



## TOM SOJA, KEEPER OF THE RIVER

by Barbara Lewis

How Tom Soja, an “escapee” from New York City, became the de facto “keeper of the river” of a long stretch of the East Branch of the Delaware River near Hancock, NY, and then protected much of that land with a conservation easement through the Delaware Highlands Conservancy is an interesting story.

When Tom lived in a landmark apartment building on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, he became involved in a rent strike that lasted 17 years. Soja, who grew up in West Virginia, never liked living in New York City very much, so when a settlement with his landlords was finally reached in 1999, he started looking for real estate in a more rural environment. He and his wife Syble began their search in Bucks County, PA, where they quickly realized that the kind of property they wanted was way beyond their means. But, they also realized that they really wanted to live on the Delaware River, and that ultimately led them to Hancock, N.Y., where the East and the West branches of the Delaware River meet.

Tom describes how they came to buy their first riverfront property in “Green Flats,” where they ended up building their house. “Everyone in the town of Hancock had been waiting for that property to come up for sale...and I just happened to show up the very day it came on the market. It was sheer luck,” he says. Or perhaps, fate.

“I’ve always been into cleaning up things, usually messes created before I was born...and whenever I would clean up vacant properties along the river, pretty soon I’d be

able to buy those properties. It was a nice thing that was happening,” says Tom. After moving to Hancock, Tom began cleaning up a two mile stretch of river downstream.

Eventually, Tom was able to buy parts of an old railroad corridor adjacent to the river, as well as a stretch of river including an island known as Partridge Island near Fish’s Eddy, which has provided Tom more access to the river for his clean-up efforts. He spends an average of one day a week lugging tires out of the river and carting bags of garbage to his local landfill. Much of his effort focuses on clearing debris dumped over the banks along Old Route 17. At one spot alone, he claims to have taken out “300-400 bags of garbage, dozens of tires, garbage cans, you name it...” His biggest haul was a 200-pound truck tire from Partridge Island, and he has removed “tons of flood debris” from the Big Flood of ’06.

*(continued on page 5)*



Tom Soja at his East Branch property

## Delaware Highlands Conservancy

### Officers:

Carson Helfrich, President  
Don Downs, Vice President  
Mike Uretsky, Treasurer  
Scott VanGorder, Secretary

### Board Members:

Denise Frangipane  
Grant Genzlinger  
Krista Gromalski  
Adam Rodell  
Cindy Wildermuth  
Sigrid Wilshinsky

### Executive Director:

Sue Carrier

### Land Protection

#### Coordinators:

Helle Henriksen  
Melinda Ketcham

#### Mail us:

P.O. Box 218  
Hawley, PA 18428-0218

P.O. Box 219  
Narrowsburg, NY 12764

#### Visit us:

508 River Street  
Hawley, PA

Sullivan County  
Government Center  
100 North Street  
Monticello, NY

#### Call us:

Main phone: 570-226-3164  
Also: 845-807-0535 \* NEW

#### Online:

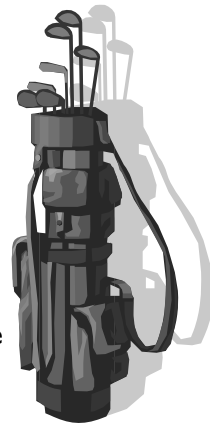
[www.delawarehighlands.org](http://www.delawarehighlands.org)  
[info@delawarehighlands.org](mailto:info@delawarehighlands.org)

### Upcoming Meetings:

Land Protection	May 16
Fundraising and	
Outreach	May 28
Finance	June 16
Board Meeting	June 20
Sullivan Outreach	TBD

# 1st Annual Benefit "On the Course for Conservation"

The Delaware Highlands Conservancy proudly announces its **1<sup>st</sup> Annual golf tournament**, to be held **Monday, June 15** at **The Country Club at Woodloch Springs**, near Hawley, PA.



"We are so pleased to partner with the wonderful people at Woodloch Springs," says tournament chairperson and Conservancy Board Member Cindy Wildermuth. "We're looking forward to a great day of golf for an excellent cause." "The Woodloch family and staff are honored to host the Conservancy's inaugural golf tournament," says Kiesendahl. "The event provides an opportunity to join friends in a round of golf while benefitting a worthy cause."

