



Conservation Capsules

News from the Greene Land Trust

Fall 2023

Kaaterskill Creek Watershed Conservation Initiative

The Greene Land Trust is very excited to report that we are working with local landowners and project partners, such as Scenic Hudson to protect the resource significant Kaaterskill Creek Watershed. An area consisting of nearly 3,000 acres has been identified as a priority area for conservation. As shown on the following map, the area is bounded by Route 23A on the north, Mossy Hill and Charles

Smith Road on the west, Ulster County line on the south and the NYS Thruway on the east.

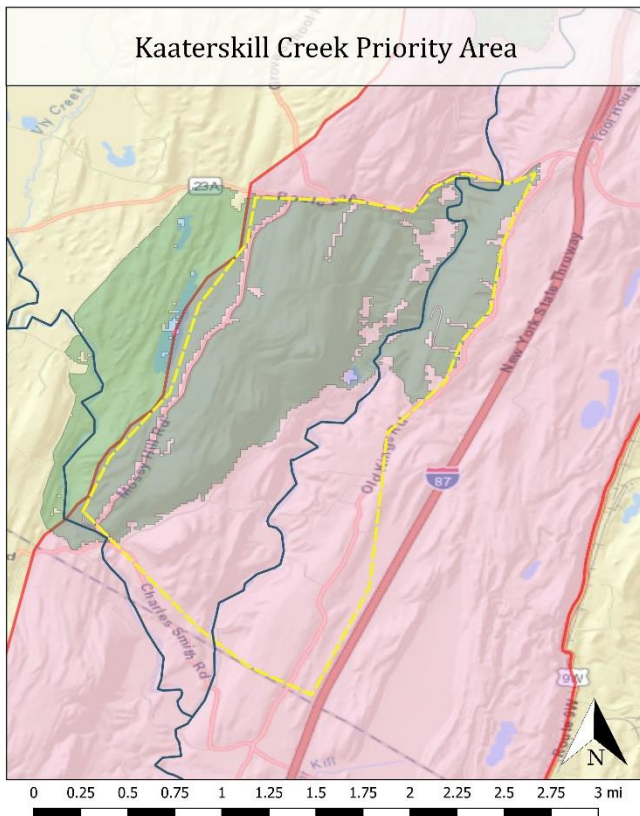
The Kaaterskill Creek Watershed area was identified as an area of conservation priority for its multiple resources that align with the Greene Land Trust's conservation priorities:

- protecting watersheds and water quality,
- protecting biodiversity,
- contributing to climate resilience,
- supporting productive forestry or farming and
- protecting scenic places.

The area includes large, forested tracts on ridge tops with scenic value and steep forested hillsides down to the creek and wetlands important to climate resilience. It also contains prime farmland and grassland, most of it within the flood zone. The area is also a rich biodiverse wildlife corridor.

The Kaaterskill Creek Watershed priority area was assessed using the 2019 *Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) for Greene County*. The NRI compiles and describes important natural resources in Greene County. The information is presented in a series of maps that allows the visualization of resources – where they occur and how they relate to each other, their surroundings, and existing development. A brief interactive story map of the NRI along with the complete NRI document can be found at <https://greenelandtrust.org/natural-resource-inventory>.

The Greene Land Trust has made substantial progress on this initiative and hopes to close on two easements in this area in 2023. In addition, discussions have been initiated with the owner of a third property in the area. We are very enthusiastic about this initiative and look forward to reporting future exciting developments.



■ Kaaterskill Creek Priority Area
■ Hudson Valley Limestone/Shale Significant Biodiversity Area
■ Hudson Valley Forest Condition: Top 10%
— Kaaterskill Creek & Tributaries





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Mission Statement

To preserve & protect significant natural & related cultural resources in & around Greene County, New York. The Trust's goal is to provide substantial public benefit in identifying & protecting important resources while promoting an effective balance between sound development & long-range natural resource protection.



Welcome Justin Wexler

The Greene Land Trust is very excited to formally announce that Justin Wexler has joined the Greene Land Trust team, as part-time Stewardship and Acquisition Manager. Justin is a long-time resident of the area and brings a wide breadth of knowledge and experience in the ecology and natural history of the region, including the history and land use practices of indigenous people. Justin has degrees and certifications in History & Anthropology, Environmental Policy, and Education. As Stewardship and Acquisition Manager, Justin will be responsible for hands-on implementation of land management and stewardship practices at Greene Land Trust properties, and he will assess new properties being considered for acquisition. Justin will also conduct educational programs that promote land conservation awareness. A BIG welcome to Justin!

