

AUTHOR NAMED CONSERVATION PARTNER OF THE YEAR

Author Brendan Hanrahan will receive Connecticut's Southwest Connecticut Conservation District's 2005 Outstanding Conservation Partner of the Year Award for his achievements in natural resource education and public outreach efforts. This award, to be given at the District's 59th Annual Meeting at 7 pm on Monday, October 24, 2005 at City Hall in Milford, recognizes Mr. Hanrahan's efforts over the past year to inform Connecticut residents and visitors about the vast wealth of earth history associated with Connecticut.

Mr. Hanrahan is publisher of the *Road to Discovery Series*, four family-oriented guidebooks to Connecticut's natural wonders. These books each explain different aspects of the state's natural history, and describe day trips to interesting sites throughout the state where its past comes to life, making it easy for everyone, from families, to educators and weekend adventurers to get out and explore our state's rich heritage. Hanrahan drew upon his training in Biology and English as a student at Reed College, and subsequent experience as a writer and journalist, to complete the project.

To complement the series, Mr. Hanrahan began touring Connecticut with his public program entitled *Exploring Connecticut's Natural Wonders*, which he has presented for public library, patrons, school and environmental groups across the state, including the Westport Public Library, the Sierra Club of Greater Hartford, the Connecticut Audubon Coastal Center at Milford Point, and the O. C. Marsh Fellows of the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History.