

An Amazing Year for Eagles

In 2013, we celebrated a successful first season since our merger with the Eagle Institute. We produced an **exciting documentary** about the eagle's resurgence which received more than 15,000 hits on Facebook in just a few days, completed a **major overhaul** of our Winter Field Office, which now features brand-new educational exhibits, and **educated thousands** of residents and visitors.

Whether you joined us for an Eagle Watch bus tour; stopped by our Field Office (graciously provided by the National Park Service), or watched and shared our video, we thank you for helping to live the important message that eagles—and people—thrive when our lands and waters are healthy and clean.



Thank you

You, our members and supporters, make land protection and conservation possible. Visit DelawareHighlands.org to see even more details on how your support has made a difference.



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SERVING NEW YORK AND PENNSYLVANIA

DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY



2013 Annual Report



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A Partnership for a Healthy Community: The Forest Reserve at Smallwood

The Forest Reserve is a model for public/private partnerships and community engagement. Its protection grew from a grassroots effort started by Preserve Smallwood Country Life before it was purchased by the Bethel Local Development Corporation, which worked in partnership with the Conservancy, the Town of Bethel, and Sullivan County—with support from the Common Waters Fund—to protect this community treasure.


The community is hoping to develop a plan for a conservation subdivision—an exciting and creative development tool for planning healthy communities that are special places to live, work, and play. The Conservancy looks forward to hosting educational events and programs on the Forest Reserve.



The 134-acre Forest Reserve at Smallwood was once slated for a 200-townhouse development. Now, this beautiful public park is protected forever. It will feature hiking trails and other opportunities for outdoor recreation and protects the source of drinking water for the community of Smallwood.

Keep up with your Conservancy
Find us on DelawareHighlands.org, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DelawareHighlandsConservancy, and on Twitter @DHConservancy to stay up to date with all the latest happenings and follow along with our seasonal photo albums. (And don't forget to sign up for our e-news!)

Shop Local Save Land Supporting our working farms and forests
★ PENNSYLVANIA ★ NEW YORK ★
Visit ShopLocalSaveLand.com to find a searchable database for local farm and forest products. From farms and farm markets to foresters, sawmills, and locally made furniture, when you shop locally, **you help to sustain the farm and forestlands that sustain all of us.**

 **Look where we live!**
Remember to visit TrailKeeper.org, your one-stop source for Sullivan County hiking trails and guides to hiking safely—and stay tuned for Trailkeeper's series of hiking events planned in 2014.

Making Connections

Supporting Tourism, Community, and Conservation



Thank you to our volunteers!

Our work would not be possible without our dedicated team of volunteers. From helping out in the office, staffing our Field Office or eagle-viewing blinds, maintaining the grounds at our Bethel office, to monitoring protected properties, our volunteers are exceptional. **We offer special thanks to Chuck Scott and his students at the Human Resource Center in Honesdale, PA, for their invaluable assistance on mailings this year.**

We celebrate all of our members and volunteers at our annual thank-you picnic each September. Mark your calendar for September 6, 2014!



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Alden Hill Forest

86 acres of healthy forestland and clean water—including a tributary of the Lackawaxen River—are now permanently protected in Wayne County, PA. The forest provides important wildlife habitat, helps filter groundwater, and provides scenic beauty for the whole area. The property was once owned by landowner Julie Kulak’s grandparents, and now future generations will benefit from her forethought.

“Development is happening all around us, so let’s make sure there are places left undeveloped. Animals need the room. Trees need the room. Nature needs the room.” — Mike Schneider, PA Landowner



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Hornbecks Mill Falls

This 17-acre Pike County property is smaller than those we usually protect, but the pristine water quality—Hornbecks Creek is a direct tributary of the Delaware River—forests, waterfalls, and a historic stone mill give it exceptional conservation value, as does its location near important greenways and other protected lands.

The award-winning Green Lodging Partnership

connects local lodgings to conservation and supports our sustainable local economy. In 2013, the number of participating lodgings in NY and PA grew from five to eleven, with everything from small B&Bs to large resorts. With every reservation, guests contribute directly to the Conservancy. These hotels and their guests directly support the protection of everything we cherish about our unique Upper Delaware River region.

Visit www.DelawareHighlands.org/greenlodging to learn more—and **be sure to watch the video produced by Woodloch Resort. (You’ll be inspired!)**



New Board President

We welcomed Michael Geitz as our new Board President in 2013. Michael previously served as Vice President of the Board and is retired from a thirty-year career in investment banking. We thank Greg Belcamino, who served as Board President from 2010-2013 and led the Conservancy through many significant events, from achieving national accreditation and opening our New York office to numerous land protection transactions and our merger with the Eagle Institute.

