

Western Virginia Land Trust protects Craig's Creek Hunting Land

Arrowhead Hunt Club, LLC has signed a conservation easement to protect 1.5 miles of Craig's Creek, about five miles east of New Castle, on land owned by the Eakin family for almost 230 years. The Western Virginia Land Trust and the Mountain Castles Soil and Water Conservation District co-hold the easement.



Arrowhead LLC land along Craig's Creek

The 13-member hunt club obtained the easement to preserve the stream, said Lenden Eakin, club secretary and a

Roanoke attorney. The club owns 344 acres of Craig County land purchased by Nathan Eakin, an ancestor, in 1780. The easement will make certain that the bottomland along the creek is kept in trees and can't be timbered or built in, but the club can still hunt it, maintain trails, and even build a bridge in the future.

“Our goal is to keep the land in everybody's family,” Eakin said. “We locked up creek frontage so they can't do anything that will damage the James River and the Chesapeake Bay,” he added. Craig's Creek is a popular stream for outdoors people.

The hunt club members and their families enjoy fishing, canoeing, mountain bike riding, deer and grouse hunting and archery and rifle ranges on the property. Eakin's wife,

Kimberly, is a club member and their young children, Maria and Nathan, enjoy the



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recreation.

The Western Virginia Land Trust is a non-profit organization whose mission is “promoting the conservation of western Virginia’s natural resources—farms, forests, waterways, and rural landscapes.” Since 1996, the Western

Virginia Land Trust has helped to conserve more than 56,000 acres of land. For more information, call 985-0000 or visit www.westernvirginialandtrust.org.

The Mountain Castles Soil & Water Conservation District’s mission is “to provide and to promote leadership in conservation of natural resources through stewardship and education programs.” For more information, call (540) 977-2698 ext. 3 or visit www.soil-water.org.

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