



CAROLINA MOUNTAIN LAND CONSERVANCY

PO Box 2822 • 317 N. Washington Street, Suite 1 • Hendersonville, NC 29793-2822
(828) 697-5777 (phone) • (828) 697-2602 (fax) • info@carolinamountain.org • www.carolinamountain.org

For Immediate Release

October 30, 2007

Contact: Suzanne Hohn, Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy Outreach Coordinator
(828) 697-5777

Public meeting on the benefits of conserving farms and open space

Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy, along with several partners, is sponsoring a forum on open space, the role open space plays in our communities, and the economic benefits of conserving farms and open space. The meeting is open to the public and is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7th at 6:30 PM in Kaplan Auditorium at the Henderson County library in Hendersonville. This will be a good opportunity for interested members of the community to learn about and to participate in a discussion about how conservation of farms and open space can provide economic benefits to our communities and can balance future development.

Susan Kask, a professor with Warren Wilson College, will speak on the cost of services to counties for various types of land use. Tom Elmore, Leicester farmer and planning consultant to Land-of-Sky Regional Council, will discuss the importance of conserving open space for the agricultural economy and community. Penn Dameron, executive director of the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area, will address the importance of open space for the local tourism economy and will include results from recent research conducted on that topic.

After short presentations by the speakers, the audience will have an opportunity to ask questions and then to participate in a discussion concerning the issue of open space and steps our communities can take to promote conservation. Along with CMLC, the meeting is sponsored by the Henderson County Farm Bureau, the Henderson County Heritage Council, and the Henderson County Soil and Water Conservation District. For further information, please contact Suzanne at 697-5777 or suzanne@carolinamountain.org.

Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy helps landowners protect local land and water resources vital to our natural heritage and quality of life. As a local nonprofit organization dedicated to saving the places you love, CMLC is helping to create a regional network of more than 16,500 acres of protected farm, forest, park and natural lands. To become a member or learn about other ways to support CMLC, visit www.carolinamountain.org or call 697-5777.

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