



2019 Annual Report



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25 Years and Counting

O19 was a special year for the Delaware Highlands Conservancy.

We celebrated our 25th anniversary with new events and programs for our members and community, and we reached a major milestone of more than 18,000 acres of working farms and forests, clean waters, and wildlife habitat protected forever in the Upper Delaware River region.

From small family farms to large working forests, hunting and fishing clubs, cherished childhood vacation spots, and special places for local communities to enjoy, every piece of conserved land will forever protect our shared natural heritage and tell an important part of our story.

Community Connections

We're tremendously grateful for the generous support of our community. In 2019, 105 volunteers donated countless hours of their personal time, whether as a member of our Board of Directors, serving on a committee, helping out at an event, assisting on annual visits to protected properties, working in our offices, or helping residents and visitors look for and learn about bald eagles during our winter Eagle Watch program.

The local businesses in the **Green Lodging Partnership** and **Drinks for the Delaware** together contributed nearly \$60,000 toward local conservation in 2019. We were also generously supported by our **25th Anniversary Sponsor**, **The Dime Bank**.

Our work would not be possible without the continued support of our members, volunteers, and partners. **Thank you** for being part of our community.







Attendees enjoyed a special educational event in celebation of our 25th anniversary: a summer day of paddling, hiking, and looking for nesting bald eagles at Promised Land State Park in Greentown, PA.



Protecting Land & Legacy

Foster Hill Farm

In 2019, Foster Hill Farm, the former Milford, PA home of local businessman and philanthropist Dick Snyder, was bequeathed to the Delaware Highlands Conservancy and permanently protected with a conservation easement.

Prior to his untimely passing, Dick Snyder valued the work of the Conservancy and wanted to invest in our mission. He believed that the Board of the Conservancy would be good stewards of the proceeds from the farm and would protect the land's natural resources while allowing for sustainable uses by the new landowner.

The Conservancy holds a conservation easement on Foster Hill Farm that allows for a variety of activities including farming, forestry, and sustainable community uses, if the landowner chooses. A conservation easement is a voluntary, legally binding agreement between a landowner and a land trust that permanently protects a property's natural values while the landowner continues to own and manage the land, subject to the permitted uses detailed in the easement.

The Conservancy is currently seeking a conservation buyer for Foster Hill Farm. Proceeds from the sale of the farm will be used to support the Conservancy's mission of land conservation. As the easement holder, the Conservancy will work with the landowner to provide assistance and guidance in caring for the land. The Conservancy will also perform annual visits to Foster Hill Farm to ensure that the requirements in the conservation easement are being upheld. This will guarantee that the farm's unique conservation values are protected forever.

Conservancy Executive Director Diane Rosencrance stated, "We are deeply honored to be one of the beneficiaries of Dick Snyder's estate and the named recipient of his beloved Foster Hill Farm. He believed in the conservation of land and the protection of our natural resources. By bequeathing his farm to the Conservancy, he took steps to act on his vision of protecting his own land for future generations and to support the continuing work of the Conservancy."

The Northeast Connection

3,683 acres of forestland have now been permanently protected in Pike County, PA. Three hunt clubs—Mink Pond Club, Maskenozha Rod & Gun Club, and Lehman Lake Rod and Gun Club—together form "The Northeast Connection": thousands of contiguous, unfragmented acres of forests, lakes, and wetlands along the Little Bushkill Creek.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund of the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Legacy Program allocated \$3.33 million, and philanthropy contributed another \$1.11 million, toward the Northeast Connection project to permanently protect these three properties with conservation easements.

The Northeast Connection protects our clean air and drinking water, provides habitat for wildlife, and will provide recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts for generations to come.

The project connects two adjacent protected landscapes, creating a nearly 4-mile natural corridor between the 83,500-acre Delaware State forest and the ~70,000-acre Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, and conserves over ten miles of headwater streams designated as "High Quality" by the State of Pennsylvania. The conserved property flanks the Delaware River and Kittatinny Ridge, both essential for migration and movement of wildlife species.

The Northeast Connection project was supported through the Open Space Institute's Delaware River Watershed Protection Fund, made possible by the William Penn Foundation and its Delaware River Watershed Initiative, which works to protect water quality in the Delaware River Basin. The project was additionally supported through the Open Space Institute's Resilient Landscapes Initiative, which is made possible with funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, and by the Pike County Scenic Rural Character Preservation Program.

