams, rare species habitat, and farmland**. We look forward to sharing more information about these projects with you very soon.

Our stewardship programs continue to ensure healthy habitats. Together with the all-volunteer Trail Team, WLCT has been removing invasives and restoring understory habitats and grassland meadow. Across 20+ acres, these new plants are slowing runoff, cleaning the water and air, and capturing and storing carbon. Densely planted **native habitats are safeguarding a diversity of plants and animals throughout our community**.

We're continuing to focus on maintaining and expanding access to the outdoors. New signs, improved bridges, and benches at all 11 of WLCT's public access properties make it even easier for our community to connect with the outdoors. Public programs are another way we are **connecting all ages with the land**, whether it is a hike or an art project, a birding class or native plant talk! Programs are often the first connection people make with the outdoors through WLCT.



Our new Member Appreciation Programs provide deeper insight into the conservation work you support. Explore recently preserved lands, learn how we build trails, acquire skills to better steward your land, and much more. All donors of \$25 or more are invited to these programs.

Like the plants that make up a meadow, your donation supports WLCT's ability to sustain healthy landscapes, now and into the future. Your membership gift provides operational support for WLCT to **preserve precious land resources, care for the land entrusted to us, and inspire new conservationists**.

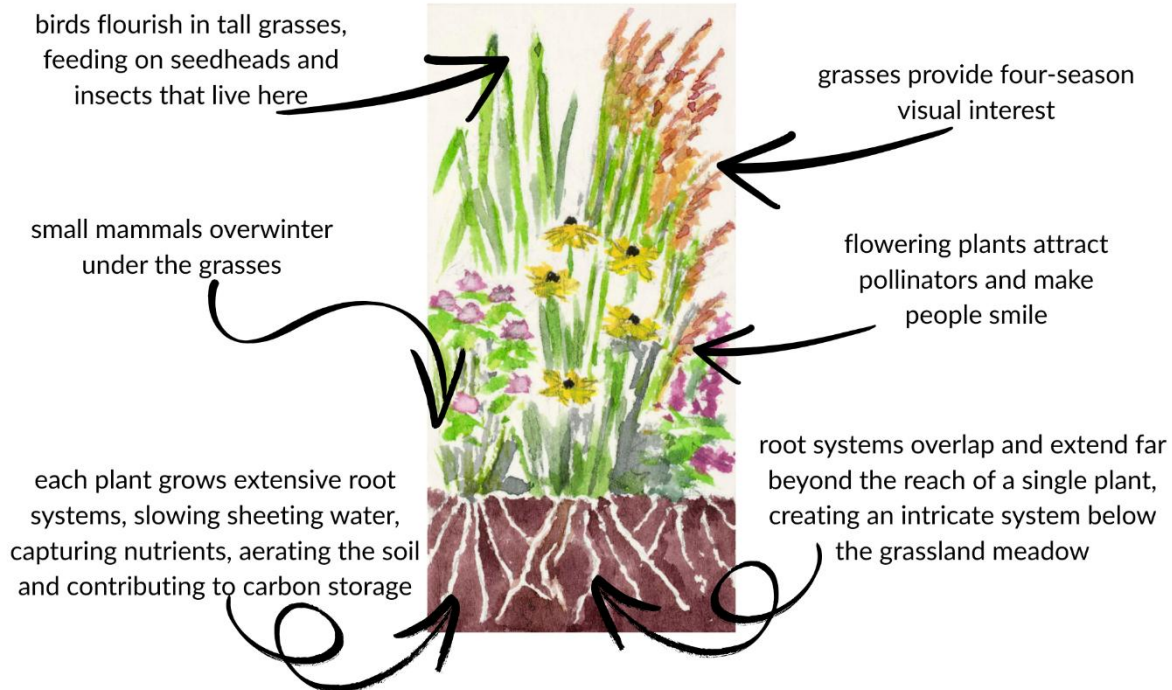
With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ross Moran".

Ross Moran  
Executive Director



## Planting for a Healthy Landscape



## Learn About the Enclosed Seed Packet

The enclosed seed packet is a combination of perennial grasses and re-seeding annual forbs that will create first-year color and perennial cover. Appropriate for full-sun or partially shady areas, these plants would make an excellent buffer zone between lawn and woods or the street—just not too wet.

You can plant right away or hold on to the seed packet and plant them in the fall. As this is a small amount of seeds, we recommend you sow in a tray or pots. Once germinated, your seeds can be transplanted to larger pots until they are sturdy enough to be transplanted into your yard or garden.

The seed is sourced from Ernst Seeds and we can provide more information on how to purchase at greater volume.

We hope you enjoy planting your own dynamic grassland. Please stop by Westport Woods and watch our test grassland strip grow!

**A reminder:** donating today makes you eligible to vote at **Annual Meeting, 5:30 pm May 22<sup>nd</sup>** at the Westport Grange! WLCT proposes changes to the Bylaws, which can be reviewed at our offices or by emailing [Ross@WestportLandTrust.org](mailto:Ross@WestportLandTrust.org)