

## PRESERVING WORKING LANDS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

## From the CFT Board President

Dear Friends,

It's not unusual for people to ask me why I spend so much time working to protect Connecticut's farmland. The answers are varied. I'm lucky enough to live in an agricultural community, and I love the way the earth wakes up in spring, the sounds of farmers readying the land for another year. I like the views provided by working lands. I enjoy walking miles of roads and trails flanked by active farmland. And as a taxpayer, I appreciate the \$4 billion contribution agriculture makes to Connecticut's economy and knowing that farmland subsidizes residential areas by paying more in taxes than it costs in services. But mostly, I dedicate so much time because I know that once our working lands are gone, they are gone forever.

That's why I'm pleased to say that 2018 was another exciting year for Connecticut Farmland Trust. Because of you, we protected 260 acres and made 2018 the third consecutive year in which we protected five family farms. And 2019 promises to be another great year. We are well on our way to setting another record for conserving land, and we will celebrate protecting 50 farms in June.

We have a number of events planned throughout the year, and I hope you will join us in discovering the rich variety of Connecticut agriculture. Please be sure to seek out staff and board members to say hello.

Individual donations are critical to the success of our mission. Because of your financial generosity, CFT continues to develop new partnerships and steward preserved farms. With your help, together we can continue CFT's mission of preserving working lands for future generations. Because once our working lands are gone, they are gone forever.

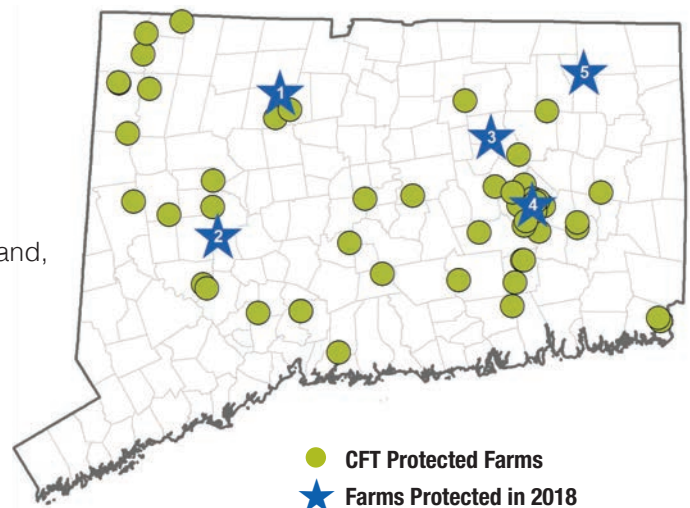
Thank you for your support.

Best,

*Dawn C. Adiletta*

President, Board of Directors

## The Protected Farms of 2018



## CFT Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2018

	2018	2017
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents:		
Unrestricted.....	\$599,245	\$623,391
Acquisition.....	850,685	752,625
Stewardship.....	305,982	282,294
Endowment.....	27,158	26,761
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents.....</b>	<b>1,783,070</b>	<b>1,685,071</b>
Other Current Assets.....	22,525	3,996
<b>Total Current Assets.....</b>	<b>1,805,595</b>	<b>1,689,067</b>
<b>Noncurrent Assets</b>		
Equipment net of Depreciation.....	643	4,206
<b>Total Noncurrent Assets.....</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>4,206</b>
<b>Total Assets.....</b>	<b>\$1,806,238</b>	<b>\$1,693,273</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses.....	\$ 8,885	\$ 4,187
<b>Total Current Liabilities.....</b>	<b>8,885</b>	<b>4,187</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted:		
For Current Operations.....	661,748	68,667
Board Designated for Acquisition.....	24,000	24,000
Temporarily Restricted.....	1,086,447	969,658
Permanently Restricted.....	27,158	26,761
<b>Total Net Assets.....</b>	<b>1,799,353</b>	<b>1,689,086</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS.....</b>	<b>\$1,806,238</b>	<b>\$1,693,273</b>