The June 15 event schedule includes a Shotgun Start at 1:00 PM. To cap a fun-filled day of golf in support of local land protection, cocktails with full open bar, complimentary crudites and a 50/50 raffle are planned 6:00 PM, with a delicious dinner to be served at 7:00 PM. During dinner, tournament chairperson Cindy Wildermuth will share a brief presentation about the Conservancy's work and accomplishments, and Woodloch's own John Pillar will emcee a festive evening!



*On the Course for Conservation host committee, first row, from left: Krista Gromalski, Candy Watson and Cindy Wildermuth. Back row, from left: Robin Wildermuth, Craig Smyth and Scott VanGorder. Missing from photo is Bob Kiesendahl.*

On the Course for Conservation is Captain and Crew format. Cost is \$110 per golfer, which includes golf, cocktails and dinner. Conservancy supporters who will not be golfing on June 15 can join in the fun during cocktails and dinner at The Country Club at Woodloch Springs. Cost is \$65 per person for cocktails and dinner only.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. RSVP deadline is May 27.

For more information email [info@delawarehighlands.org](mailto:info@delawarehighlands.org) or call 570-226-3164.

## HELP US GO GREEN

Help us be more environmentally and economically conscious. Provide us with your email address and we can keep you up-to-date on events, news and volunteer opportunities. We will not sell your email address and you can unsubscribe at any time. Simply email us at [info@delawarehighlands.org](mailto:info@delawarehighlands.org) or fill in the blank on your membership renewal.

## SIGN UP for EMAIL UPDATES and E-NEWSLETTER

## KEITH FITZPATRICK: A LOCAL INSPIRATION

When custom carpenter Keith Fitzpatrick and his wife Betsy decided to start a family, they headed north, away from the corporate world of Washington DC where Keith had worked as project manager for a large Arlington, Virginia firm. The Fitzpatricks returned to Keith's small town roots in the Upper Delaware River region and settled in Barryville where Keith started his own carpentry business, **Keith Fitzpatrick Custom Carpentry**.

Keith brought home with him his love for the region along with his dedication to strong community values. Keith believes that we all need to participate in sustaining the environmental health of our planet, and that we need to do it on the local level. Inspired by reading John Abrams' book, *The Company We Keep: Reinventing Small Business for People, Community, and Place*, Keith decided to find a productive way for his own small business to participate in sustaining the beauty and ecological health of our region.



Carson Helfrich, Conservancy President, with Keith Fitzpatrick

Keith decided to emulate the mission of **“One Percent for the Planet: Keep Earth in Business,”** an alliance of businesses financially committed to creating a healthy planet. Founders of “One Percent,” Yvon Chouinard, founder of Patagonia and Craig Mathews, owner of Blue Ribbon Flies, both passionate environmentalists, realized that businesses need to be a force for change if our environmental challenges are to be met. They also realized that it was smart business practice to protect the natural resources that kept them in business. They established “One Percent for the Planet” to encourage

local businesses to choose a local conservation organization to which to donate 1% of their yearly income.

“I wanted to do something locally,” Keith explains, “and the Conservancy’s goals suited my goals perfectly. In 2007, Keith approached the Conservancy with his desire to follow the “One Percent” model and **donate 1% of his yearly earnings to the Conservancy’s mission** to protect the scenic rural character and environmental health and beauty of our region. As Keith’s custom carpentry business has become more successful, his generous donations to the Conservancy have grown as well.

In addition to his contributions to the Conservancy, Keith, who is a member of Pike County Builders Association chapter of the National Association of Homebuilders, also received his Certified Green Professional (CGP) designation.

“Keith is committed to green building practices and high quality energy saving construction. Keith Fitzpatrick is a role model and inspiration,” states Conservancy executive director, Sue Currier, “he is redefining what it means to be a green business man. He embraced leading industry practices for sustainability. And he has added a new imension. He has committed to investing the proceeds of his local business back into our community to ensure that the natural infrastructure – our forests, farms, and waters – will be here for his children and grandchildren.”

The Conservancy is deeply appreciative of Keith’s support. And even more important, we are inspired by Keith’s dedication to our community, by his commitment to being a responsible corporate citizen, and by his desire to sustain the health and beauty of our region as well as the health of the planet for future generations – his children, as well as ours.

For more information on the Conservancy, please call 570-226-3164 or email [info@delawarehighlands.org](mailto:info@delawarehighlands.org). To contact Keith Fitzpatrick Custom Carpentry, call 845-557-6975 or email him at [k\\_fitzpatrick13@hotmail.com](mailto:k_fitzpatrick13@hotmail.com).



