HOLLISTER PRESERVE

"This area of preserved open space will be dedicated to Carl Hollister. It will always carry the Hollister name. The most important point is to secure the vista lookout for the residents of the Town of Glastonbury with public access. It will be for passive use, contemplation and nature study"

-Dorothy & Dana Waring

WHITEHOUSE FAMILY NATURE PRESERVE

"The Whitehouse family takes pride in the knowledge that this beautiful place will be preserved forever for the benefit of the community"

- Lorraine & Richard Whitehouse

THE SMITH BROOK GREAT VALLEY

While walking the trails along Smith Brook, we can almost forget that this 70 acre stretch of Open Space is surrounded by human habitation. The Brook gurgles past occasional tracks of raccoons and deer. Birds build nests in trees surrounding the wetlands. Trees and smaller plants march through their cycles with the seasons. Where some trees come down, others grow up to capture the sunlight and moisture, a testimony to Nature's resilience. Leaving behind our busy lives for a moment, we can rediscover our place in a world which was not always dominated by mankind.

Looking out from the ridge top across the Hartford basin, we are standing on marine sediments deposited on the floor of an ancient ocean that existed more than 400 million years ago. These sediments were later folded, faulted, metamorphosed and uplifted in a process that ultimately built the Appalachian Mountains. In the valley below the overlook, Smith Brook follows the trace of the border fault which was covered by glacial sediments deposited by the 1-mile-thick Laurentide ice sheet 15,000 years ago. Looking up to the heavens at night, the stars shine brightly, only partly masked by city lights. In the larger scheme of things, we become more aware of how to care for and share this beautiful Blue Planet called Earth.

THE KONGSCUT LAND TRUST IS A 28 YEAR OLD NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT HAS CONSERVED MORE THAN 300 ACRES OF GLASTONBURY LAND FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF FUTURE GENERATIONS THROUGH THE COOPERATIVE EFFORTS OF LANDOWNERS AND THE TRUST



The skyline of Hartford as seen from the scenic vistas at Hollister and Whitehouse preserves - Photo by Duffy Schade

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2005

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