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Public Interest Meeting on the Open Space Preservation Trust Fund Ballot Initiative for Morristown and the Morris County Open Space Stewardship Ballot Question in the November 2025 Election

The League of Women Voters and the Morristown & Morris Township Library are jointly sponsoring a nonpartisan information session on the upcoming Morristown General Election ballot initiative to create a Morristown Open Space Trust Fund (OSTF). Also explained will be a separate county-wide ballot referendum asking County voters whether dollars from the county's Open Space, Farmland, Floodplain Protection and Historic Preservation Trust Fund may be used for stewardship of properties already permanently preserved**.**

This public information event will be held at the Morristown / Morris Township Library, 1 Miller Road, Morristown on September 25, 2025 at 7PM. Speakers will be Elliott Ruga, Policy and Communications Director, Highlands Coalition; Paula Zimin, Morristown Shade Tree Commission, and Trustee, Burnham Park Association; and Anthony Cucci, Director of Programs, NJ Conservation Foundation.

An Open Space Preservation Trust Fund is a dedicated pool of money, often funded by a local property tax levy, and used by governing bodies like counties and municipalities to acquire, improve, and preserve land for conservation, recreation, and historic preservation purposes. Voters typically approve such a fund through a ballot referendum, establishing a commitment to protect environmentally sensitive areas, create parks and trails and safeguard farmlands and historic sites from development.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan grassroots organization working to protect and expand voting rights and ensure everyone is represented in our democracy. They empower voters and defend democracy through advocacy, education, and litigation, at the local, state, and national levels. The League never supports or opposes any political candidate or party.

The Morristown & Morris Township Library is a joint, free public library for the towns of Morristown and Morris Township, serving the community for over 100 years. It is an expansive public library boasting a vast collection of materials for all ages and interests.

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