Raffle Tickets for Sale



1st Prize: Original framed plein-air landscape painting by James (Jim) Coe, *Early Fall Morning*, oil on canvas on board, 10”X16” (retail value - \$1,600)

2nd Prize: Private Fall Dinner Party for Eight (You and Your Guests) at the Willows, catered by Kim Bender of Lower Landing Restaurant (retail value - \$1,000)

3rd Prize: \$500 Cash

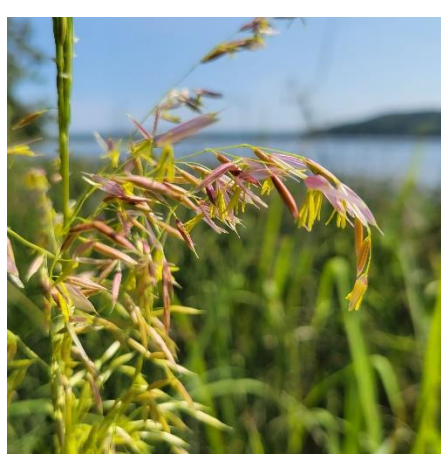
Winning tickets will be drawn at 7:00 pm on Friday, October 13th at the closing reception for the Seasons of Greene IV Art Show and Sale at the Athens Cultural Center. You do NOT need to be present to win. Tickets can be purchased for:

- 1 ticket - \$20
- 6 tickets - \$100
- 15 tickets - \$250

Tickets can be purchased online at www.greenelandtrust.org or by sending a check to Greene Land Trust, PO Box 387, Coxsackie, NY 12051. Please indicate “raffle ticket” in the memo field on the check. You will receive a copy of your completed ticket stub by email or USPS.

Through a Steward’s Eyes

by Justin Wexler



Exploring the Hudson River at low tide reveals all sorts of magical plants and animals. Down by the river at Brandow Point, the wild rice is in full bloom. When these photos were taken the other day, the wild rice was gently swaying in the breeze. Bald eagles noisily squabbled in the nearby tall oak trees, and great blue herons patiently waded among the pickerelweed, soft-stemmed bulrush and arrowroot to find fish. The wild rice -- an important food source for both native people and migrating waterfowl -- is a symbol of the millennia-long human relationship with this wild estuary. And Greene Land Trust is working hard to protect it!

SEASONS OF GREENE IV

Paintings of Special Places Protected by the Greene Land Trust



We are anxiously anticipating the upcoming *Seasons of Greene IV* Art Show and Sale!

You are cordially invited to visit the gallery at the Athens Cultural Center on any Friday, Saturday or Sunday between **September 23rd to October 15th**. Gallery hours are as follows:

- Fridays, 4–7pm;
- Saturdays, 12–7pm;
- Sundays, 11am-4:30pm

The artistry of nine regional painters and sculptors will be on display for our collective appreciation and enjoyment. This year's artists include: Sue Barrasi, James Coe, Kevin Cook, James Cramer, Ann Larsen, Susan M. Story, Liza Tivey, Marlene Wiedenbaum, and Leslie Yolen.

The 2023 *Seasons of Greene* Art Show and Sale is the fourth year the Greene Land Trust has coordinated an exhibition of artwork created by regional artists capturing the beauty of the properties the Land Trust currently protects and some that we hope to protect.

James Coe, artist and secretary for the Greene Land Trust conceived of the original 2017 show as an effective way to introduce the public to the beauty of each of the Land Trust's properties – beauty uniquely and individually revealed through the studied eyes and hands of each artist. The goal of the show is to promote and support the Greene Land Trust to further its mission to protect these magical places forever.

As a fundraiser for the Greene land Trust, a portion of the proceeds from the sale of all artwork goes to support the Greene Land Trust.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

Seasons of Greene IV is presented by the Greene Land Trust and Athens Cultural Center, with support from the Athens Community Foundation and the following special sponsors.

- Leslie Albright and Dan Kohler
- Cooper's Daughter Spirits – Olde York Farm
- Cossackie Transport
- Excel Physical Therapy
- Hinterland Design
- Seconds Restaurant
- State Telephone

2023 Fall Events

Check out the Greene Land Trust's upcoming events at www.greenelandtrust.org. Please register through our website or on eventbrite.com.

- September 16 – **Invasive Plant Identification and Harvesting for Fall Wreaths** at Brandow Point, led by Kelsey West
- September 23 – **Opening Reception, Art Show and Sale**, 4-7pm at Athens Cultural Center (no need to register)
- September 23 through October 15 –**Art Show and Sale** at Athens Cultural Center (no need to register)
- October 15 – **Raffle Ticket Drawing and Closing Reception, Art Show and Sale**, 7pm at Athens Cultural Center (no need to register)
- October 7 – **Wreathmaking Workshop** at the Willows, led by Charlotte Carter
- October 19 – **Volunteer to Plant Trees at Mawignack**, 10am-noon, led by Scenic Hudson Staff
- October 20 – **Volunteer to Plant Trees at Mawignack**, 3-5pm, led by Scenic Hudson Staff
- October 21 – **Volunteer to Plant Trees at Mawignack**, 10am, led by Scenic Hudson Staff

For updated event information go to: <https://greenelandtrust.org/events>.



Use the **DONATE** button at www.greeneandtrust.org

OR

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