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Representative Smola Announces LAND Grant Awarded to Sturbridge

BOSTON – **State Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren)** is pleased to announce that the Town of Sturbridge has been awarded a Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) Grant in the amount of \$400,000 to acquire land in the Plimpton Community Forest. The project will contribute to the local and state economy by increasing eco-tourism opportunities in the region, while also conserving wildlife habitat and increasing existing recreational opportunities.

“Land conservation efforts play a vital role in ensuring that the beauty and diversity of Massachusetts continues on for future generations to enjoy,” said Representative Smola. “This funding will bring added benefits to both the Town of Sturbridge and the region as a whole, and I congratulate the Town for their successful application.”

LAND Grants provide funding to municipal conservation commissions for the acquisition of land for conservation and passive recreation purposes. Formally, this grant program was known as the “Self-Help Program.” LAND Grants are awarded by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

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