

Benefits of Land Conservation



Conserving land in Middlesex will help the Town:

- ✦ Implement Town Plan goals and tasks
- ✦ Conserve significant local resources
- ✦ Demonstrate town commitment to land conservation projects
- ✦ Stabilize property taxes for town residents

The Middlesex Conservation Program

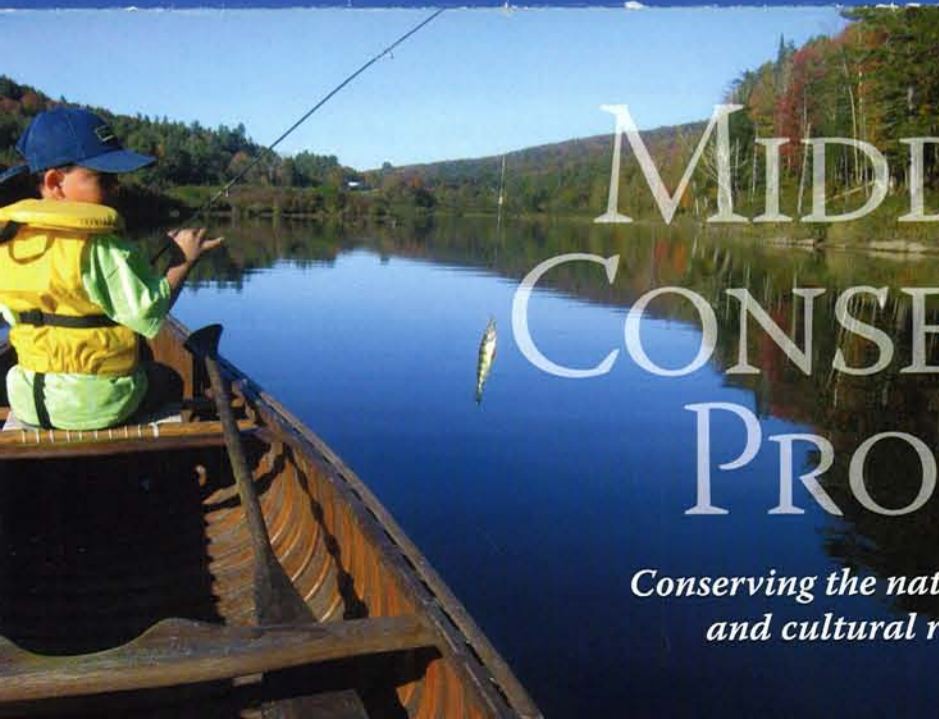


was established to encourage and facilitate land conservation in the Town of Middlesex. The Program provides technical assistance to landowners interested in conserving their properties and is administered by the Middlesex Conservation Commission under the guidance of the Middlesex Selectboard. Interested landowners can donate property to the Program either in fee or via easements, or landowners can apply to the Middlesex Conservation Fund for compensation in exchange for conserving their properties.



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MIDDLESEX CONSERVATION PROGRAM

*Conserving the natural, scenic, recreational, historic
and cultural resources of Middlesex, Vermont*

“The purpose of the **Fund** is to help conserve the town’s natural resources for the benefit of current and future generations.”

–Article II of the Conservation Fund Guidance Document

THE FUND

At Town Meeting on March 2, 2004, the voters of Middlesex established the Fund by appropriating \$5,000. Since that time, the Fund has grown, thanks in part to individual donations by Middlesex residents. In response to the appropriation by the Town, a Conservation Fund Committee was created to help make the Fund available to landowners interested in conserving their properties. The Committee developed a guidance document, an application, and a process for soliciting, reviewing and funding such projects. All conservation efforts supported by the Fund are done in cooperation with willing landowners. Conserving your property may include tax benefits.



PROTECTING NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Because the Fund is limited, it will focus on conserving and protecting the following critical resources:

Natural Resources

- Minimize conversion of the town’s farm and forestland to non-agricultural and non-forestry uses.
- Protect and enhance the town’s water quality and wildlife habitat.

Scenic Resources

- Maintain the town’s rural character, aesthetics, and scenic values.

Recreational Resources

- Provide increased public access to lands in town with minimal impact to natural resources.
- Enhance and maintain the town’s existing recreational resources; especially trails (and public access to them) with minimal impact to natural resources.
- Create new recreational resources; especially trails (and public access to them) with minimal impact to natural resources.

Historic and Cultural Resources

- Preserve significant archaeological and historical sites.

LANDOWNER SUPPORT: APPLYING FOR FUNDS

Landowners may be eligible for conservation funding if they meet the criteria of the Fund application. The Conservation Commission is available to assist landowners in completing their Fund applications. Together, the Conservation Fund Committee and the Conservation Commission review applications to determine if they meet the criteria. Eligible applications are recommended to the Selectboard for final consideration. The Selectboard must give final approval to any expenditure from the Fund.

QUESTIONS / CONTACT

For more information about the Conservation Program and its Fund, or to receive a copy of the Guidance Document and the Application, contact any of the Middlesex Conservation Commissioners or download information from the town Web site at: <http://www.middlesex-vt.org/>. Applications should be mailed to: Middlesex Conservation Commission, 5 Church Street, Middlesex, VT 05602

DONATIONS

The Fund is also able to accept donations. If you are interested in making a tax-deductible contribution to The Middlesex Conservation Fund, please fill out the form on the other side and mail it to the address above.

Yes! I would like to make a tax deductible donation to the Middlesex Conservation Fund.

Please fill out the form below and mail it to:

The Middlesex Conservation Fund
c/o The Middlesex Conservation Commission, 5 Church Street, Middlesex, VT 05602

Name:

Address:

Phone: E-mail:

Enclosed is: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$_____ Thank You!!!