## LOCAL FARMERS MARKETS

### Jeffersonville

Thursdays 2-6 pm  
June 11 through September 24  
Rte 52 across from the P.O.

### Liberty

Fridays 3-6 pm  
May 8 through October 9  
Municipal Lot on Darbee La

### Callicoon

Sundays 11 am-2 pm  
May 3 through November 29  
Callicoon Creek Park

### Roscoe

Sundays 10 am-2 pm  
May 10 through October 11  
Stewart Ave Municipal Lot

### Kauneonga Lake

Fridays 2-6 pm  
July 6 through August 24  
Fireman's Pavilion, Rte 55

### Barryville

Saturdays 10 am-2 pm  
June 11 through October  
Rte 97 and Hwy 55

### Bethel Woods Harvest Festival

Sundays 11 am-4 pm  
August 30 through October 11  
Bethel Woods site, Hurd Rd

### Deposit

Thursday August 20 and  
September 17 10 am-2 pm  
Veterans' Hall 44-4th St

### Sidney

Tuesdays 10 am-2 pm  
July 7 through October 27  
Civic Center 21 Liberty St

### Walton

1st and 3rd Fridays 10 am-2pm  
July 3 through October 16  
Delaware and West Sts

### Hawley

Fridays from 2-5:30 pm  
June 19 through October 9  
At the Hawley Train Station

### Honesdale

Saturdays 9:30 am-1:30 pm  
Memorial Day through October  
At Wayne County Visitors Center

### Dingmans Ferry

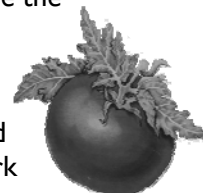
1st and 3rd Sundays 9 am-2pm  
June through August  
Akenac Park Rte 739



# SHOP LOCAL SAVE LAND



Spring is upon us. It is time once again to buy, eat, and cook with abundant and delicious locally grown foods from our region's farms, farmers' markets, and farm stands. To help you 'buy local,' The Conservancy is pleased to announce the publication of the second annual **"Shop Local, Save Land"** guide to locally produced agricultural products. The "Shop Local, Save Land" guide covering the **Monroe, Pike, Wayne County region of PA** again joins **"Pure Catskills,"** the free guide to farm fresh products and local businesses covering the Catskill Mountain region on the New York side of the Upper Delaware, in providing residents and visitors with an excellent and convenient resource for shopping locally. Last year's "Shop Local Save Land" guide was a tremendous success.



Buying locally grown food is healthy for you and good for our local communities. The further food has to travel, the more nutrients it loses. Locally grown and sold produce, meat and poultry, and dairy products do not spend days on trucks and sitting in warehouses.



This year's sponsors include **Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau, The Settlers Inn, and Clemledy Construction.** Pocono Mountains Visitors' Bureau supports "Shop Local, Save Land" for the second year as part of its mission to enhance the environmental and economic well-being of our unique region. The Settlers Inn in Hawley, PA understands the importance of local produce to the local economy as well as to delicious food, and uses local products in its exceptional cuisine. Clemledy Construction, home builders and renovation specialists also located in Hawley, focuses on green building practices, and understands how support of local, environmentally friendly businesses contributes substantially to the overall economic and ecological health of our region. We are grateful to all three of our sponsors as well as to **Wayne County Library, the Wayne County Community Foundation, and the John and Helen Villaume Foundation** who have supported **"Shop Local, Save Land"** as well.

We are pleased to be a part of efforts to support local farms and farmlands. All of these efforts – including *yours* to buy local – will assure that our invaluable farm lands are here for us and for the benefit of future generations. The **brochure will be available in June 2009.**



SOJA (continued from page 1)

"If people litter along the highways, all the little streams carry the debris, washing it down into the river. So I clean up this whole area, as a preventive action," explains Soja.

The East Branch of the river, which Tom believes is the "true source" of the Delaware and what he calls the "River of Dreams", differs from the colder West Branch favored by trout fishermen. Its warmer waters make East Branch ideal for swimming and kayaking, but its steep banks discourage extensive real estate development. This body of water and its banks are home to deer, foxes, turkeys, snapping turtles, geese, grouses and numerous other birds, and even bear. According to Tom, the Delaware Highlands Conservancy has done "a fabulous job identifying the trees on the property. Apparently this is a diverse animal and plant species corridor," he explains.

