



BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LAND TRUST
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For immediate release

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Bainbridge Island Land Trust secures third property through *Stand for the Land* *\$500,000 challenge grant offers huge push forward*

Bainbridge Island, WA – September 18, 2018 – In the past 12 months, the Bainbridge Island Land Trust has secured three spectacular properties for preservation through its *Stand for the Land* campaign. Property number three, the 13.27-acre Miller-Kirkman Preserve includes a 1-acre estuary, ¼ mile of fish stream, 910 linear feet of natural shoreline, and intact riparian vegetation. It's also home to a range of important species including salmon, kingfishers, eagles, heron and salamanders. The Bainbridge Island Land Trust is dedicated to protecting this unique shoreline habitat, one of the priorities identified in our Strategic Conservation Plan, so that these creatures and others will continue to thrive on our Island. This stunning preserve was purchased from a long-time Island couple and is named after the landowner's grandparents who owned the property from 1942 until the Land Trust's purchase was finalized in July. This brings the total number of acres protected by the Land Trust and its partners to nearly 1,400.

The Miller-Kirkman Preserve represents a "one-of-a-kind" opportunity in this ongoing campaign to save some of the last best places on Bainbridge before it's too late – and a small group of generous Islanders are offering a \$500,000 challenge grant to help make this happen. They are committed to matching every dollar the Land Trust raises for *Stand for the Land* over the next five months. This challenge has strict parameters and a real deadline. If we don't raise the full \$500,000 by March 31, 2019, we won't get all the matching funds. If we are successful, *Stand for the Land* will get a \$1,000,000 boost toward finalizing our initial acquisitions – the Jablonko, Cougar Creek, and Miller-Kirkman Preserves – and protecting more beautiful, ecologically-important habitat before it's too late.

The Bainbridge Island Land Trust is a local 501(c)3 non-profit founded in 1989 with the mission to preserve and steward the diverse natural environment of Bainbridge Island for the benefit of all.

Learn more about *Stand for the Land* and sign up to tour select properties today. Visit www.bi-landtrust.org/stand or call the Land Trust office at (206) 842-1216.