



Highlands JOURNAL

Fall 2019 - Winter 2020

25 Years of Conservation

2019 has been a special year for the Delaware Highlands Conservancy. With our friends and neighbors in the community, we've celebrated twenty-five years of conservation in our region.

The Conservancy began in 1994 as an all-volunteer organization founded by one passionate individual, Barbara Yeaman. Board meetings were held around Barbara's kitchen table, and the organization started with just \$250 in the bank.

Today, the Conservancy has three offices in two states, eight full-time staff members, and more than 15,000 acres of working farms and forests, clean water, and wildlife habitat protected forever.

Throughout the year, we've held special events to celebrate our 25th anniversary and to connect with YOU—the

people in the community who support the Conservancy financially, who donate their time and energy as volunteers, and who join us for paddles, hikes, and workshops.

It's because of your support and investment that we have reached this milestone, and it will be because of your dedication that we are able to continue our work for the next twenty-five years.

Thank you for your investment in the forests, farms, waters, and wildlife of the Upper Delaware River region, and for your friendship and trust in the Conservancy as a member of your community.



Scholarships Awarded to Local Students

In June, the Conservancy awarded its annual “Delaware Highlands Conservancy/Yeaman Scholarship” for \$1,000 to Mikala Anderson, a 2019 graduate from Deposit Central School District, and the “Vanessa Van Gorder Memorial Scholarship” for \$1,000 to Mackenzie Turner, a 2019 graduate of Wallenpaupack Area High School.

Mikala Anderson (*top photo*) will attend Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. In high school, Mikala was a member of the National Honor Society, played softball and lacrosse, and was a member of the Broome County Student Board of Advisors. Outside of school, her family runs a 3,000-acre cattle farm and Mikala worked as a farm hand and participated in her local 4-H. Mikala strongly believes in the importance of protecting land for future generations of farmers.



Mackenzie Turner (*bottom photo*) will attend Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania to major in mathematics and secondary education. In high school, Mackenzie was Secretary and later Vice President of the Student Council and was a member of Future Business Leaders of America, Junior Leadership of the Northern Poconos, participated in soccer and track, and volunteered with the Youth Soccer League. Mackenzie believes that teachers are the building blocks of communities and looks forward to having a positive impact on children’s lives.



Learn more about the scholarships at www.delawarehighlands.org/learn/scholarships.

Donations toward the scholarship fund and other environmental education and conservation initiatives can be made online at DelawareHighlands.org or by mail to PO Box 218, Hawley, PA 18428.



If you can’t shop local, shop to give back...

Through AmazonSmile, 0.5% of the purchase price of your items is donated back to the Delaware Highlands Conservancy by the AmazonSmile Foundation. It’s free to sign up and costs you nothing. Visit smile.amazon.com and select Delaware Highlands Conservancy to get started.



© RICHARD JUSTUS

Eagles In Our Region

The protected forests and clean waters of our region are home to a thriving population of bald eagles. Resident eagles build nests and live here year-round, while hundreds of wintering eagles, which spend the rest of the year in Canada and upstate New York, are returning to our region as lakes and rivers freeze over up north. The eagles arrive in search of open water to fish, and large stands of trees for perching and roosting.

On our Eagle Watch bus tours, you’ll sit on a heated bus for a scenic drive throughout the region while you learn from an expert guide and look for eagles. On **Eagle Day**, enjoy a live presentation from Bill Streeter of the Delaware Valley Raptor Center and activities for the whole family.

Or, stop by the Upper Delaware Visitor Center in Lackawaxen, PA and view our interpretive exhibits, watch the short film about the bald eagle’s return, and pick up a map to go on your own driving tour and talk to volunteers in our Eagle Observation Areas throughout the region.

Upper Delaware Visitor Center Hours

January – February (*at the Zane Grey Museum*)

Saturdays & Sundays • 10am-4pm
135 Scenic Drive, Lackawaxen, PA 18435

Thank you to our partners and supporters!



