



THE EDWARD L. ROSE CONSERVANCY



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The Matthews Family Donates Easement to E.L. Rose Conservancy

The Edward L. Rose Conservancy is pleased to announce acceptance of an easement for a 15.5 acre parcel owned by Tim and Terry Matthews, located at 2 John Smith Rd., Binghamton, NY, 13901, in the Town of Chenango, Broome County, NY.

Donation of this easement will enable the E.L. Rose Conservancy to perpetually protect a natural habitat for plants and wildlife. a headwater tributary stream, pond, and associated wetland habitat.

The property consists of four primary habitat types: mixed deciduous forest (old growth and second growth), early successional habitat, a small wetland, and mowed areas. It provides natural flood control, and offers a s forested viewscape in keeping with the goals of the Broome County Comprehensive Plan.

Wildlife is abundant on the property, including white-tailed deer, black bear, fisher, gray fox, raccoon, wi turkeys, and a red-tailed hawk. Other residents include red-backed salamanders and eastern newts. Fo birds such as the black-capped chickadee, red-eyed vireo, and eastern wood pewee also frequent the property.

The parcel was once part of an operational dairy farm back in the mid-1800s. A succession of owners u the property as a woodlot, the source of firewood to heat the farmstead. It will remain the primary reside the Matthews family.

A very comprehensive Baseline Documentation Report on the property was prepared by Kristi L. Sullivan Certified Wildlife Biologist, Conservation Specialist for the Edward L. Rose Conservancy, and Extensior Associate in the Department of Natural Resources at Cornell University.

At the ceremony, from left to right: Keith Oberg, Jim Haley, Tim Matthews, Terry Matthews, Patty Bloom Kristi Sullivan.



*** * * Edward L. Rose Conservancy - 2019 Annual Members Meeting * * ***

WHEN: Saturday, July 27, 2019

WHERE: Binghamton University: The Alumni Center ~ Old O'Connor Hall (Benet Alumni Lounge)

Starts at 9:00 a.m. (coffee and conversation); business meeting kicks off at 9:30; festivities conclude with a tour of the Binghamton University Nature Preserve.

Come join us!

Waiting for Eagles to Land

Raptor Breeding Habitat Improvement

Last Fall 2018, Edward L Rose Conservancy was awarded a Green Communities Grant from the Rockwell Collins Corporation for a long term improvement of raptor nesting habitat. The team researched candidate trees near the High Point Preserve and sought out advice from national experts. A super-canopy White Pine tree was selected and the project to erect a platform suitable for a variety of raptors was completed in 2018.

The team involved volunteers from Rockwell Collins and from Edward L Rose Conservancy. Four members of the team invested in a tree climbing course held by the Outdoor Education program at Cornell University. The challenging program taught safety techniques for gaining access into a tree and safely maneuvering at height with tools and materials.

In November, with the equipment and guidance from Cornell, a set of plans generated by engineers at Rockwell Collins, and a climbing crew and ground crew of volunteers, the nest platform concept was erected at a height of 60 feet. The construction was completed in December, just in time for passing raptors, (hawks or eagles) to stop by and inspect the base nest.

Eagle nesting in our area begins in winter and the birds add to the selected nest sight to make it to their comfort. Eggs are laid in late February or early March.

In addition to encouraging raptor breeding, the long term plan for the project is to share with the community and encourage community interest by installing a web camera which would enable video monitoring of the nesting cycle. More on that in the near future.

Experience has shown that building eagle nesting platforms works best when placed in an area with which eagles are familiar and have bred in the past. Recent occupation in the general area greatly increases the likelihood eagles will accept the artificial home. If the territory is new patience is required.

In one example, five platforms were built in Michigan in 1982, in areas where eagles had not nested for decades. The first occupants took residence eleven years after the platforms were erected. When an artificial platform replaces a recently-fallen nest the chances of adoption are much greater. Once there, the breeding pair will still prefer a natural nest within the same territory and often move. But the platform still has valuable backup in the event the natural nest falls or is otherwise destroyed. The availability of super-canopy tree open crowns that offer clear approaches from multiple directions is a critical factor in attracting bald eagle nests.

Did You Know?

- Eagles add to their nests each year—not just twigs; they add branches. Some older nests can literally weigh a ton.
- If an eagle dines on the carcass of a wild animal killed with a lead bullet, it can get lead poisoning.



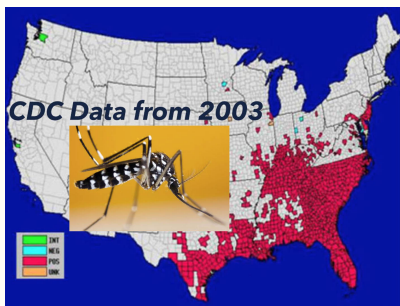
Special thanks to Conservancy volunteers, Keith Oberg, Anthony Palombaro, Russ Cole, Scott Heckma their willing participation and hard work.

We will be monitoring the nest site for interest by raptor visitors, and hopefully get some resident birds to adopt the site as their own.



Have You Met the Asian Tiger Mosquito?

Sadly, if you haven't yet encountered this critter...



it may not be long before that happens. The Department of Entomology at Cornell University is launching a Citizen Science project to map the encroachment of an invasive mosquito called the Asian tiger mosquito. The insect is spreading aggressively into our region and promises to impact the health of our environment.

Sponsored by the Northeast Regional Center for Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases, this mosquito "is capable of transmitting the viruses and parasites that cause disease in humans and pets."

If you would like to participate in this mapping project you will be instructed how to make a simple trap and then report back what you manage to snare to the graduate student, Lindsay Baxter (lb694@cornell.edu) who is driving this project in our region.

For further information on addressing vector-borne diseases check out this CDC site:
<https://www.cdc.gov/ncezid/dvbd/about/prepare-nation.html>

And for more information on Mosquito Citizen Science Projects click here:
<https://neregionalvectorcenter.com/invasive-albopictus-project>