



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection



Connecticut Department of
**ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

Green Plan 2013 Update

September 13, 2012

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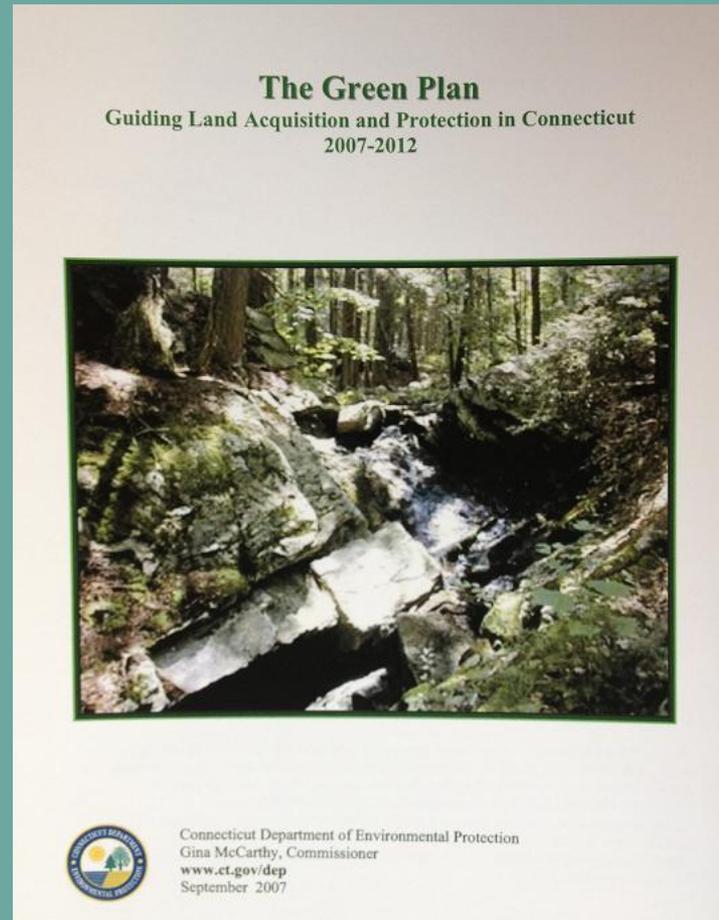
Natural Heritage, Open Space and Watershed Land
Acquisition Review Board



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

The Green Plan

Guiding Land Acquisition and Protection in Connecticut 2007-2012



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Public Act No. 12-152

- Must update Green Plan every 5 years
- DEEP to work with DoAG, DPH, CEQ, municipalities, regional planning agencies, and private nonprofit land conservation organizations
- Next Green Plan will also include new components



New Components

- Establish and Improve the Open Space Catalog (Inventory)
 - First: present an estimate of the amount of open space held by the State (all agencies), municipalities, water companies, and nonprofit conservation orgs
 - Second: propose a means to improve accuracy of data and a means to voluntarily collect data going forward
 - Builds off DEEP's long-term Protected Open Space Mapping (POSM) project



New Components

- Identify Highest-Priority Acquisitions
 - Drilling down: general location of highest priority acquisitions
 - Includes wildlife habitat and ecological resources in the greatest need for immediate preservation
 - Priorities are for acquisition in fee simple and acquisition of conservation easements
 - Priorities relate to five year term of Plan



New Components

- Protection of State-Owned Lands
 - Establish a process whereby each State agency may identify if held lands are valuable for conservation
 - Recommend strategy for permanently protecting State-owned lands that have conservation value
 - Each agency shall take into consideration current and future needs for such lands
 - Identification of these lands shall be on or before October 2014



Work Plan



Develop Outline

- Review Existing Plan
- Review Legislation
- Seek Input From Review Board
- Seek Input From Public
- Draft Outline

Gather Info

- Collect Geospatial Data
- Develop State Priorities
- Seek Stakeholder Priorities
- Identify Process for Cataloging Lands

Feedback

- Seek Stakeholder Feedback (Towns & Conservation Community) on Draft Green Plan
- Refine Green Plan
- Seek concurrence with State Plan of Cons & Dev

Implementation

- Publicize Green Plan
- Share Mapping
- Meet with Towns and Conservation Community
- Develop Web Presence

Activities

Outcomes /Outputs

- Stakeholder Input

- Outline for Green Plan

- Data Collected
- Stakeholder Input

- Data and Process for Catalog

- Stakeholder Input
- Stakeholder Concurrence

- Draft Green Plan
- Final Green Plan

- Product for Partners
- Outreach Efforts

- Protected Open Space



Feedback and Suggestions

- Stakeholder Feedback is Needed
 - DEEP is looking for suggestions on how the existing Green Plan should be enhanced
 - What elements should remain? What should not?
 - How should DEEP address the three new components of the Green Plan outlined above?
- Stay Engaged
 - Stakeholder information can be found at:
www.ct.gov/deep/openspace