2019 Donors

River Club Member

Donors of \$2,500 or more annually become members of the Conservancy's River Club. Learn more at www.delawarehighlands.org/membership-support/river-club.

\$100,000 or more

Estate of Richard L. Snyder Open Space Institute William Penn Foundation

\$25,000 or more

Anonymous

New York Land Trust Alliance PA-DCNR Pike County Scenic Rural Character Preservation Program

\$10,000 or more

Peter Kellogg Karen & Charles Lutz John & Donna Ross **USDA** Forest Service

\$5,000 – 9,999

Barbara & Gerard Cuffe The Dime Bank Michael & Elizabeth Drummond John & Patricia Kiesendahl Pennsylvania Environmental Council Mary Sue Sweeney Price Henry Skier, Skier Foundation

Sullivan County Legislature

\$1,000 - 4,999

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Mickey Black, Pine Forest Camp Pedro Boregaard Brown Brothers Harriman Trust

Co., GBH Foundation

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Linda Gearhart

Michael & Elizabeth Geitz Stephen Geldman

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Justin Genzlinger Sandra & Alan Gerry Marta Hallett Doug & Kate Hayes Nancy Kiesendahl Bloch

Dorothy Linvill-Neal & Craig Neal Tad & Betsy McAlpin Ronald & Wendy Miller

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\$500 – 999 lames Bacon Benjamin & Susan Baxt Brett Berk & Tal McThenia Eric Boberg Lisa & Lev Borodovsky Claude Briere Richard & Marina Buckley, Pocono Medical Care, Inc. Tara Caroll, Old Souls Outfitters Peter & Marsha Comstock. The Homestead School Nina Daley & Philip Cowan Olivia Davis Barbara de Vries John Early & Barry Daubenspeck Greater Pike Community

lean & William Klaber Anita & Frank Leto Greg & Patricia Lutfy Doug Manion Michael & Roberta Martin. Berkowitz II Foundation

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Jeffrey & Maggie Moore National Parks Conservation Association

Nick & Maggie Niles leff Ogden & Melissa Kearney Gardiner & Laura Pearson

Erwin & Beth Petschauer Mary & Howard Phipps

Ann Rhoads

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leffrey Rosalsky & Gail Shuttleworth

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Brendan & Kathy Weiden Sigrid Wilshinsky

William Yeaman Matthew Youngers

Up to \$500

Anonymous, multiple Patricia & John Adams Edward Ahern

Daniel & Kathleen Allen Michael Andres & Lesley Marker

Joseph & Phyllis Andrews Paul Appel

Kathey Atwell

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Nancy Baker

lack Barnett & Mary Anne

Carletta Iohn Barone

Martha & Alexis Barron Bears Den Hunting & Fishing

Association Alfred & Carol Beck

Robin Beck Maureen Beilman

Gary Beilman

Helen Berkenstock Elisabeth Berry & Paul Vazquez

April & Bruce Bidwell

BIF III Holtwood LLC

Arlene Birnbohm Karen & Richard Bliss Blooming Grove Hunting &

Fishing Club **Betty Boberg** Jane Bollinger Roy Borgfeld

Candy & Dario Boronat

Demetre Bove Rozella Bower Rex & Marci Brand Barbara & Richard Briden Brookfield Renewable Barbara & Edward Bromley Barbara Brown

Elizabeth Brown David Bruce

Ed Brylawski & Eva Erichsen Fred Buchholz & Helen Ripple

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Sue Currier Dawn & Renato da Silva

Chip & DeFord Davis lane Dawkins

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Peter & Dori Deubler

Alice Devoe Gayle & Richard Di Meglio

Loretta DiBacco Kathy Dodge & Pete Snyder Barbara & Dale Dohner Alan & Patricia Dolge Gerard Donahue Jim & Leah Doyle Richard Eckersley Fred Eichler

Deborah Elliott Brown Kerry Engelhardt & Chris Hunt

Catherine Erickson Mary Evans Patrick Ewing Charles & Linda Eyer Lorrie Fabrizio John & Dianne Farley

Richard Feinstein Zoot Finamore Teresa Finch

Judy Fink, Mountain Laurel Pilates

Heidi Finkelberg Chris & Ronnie Fischer Keith & Elizabeth Fitzpatrick Steven & Harriet Fleissig Florida State University Department of Biological

