

Candlewood Valley Regional Land Trust

Serving the Communities of Danbury and New Fairfield



“The Candlewood Valley Regional Land Trust protects open spaces that contribute to the Candlewood Valley’s iconic rural New England character.”

Thank you for your interest in serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Candlewood Valley Regional Land Trust. Serving on the board is a rewarding experience and an opportunity for professional growth. Completing this form will help you understand the skills and time/resource commitments of this leadership position.

You may find it helpful to read through the entire application and job description before you begin filling it out. Please return the completed application by e-mail to info@candlewoodvalleyrlt.org.

This application will be kept confidential and on file at the land trust offices. Applications are used by the land trust’s Governance Committee to evaluate potential board candidates. This committee will interview potential board members and make recommendations to the full board of directors. Directors are elected by a majority vote of current board members and ratified by the land trust’s membership at its annual meeting.

Board of Directors Duties and Responsibilities

All Board of Director members are asked to become an important part of a vibrant and influential land trust dedicated to the protection of open space and conservation. We ask that you share your talents and skills to help protect, steward and advocate on behalf of the open spaces that protect our natural resources and quality of life. We ask that you be willing to work with others, to listen to ideas, carefully consider important issues and work to come up with solutions to challenges. We ask that you demonstrate a commitment to conservation and the protection of the environment in our region. In doing so, we anticipate the rewards will be significant as we realize, together, how *WE* can make a difference.

The legal responsibilities of every board member are:

- **Duty of Care** - Pay attention to the organization’s activities and operations
- **Duty of Loyalty** - Put the interest of the organization before personal or professional interests when making decisions regarding the land trust or recuse yourself from voting
- **Duty of Obedience** - Comply with applicable federal, state and local laws, adhere to the by-laws and remain guardians of the mission.

The role of our Board of Directors include the following:

- To determine the mission and purposes of the organization
- To select, support and evaluate the Executive Director
- To ensure effective planning
- To monitor and strengthen programs
- To ensure adequate financial resources
- To protect assets and provide financial oversight
- To build and sustain a competent Board
- To ensure legal and ethical integrity
- To enhance the organization’s public standing and garner (financial) support from the community.

The expectations of Board members:

- Behave in a manner consistent with the Candlewood Valley Regional Land Trust being one of your top three charities.
- Participate in 70% of Board regularly scheduled meetings.
- Participate in a minimum of one committee
- Be responsible for the monitoring of at least one property of the land trust
- Act as an ambassador and advocate for the protection of our natural resources
- Introduce new people to the land trust who might become stewards of the land, participate in committee work, potentially serve on the Board or contribute to the organization.
- Participate in the majority of the land trust’s events, including educational, cultivation and fundraising events
- Actively steward landowners or donors to the organization.
- Contribute as an annual member of the land trust and make an additional, meaningful contribution to the land trust.

The Candlewood Valley Regional Land Trust views service on this Board as both a privilege and responsibility. We work collegially with one another, respect one another’s talents and find the time to appreciate the work of every volunteer and celebrate our successes.

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Employer (Current or Past if retired): _____

Position/Title: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

5. *Will you be an advocate for the land trust by recruiting new members, fundraising, and speaking positively about the work of the organization?*

6. *What do you believe are the two most significant opportunities or concerns regarding land conservation today?*

7. *Please share any other thoughts regarding service on this board that you would like us to know.*