

## February News

### A Gentle Winter Draws Hikers

The lack of severe storms and relatively mild temperatures has helped us keep our preserves open and clear of hazards this winter. Hiking in the winter can offer enhanced views, fewer pests and a chance to get a good dose of sunshine and fresh air.

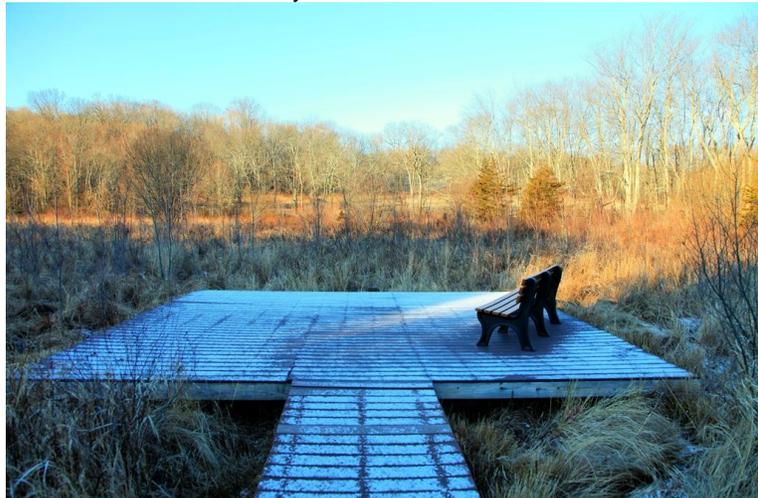
A few options to consider:

**The Koons Preserve** is home to Spruce Brook, a part of the Pomperaug Watershed. The brook drops 170 feet as it flows through the property. Views of the brook and rocky ravine are best this time of year.



The rocky ravine at Koons Preserve

**Phillips Farm Preserve** is a wonderful place to hike through rolling fields and forest. Phillips connects to the Lovdal Farm Preserve which offers ridgeline views and gentle slopes.



The Phillips Farm Preserve platform and boardwalk at the fen

**The Bassett Preserve** also has extensive trails that connect to the Ivers Preserve. A key feature is the large pond with remnants of a commercial laundry. This winter, beavers have made this pond their home.

For more information about our preserves and for trail maps click on the link below.

[Trail Maps](#)



The ponds edge at the Bassett Preserve

## New Board Members

### Meet Ed Platt and Mike Mattera

The Southbury Land Trust is pleased to welcome Ed Platt and Mike Mattera to the Board of Trustees.

Ed Platt is an active farmer in Southbury. He, along with his wife Jeannine and son Benjamin, are the owners and operators of Platt Farm, a family business since 1773. Ed has been active in the Southbury community for many years and also in the farming community throughout Connecticut. He currently serves as the chairman of the USDA Farm Service Agency for the county office, he is a member of the CT Farm Bureau and is active in numerous co-ops and agricultural organizations. He was also the former chair of the Southbury Rural Preservation Commission.

Mike Mattera has been a Southbury resident for over 26 years raising his three children in Region 15 schools. He was a Boy Scout leader for Troop 162 during his son Chris' time in scouting and became involved and familiar with the Southbury Land Trust while working on numerous Eagle Scout projects. A lover of nature and outdoor pursuits, Mike has been a frequent volunteer with the Land Trust in recent years, helping clear trails and participating in stewardship activities.



Ed Platt (left) and Mike Mattera

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# PARK CLEANUP

Saturday, April 4th, 2020

1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Meet at the Southbury Town Hall lower parking lot



Please pitch in and help us clean up our town parks. Families are welcome. Any amount of time you can give is appreciated. Bring work gloves and if possible bring loppers or pruning shears for trail maintenance. Garbage bags will be provided. Heavy rain cancels.

Questions: call the Land Trust office at 203-264-4441 or email Regina Badura at [stewardship@southburylandtrust.org](mailto:stewardship@southburylandtrust.org)





A February sunset silhouetting a lone oak tree at Southbury Farms.

Southbury Land Trust | 203-264-4441 | [www.southburylandtrust.org](http://www.southburylandtrust.org)

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