



DELAWARE
HIGHLANDS
CONSERVANCY

2015 Annual Report

Working Together FOR THE DELAWARE RIVER

Our annual report is more than just a collection of facts and figures, or a list of names. **It's a celebration of you—the donors, volunteers, and partners who give so generously of their time and energy.**

It's because of you that we're able to host educational programs year-round, inspiring and empowering people of all ages to steward our lands and waters. It's because of you that we are working with landowners across the region to protect their cherished family lands, now and for future generations. It's because of you that eagles and other wildlife have the healthy habitat they need to thrive.

The Delaware Highlands Conservancy is a community organization. It's your organization—driven by your generous contributions, your participation in our events, and your efforts to keep the Upper Delaware River region a wonderful place to live, work, and play. We sincerely thank you, and invite you to contact us anytime to share your ideas, suggestions, or goals for the future of the Conservancy.

Making Connections

Find out what's happening



facebook.com/DelawareHighlandsConservancy



[@DHConservancy](https://twitter.com/DHConservancy)



Look where we live!
TrailKeeper.org helps you
locate Sullivan County hiking trails

**Shop Local
Save Land**
★ PENNSYLVANIA & NEW YORK ★

Supporting our
working farms
and forests

Community Comes Together TO PROTECT LAND & WATER



River Club

Established in 2015 by then board president Michael Geitz, the River Club celebrates and recognizes individuals who make a significant investment in the Conservancy—an investment not just in protecting land and water, but in motivating and mobilizing our local community. River Club members help to ensure the perpetual continuity of our conservation mission. You can become a member of the River Club with an annual gift of \$2,500 or more, exclusive of auction purchases, and attend special Club events.

Legacy Leaders

Our Legacy Leaders have included the Conservancy in their will or estate plans, or have helped a parent, partner or loved one leave a legacy. To learn how to include the Conservancy in your bequests, please contact Bethany Keene at 570-226-3164 or visit DelawareHighlands.org.

Clear Choices Clean Water: My Delaware River

With funding from the William Penn Foundation, the Conservancy launched a new educational, interactive website for our region.



Visit mydelawareriver.clearchoicescleanwater.org to learn everyday actions you can take to conserve water—then take the pledge and see how much you're saving! You can share your actions with the hashtag **#MyWater** on social media and encourage your friends and neighbors to join you in protecting clean drinking water.



Thank You to Our Volunteers



At the Conservancy, we are only as strong as our volunteers. They are the people who welcome visitors to our eagle observation areas, stuff envelopes, plant flowers and mow the grass at our New York office, serve on our board and committees to guide our work—and we can't thank them enough for their generosity, enthusiasm, and everything they do to make our work possible.

Green Lodging

In our most successful year to date, our Green Lodging Partners, their hardworking staff, and generous visitors to our region raised almost \$50,000 for land and water conservation, one \$2 donation at a time. Visit DelawareHighlands.org/greenlodging to see our complete list of partners and plan your next local getaway.

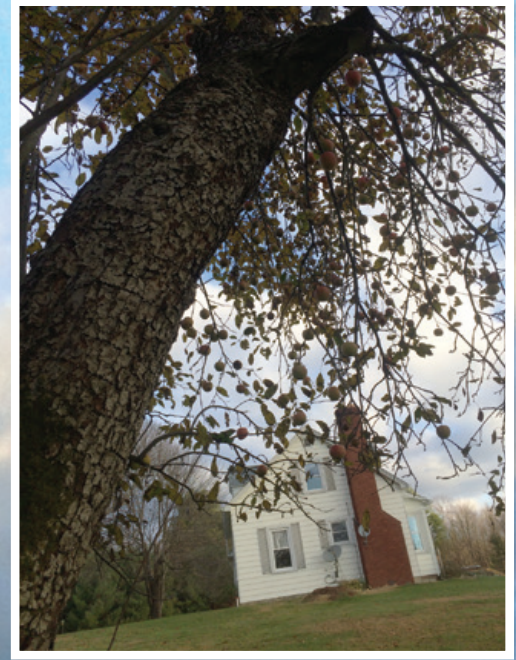
Collected donations

Woodloch Resort (above) presents a check for \$15,000 to Conservancy staff.

Lemons Brook Farm Artist Residency

We partnered with Beautiful Traditions, LLC to offer a new artist residency program at our office in Bethel, NY, located on 119 acres of farm and forestlands.

Three artists—Kait Burrier, Thomas Bosket, and Sandy Long—each spent time living and working at the farmhouse this year, exploring how place inspires process and sharing their work with the community.



SCENIC RESIDENCY PHOTOS © SANDY LONG.

The Vanessa Van Gorder Memorial Scholarship

In their grief over this tragic loss, hundreds of people stepped forward to donate nearly \$20,000 to the Conservancy in Vanessa's memory.

