



Join the Save Oswegatchie Hills Coalition

Protect the last mile of this fragile coastal forest from ill-conceived development

The Oswegatchie Hills provide critical, undisturbed habitats for numerous native plants and animals, a safe haven for migrating birds, and an inspiring landscape for hiking, birding, and picnicking opportunities for residents of the region and the state. The Hills also filter the water that runs into the delicate ecosystem of the Niantic River, a fragile tidal estuary that flows directly into Long Island Sound.

The best use of this vulnerable coastal forest is preservation, not development. For decades, the East Lyme Planning Commission has recommended that the rugged land be preserved, not developed. Fifteen years ago, when development threatened, grassroots organizations sprang up on both banks of the Niantic River to protect the Hills from development. In 2007, the Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve was created. This private/public partnership protects, in perpetuity, 457 acres of the Oswegatchie Hills.

A crucial parcel of 236 acres bordering on the River remains threatened by high-density housing first proposed in 2002 by Landmark Development LLC. The latest development plan from Landmark calls for 840 housing units, 1767 parking spaces, and 36 acres of impervious surface. The development would denude the ridgeline, destroy precious forest and wetland habitats, and seriously threaten water quality in the Niantic River and Long Island Sound.

[Connecticut Fund for the Environment](#) and its bi-state program [Save the Sound](#), the [Friends of the Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve](#), and [Save the River-Save the Hills](#) have founded the **Save Oswegatchie Hills Coalition** to build, demonstrate, and activate broad-based support for protecting and preserving all remaining open space on the Oswegatchie Hills.

Will you join us in the fight to permanently protect and Save Oswegatchie Hills?

By completing this form, you express your support for protecting this last parcel of the Oswegatchie Hills from development and receive critical updates as a member of the Save Oswegatchie Hills Coalition.

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

Zip code _____ Phone _____

If joining as an organization:

Organization _____

Your title _____

If an elected official, your position _____

How you can help our cause:

___ Become part of our coalition, fill out and return this form to sthompson@ctenvironment.org

___ Hike the adjoining Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve in East Lyme, CT. See www.oswhills.org

___ Join any or all of our organizations:

CFE/Save the Sound Friends of the Oswegatchie Hills Save the River-Save the Hills

www.ctenvironment.org www.oswhills.org

www.savetheriversavethehills.org

(You may receive update emails from the chosen organizations. A representative will follow up with you about membership.)

For more information, contact Suzanne Thompson, Outreach Coordinator, Save Oswegatchie Hills Coalition, CFE/Save the Sound, sthompson@ctenvironment.org.

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