## CFT Statement of Activities

For the year ended December 31, 2018

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>				
Contributions.....	\$338,600	\$175,589	\$ —	\$514,189
Special Events (net).....	3,836	—	—	3,836
State Contracts.....	33,273	—	—	33,273
Interest.....	1,985	4,656	397	7,038
Other Income.....	839	—	—	839
Net assets released from restrictions.....	63,456	(63,456)	—	—
<b>Total Revenue.....</b>	<b>441,989</b>	<b>116,789</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>559,175</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Program Services.....	234,150	—	—	234,150
Fundraising and Development.....	158,188	—	—	158,188
Management and General.....	56,570	—	—	56,570
<b>Total Expenditures.....</b>	<b>448,908</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>448,908</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS.....</b>	<b>\$(6,919)</b>	<b>\$116,789</b>	<b>\$397</b>	<b>\$110,267</b>



# Who Helped Protect Family Farms in 2018

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Paul and Florence Wilbur  
 Dan, Terry, and Kristen  
 Digiulio

*We apologize for any  
 omissions or mistakes.*





## 2018 Protected Farm Highlights



### 1. Butler Farm, New Hartford

**Land:** 85.5 Acres

**Partners:** Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Town of New Hartford, New Hartford Land Trust

Butler Farm lies on a triangular slice of land nestled between the east and west branches of the Farmington River. Tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, squash, eggplants, sweet corn, cabbage, and other vegetables thrive in the fields thanks to the excellent floodplain soils. The vegetables are grown and sold by the well-known Gresczyk Farms of New Hartford.

CFT partnered with the Department of Agriculture, the New Hartford Land Trust, and the Town of New Hartford to preserve the fields along with the farmhouse. At the same time, the Butler family worked with the Town of New Hartford to preserve an 8.1-acre public trail beside the farm that will provide riverfront access for hiking and fishing along the scenic Farmington River.



### 2. Calabrese Farm, Watertown

**Land:** 38.191 Acres

**Partners:** Connecticut Department of Agriculture, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

A network of preserved farmland is forming in Watertown. When the Calabrese family decided to conserve their family's land, they contributed to a 100+ acre block of preserved farmland, helping to preserve the rural landscape and support the future of agriculture in the area.

Hay and corn grow in the fields and the land is leased by Logue Farms, a high-profile dairy farm in Woodbury. The farm has been in the Calabrese family since the 1920s.



### 3. Digiulio Farm, Coventry

**Land:** 24.84 Acres

A family of conservationists, the Digiulios always knew they wanted to see their land preserved. That's why Dan, Theresa, and their daughter Kristin came together to donate a conservation easement on their land to CFT. With nearly 100 percent prime farmland soils, a historic farmhouse and barn, and a long history of active agricultural operations, the land is more than just hayfields: it's a resource for future generations of farmers.

"There is something in our blood. We just see that open land is important," says Dan Digiulio. "Land preservation is good for the environment."

Continued on page 6



## 4. Leone Farm, Lebanon

**Land:** 64.0 Acres

**Partners:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Town of Lebanon

Four far-flung siblings came together to conserve the farm that had been in their family since the 1960s. “We had a family meeting around the table fifty years ago, while my father was alive, and he made it clear that he wanted to preserve the farm,” said Bob Leone. “My father would be happy right now.”

The land is currently leased to Square A Farm, a dairy in Lebanon. For now, the Leones want to continue to rent the fields while they also improve the fields for additional crop use. In the long term, they want to sell the farm to the “right” farmer – and if they do sell, they can rest assured that the land will remain as a farm forever.



## 5. Wilbur Farm, Woodstock

**Land:** 47.5 Acres

CFT worked with the Wilbur family to preserve their land, which boasts farm fields that are 100 percent prime and statewide important farmland soils. The farm was once a small-scale chicken and dairy farm and later became a beef and hay farm. It has been a haying operation for the last eight years.

When the Wilburs donated their conservation easement, they specifically chose CFT because it supports smaller farms. “Other groups are looking for 200- to 400-acre parcels and smaller farms sort of fall in the hole where there isn’t much support for preservation,” Paul Wilbur said. “CFT fits that niche and is willing to work with smaller farms.”

“We busted our humps to put this place back together, build a barn, clear pastures and get things cleaned up,” Paul Wilbur said. “I don’t want to see it go to house lots after all that effort.”



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