Science Adam Freedgood Alice Froelich

Margo, Kevin, & Amanda

Fruchtnicht lane Frye Clem Fullerton Paul & Sonja Gamer Sylvia & John Gardner Cynthia Garlan

Mary Ann Geary-Halchak & Jack

Halchak Roberta George Trudy Gerlach Charles Gilman Pauline Glykokokalos Benita Goldstein Dale Goodmanw Robin & Mark Gordon Kimberly Gravina Stevens, Berkshire Hathaway Home

Dorothy, Daniel & Alessandro

Lawrence Grosberg & Susan

Rosenthal Lon & Carol Grubb

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Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther Doug Guyer

Maryann Haberthur & Maureen

Mouton

Nonna Hall

Up to \$500, continued

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Al Henry Karen Carlson Sara & Charles Herbstman Star Hesse & Mike Lovelace

Mary Ellen Higgins Isabel Hodges-Smith Morris & Sarah Holbrook Richard & Elizabeth Hooper

lay Hostetler Alfred Howell Andrew Hughes Karen Hunt

Charles & Kathleen Hyden Don & Deborah Ierley

Laura Impastato Holly Isdale

Thomas & Joann Jabour Lori Jo Jamieson Patricia & Robert Jeffer Albert Jesikiewicz & Marcia

Wazeter

Dave & Sandy Jobson Glen Johnson

Nancy Johnston & Timothy Fisher

Joan Jubela

Thomas & Augusta Kappner

Marian Keegan Mary Keene Don Kenny Mary Keppel Robert & Joan Kern

Steven Kiesendahl & James Panto

Bob Kiesendahl Lorraine Kishel Joan Kittredge

June Klinger Mariann Klinger John Kocijanski Peter Kolesar Greg Kopich Linda Kozak Robert Kramer

leffrey & Lorraine Kroutil Iulie & Kevin Kulak Blanche Kurtz

Linda & George Kurtz Barbara & Richard Kurz

Paul Labounty Brian & Rita Lacey Lackawanna College

Lackawaxen River Conservancy

Richard Lahey Danny & Angela Lam Laura Lander Ralph & Myrna Langer Audrey Lanham

Frances Lee & William Mangino

Dr. Howard Leifman David Lender

Barbara Leo & Georgette

Pascotto Katie Lester

Kenna & Walt Levendosky

Donna Levine

Suzanne & Bob Levine Michael & Susannah Lewis Richard Lichtenstein Edward & Gwenn Loder Anita & David Lohin

Ellen Lott Paul Lumia Betsy Lyman Kathleen Lyon Alison Mac Farlane Donald & Maria MacArthur Richard & Barbara Madea

Christopher Makos Judy Maneval

Fort Manno, Ray & Mary Lou Dee Don Mariano & T. Cavanagh

Midge Maroni

Frank May, Buck Hill Conservation

Foundation

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Stephen McBride

Cindy & Michael McDonald Bill & Marianne Mebane

Sandra Meier John & Meg Menke Ellen & Wayne Miller

Ray Milora Rolf Moeller

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Kathleen Moran

Kathryn & Joel Murphy Jean Murphy Robert Robbin

Nancy Nelson Carol Neos lessica Newbern Peter Nye

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Foland Jill Padua Chuck Palumbo Susan Parisi Mottel

Ken Parks Carrie & Peter Paugh Paupack Sailing Club James Pedranti Janet Perper

Barbara Peters Clark & Peggy Pitcairn Ronald & Wilma Pollock

III Porter Judith Posniack lim & Sue Powell

David & Deborah Pursch Joann Puskarcik & Roy Morsch

Centa & Joyce Quinn

In 2019, the Conservancy received donations in memory of Arthur Beyer; George and Christine Coutts; Marion Beck Finch; Alice Froelich; Russell Klinger; and Vanessa Van Gorder. The Conservancy received donations in honor of Greg Belcamino; Tom and Maryann Haberthur; Kate and Doug Hayes; Conrad Raabe; Linda and Jules Robinson; John and Donna Ross; Ron Sarachan; Bill Yeaman; Barbara Yeaman; and Julia, Max, and Eric.

