



# Wilmington Trail Club

Hike, Paddle, Cycle, Ski

July, 2019

Dear Members,

We are writing to discuss a public open space initiative entitled “Hold On To Hercules” for which the Wilmington Trail Club has provided a letter of stakeholder support and to ask for your individual endorsement in signing a petition.

Hold On To Hercules is an effort to build a community of support to permanently protect open space at the former Hercules golf course along the Red Clay Creek in northern New Castle County bounded by Lancaster Pike to the north and Hercules Road to the west. Its current owner, the Pettinaro Company, and Toll Brothers are looking to build 262 new homes. The Hold On To Hercules initiative is seeking to block construction of 243 of these proposed housing units in order to preserve approximately 205 acres for public use. To finance this preservation, District 2 New Castle County Councilwoman Dee Durham is exploring a number of governmental and private funding sources.

Not only would this public open space be an environmentally sound decision in terms of protection of water quality and preservation of flora and fauna, it would also provide club members with an excellent location for hiking, biking and cross-country skiing events. Furthermore, it would enhance greenway connections along the Red Clay Creek, connecting to Mt. Cuba, the Delaware Nature Society’s Ashland and Coverdale properties, Auburn Valley State Park, Brandywine Springs Park and Greenbank Mill Park.

We believe that the Hold On To Hercules initiative is in direct alignment with an essential part of the mission of our club, namely, to promote and support the protection and restoration of places of natural beauty and interest. In that regard, we recommend that you review information available at: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/HoldOnToHercules/posts/> .

If, after reading our letter and reviewing the information on line you are so inclined, we urge you to sign the Hold On To Hercules petition accessible at:

[www.Facebook.com/HoldOnToHercules](http://www.Facebook.com/HoldOnToHercules) or at: <https://goo.gl/hgj6Sh> .

A paper version of the petition is also available from the Hold On To Hercules Task Force c/o Councilwoman Dee Durham who can be reached at: 302-395-8342.

Thanking you for considering our request, we remain,

Yours truly,

Reuben and Michèle Yarmus  
Hike Across Delaware Event Coordinators

P.O. Box 526 • Hockessin, DE 19707-0526  
Web address: [www.wilmingtontrailclub.org](http://www.wilmingtontrailclub.org)  
Email address: [wtcmembership@yahoo.com](mailto:wtcmembership@yahoo.com)  
Tel: (302) 307 - 4017