

*To all Scotland Residents*

*A gift has been given to the town of Scotland, CT from Highland Titles, a land conservation company in Scotland, UK.*

A press release went out this week:

*“To Spread Holiday Cheer, Highland Titles, One of the World’s Leading Innovators of Land Preservation, Gifts One Foot Plots of Land from Its Nature Reserve in Glencoe Wood, Scotland, Granting the Courtesy Titles of Lord and Lady to the 1,694 residents of Scotland Connecticut.”*

The Highland Titles gift is all about land conservation. Over the last thousand years, the forests throughout Scotland have been destroyed by industry and farming – in fact, only 1% of the native woodland remains today. With the priority of eco-conservation initiatives increasing across the globe, Highland Titles has created a new approach to Scottish land conservation by selling small “souvenir” plots to help fund the rescuing of woodlands, tree planting, maintenance and acquisition of land at risk of development – ensuring it cannot be purchased or developed. As part of this effort, Highland Titles markets their company in the US. They found our town and gifted the 1ft x 1 ft. plots to each of our residents to kick off their campaign. **This is a gift from Highland Titles and you are under no obligation to take part.** There is **no cost** to take ownership of the plot and **no fees or taxes** of any kind in ownership. This is very similar to the donations of planks at our library or a brick purchased on a public building.

Highland Titles will be providing individual redemption codes for one free plot of land for each current resident of Scotland, CT. We will receive these codes after Christmas and after testing and a verification process, residents will be notified that they are available via our webpage. It will be shortly after Christmas. To receive your code, the process will be to contact the First Selectman’s office to verify your residence here in Scotland, CT. Once verified, you will be given one code per person. You must go to the Highland Titles website to redeem your code. At that point, you will be dealing only with Highland Titles and giving them information as you would any web transaction. To redeem your code and for all information please go to [www.highlandtitles.com/registration](http://www.highlandtitles.com/registration). Please note your code is case sensitive, and should be entered exactly as displayed. The gift offer will expire on February 28, 2018.

**Each resident of Scotland, CT will receive:**

- The courtesy title of Lord or Lady of Glencoe
- A high quality, full color, gift folder containing documentation
- A title deed for land ownership on velum parchment
- Master Title Deed to change your title on bank accounts, driving license and other ID where applicable
- A map of Glencoe Wood and directions as well as instructions on how to visit and find individual plots
- Information and pictures of the area, Glencoe Wood and other conservation projects
- A bumper sticker to proudly display the new status of Lord or Lady

Additional plots can be purchased in sizes ranging from 1 square foot to 1000 sq. ft. These plots are considered “Souvenir” plots and reside in a land conservancy. There are rules as to what you can and cannot do with your land. You can pick plots adjacent to each other as long as they are the same size. Also, you can look up your plot and find it on GPS as well as visit your plot if you wish.

To answer questions you may have, first, please visit the website, [www.highlandtitles.com](http://www.highlandtitles.com). Please go to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section of the website. All of the rules governing the plots and rights for plot owners are listed there.

The First Selectman’s office will be working on a “Thank You” gift for Highland Titles to commemorate their gesture to our town, probably an “in kind” souvenir plot in one of our parks. We share our concern for open spaces and undeveloped wild areas here in Connecticut. We will keep you posted as to what we are planning to do to keep our “sister” country relationship going.