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Land Trust Acquires 18-Acre Parcel

By [Joe Wojtas](#) Staff Writer

The Stonington Land Trust has made its first purchase, an 18-acre parcel off North Anguilla Road that borders Anguilla Brook, an important watershed in town. Stanton Simm, the vice president of the land trust, said the trust already owns 32 acres on the northwest side of the brook, giving it 50 acres on both sides of the waterway. The larger parcel had been donated to the trust. Simm, who also chairs the town's Conservation Commission, said preserving the Anguilla Brook area has become a priority for the land trust because of its importance as a watershed and wildlife habitat. Simm said that three weeks ago the land trust paid \$36,000 to buy the property from the estate of the late Carl Grande. The land is located on the north and east sides of the Pawcatuck Little League property. The executor of the estate was George Grande, the longtime television play-by-play announcer of the Cincinnati Reds who now lives in the Hamden area and is the master of ceremonies at the Baseball Hall of Fame's annual inductions. The Grandes grew up here. "It really was a bargain. The owners wanted to preserve it," Simm said. The land trust also owns 28 acres at the former Grand View Christmas Tree farm off Route 2 in Pawcatuck and has a conservation easement over 148 acres which run from Pequot Trail near the intersection with North Anguilla Road south to the police station on Route 1. Simm said the land trust is now working to acquire two more properties. In addition, he said one of the trust's priorities is to help preserve the remaining 168 acres of the Davis Farm on Osbrook Point in Pawcatuck that is not protected from development. Simm said that in addition to the farmland, woodlands and wetlands on the property, the land is one of the area's most significant archeological sites.

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