*Check our website for the most up-to-date information. Refunds are not given in the event of cancelled reservations. In case of inclement weather, snow dates are the Sunday immediately following. Reservations are not required for Eagle Day.

WINTER SCHEDULE

Space is limited and advance reservations are required for all Eagle Watch bus trips.* Be sure to dress warmly in layers and wear waterproof boots. Bring binoculars, camera, and snacks. **Fee: \$15 for members, \$25 for non-members, unless otherwise noted.**

Visit www.DelawareHighlands.org to register, or call 570-226-3164 or 845-583-1010.

Saturday, November 16 • 12pm-3:30pm

Eagle Day - Free

Lake Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center
126 Lambertson Lane, Hawley, PA

Saturday, January 11 • 10am-1pm

Eagle Watch Bus Tour

Upper Delaware Visitor Center
Lackawaxen, PA

Saturday, January 18 • 10am-1pm

Eagle Watch Bus Tour

Upper Delaware Visitor Center
Lackawaxen, PA

Saturday, February 1 • 10am-1pm

Eagle Watch Bus Tour

Upper Delaware Visitor Center
Lackawaxen, PA

Saturday, February 8 • 10am-1pm

Eagle Watch Bus Tour

Upper Delaware Visitor Center
Lackawaxen, PA

OFFICERS
Karen Lutz, *President*
Mary Sue Price, *Vice President*
Douglas Hayes, *Treasurer*
Scott Van Gorder, *Secretary*

BOARD MEMBERS

Greg Belcamino
Michael Cann
Barbara Cuffe
Grant Genzlinger
Jeffrey Moore
Barbara Yeaman