Initially attracted to do a conservation easement because of the tax benefits, **Tom now has an even greater appreciation for the important protection that action can provide for this precious river.** By protecting his riverfront and river island property, Tom can be assured that these lands will never be developed, denuded of the trees that provide such a valuable buffer for the river, or compromised in the habitat they provide for the wild creatures that thrive there. **Placing his land in a conservation easement has taken Tom's role of "keeper of the river" to another level.**



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## ALYSSA TOMASKOVIC: 2009 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Alyssa Tomaskovic, a senior at Delaware Valley High School, is the 2009 recipient of the Delaware Highlands/Yeamman Scholarship. In her application she wrote: **"Growing up in the sylvan setting of the Pocono Mountains, I have come to appreciate and recognize the extraordinary beauty in seemingly ordinary natural objects.** The annual migration of Canada geese and the emergence of a pine sapling amongst rocks and bramble are two of the most striking sights I have ever seen. Since I was a child, I have always taken an interest in the environment and conserving our valuable natural resources. **I have developed a sense of awe and respect for the natural world, and I understand its importance to everyday life, which is why it is my goal in life to become nature's steward."**



Alyssa has chosen to challenge herself, taking almost exclusively honors and Advanced Placement classes. Her high school activity sheet lists over sixty clubs, projects, competitions and volunteer programs. She has been actively involved in the school's community service organization, Junior Historian where she works with the Salvation Army to prepare and distribute care packages to local families in need. As

master of ceremonies for the annual Veterans Day dinner-tribute, she honors our deserving servicemen and women. For the past two years, Alyssa has been the student representative to the Delaware Valley School District School Board. Right now she is deeply immersed competing in Scholastic Bowl and this year serves as captain.

She is looking forward to a challenging yet rewarding four years of school at Lycoming College, where she intends to major in her two passions, biology and environmental science. **The Conservancy is proud to award this scholarship to Alyssa. Lycoming College is anxious to have her become a member of the Class of 2013.**

## BECOME A LEGACY LEADER...

**Legacy Leaders** are a *special group* of people who give an exceptional gift back to the Conservancy and the environment.

**Legacy Leaders** leave a charitable bequest or an estate gift in their will to the Conservancy.

**Legacy Leaders** have the satisfaction of knowing they contributed to protecting the *special places* of the Upper Delaware River region.

**Legacy Leaders** also receive special membership benefits with the Conservancy and possible tax benefits.

You **too** can be a **Legacy Leader**. Your gift will help to **protect** our beautiful rivers, working farms, wildlife habitat, and forests for future generations.

Contact the Conservancy to find out how **you** can become a **Legacy Leader** and make a lasting difference.



## MORE GOOD NEWS: PIKE EASEMENTS ON THE HORIZON

The **Scenic Rural Character Preservation Board** is considering for approval funds to forever protect three important properties, in Pike County. These conservation easements will be held by the Conservancy.

The 450 acres containing Long Pond Wetlands on the property of **Camp Speers-Eljabar** in Delaware Township is pristine forestland laden with **natural resources and adjacent to a large block of state game land**. Over \$700,000 provided by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and additional funds recommended for allocation by the Scenic Rural Character Preservation Board will help make this project a reality.

The 708 acre **Polatnick property** also consists of healthy forestlands that are adjacent to existing state lands. Polatnick's **forestlands** contain a good portion of the headwaters of Mill Rift Creek. The Pike County Scenic Rural Character Preservation Program allocated \$1.3 million bond funds towards the total \$3.5 million cost of the property. The remaining funds will come from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry, and private sources.

The 97 acre Santos Farm property fronts the Delaware River. If approved for funding by both the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Scenic Rural Character Preservation Board, **Santos Farm will eventually provide free access to the Delaware River for county residents**. This property also has the potential to be used by the Delaware Valley School District for athletic fields and other activities.

As all of Pike County's municipalities move forward in their planning efforts, the Pike County Scenic Rural Character Preservation Program will continue to support such endeavors and aid municipalities in protecting their identified conservation areas, thereby preserving scenic character across the county. The Scenic Rural Character Preservation Program has already made a tremendous difference in facilitating municipal planning efforts. **The positive results are good news for all of Pike County's residents.**





## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Conservancy is deeply appreciative of your membership and of your continued support of the Conservancy's mission: To protect the scenic rural character, cultural heritage, and environmental health of our region. **The success of the Conservancy is largely due to our committed force of volunteers.** From administrative support in our Hawley and Sullivan County offices to assistance at specific events to monitoring our over fifty-five easements, volunteers are integral to all facets of the Conservancy's work.

