



Your beaches, parks, forests and landmarks shouldn't be sold, swapped or given away without your voice being heard.

Below is an explanation of why we must encourage voters to **Vote YES on Question #2 Tuesday, November 6th**

***Plain Language Explanation:***

Currently, the General Assembly can sell, swap or give away state parks, forests and other valuable public lands with no public input.

Voting YES Would:

- Require a public hearing and a 2/3 vote from the General Assembly before your state parks and forests could be sold, swapped, or given away to private companies or local governments.
- Improve accountability and transparency of public land transactions.
- Make it harder for the CT General Assembly to sell, swap, or give away your state parks, forests, and state-owned farmlands.

***Most Persuasive Messages:***

- ***Keep Public Lands Public!*** The land conveyance amendment ensures that our State Parks and Forests remain for everyone, and not just for politically-connected developers.
- For many in our community, our state forests and parks are their only source to enjoy the outdoors and open space. Public lands are there for everyone. That's why most Connecticut State Parks and Forests are free, providing local places for relaxation, inspiration, and for kids to explore and learn about nature.
- ***Public lands are valuable to Connecticut.*** Public land is one of the best investments we have made in Connecticut. Our State Parks and Forests attract over 8 million visitors, generate over \$1 billion in revenue for the state, and support over 9,000 jobs every year. This measure helps proteCT Connecticut's economy and jobs.

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- More jobs in Connecticut depend on outdoor recreation (69,000) than on the aerospace and defense industry (60,000).
- Outdoor recreation in Connecticut generates \$6.9 billion in consumer spending, \$2.2 billion in wages and salaries in the private sector, \$502 million in state and local tax revenues, and supports 71,000 Connecticut jobs
- **Public Lands are Your Lands.** Despite ongoing attempts in the General Assembly to sell off or give away parts of our State Parks and Forests, these lands are still owned by all of us. Our precious private parks should never be given away without our input, and this measure will stop that.
- For too long, state politicians have cut backroom deals to give away our public lands to politically-connected developers. The developers profit, and the people of Connecticut lost their parks. The old way of doing things isn't working, and this measure will put a stop to it.
- Nothing is more important than clean drinking water. This measure will help to conserve the natural areas and forests that are critical to protecting the water in Connecticut's rivers, creeks, and streams, by filtering out pollution.
- **Public Land Transactions Should be Public.** By requiring public meetings and community involvement, this measure will require government to be transparent and open about the decisions on state parks and open spaces. It will end the secrecy around political deals to give away our parks and forests.

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