“You have more to gain by protecting the land than by letting others exploit it.” — Julie Kulak, PA Landowner

Moving Into the Future

As a land trust, the Conservancy is required to maintain significant reserves so we can monitor and steward the properties we protect and assure their conservation values are sustained forever. We have invested in our capacity to assure we have the resources to meet increasing demands for land protection in our region. Your support has been critical in 2013 and will be even more critical to sustaining the Conservancy in 2014. *Unaudited financials; for the full audited report, visit DelawareHighlands.org.

Celebrate 20 Years!

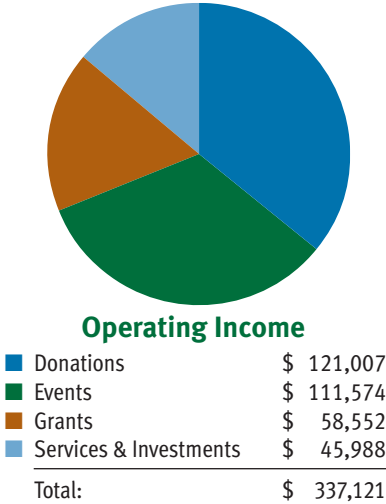
Dear Friends,

With the deep chill of winter in our bones, I remember a warmer month in 1994, when the Butterfly Barn hosted members of the Scranton area Sierra Club for a canoeing weekend. On this late summer day, the Delaware Highlands Conservancy was only an idea. I wondered if it would appeal to this group of local people experienced in environmental causes. They not only approved, but contributed over \$250 to get us started! Look at us now, 20 years later!

Please join us as we celebrate this amazing milestone in 2014!

Sincerely,

Barbara Yeaman
Conservancy Founder



A Thriving Outdoor Classroom

Thanks to the generous support of Sullivan Renaissance, our Bethel, New York office—119 protected acres of farm and forest—has grown into an outdoor classroom with hiking trails, an orchard, and an herb garden. In 2014, we’ll add a pollinator garden, native plants meadow, and interpretative tree trail—**check our events calendar to attend the workshops.**



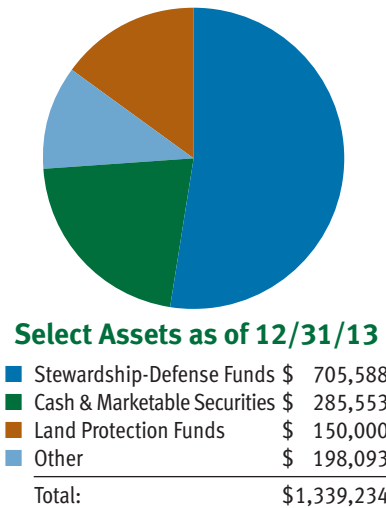
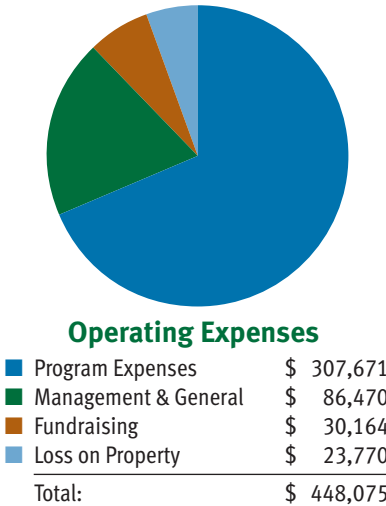
Love Where You Live

The theme of our annual Foods of the Delaware Highlands gala dinner celebrates our region and its working lands. Thanks to generous sponsors and attendees, the evening raised significant funds for the Conservancy’s land protection mission.



Women and Their Woods

Now in its sixth successful year, WaTW hosted its third annual four-day retreat for women forest landowners from across the mid-Atlantic region. More than fifty WaTW retreat graduates are now ready to act as mentors to other landowners in their communities and as knowledgeable stewards of their lands.



Land and Water Protected Forever

Up to \$500 *continued*

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Andrew and Julie Wilshinsky
Jonathan Wind
Faith Zerbe

Legacy Leaders

The following people have included the Conservancy in their estate plans
Sue Currier
Mary Evans
Susanne Hand and David Kinsey
Susan Hartney
Alfred Lees and Ronald Nelson
Ed MacGregor
Harold MacGregor
Dorothy Merrill
Sally and Enrico Moretti
Kimberly (Mimi) Raleigh
Brenda Seldin
Shary and Gary Skoloff
Richard Snyder
Sigrid Wilshinsky
Jonathan Wind
Barbara Yeaman

Sustainers

The following people make monthly contributions to the Conservancy
Anonymous
Roy Borgfeld
Fred Buchholz and Helen Ripple
Julie and Kevin Kulak
Bob and Gail Lowden
Joanne Merritt
Clark and Peggy Pitcairn
Thomas O’Keefe and Teresa Stack

We thank all of our partners and supporters who have provided generous donations of products and services in 2013.



