

https://buffalonews.com/news/local/land-conservancy-receives-grant-for-western-new-york-wildway/article_f919c5f8-ab8b-11eb-8e89-23b53759de9a.html

Land Conservancy receives grant for Western New York Wildway

Mark Sommer

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The Western New York Land Conservancy is trying to purchase 201 acres near Allegany State Park that they want to maintain and open to the public with trails. Conservancy naturalist Erik Danielsen shows underground springs that are important to the life of the forest. The acquisition would be part of the proposed Western New York Wildway. On left is Conservancy Deputy Executive Director Jajean Rose-Burney.

Sharon Cantillon

Mark Sommer

The Western New York Land Conservancy was one of 12 organizations in New York to each receive a \$25,000 grant from the Nature Conservancy.

The \$300,000 in all is to support efforts "to increase the pace and scale" of protecting connected spaces where animals and plants can exist. The Land Conservancy is beginning a **Western New York Wildway**, which seeks to connect forests and other lands and reduce habitat loss and fragmentation.

"This is a hugely significant grant for our proposed Western New York Wildway," said Nancy Smith, the Land Conservancy's executive director.

"It will allow us to spend the next year mapping the Wildway to determine where the best available land is while building the partnerships required to make the Western New York Wildway's long-term success achievable," she said.

Other recipients include the Cazenovia Preservation Foundation, Columbia Land Conservancy, Hudson Highlands Land Trust, Lake George Land Conservancy and Westchester Land Trust.

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