



INTERNATIONAL  
LAND CONSERVATION  
NETWORK

## Levitt presents on innovative wind-power strategies at 17<sup>th</sup> annual Symphony in the Flint Hills Signature Event

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Jim Levitt, director of the International Land Conservation Network (ILCN), spoke at the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Symphony in the Flint Hills Signature Event on June 11 in Chase County, Kansas. He shared lessons from the Site Wind Right initiative, which aimed to enable a healthy balance between conservation and sustainable development in the United States.

The Symphony in the Flint Hills Signature Event is an annual gathering of land stewards, musicians, artists, historians, scientists, and community members with a mission to heighten appreciation and knowledge of the Flint Hills tallgrass prairie. The theme of this year's event was weather in the Flint Hills, focused particularly on the relationship between Flint Hill's highly variable weather patterns and the region's culture and economy.

Levitt and Brian Obermeyer, director of land protection and stewardship for The Nature Conservancy in Kansas, took the stage to present as part of the event's weather and science sub-theme. Levitt is the author of an in-depth [case study](#) detailing Obermeyer's two-decade journey catalyzing the creation of a novel mapping system that enables developers to strategically place wind farms to minimize landscape and biodiversity harm. The system, known as Site Wind Right has inspired action internationally, serving as a precedent for similar initiatives in India, China, and elsewhere. In the United States, Site Wind Right is now evolving into Site Renewables Right, which will focus on the siting of both wind turbines and photovoltaic (solar electric) facilities across the nation.

The Site Wind Right case study is excerpted in volume 14 of the *Symphony in the Flint Hills Field Journal*. It is also part of the report "[From the Ground Up: How Land Trusts and Conservancies Are Providing Solutions to Climate Change](#)", which is co-authored by Levitt and the ILCN's associate director for sustainably managed land and water resources, Chandni Navalkha. The full case study and the report are available on the ILCN's [website](#).

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