We used those generous donations to establish an annual scholarship to honor Vanessa, and to inspire other area students to pursue their educational goals. It joins our existing Conservancy/Barbara Yeaman Scholarship, given annually since 2004 in honor of our founder.



Claire Harvey

Vanessa Van Gorder Memorial Scholarship Recipient

Claire Harvey graduated cum laude from Honesdale High School, and spent her summer as a counselor at Journey's End Farm Camp in Sterling, PA where she taught children about nature, conservation, and respect for each other. Claire is attending the University of California, Irvine to study Literary Journalism.



Alex Hess

Conservancy/Yeaman Scholarship Recipient

Alex Hess graduated as the valedictorian from Deposit Central School in June 2015, and is attending SUNY ESF (Environmental Science and Forestry) in Syracuse, where he is majoring in Environmental Resources Engineering.

2015 Donors

🍃 = River Club Charter Member

\$10,000 or more

Anonymous
Land Trust Alliance 🍃
Open Space Institute
Pennsylvania Land Trust Association 🍃
U.S. Forest Service
William Penn Foundation 🍃

\$5,000-9,999

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\$500-999

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Action Bikes and Outdoor
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Benjamin and Susan Baxt
Tara Carroll
Dave Chant
Sue Currier
Walter Dee
Delaware Valley Arts Alliance
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Gordon Wildermuth
William Yeaman
Matthew Youngers

Up to \$500

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Patricia and John Adams
Daniel and Kathleen Allen
Russ and Barbara Anderson
Chad Anke
Jean Anke
Rick and Cathy Anke
Paul Appel
Anita Auerbach
Lisa Baker
Nancy Baker
Colette and Jesse Ballew
Rob Balton
Holly Barger
William and Carole Barnes
Jack Barnett and Mary Anne Carletta
Lou and Nancy Barr
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Martha and Alexis Barron
Stanley and Patricia Bartleson
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Robin Beck
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Maureen Beilman
Albert Belay
Vincent and Gale Bellafore
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Karen and Richard Bliss
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Rozella Bower
Rex and Marci Brand
Ed Brannon
Barbara Briden
Claude Briere
Barbara Brown
James and Elizabeth Brown
Sandy and Bebe Brown
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Karen Budd
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Robert Eckersley
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Erin Evans
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John and Diane Farley
Joseph Fashano
Phyllis Fernandez
Marc and Jennifer Feukner

You too can support the Delaware Highlands Conservancy with a one-time, sustaining, or legacy gift.

In 2015, the Delaware Highlands Conservancy received donations **in memory of** Becky Finch, Philip Fitzpatrick, Bernard and Sarah Samith, and Vanessa Van Gorder, and **in honor of** Angus, Al and Bonnie Albinson, the Barnes Family, Robert Berlind and Grace Van Hulsteyn, Jane Cyphers, Olga Garcia, Ann Wojcik, and Barbara Yeaman.

Visit DelawareHighlands.org to donate now, or contact Sue Currier at 570-226-3164 to discuss your gift.



Eva and Wilhelm Figueroa	Linda and Alan Highhouse	Charles and Kerri Lockwood	Jim and Sue Powell
Zoot Finamore	John Hohell	Anita and David Lohin	Joseph and Mary Preate
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Sara Herbstman	Katie Lester	James Pedranti	Dave Soete
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		Geoff and Nancy Pitcher	
		Ronald and Wilma Pollock	

— continues on next page

Up to \$500 *continued*

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Jerold and Judith Yavarkovsky
Suzanne Yeaman
Barbara Zeeman
Barry Zeglen
Faith Zerbe and Gokhan Seker
Tom Zibinski
Philip and Janet Zimich

Legacy Leaders

The following people have included the Conservancy in their estate plans.

Sue Currier
Mary Evans
Susanne Hand and David Kinsey
Susan Hartney
Jack Gearhart (*deceased*)
Linda Gearhart
Alfred Lees and Ronald Nelson
Ed MacGregor
Dorothy Merrill (*deceased*)
Sally and Enrico Moretti
Kimberly (Mimi) Raleigh
Brenda Seldin
Shary and Gary Skoloff
Richard Snyder (*deceased*)
Sigrid Wilshinsky
Jonathan Wind
Barbara Yeaman

Sustainers

The following people make monthly contributions to the Conservancy.

Anonymous
Roy Borgfeld
Jamie Bartholomew
Jerre and Linda Coleman
Julie and Kevin Kulak
Bob and Gail Lowden
Clark and Peggy Pitcairn
Fred Buchholz and Helen Ripple
Eve Rosahn
Leon and Ginger Smith
Russell and Elizabeth Warner

Green Lodging Partners

Apple Pond Farm
ECCE Bed & Breakfast
Harrington House Bed and Breakfast
Hotel Belvidere
Hotel Fauchère
James Manning House
Ledges Hotel
Pepacton Cabins
Roebbling Inn on the Delaware
Santosha on the Ridge
Starlight Lodge
The Inn at Starlight Lake
The Lodge at Woodloch
The Settlers Inn
The Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort
Villa Roma Resort
Woodloch Resort

President's Message

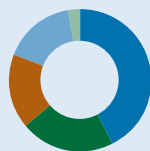
Dear Members and Friends,

Our mission is to conserve the forests, farms and waters of the Upper Delaware River region *in perpetuity*. Your donations not only fund our daily operations, but also make it possible for us to build our reserves to ensure we have the financial resources needed to be good stewards of the land — forever. On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy, thank you for generous support — as a donor, a volunteer, a Conservation Partner, or as an advocate for our environment.

