

# Bloomfield Messenger



Bloomfield's own weekly newspaper

May 2, 2025

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Priceless

12 pages

## GREEN LIFE

### TRAPROCK RIDGE LAND CONSERVANCY CELEBRATES THE OPENING OF TREE TRAIL



#### By Paula Jones

Co-Chair, Trees for Bloomfield  
A good crowd gathered last Sunday at Traprock Ridge Land Conservancy's (TRLC) Hawk Hill Farm (20 Duncaster Rd, Bloomfield) for the grand opening of a Tree Trail. The Trail identifies and features information on nine (mostly) common trees. Five of these trees are "Notable," meaning that they are among the largest and most historical trees of their species in Connecticut.

TRLC is a regional land trust whose service area includes Bloomfield, East Granby, West Hartford, and Windsor. All four towns (and beyond) were well represented. Bloomfield Mayor Danielle Wong and Windsor Mayor Nuchette Black-Burke helped cut the ribbon opening the new trail.

The occasion also marked Bloomfield's first Arbor Day as a designated Tree City USA Community, so the ribbon cutting was preceded by a short Arbor Day ceremony. Paula Jones, TRLC Vice President, opened the program by recognizing the many individuals who helped create the Tree Trail, including Scout Christopher Lloyd and Artist Hayli Graham. Mr. Lloyd installed the trail as his Eagle



Project, and Ms. Graham provided lovely drawings for the individual tree signs.

Bloomfield Mayor Danielle Wong then talked about Bloomfield's path to Tree City designation. She was followed by DEEP Urban Forester Danica Doroski, who talked about her positive experience working with the Trees for Bloomfield Initiative over the past four years. Ms. Doroski noted that there are only 24 Connecticut municipalities with this designation.

Bloomfield Poet Tom Nicotera read a short selection of his poems and one poem by fellow poet Marilyn Johnston. Mr. Nicotera presented a new poem, "Ode to a White Oak," inspired by the notable (and majestic) White Oak included on the new Trail. The ceremony

concluded with Diana Hughes (whose generosity funded the Tree Trail) cutting the ribbon. Participants then had light refreshments while enjoying a leisurely guided walk of the

new trail.

The Hawk Hill Farm Tree Trail (and trail system) is open to the public. When visiting, please park on the right hand side of the small parking lot in

front of the red barn. The trail begins at the kiosk. Hawk Hill Farm is a working farm, so please stay on the designated public trail to not to interfere with the farm operations.