You too can support the Delaware Highlands Conservancy with a • one-time, sustaining, or legacy gift. 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. Visit DelawareHighlands.org to donate now, or contact Bethany Zarnowski at 570-226-3164 to discuss your gift.

·

Eric Raabe Francis Raabe Stephen Rademan Chris & Steve Reiser William & Nancy Reitsma Lois Resnick-Silverman

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lerold & Judith Yavarkovsky

Tom Zibinski Doreen Zicolello

Edward & Amber Zygmunt

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Patricia Diness
Mary Evans
Arnold Friedman
Linda Gearhart
Susanne Hand & David Kinsey
Susan Hartney

Harold MacGregor (deceased) Dorothy Merrill (deceased) Mary Sue Sweeney Price

Kimberly (Mimi) Raleigh

Brenda Seldin

Richard Snyder (deceased) Charles Victor Traeger (deceased)

Sigrid Wilshinsky Jonathan Wind Barbara Yeaman

VolunteersDarlis Allen

Heather Bailey Harrison Balthaser Frank Bandereck Courtney Barden Peterson lack Barnett Jamie Bass Cyndee Cann Mary Anne Carletta lames Carney Francis Cerra Karen Chevalier lan DeHaan Jean & Rich Donnelly Sean Duffie Edward Duvinski Kerry Engelhardt Patricia Erhard Amy Erlwein Heidi Finkelberg Keith Fitzpatrick

Denise Frangipane

Operating Income 2019

Land Protection and Services \$311,000

Donations & Bequests

Events and Education

Investment Income

Grants

Total:

Adam Freedgood Paul Gamer Cynthia Garlan Mary Ann Geary-Halchak Jeanne Genzlinger Daniel Gleckler Elizabeth Green

Krista Gromalski Re Hagele Marta Hallett Kate Hayes

Barbara & Victor Heitz Dennis & Patricia Hewston

Heather Jacksy Mary Keene Kevin Keller Tracey Kelly Don Kenny

Nancy Kiesendahl Bloch Christopher & Peggy Koch

John Kocijanski Dianna Levine Dorothy Linvill-Neal Sandy Long Lisa Lyons

Kelly Macaluso Terri Marcellus Tad McAlpin

Roger McCullough Jane McCutcheon Maureen McGowan Traci Mengle

Melissa Morales Ed & Joanne Morse Tess Murray

Joel & Kathryn Murphy

Ken Myett Maggie Niles

Julie & Peter Oberstoetter

Operating Expenses 2019

Management and General \$77,000

\$615,000

\$31,000

\$723,000

Mitch Opresnick Brad & Denise Orey

Program Expenses

Fundraising

Total:

Evan Padua Emily Platz Adam Pratt Joseph Price Frank PuGlisi Robin Rosenbluth John Ross

Joan Santo Steve Schwartz Carolyn Seifried Ellen & Michael Shatt Gary Silien

Dean & Diana Samona

Laura Silverman Dave Steckel Kelley Stewart Ron Thieme Tony Waldron Pennell Whitney

Marie Zwayer

Green Lodging Partners

The Anthracite Hotel
Apple Pond Farm
Harrington House Bed &
Breakfast
Himalayan Institute
Hotel Fauchere
James Manning House
Ledges Hotel
The Lodge at Woodloch

Pepacton Cabins
Santosha on the Ridge
The Settlers Inn
Silver Birches
Woodloch Resort

Drinks for the Delaware

Black & Brass Coffee Roasting Company Here & Now Brewing Co. Catskill Distillery

Select Assets as of 12/31/19

Select Assets as Of I	2/3////
Property & Equipment	\$794,000
Monitoring funds	\$760,000
Legal Defense funds	\$367,000
Cash	\$194,000
Eagle Habitat funds	\$150,000
Land Protection funds	\$96,000
Educational Scholarship fund	ls \$45,000

Accounts Receivable & \$41,000

Prepaids
Total: \$2,447,000

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

\$914,000

\$424,000

\$148,000

\$93,000 \$1,890,000

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Dear Members and Friends.

The year 2019 closed on a high note. Literally! The closing for the Northeast Connection was held on Monday, December 2nd during an intense snowstorm. After waiting 13 years for this momentous occasion, nothing was going to interfere with the signing of the official paperwork. It was a great day for everyone involved. And, what a great way for us to wrap up our 25th anniversary year.

