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September 25, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES OF FLANDERS LAND TRUST FOCUS OF NEW EXHIBIT
AT WOODBURY LIBRARY GALLERY**

Woodbury, CT - The importance of the work of the region's major land trust in the conservation and stewardship of Woodbury's natural resources will be the focus of a new exhibit at the Woodbury Library Gallery, entitled "Discover Your Local Land Trust," sponsored by Flanders Nature Center & Land Trust. The exhibit will be on display beginning Monday, October 5 through Saturday, October 31, 2009.

The public will learn more about the history of Flanders and the preservation work of the nonprofit organization as Woodbury's unofficial land trust. Most town residents are familiar with the educational activities of Flanders on Flanders Road, including its maple syrup enterprise, children's programs, summer camps, adult classes and community gardens. However, many may not be as aware of Flanders' role as a land trust. At a recent Woodbury town meeting, Flanders was given resounding public support in its effort to purchase the 28-acre Fleming property on Cowles Road, in conjunction with the Town's funding. Obtaining that property will increase the land that Flanders oversees and protects to just more than 2,000 acres in area towns. Those holdings include two popular nature preserves in Woodbury: the 200-acre Van Vleck Farm Sanctuary on Flanders Road and the 686-acre Whittemore Sanctuary on Route 64.

Photographs of several of the protected properties owned by Flanders Land Trust in Woodbury will be on display at the Library, as well as maps, charts and other materials, designed to explain the mission and work of the Land Trust. Of special interest are several paintings by Flanders' founder, Natalie Van Vleck, that are included as part of the exhibit. A Flanders volunteer or board member will be present on Saturdays during October, to explain more about the Land Trust's work or respond to questions.

The Woodbury Library Gallery is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 AM to 5 PM and Tuesday and Thursday, 10 AM to 9 PM. After Columbus Day, the library will be open on Sunday from 1 to 5 PM. Admission to the exhibit is free.



The Botany Trail on the Flanders Land Trust property in Woodbury traverses more than 200 acres, allowing walkers to enjoy the unimpeded natural vistas, native plants and wildlife.

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