

The Opportunity

In partnership with Hilltown Land Trust (HLT), and with community support, The Trustees is working to purchase and restore 288 acres of floodplain, wetlands, and forest, and transform the property into a dynamic hub for conservation, community, and recreation. Situated along Route 9 in Williamsburg and Northampton, the Beaver Brook golf course has been manicured and manipulated, impacting the floodplains and native habitats of the valley.

With your support in raising \$1.5 million, we will restore the land and open it to the public for accessible recreation, ecological restoration, and community engagement.



VISION FOR BEAVER BROOK

As a new Trustees property, the existing 9-hole golf course will be rewilded into a community park, offering accessible trails and scenic views.

Rewilding the Golf Course to Native Habitats

Replanting native species and regrowing floodplain habitat will allow the brook to naturally meander and help mitigate flooding that occurs in nearby neighborhoods, enhancing the biodiversity and climate resiliency of Beaver Brook.

Beaver Brook is a cold-water fishery with core aquatic habitat, and the property's 175 acres of forest provide vital carbon storage and upland habitat for various species. As climate change threatens biodiversity and leads to more frequent, heavy rainstorms, restoring and reconnecting this landscape will help strengthen its resilience.

Accessible Recreation

Located along a bus route and near a long-distance bike path, Beaver Brook is highly accessible from Northampton, Amherst, Easthampton, and Holyoke.

The diverse trail network and cart paths which stretch through floodplains, wetlands, and forests are perfect for a range of outdoor activities and educational programs.

With potential for inclusive, accessible trails, mountain biking, cross country skiing, and connections to nearby conservation areas, Beaver Brook will be a key destination for recreational and educational experiences.

Community Gatherings and Partnerships

Featuring sweeping views, the large timber frame pavilion will be an ideal location for community gatherings and educational programs. In the future, existing buildings will serve as potential western Massachusetts headquarters and office space for The Trustees and HLT, as well as much needed storage and workshop space.

Existing amenities such as restrooms, parking, and gathering spaces will ensure a comfortable and welcoming experience for visitors. The space offers a rare combination of easy access to nature, active experiences, and the ability to be together in community.

THE CHALLENGE

Help us Rewild Beaver Brook and transform this property into a resilient landscape for recreation and conservation. The total cost of acquiring and activating Beaver Brook is \$5.5 million, which includes acquisition and property activation costs, as well as the cost to ensure its long-term care. The Trustees and HLT are jointly seeking private contributions of \$1.5 million to complete the purchase and restoration of this property.

 Acquisition & Costs
 \$1,459,200

 Start-Up & 3 yrs Operating
 \$1,343,149

 Endowment
 \$2,749,000

 TOTAL EXPENSES
 \$5,551,349

YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED!

For more information on how to make a gift and how you can further support this initiative, contact Chelsea Friedman, Associate Director of Philanthropy at cfriedman@thetrustees.org or 978-870-1267.



Help us reach our \$1.5 million goal. Learn more:

thetrustees.org/beaverbrook



Restoring Nature, Connecting Community



About The Trustees

The Trustees is Massachusetts' largest, and the nation's first, conservation and preservation nonprofit. The organization has worked for more than 130 years to conserve the natural, cultural, historic, and agricultural character that makes Massachusetts special. With 85,000 Member households, The Trustees is committed to protecting irreplaceable places for everyone, forever. Its 120+ properties and over 5,000 annual programs connect people to outdoor recreation, culture, agriculture, and healthy, active living.



About Hilltown Land Trust

Since 1986, Hilltown Land Trust has been conserving and stewarding land through strong relationships to ensure clean water, wildlife habitat, climate resilience, recreational opportunities, and healthy farmland for the benefit of all. Today, the land trust actively stewards 5,000 acres of permanently protected land including ten conservation areas that they manage and 37 properties in private management where they hold conservation restrictions.