Upcoming 2014 Events

Join the Delaware Highlands Conservancy at our fun and educational events scheduled throughout 2014. Most events require advance registration—call the Conservancy at 570-226-3164, 845-583-1010, or email info@delawarehighlands.org to learn more. Our events calendar is always available and up-to-date on DelawareHighlands.org.*

April 7-8 : Green Tourism Conference • Villa Roma Resort, Callicoon, NY

A conference bringing together lodgings, restaurants, recreational activity vendors, and communities from across the Upper Delaware River Region to learn about building sustainable businesses and partnerships.Visit www.DelawareHighlands.org/greentourism to learn more and register.

Apr 26 : Hawley EarthFest • Hawley, PA

Together with PPL,AM Skier, and the Downtown Hawley Partnership, join us for Hawley EarthFest and enjoy a species parade, activities and workshops with local organizations, an exciting rain barrel auction, and much more.

Apr 26 : Foods of the Delaware Highlands Dinner • The Settlers Inn, Hawley, PA

Join us for the Annual Foods of the Delaware Highlands wine & food pairing dinner at The Settlers Inn to celebrate accomplishments in the Upper Delaware River region. The event will feature delicious cuisine prepared with locally grown and produced organic ingredients, paired with appropriate fine wines.Tickets are \$150.00 per person for the four course meal with a limit of 125 people.This dinner sells out annually, so register early.

May 10 : Forest Habitat Restoration Program at Milford Experimental Forest • Milford, PA

Join the Conservancy and Pike-Monroe Woodland Owners Group for a forest restoration workshop at a privately owned research forest.

May 18 : Migratory Bird Walk • 7am

Join the Pike-Monroe Woodland Owners Group for this early-morning walk for a chance to see migratory bird species like the Golden-winged Warbler and learn how to manage private lands to achieve ultimate early successional species habitat.



May 31 : Pollinator Workshop • Bethel Office, NY

Join the Conservancy for a pollinator workshop and learn how to convert fields to meadows and plant a butterfly garden.

June 14 : Native Plants Walk • Forest Reserve at Smallwood, Sullivan County NY, 9am-12pm

Dr. Ann Rhoads, Senior Botanist of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania and renowned author, will lead a walk on the newly protected Smallwood Forest Reserve property to discuss, illustrate, and answer your questions about native plants and their habitats.

June 28, July 12, & Aug 2 : Family Tree Series • 10am-1pm

Join the Conservancy and the Grey Towers Heritage Association for a series of workshops geared towards families who own forestland. All ages welcome. Workshop topics include activities for families related to mapping your property, plant ID and tree planting, backyard wildlife, and forest health. Email conserve@delawarehighlands.org for more information.



Aug 23 : Monarch Program with Ed Wesely • Bethel Office, NY 10 am

For twenty years, Ed Wesely and Barbara Yeaman rescued Monarch butterfly eggs and caterpillars from threatened habitats. With the help of local school children, they’ve nurtured and released over 6,000 adult monarchs. Come and learn about the monarch life cycle and help to tag early migrants before their long flight south to Mexico.



Sept 6 : Forest Stewardship Field Day : Tree ID • 9am-12pm
Member and Volunteer Thank-you Picnic • Bethel Office, NY, 12pm-4pm

A forest stewardship field day at our Sullivan County office – learn tree identification – followed by a free picnic for members, volunteers, and conservation easement holders.

Sept 13 : Forest Tour, Lily Pond • Milford, PA

Join the Pike-Monroe Woodland Owners Group for a forest stewardship workshop in Pike County, PA.

Sept 25-28 : Women and Their Woods Educational Training and Retreat •
Camp Susque, Trout Run, PA

The Conservancy has partnered with Penn State Natural Resources Extension, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the US Forest Service at Grey Towers to offer a four-day educational retreat for women forest landowners from across the mid-Atlantic region. To learn more or to receive an application, please contact Amanda Subjin at conserve@delawarehighlands.org.

Oct 11 : Fall Hike, Tusten Mountain Trail • Tusten, NY, 10am-12pm

Join the Conservancy for a two-hour guided hike and learn about the ecology and history of the area.



Nov 22 : 20th Anniversary Celebration •
Sullivan County, NY

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for additional details to celebrate twenty years of conservation and education with us!

Dec 6 : Eagle Watch Volunteer Training • Lackawaxen, PA, 9:30am-12pm

Join us for an overview of the volunteer program followed by visits to monitoring sites. To register or for more information, contact volunteer@delawarehighlands.org.



2013 Donors

\$10,000 or more

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New York Office
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845-583-1010

DelawareHighlands.org
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*Event dates and times subject to change; visit www.DelawareHighlands.org for the most up-to-date information.