**To meet the ever growing demands associated with our ongoing conservation mission, we need your help.** Volunteering with the Conservancy means being directly involved with the exciting and innovative endeavors we undertake to meet our conservation goals.

**Please join us at our open house (see below) and at one of the following events and learn about becoming a Conservancy volunteer:**

**Become An Easement Monitor:** **June 9<sup>th</sup>**, 7:30 at our Hawley office and **June 16<sup>th</sup>**, 7:30 in Sullivan County. Get trained to become an easement monitor. Volunteers will be instructed in specific monitoring procedures and responsibilities including GPS use and photography as a means of monitoring land and guidelines on how to interact with landowners.

## 2ND ANNUAL FOODS OF THE DELAWARE A SUCCESS

### MORE TO COME IN NEXT ISSUE....

Almost 100 people joined the Conservancy on April 25th to celebrate foods of the Delaware. The conversation was stimulating, the food delicious and the wine pairing tantalizing.

Overall the dinner garnered over \$11,000 in donations to the Conservancy to help us continue our work. Thank you to all who made the dinner a success.



*Sue Currier, Jeanne Genzlinger  
and Cindy Wildermuth*

## Delaware Highlands Conservancy Invites you to:

### "Stewards of the Land: Contributing to Conservation"

### A Open House & Volunteer Event

#### At the Perry Pond Brook Property

The Delaware Highlands Conservancy is hosting a Open House and a Volunteer Orientation at the Perry Pond Brook Property in Lava, NY. Learn how you can help protect the regions rural character and be a good steward of the land. Join us for an educational walk across the 100 acre protected property. Wear your hiking boots! Refreshments will be served.

**May 30th 10AM-1PM**

This is a great opportunity to learn about the Conservancy, and meet fellow members, volunteers and landowners!



Perry Pond Brook Property is located at: 7698 State  
Route 52 Narrowsburg, NY 12764

Call the Conservancy to register. **Registration is Required**

## DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY MEMBERSHIP FORM

\_\_\_\_ **YES!** I want to conserve natural open space and support the Conservancy with my tax-deductible membership donation of:

\_\_\_\_ \$35-\$59 Friend; \_\_\_\_ \$60-\$99 Supporter; \_\_\_\_ \$100-\$249 Protector; \_\_\_\_ \$250-\$499 Sustainer; \_\_\_\_ \$500 Conservator; \_\_\_\_ Other

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ My check made payable to Delaware Highlands Conservancy is enclosed

\_\_\_\_ I prefer to pay by credit card: \_\_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_ American Express Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form and donation payment to: **Delaware Highlands Conservancy, P.O. Box 218, Hawley, PA 18428-0218**

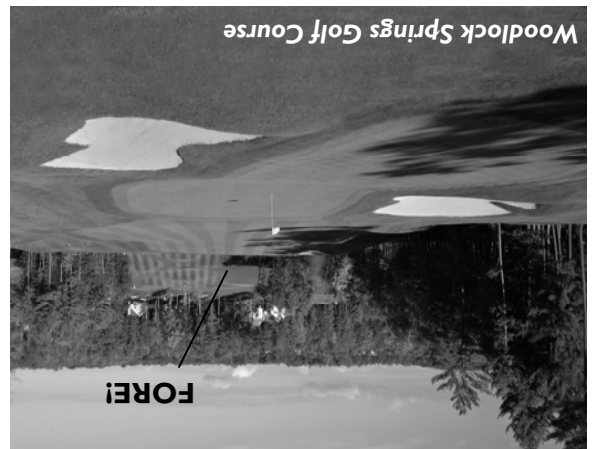
Delaware Highlands Conservancy is a tax-exempt organization as provided by IRS regulations. The official registration and financial information of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll-free, within PA, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

### OFFICE WISH LIST

- Table and chairs for events and the front porch
- Perennial plants and gardening help in Hawley

- Industrial stapler and three hole punch
- Volunteers to help paint and finish our 'upstairs' — give us room to grow

**WHAT'S INSIDE**  
Tom Soja, Riverkeeper  
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Call for Volunteers  
Legacy Leaders



serving New York and Pennsylvania  
P.O. Box 218 Hawley, PA 18428-0218

# DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

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# DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY UPCOMING EVENTS

## **May 22 – Spring Skies Star Watch, Butterfly Barn, PA 8:30 pm**

Join local astronomers who will share their telescopes and sky charts to observe deep sky objects and locate the constellations. This program will last about two hours. Bring binoculars, a flashlight and folding chairs if you have them and dress for cool weather.

