**Policy 4.3 Easement Monitoring**

**Committee Responsible**: Stewardship Committee

**Adopted**: **[DATE]**

**Amended**: **[DATE]**

**Purpose**

The Land Trust monitors all conservation easements to identify any violations of the easement or changes in the properties, to develop and maintain good relations with landowners and residents, and to establish and maintain records of property condition.

**Policy**

1. Monitoring efforts are designed to safeguard the protected property and honor the written commitments made to the original landowners/donors and other conservation partners.
2. Monitoring of a particular property will be the responsibility of the Stewardship Committee or its volunteer designees who will communicate with the landowner and/or the residents on the property and invite them to participate.
3. Monitors will use the Baseline and Supplemental documentation, prior monitoring reports and other background information when monitoring the easement. Examination of the property will be done by the best means possible and monitors will take notes and pictures and identify changes and any possible violations.
4. The Land Trust will conduct monitoring on an annual basis and more frequent monitoring will be encouraged to prevent gaps in the information concerning the property. Stewards and staff will keep records up to date regarding the properties, owners or residents and ensure that owners and residents have knowledge of the restrictions placed on the use of the land. More frequent monitoring will be used for a short-term problem or when the easement may be at risk, such as during construction of structures permitted by the easement.
5. Following the monitoring visit, the Stewardship Committee or its volunteer designees will document the results and file it in accordance with the Records Policy. In the event a problem or possible violation is identified, refer to the Policy on Enforcement of Easements.