STAFF

Executive Director
Diane Rosencrance

Conservation Programs & Education

Amanda Subjin
Nicole DeCarolis
Kate Hausman
Kaylan Hubbard
Trey Talley

Communications & Development

Bethany Zarnowski

Administration & GIS

Jason Zarnowski

MAIL US

PO Box 218
Hawley PA 18428

DelawareHighlands.org
info@delawarehighlands.org

CALL US

PA: 570-226-3164
NY: 845-583-1010

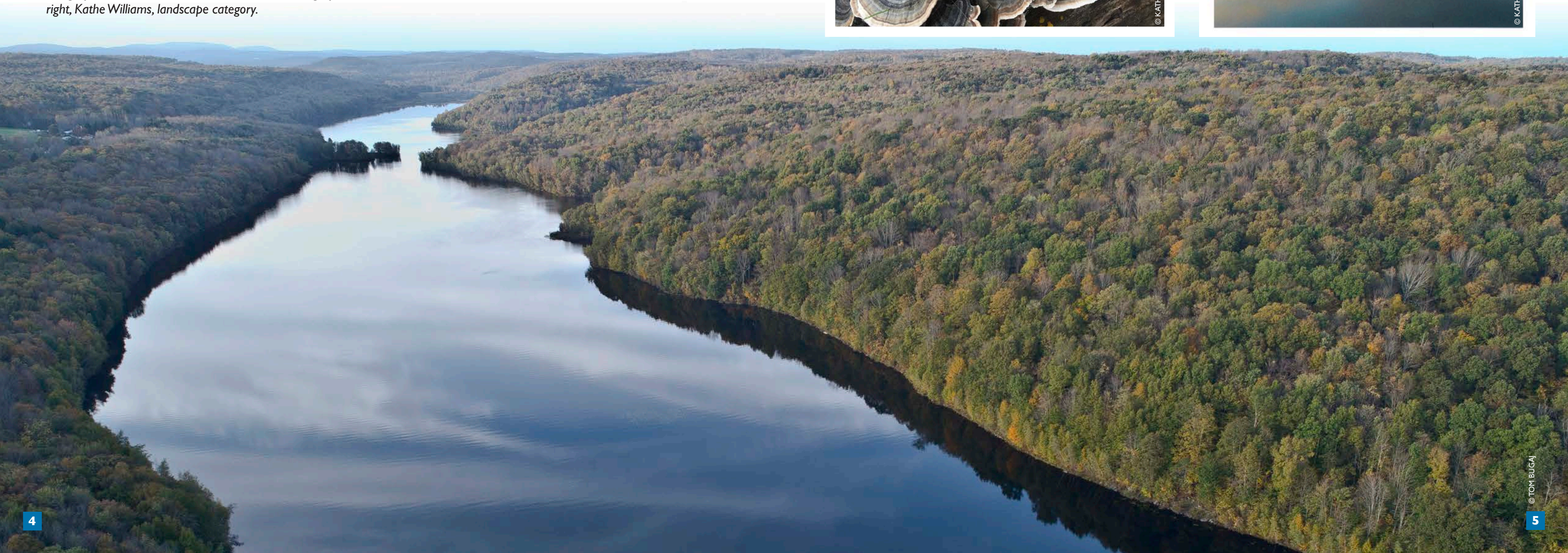
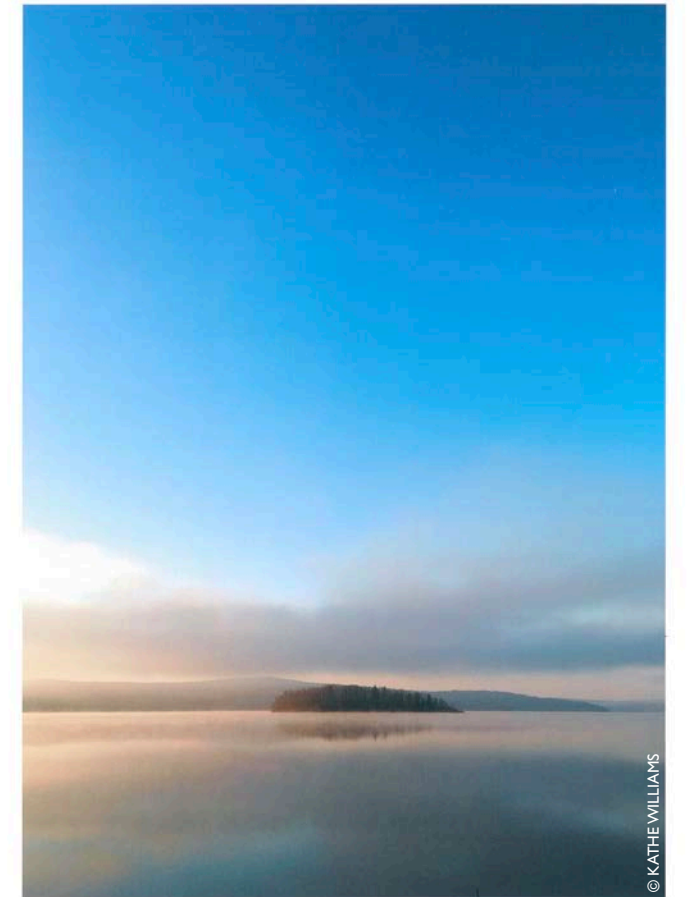


Confluence: Land, Water, & Wildlife Photo Contest Winners

Through summer 2019, the Conservancy hosted our second annual juried photo contest for the Upper Delaware River region, open to professional and amateur photographers. **Confluence: Land, Water, and Wildlife** invited photographers to capture striking nature-inspired photos in four categories: landscape, wildlife, macro, and water.

The winning photos were chosen by a panel of judges, along with one People's Choice, and will be hung at the ARTery gallery in Milford, PA, opening with a reception on November 9th from 5-8pm. The ARTery is a cooperative owned and operated by successful and emerging artists and artisans from the Tri-State area.

Winners include, right, Jeff Sidle, People's Choice; below, Tom Bugaj, water category; center top, Dennis Romano, wildlife category; center bottom, Kathe Williams, macro category; far right, Kathe Williams, landscape category.



River Club

The River Club celebrates and recognizes investment in the Conservancy—an investment not just in protecting land and water, but in motivating and mobilizing our local community.