## **May 23 – Spring Bird Walk with Barbara Yeaman and Peter Wulforth, Butterfly Barn, PA 7:00 am**

Join us for a two hour early morning walk. Bring your binoculars and learn to identify birds and their songs. Walk will start at the Butterfly Barn. Call the Conservancy office at 570-226-3164 or Barbara at 570-729-7053 for more details.

## **May 30 – Open House and Volunteer Training at Perry Pond, Lava, NY, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm**

Volunteers, learn how you can help the Conservancy with field work and more. See article on page 7.

## **Jun 9 – Volunteer Training, Hawley office, Hawley, PA 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

*and*

## **Jun 16 – Volunteer Training, Location TBD, Sullivan County, NY 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

Come learn about the important roles and responsibilities that the “stewards of the land” have in making the Conservancy a successful organization. New and old volunteers, the current Board of Directors, and the Land Protection Committee members, will learn the technical experience necessary to monitor properties, as well as the policies and procedures of the Conservancy.

## **Jun 15 – On the Course for Conservation: A Golf Outing, Woodloch Springs Country Club, Hawley, PA**

Join the Delaware Highlands Conservancy for a fun filled day of golf at the Country Club at Woodloch Springs Captain and crew format. Registration from 11:30 to 12:45 with a shotgun start at 1:00 pm. Cost per golfer - \$110.00, which includes golf, cocktails and dinner. Please contact the Delaware Highlands Conservancy at 570-226-3164 for more information.

## **Jun 20 – Improving Wildlife Habitat, Mink Pond, Lehman Township, PA 8:30 am-12:30 pm**

In May of 2004, the Pennsylvania Game Commission created a Private Landowner Assistance Program and hired regional wildlife diversity biologists to aid interested landowners in developing habitat management plans. Join forest landowners at Mink Pond Club, a property with a PGC habitat management plan, and learn about options for improving wildlife habitat in your forestland. Presenters will include biologists from the Pennsylvania Game Commission. **Pre-registration is required.** Please contact the Conservancy to reserve your spot and receive directions.

## **July 18 – Weekend of Chamber Music, Eddie Adams Barn, North Branch/Jeffersonville, 8:00 pm**

This evening's performance in the Chamber Music Concert Series is sponsored by the Delaware Highlands Conservancy.

## **Aug 1 – Botany Walk with Dr. Ann Rhoads, PA 10:00 am**

Join Delaware Highlands Conservancy members and renowned botanist, Dr. Ann Rhoads of the Morris Arboretum, as we explore the exciting botanical world of Pennsylvania's forests. For more information, directions, or to reserve your space, call 570-226-3164.

## **Jun 13 – Annual Canoe and Kayak Trip**

We will be joining with the Sullivan Historical Society for this canoe trip which will feature a talk by Sullivan County historian, John Conway. The 4 hour trip will begin in Buckingham, PA and end in Long Eddy, NY. Refreshments will be served at the end of the trip at the home of Edie and Don Downs. Bring your lunch for a riverside picnic. Reservations are required. You will be called regarding details.

