



## Burrillville Land Trust

Protecting our open space and rural character  
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Press release

### **Expert birder Todd McLeish comes to the Burrillville Farmers' Market at the Burrillville Land Trust table**

When Todd McLeish looks out his kitchen window to his backyard bird feeders, he sees birds in a different light, "Beaks and feet. That is what I look at first. Beaks and feet tell you a lot of a birds lifestyle and habitat." Rhode Island-based science writer, and Burrillville resident, Todd McLeish has been watching birds, and writing about other wildlife and environmental issues for more than 25 years.

#### **On Saturday, September 3rd, the Burrillville Land Trust will host expert birder Todd McLeish at the Burrillville Farmers' Market.**

"At the farmers' market, Todd will answer questions and shed light on some of the most popular and charismatic birds observed in Burrillville's backyards and all throughout Rhode Island and southern New England," says Paul A. Roselli, president of the Burrillville Land Trust. Todd will be at the Burrillville Farmers' Market from 9:30am till 11am.

According to Todd's web site, "While earning degrees in communications at Ithaca College and Emerson College, he developed a passion for wildlife, natural history and environmental protection. Rather than pursue a biology degree, he immersed himself in the natural world by volunteering to help biologists with their wildlife research and writes about these experiences."

In more than 200 magazine and newspaper articles, Todd has highlighted numerous threatened species, profiled biologists and wildlife artists, and described encounters with a wide variety of backyard creatures. He has written four books about natural history topics, including Return of the Sea Otter and Narwhals: Arctic Whales in a Melting World. Todd will bring some of his books for purchase and sign them at the farmer' market. "Todd has appeared before at events sponsored by the Burrillville Land Trust: Earth Day 50 Years Later was the most recent one. And he was one of the individuals that helped start the Burrillville Land Trust. Todd knows the importance of land conservation and our impact on birds," says Roselli stated.

"The farmers' market is a great place to talk about birds. Feathers and bird calls are fascinating. Just listening and watching, you learn a lot," McLeish states. Todd is an expert birder, a frequent leader of natural history walks, a popular public speaker, and a former world juggling champion (juggling while jogging), according to his website.

The Burrillville Farmers' Market is open from 9:30am till 12:30pm Saturdays till September 24th and is located at the Stillwater Mill Pavillon, 75 Tinkham Lane, Harrisville, RI.

The Burrillville Land Trust is an all volunteer non-profit, 501(c)3, public charity private land trust not connected with town government. The mission of the Burrillville Land Trust is to preserve and protect the rural character of the Town of Burrillville through acquisition, advocacy and education. The land trust has been incorporated in the State of Rhode Island since the year 2000. The land trust holds 230 acres in fee simple and has two conservation easements that total 36 acres. The land that is owned by the Trust is not owned by Town government but is held by the Trust and cared for by volunteer residents and those that love the biodiversity of our planet.