The Board would like to acknowledge the extraordinary leadership of our Executive Director, Sue Currier in establishing a firm foundation for the future growth of this organization, and the dedication of our excellent staff: Amanda Subjin, Bethany Keene, Jennifer Sherwood, Mary Anne Carletta, and Simon Knox. As we look at 2016 we are excited about our deepening relationship with the William Penn Foundation and their multi-year funding for the Delaware River Watershed Initiative which presents new opportunities for land protection activities over and above the projects already in process. We anticipate a very busy and productive year and look forward to sharing updates on our progress in the months ahead.

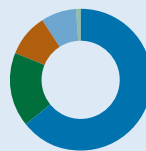
Sincerely,

Karen Lutz



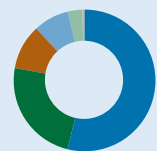
Operating Income 2015

Grants	\$ 288,000
Donations	\$ 145,000
Events & Education	\$ 114,000
Services	\$ 110,000
Investment Income & Gains	\$ 18,000
Total:	\$ 675,000



Operating Expenses 2015

Program Expenses	\$ 338,000
Management & General	\$ 88,000
Losses	\$ 52,000
Fundraising	\$ 42,000
Lobbying	\$ 5,000
Total:	\$ 525,000



Select Assets as of 12/31/15

Stewardship & Defense Funds	\$ 792,000
Cash & Marketable Securities	\$ 350,000
Property & Equipment	\$ 119,000
Land Protection Funds	\$ 150,000
Accounts Receivable	\$ 46,000
Other	\$ 7,000
Total:	\$1,464,000

For the full audited financial report and our 990, visit DelawareHighlands.org



Upcoming 2016 Events

YOU'RE INVITED

Join the Conservancy at our fun and educational events scheduled throughout 2016.

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 23-24

Hawley EarthFest • Hawley, PA

Hawley, PA invites you to join in the celebration of love for planet Earth!

Local businesses and conservation organizations will be offering programs, activities, and events—including a 5K, a species parade, and environmental exhibits—for a weekend of celebrating, learning, and exploring.



April 30

Foods of the Delaware Highlands Dinner

The Settlers Inn, Hawley, PA

Join us 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 \$125 per person for the four-course meal, and the dinner sells out annually.

May 6

Star Watch • Bethel Office, NY

Join local astronomer John Kocijanski for a FREE Star Watch program. Watch the stars and planets, observe deep sky objects, and learn how to locate the constellations.

June 25

Native Plants Walk with Ann Rhoads at BioBlitz

Tusten, NY

New this year, join us at the Upper Delaware BioBlitz in Tusten, NY for our annual Native Plants Walk with renowned botanist Dr. Ann Rhoads.

June – August

Guided Nature Walks with the Conservancy

Bethel Office, NY

Join Conservancy volunteers for guided nature walks on our woodland trail and learn about what you see. Select weekends available through the summer; visit website for details.



August 27

Community Picnic for Our Members, Volunteers & Friends

Bethel Office, NY

Our annual picnic for our members and friends at our Bethel, NY office features entertainment, educational programs, music, guided walks, delicious local food, and more.



October 8

Fall Hike: Tusten Mountain Trail

Tusten, NY

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



October 28

Star Watch • Bethel Office, NY

Join local astronomer John Kocijanski for a FREE Star Watch program. Watch the stars and planets, observe deep sky objects, and learn how to locate the constellations.

December 3

Eagle Watch Volunteer Training • Lackawaxen, PA

Join us for an overview of the volunteer program followed by visits to eagle monitoring sites.

More exciting events planned. Visit DelawareHighlands.org for the most up-to-date information.

**Event dates and times subject to change.*



Eagles in Our Region

Eagles continue to thrive throughout the Upper Delaware River region, thanks to the protected forests and clean waters that offer safe habitat for year-round resident pairs and the wintering eagles who arrive in search of open water.

Our educational eagle programming reached thousands of people in 2015, thanks to generous support from our partners, grant funders, and of course, you—our members and friends. Thank you for stopping by our Upper Delaware Visitor Center in Lackawaxen, joining us for an Eagle Watch bus tour, or taking action to protect land and water for people and for eagles.



©STEPHEN DAVIS

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.



©NATASHA FONTAINE

DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY
SERVING NEW YORK AND PENNSYLVANIA

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