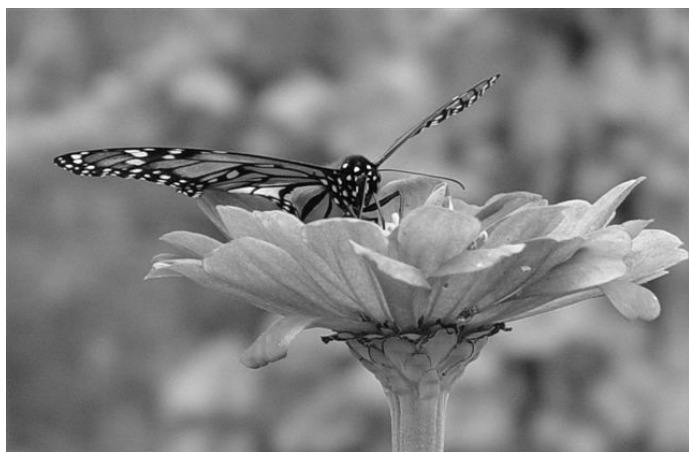


**Aug 8 – “Money CAN Grow on Trees!” at Grey Towers National Historic Site –Festival of Wood, Milford, PA 2:00 pm**

Visit the Delaware Highlands Conservancy booth at the Festival of Wood at Grey Towers in Milford then join other woodland owners for discussions and presentations regarding the Clean and Green Act, Conservation Easements and Stewardship Plans at the Letterbox for this informative session. **Pre-registration is required.** Please contact the Conservancy to reserve your spot.

**Aug 22 – Monarch Program with Ed Wesely, Butterfly Barn, PA 10:00 am**

Since 1996 Ed Wesely and Barbara Yeaman have rescued Monarch butterfly eggs and caterpillars from threatened habitats and reared them in the Butterfly Barn. With the help of local school children, they've nurtured and released almost 3,000 adult monarchs. Come and learn about the monarch life cycle and help to tag early migrants. For more information check out the website [www.butterflybarn.org](http://www.butterflybarn.org).



**Sept 19 – Green Earth Fair, Lackawaxen Firemen's Fair Grounds, PA 10:00 am - 5:00 pm**

Once again the Delaware Highlands Conservancy is joining forces with the Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Green Earth Fair. The event promises fun for everyone with live entertainment – including music, wildlife presentations and puppet shows. Displays from regional groups provide information on environmental stewardship, local flora and native birds, fish and animals. Participate in the silent auction, visit the kids' activity tent or just enjoy an afternoon along the river. For more information visit [www.thegreeneearthfair.org](http://www.thegreeneearthfair.org).

**Sept 20 – Earth Day in Autumn at Bethel Woods, Bethel, NY**

Stop by the Delaware Highlands Conservancy Corn Maze at Earth Day in Autumn at Bethel Woods on the site of the famous Woodstock Festival. For more information visit [www.sullivanrenaissance.org](http://www.sullivanrenaissance.org).

**Sept 26 – Rural Options for Sustainable Development and Land Conservation, CVI Building, Liberty, NY**

The Delaware Highlands Conservancy and Sullivan Renaissance are hosting a seminar with renowned speaker on sustainability and land use planning, Ed McMahon. Time to be determined.

**Oct 7 – Financial Benefits of Land Conservation, PPL Environmental Learning Center, Hawley, PA 7:00 pm**

Landowners will learn how to keep cherished lands in the family and protect the landscape in perpetuity. Presenters will advise landowners how conservation and agricultural easements are key tools to preserving the natural beauty of the land for future generations.

**Oct 16 – Autumn Skies Star Watch, Butterfly Barn, PA 8:30 pm**

Local astronomers will share their telescopes and sky charts. Observe deep sky objects and how to locate the constellations. This program will last about two hours. Bring binoculars and folding chairs if you have them and dress for cool weather.

**Oct 17 – Annual General Meeting, PPL Environmental Learning Center, PA 10:00 am**

Interested in learning more about the Conservancy? Attend our Annual General Meeting. This is an excellent opportunity to hear about our progress, vote for members of the Board of Directors, ask questions of the Treasurer, learn about our future plans, and meet your fellow members.

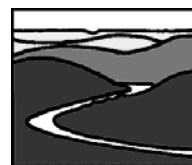
**Oct 24 – Fuelwood Harvesting and Chainsaw Maintenance, Milford Experimental Forest, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm**

Join woodland owners for a hands-on look at harvesting fuel wood from your property. \*Women and their Woods participants should bring a bag lunch and stay for additional programming regarding planning for 2010.

**Pre-registration is required.** Please call the Conservancy to reserve your spot and receive directions.

**Oct 28 – Financial Benefits of Land Conservation, Town Hall in Jeffersonville, NY, 7:00 – 9:00 pm**

Landowners will learn how to keep cherished lands in the family and protect the landscape in perpetuity. Delaware Highlands Conservancy Executive Director Sue Currier will discuss how conservation and agricultural easements are key tools.



[www.delawarehighlands.org](http://www.delawarehighlands.org)  
[info@delawarehighlands.org](mailto:info@delawarehighlands.org)  
570-226-3164