**Policy 4.7 Landowner Relationships**

**Committee Responsible**: Stewardship Committee

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

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

**Purpose**

The Land Trust will establish and maintain regular contact with owners of properties protected by Land Trust-held conservation restrictions. Therefore, when a property protected by an easement changes hands, the Land Trust will reach out to the new landowner to build a positive working relationship and inform them about the easement’s existence, restrictions and the Land Trust’s stewardship policies and procedures.

**Policy**

1. The Land Trust will be a resource of land-related technical and other information regarding conservation easements and conservation programs for landowners.
2. It will establish and strive to maintain good relations with all parties involved with an easement and respond in a timely fashion to needs of landowners, particularly in regard to easement review and/or approval of requests.

1. The Land Trust will enforce the terms of all conservation easements, and, if necessary, work with the landowner to amiably resolve any compliance issues or problems consistent with the conservation easement.
2. The Land Trust will keep apprised of land management principles which can change over time and will make all reasonable effort to balance the landowner’s land management needs with the purposes of the easement understanding that, over time, what is currently seen as a best management practice may change and warrant individual treatment.
3. The Land Trust will seek to meet with all new landowners to communicate and share the conservation values of their properties and offer themselves as an ongoing resource for land management questions.
4. The Land Trust will strive to make the most efficient use of landowners’ time and our resources.