



MOHAWK HUDSON LAND CONSERVANCY

Conserving and Connecting Communities

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**Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy presents the second year of Trail Tunes,
a free and family friendly hiking and live music event.**

New Scotland, NY – The Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy (MHLC) is excited to announce the return of *Trail Tunes* at Bender Melon Farm Preserve on **Sunday, August 16, 2026, from 1 – 4 p.m.** Last year, for the event's first installment, over 200 people from around the Capital Region came to enjoy live music and stroll the trails of the 175-acre preserve, located on Rt 85A/Maple Rd in the Town of New Scotland. The event is free and suitable for all ages; RSVPs are encouraged (not required) at www.mohawkhudson.org/trail-tunes.

MHLC Executive Director Mark King said, "Trail Tunes is all about connecting people with great local music and beautiful outdoor spaces they might not have discovered yet. By bringing artists into natural settings, we hope to introduce new audiences to both the music and the trails — creating a shared experience that celebrates our community, creativity, and the outdoors. Our area has so much to offer when it comes to outdoor recreation and the arts, and Trail Tunes will bring these two together to create a unique community-focused experience for music and nature enthusiasts of all ages."

As participants wander along the scenic trails, they'll discover four intimate performance spots where local musicians will be performing acoustic sets. MHLC encourages participants to arrive at any time and stroll through at their own pace. Bender Melon Farm Preserve has a parking lot on Rt.85A and is also conveniently accessible from the Albany County Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail. (A parking map can be found on the event website.) Participants arriving at the check-in table will receive a trail map that can be stamped at each station; participants who collect all four stamps will receive a vinyl MHLC logo sticker. They will also be entered into a prize raffle to win MHLC merchandise, Tacos Diablo gift cards, or a gift basket from Common Roots Brewing Company. New additions to the 2026 event: Common Roots Brewing Company will have beer and cider available for purchase, there will be a Hungry Traveler food truck, and MHLC will host a kids' craft table.

The event features a line-up of musical artists from the Capital Region, including:

Kimono Dragons is an instrumental psychedelic surf rock band from landlocked upstate NY. Captivating bass lines, driving drums, and two rippin' rockin' guitars make the Dragons a musical force that at times hits you like a tidal wave and at others has you gently swaying like a palm tree in a warm breeze.

Laura Leigh is at once a relic of a bygone age and a fresh face in the new generation of folk, pulling inspiration from tried-and-true traditions of old-time country and rock and roll. Her driving rhythms and soaring melodies accompany heartfelt, insightful lyrics, delivered with a cadence that is at once sincere and irreverent. It is this breadth and depth of range that makes her equally comfortable in the back woods and back alleys of New York's enigmatic upstate.

Carolyn Shapiro is an old-time banjo player and songwriter from the Southern Adirondacks whose music feeds the soul like a home-cooked meal. Blending sultry flavor with a deep-rooted traditional style, her songwriting pushes the boundaries of the banjo and invites listeners on an intimate journey through the complexities of being human. With hypnotic banjo picking and a commanding voice, she brings a joyous vulnerability to the stage, leaving audiences restored and inspired.

The Husbands is a family band of seven husbands. Formed serendipitously from jam sessions amongst lifelong musicians and longtime friends, The Husbands blend their many influences into an energizing sound that is part heartland rock, part grunge jam band, and part folk. Many of the members have spent the better part of three decades in a variety of Albany-based bands, their wide-ranging experiences allowing them to mold their arrangements according to whatever space they find themselves in – whether it be a rock 'n' roll club or an acoustic off-grid setting.

MHLC expresses sincere gratitude to Tacos Diablo, the 2026 Music Sponsor and to the Supporting Sponsors, Roof Scan Inc., and Love of Fuzz.

To learn more and register for Trail Tunes, please visit www.mohawkhudson.org/trail-tunes.

The Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy (MHLC) is a nonprofit conservation organization conserving and stewarding the lands and waters of the Mohawk and Hudson River Valleys for people and the environment in Albany, Schenectady, and Montgomery counties. Since its founding in 1992, the Conservancy has protected more than 16,000 acres of land, including over 2,500 acres open to the public for hiking, cross-country skiing, and other educational and recreational opportunities. To learn more, visit www.mohawkhudson.org.

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Attached images:

Trail Tunes participants move to the music at Bender Melon Farm Preserve.

*Scenic view of Bender Melon Farm Preserve's fields.
Trail Tunes promotional graphic*







MOHAWK HUDSON
LAND CONSERVANCY

MOHAWK HUDSON LAND CONSERVANCY
presents

*FREE
EVENT!*



TRAIL TUNES

BENDER MELON FARM PRESERVE
SUNDAY, AUG. 16 • 1 – 4 PM

*Step into a world where music and nature intertwine -
join us on the trails for live music from:*

**KIMONO DRAGONS
LAURA LEIGH
CAROLYN SHAPIRO
THE HUSBANDS**

EVENT DETAILS & REGISTRATION:

WWW.MOHAWKHUDSON.ORG/TRAIL-TUNES



Thank you to our sponsors!



