



Friends of Topsmead State Forest Inc. (FTSF) is a volunteer organization whose purpose is to work with the State of Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) to provide programs and activities to promote, preserve, protect, and maintain the history, heritage and environmental integrity of Topsmead, thereby supporting the wishes of Edith Chase in her will, gifting Topsmead to the State of Connecticut.

Download the membership form from our website or use the attached form. Membership fees and donations help support projects and events at Topsmead.

We welcome you to join us! Our volunteer projects include historic preservation on the house and other buildings, habitat enhancements like bluebird houses, and developing educational programs for people of all ages at Topsmead.



TOPSMEAD STATE FOREST

Located in the Litchfield Hills of Connecticut, Topsmead State Forest remains a precious piece of a past era. Miss Edith Morton Chase's summer estate is defined by its magnificent landscapes, grounds, fine craftsmanship of her cottage, and formal gardens. With over 510 acres of forests and meadows, this hidden gem offers year-round passive recreation including walking, picnicking, bird watching, and cross-country skiing. In addition, the Edith Chase Ecology Trail offers close to a mile long walk with interpretive signs. Dogs on a leash are welcome. (Note: open fires and grills are not allowed).

Free guided tours of the residence are offered from June through October on the 2nd and 4th weekends of each month from 12:00 PM-5:00 PM.

Hours 8:00 AM – Sunset year-round

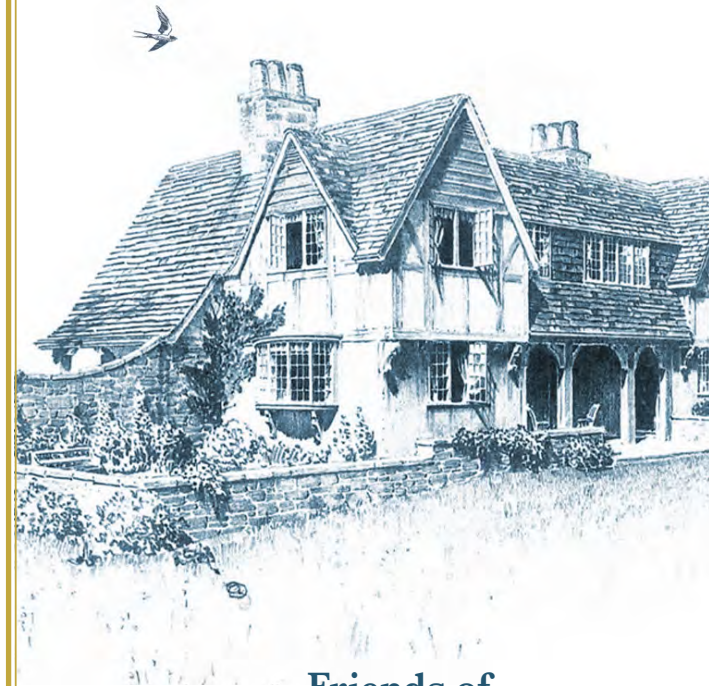
For more information and upcoming special programs and events please visit our Facebook page or website (www.friendsof topsmead.org).

Topsmead State Forest Phone 860-567-5694

Directions

From Route 8: Take Exit 42. Go west on Route 118 for 2.0 miles. Turn left onto Clark Road to the stop sign. Take a right at the stop sign then the first left onto Buell Road. The first right off Buell is the entrance to Topsmead.

From Litchfield Center: Take Route 118 east for 1.5 miles. Take a right onto East Litchfield Road. Take the first right onto Buell Road. Topsmead will be the first road on the right.



Friends of Topsmead State Forest



MEMBERSHIP

Providing programs and activities to promote, preserve, protect, and maintain the history, heritage, and environmental integrity of Topsmead



Friends of Topsmead State Forest

P. O. Box 1081, Litchfield, CT 06759

www.friendsoftopsmead.org



FTSF is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization



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Original drawing of Chase Cottage by Schell Lewis, 1924

A BRIEF HISTORY OF TOPSMEAD

In 1917, Edith Morton Chase received 16 acres of land on Jefferson Hill in Litchfield, Connecticut from her father, Henry, First President of Chase Brass & Copper Company of Waterbury, CT. Here Edith built a rustic cabin, which was later replaced by a more substantial English Tudor summer home, designed by noted architect Richard Henry Dana, Jr. The exterior is made of cypress, the downspouts are copper, and the interior woodwork is oak.

Fine craftsmanship and an eye for detail are evident throughout the cottage. This summer home was furnished with 17th and 18th century English Country antiques. In 1927, Miss Chase purchased the adjacent Buell Farm to reflect its location at the "top of the meadow."

In 1972, Edith Morton Chase left her estate, and over 510 acres of magnificent forests and meadows, to the people of Connecticut -- to be known as Topsmead State Forest. Miss Chase requested that Topsmead State Forest be "kept in a state of natural beauty."

A walk in the woods at Topsmead State Forest

Photo: J.A. Robertson



MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Yes! I want to become a member of
the Friends of Topsmead State Forest Inc.**

New Member Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Annual Membership Level

\$25 Friend

\$50 Family

\$75 Patron

\$100 Benefactor

Additional Donation: \$ _____

YES! I want to volunteer and help with:

Historic preservation projects

Grounds enhancement projects

Habitat conservation

Social media/website/publicity

Educational programs

Seasonal programs

Fundraising

Membership engagement

Please make check out to FTSF and send with form to:

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