Members enjoy exclusive invitation-only events—like this year’s reception on November 3rd at the Highlights Foundation in Boyds Mills, PA—plus acknowledgement of your exceptional generosity to the Conservancy in our newsletters and annual report, and the recognition of being a River Club member.

River Club members will establish a legacy that lives on and helps to ensure the perpetual continuity of the mission of the Conservancy. You can become a member of the River Club with an annual gift of \$2,500 or more.

River Club Members as of July 31, 2019

Lifetime Member

Anonymous

\$5,000 and Up

Gary Beilman, *The Dime Bank*

Barbara and Gerard Cuffe*

Elizabeth and Michael Drummond

Kate and Doug Hayes*

Estelle Rojas and Jorge Perez

Peter Kellogg

Patricia and John Kiesendahl

Karen and Charles Lutz*

Roberta and Michael Martin,

Berkowitz II Foundation

Mary Sue Sweeney Price*

Donna and John Ross*

Henry Skier

Deborah and Tony Waldron

\$2,500 - \$4,999

James Asselstine and Bette Davis

Greg Belcamino and Judith Welcom*

Art Bryant

Patricia Diness

Linda Gearhart

Michael and Elizabeth Geitz

Grant and Jeanne Genzlinger*

Nancy Kiesendahl Bloch

Natali Morris

Lucy Stone

Michelle and Brian Trospen

George and Lori Varsam,

Janice Michelle Foundation

Dorene Warner, *W Design*

Pennell Whitney and Ed Cremo

* Board Member



Conservancy Gifted

Foster Hill Farm

Foster Hill Farm, the former Milford, PA home of local philanthropist and business owner Dick Snyder, has been bequeathed to the Delaware Highlands Conservancy. In his typical altruistic spirit, Mr. Snyder made the Conservancy the beneficiary of Foster Hill Farm knowing that we would protect the land’s natural resources while allowing for sustainable uses including forestry, agriculture, and community purposes.

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.

A conservation easement has been placed by the Conservancy to protect the land for future generations. A conservation easement is a voluntary, legally binding agreement between a landowner and a land trust that permanently protects a property’s natural values in which the landowner continues to own and manage the land, subject to the permitted uses detailed in the easement.

The Conservancy is seeking a conservation buyer for Foster Hill Farm, with proceeds being 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, and will 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.”

Learn more about land conservation and purchasing this special conserved property at www.DelawareHighlands.org.



The care of the Earth is our most ancient and most worthy, and after all our most pleasing responsibility. To cherish what remains of it and to foster its renewal is our only hope.

— Wendell Berry

Volunteer for Eagle Watch

Join us on **December 7th** for a training and overview of our volunteer Eagle Watch program. Eagle Watch runs through January and February, weekends only. Volunteers cover morning or afternoon shifts at our observation areas and at the Upper Delaware Visitor Center inside the Zane Grey Museum in Lackawaxen, PA.

Eagle Observation Areas are located at Mongaup Reservoir and the Delaware River at Minisink Ford and the Zane Grey boat launch at Lackawaxen.

Volunteers collect important data on wintering eagles and resident pairs. They educate the public in “Eagle Etiquette” and how to have the best eagle-watching experience.

To learn more about Eagle Watch or to register for the Training Day, please contact Kate Hausman at kate@delawarehighlands.org or 570-226-3164 ext. 8.





Join us this winter for an Eagle Watch bus trip!
Winter schedule and registration information inside.
Sign up for our e-newsletter at DelawareHighlands.org.

To learn more about...

the Delaware Highlands Conservancy or to make a donation in support of our work, visit DelawareHighlands.org.
Find us on  @DelawareHighlandsConservancy  @DHConservancy  @DHConservancy



© DAVID SOETE

PO Box 218 Hawley, PA 18428-0218

SERVING NEW YORK AND PENNSYLVANIA

DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

"Nature is not a place to visit. It is home." – Gary Snyder

Non-Profit Org.
Hawley, PA
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 42

Printed on recycled paper.

© STEPHEN DAVIS