One of the true highlights of 2019 was having our founder Barbara Yeaman join us in April for our very successful Foods of the Delaware Highlands dinner. It was a joy to celebrate with her. The month of July was marked by taking ownership of Foster Hill Farm; the extraordinarily generous bequest from Dick Snyder. In September we expanded our visibility by participating in the University of Scranton's Schemel Forum and brought our message to a new audience in northeast PA. And in October during our River Club reception Andy Johnson, Director of the Watershed Protection Program for the William Penn Foundation explained that the Conservancy has been a critically important and highly regarded partner in the Delaware River Watershed Initiative since its inception. These are just a few of the special events that took place during our 25th year.

Your generosity of time and talent as well as your very important financial contributions make our work possible. We are deeply grateful for your support and your continued faith in us and our mission. As your partners we are making steady progress protecting the beautiful lands and waters that surround us. Thank you for sharing a very special year with us.



Bright Futures





Scholarships Awarded to Local Students

In 2019 the Conservancy awarded our annual "Delaware Highlands Conservancy/Yeaman Scholarship" for \$1,000 to Mikala Anderson (left), a 2019 graduate of Deposit Central, and the "Vanessa Van Gorder Memorial Scholarship" for \$1,000 to Mackenzie Turner (right), a 2019 graduate of Wallenpaupack Area.

Mikala Anderson will attend Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, and Mackenzie Turner will attend Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Contributions to the scholarship fund and other environmental education programs can be made online at DelawareHighlands.org.



Eagles In Our Region

The bald eagles that share our region are thriving. They find safe habitat here, whether they are year-round residents or winter visitors searching for open water to fish and healthy forests for nesting and roosting.

Our educational programming reached thousands of people, thanks to support from our partners, grant funders, and a dedicated group of more than 50 volunteers donating hundreds of hours of their time.

Upcoming Events

Most events require advance registration. Visit **Delaware Highlands.org** to learn more, register, and to view our complete Calendar of Events for 2020.

Earth Week Walk

April 18, 2020 · 10am-1pm, Hawley, PA

In honor of Earth Week, join the Conservancy, SEEDS, and NEPA Sierra Club for a walk along the Hawley Trail Extension.

Foods of the Delaware Highlands Dinner April 25, 2020 • 5:30pm-9:30pm, Hawley, PA

Enjoy farm-to-fork cuisine paired with fine wines, and exciting live and silent auctions featuring a bevy of fun and exclusive activities highlighting the beauty and bounty of the Upper Delaware.

Native Plants Walk

May 30, 2020, 9am-12pm •

Camp Speers YMCA, Dingmans Ferry, PA

Visit Long Swamp, a 70-acre boreal conifer bog listed as a unique area in Pike County. Local plant expert Heather Houskeeper will identify and discuss native and invasive plant species along the walk.

Summer Open House Office Hours 10am-4pm • Hawley, PA and Bethel, NY

Join us on select Mondays and Wednesdays this summer at our offices in PA and NY to meet with Land Protection Staff and learn about ways to manage and conserve your land and get your questions answered. Drop-ins welcome; to schedule a meeting, call Kaylan Hubbard or Trey Talley at 570-226-3164. Dates posted online at DelawareHighlands.org.

Firefly Picnic

August 29, 2020 · 3pm-6pm, Bethel, NY

Join the Conservancy for our annual community picnic for our members and friends and enjoy great food, live entertainment, kids activities, a guided trail walk, a kayak raffle, and much more.

Women and Their Woods Educational Retreat September 24-27, 2020 • Boyds Mills, PA

Join us for four days and three nights of learning, networking, and applying new knowledge about good forest stewardship on the spectacular I300-acre wooded campus at the Highlights Retreat Center. Details and applications available at www.delawarehighlands.org/watw and are due August 1st.

Walk in Penn's Woods

October 4, 2020 • 9am-12pm, Milford, PA

Join us for a guided fall hike on the permanently protected Milford Experimental Forest.



Thank you.

Your investment in the Delaware Highlands Conservancy protects clean water, working farms and forests, and wildlife habitat-forever.

Read more about how we're working toward a sustainable future inside our 2019 Annual Report.

the Delaware Highlands Conservancy or to make a donation in support of our work, visit **DelawareHighlands.org**.

Find us on

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