



# Greenspace Genealogy

Individuals who designate family property as Greenspace

January 1, 2010

## In This Issue

- Message
- Featured Headline
- Where Are These Greenspaces
- Why Are These Families Interesting?...
- Subscription Information

## Message



If you have lost track of that ancestor from another state, look in Michigan! Hundreds of Mecosta County residents came from New York and Ohio.

The names of more than 6,390 individuals are available as a Family Tree Maker file. This digital file contains 1,598 surnames dating back to John Lapham, born in Devonshire, England, in 1635.

[Order now...](#)

## Quick Links

- [News](#)
- [More About Us](#)



## Premier Issue of Greenspace Genealogy

Green genealogy has been my passion for more than a decade. At first, people find it confusing but, when I explain the concept, they are intrigued.

There are individuals all across the United States who donate their private property to be enjoyed as a public greenspace. Some donations are ambitious projects consisting of thousands of acres that become recreational areas. Others are corner lots, usually referred to as tot lots. There are the conservation and preservation areas, city parks, and county parks.

*Greenspace Genealogy* is their story.

## Where Are These Greenspaces?

They are everywhere. When your family has a reunion at [Allerton Park](#), in Piatt County, Illinois (near Champaign-Urbana), you are enjoying the greenspace donated to the public by the Allerton family. If you spend the day at [Beardsley Park](#) in Bridgeport, Connecticut, you are having fun on land donated by James W. Beardsley.

## Why Are These Families Interesting?

Most people assume that these families are tycoons and socialites. Margaret Guzy, donated her family farm to the Department of Natural Resources and it is now known as the [Margaret Guzy Pothole Wetlands Land and Water Reserve](#). You may have driven past it on the way to a camping trip at Lake Shelbyville in Central Illinois.

Margaret was a hairdresser. Her parents were Polish immigrants who began life in this country where her father found work as a laborer in the Penwell Coal Mine in Christian County, Illinois.

They all have intriguing stories to tell. Ernie Ballard was in ill health when he took a notion to carve trails across his 210 acres of woodland in the 1950's. Eventually those trails were used for track and field events and Ernie lived to be 96 years old. Before he died, Ernie Ballard donated that property to the public and it thrives today as the [Ballard Nature Center](#) in Altamont, Illinois, located on the original National Road.

## Subscribe to Greenspace Genealogy

As a professional genealogist, I am inspired to share these stories. I have been a contributor to *Genealogy Weekly* for years and anticipate continuing that relationship. But, every time I share even one of these stories, people ask for more.

To receive your copy of the *Greenspace Genealogy* newsletter, subscribe today. An annual subscription is \$12 for a weekly *Greenspace Genealogy* newsletter. The newsletter is only available via email.

Subscribe to Greenspace Genealogy



If you experience problems subscribing, email [judy@judyrosellaedwards.com](mailto:judy@judyrosellaedwards.com)

## Contact Info

Description/Title  
Judy Rosella Edwards

[Forward email](#)

Email Marketing by



This email was sent to [judy@judyrosellaedwards.com](mailto:judy@judyrosellaedwards.com) by [judy@judyrosellaedwards.com](mailto:judy@judyrosellaedwards.com)