



Celebrate 20 Years

On November 22, the Delaware Highlands Conservancy will honor our 20th anniversary—and the people who made it possible—with a celebration at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts. As we reflect on the past 20 years and look toward the future, we are reminded why we all choose to live here, work here, and play here.

But we are also reminded that we are essential to the broader region. We are located upstream, just a few hours, from millions of people in urban areas. We are a recreation destination and a respite for thousands of people to get away and reconnect with nature. We are a source for farm and forest products, and we are the source of clean drinking

water for millions. The Upper Delaware River region is critically important.

As our founder Barbara Yeaman reflects, “**Gearing up to create the Delaware Highlands Conservancy is one of the proudest moments of my life.** We began with just \$250, and I used my twelve acres along the Delaware River to bring as many people in to

visit and see what this kind of environmental quality is really like. Now, twenty years later—joined by hundreds of other members and with more than 14,000 protected acres—this dream has come true.”

As a member of our community, we celebrate you as one of the partners integral to our success, and we invite you to **celebrate with us on November 22 as we set the stage for the future.** Reserve your seat or sponsor the celebration today by contacting the Conservancy at info@delawarehighlands.org or 570-226-3164 or 845-583-1010.

As we look toward the next twenty years, we are excited about what is possible for us to achieve together.



DELAWARE
HIGHLANDS
CONSERVANCY
CELEBRATE 20 YEARS

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Grant Genzlinger, *Vice President*
John Ross, *Treasurer*
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Land Protection

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Outreach

Bethany Keene

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Patricia Diness

Administration

Simon Knox

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CALL US

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



Conservancy/Yeaman Scholarship Awarded to Local Student

In June, the Conservancy awarded its annual “Delaware Highlands Conservancy/Yeaman Scholarship” in the amount of \$1,000 to Kristen DeVilliers, a 2014 graduate of Delaware Valley High School. The scholarship has been awarded annually since 2004 to a student planning to pursue a field in environmental studies in college.

Kristen will attend Unity College in Maine in the fall, majoring in Captive Wildlife Care and Education. She fell in love with birds of prey when, in the spring of 2012, she began volunteering with the Delaware Valley Raptor Center where she helps to care for the birds' enclosures, accompanies Executive Director Bill Streeter on his educational presentations, and learns all she can about caring for injured birds of prey.

As Kristen explains, **“My reward for cleaning bird cages is not money; it is knowledge. I assist Bill with some of the veterinary work that goes along with the care of incoming injuries on the birds, and go on bird bandings and hawk watches. The experiences are the best reward I could ask for. I love it, I learn so much, and this is what I want to do with my life: work with wild animals.”**



Given in honor of the Conservancy's founder, Barbara Yeaman, the scholarship is open to students in school districts bordering the Upper Delaware River in New York and Pennsylvania. The scholarship embodies Barbara's vision and the dedication of our members to protect our special Upper Delaware River region now and for future generations. The Conservancy thanks Joann Puscarcik and the organization RESCUE for a generous contribution to our scholarship fund.

To continue to inspire youth, encourage study and careers in natural science, and develop talent like Kristen's, contributions to the Conservancy are encouraged. People interested in supporting the scholarship fund and other environmental education and conservation activities can donate online at DelawareHighlands.org or by mailing a contribution to PO Box 218, Hawley, PA 18428.



Shop through AmazonSmile and Support the Conservancy

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 to get started.



Family to Forestland

Connecting Kids and Nature

This summer the Conservancy launched the “Family Tree Series” of educational programs to help kids and families connect to nature—and to foster conversation about the future of their own family lands.

The “Boards to Birdhouses” workshop attendees, which included grandparents, parents and young children, took a walk in a local forest, learned how trees are selected and cut, and then watched a portable sawmill turn trees into boards. The landowner then guided attendees in building their own birdhouses to take home.

The mission of the Conservancy, and the definitions of things like conservation easements or working forests, can sometimes be challenging to apply to everyday life. But in the Family Tree workshop series, attendees get the complete picture of just how protected lands benefit the community, the types of jobs that working forests can create, and the many different ways of connecting to forestland, from bird-watching and hiking to sustainably harvesting and selling timber.

“I’m thrilled to be hosting a series of workshops where children of all ages can come and explore with their parents and grandparents and learn more about our local forest lands,” says Stewardship and Education Coordinator Amanda Subjin. “My husband and 3-year-old son participated in the workshops and have a clearer view of what comes from the forest and why it is so important to keep these lands undeveloped. At the Boards to Birdhouses event, it was exciting to see all the kids and their caregivers follow the path of the tree from forest to finished product.”

When children have the opportunity to connect to and learn about nature—especially what they see in their own communities and backyards—they begin to develop a sense of wonder and responsibility as a steward of the land, which is a commitment that lasts a lifetime. For adults, the series presents new ideas on how to manage their land, as well as options on how to support our local economy.

The Family Tree series workshops are supported by the Grey Towers Heritage Association.



“In the end we will conserve only what we love. We will love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught.”

– Baba Dioum

Community Picnic

Connecting People to the Land

Our third annual Community Picnic to say thank you to our wonderful members, volunteers, and friends was an amazing success this year.

With live music from Little Sparrow, a pottery lesson from Gary Silien, a delicious picnic lunch made with fresh, healthy, local foods, and a fascinating educational presentation from Bill Streeter of the Delaware Valley Raptor Center, attendees enjoyed a beautiful and fun day in the outdoors.

A highlight of this year's picnic was the official ribbon-cutting of our new woodland trail, generously supported by an Environmental Initiatives grant from Sullivan Renaissance and designed and created by volunteers Ed Morse and Dawson Smith. Featuring interpretive stops along the way with handcrafted wood signs made by Ed Falkowski of Eddie's Rustic Wood Signs of Hawley, PA with locust posts provided by Sequoia Tree Service, Inc. of Dingmans Ferry, PA, the trail is a wonderful resource for our community. Picnic attendees enjoyed a Tree ID walk led by Stewardship Coordinator Amanda Subjin.

Be sure to check our events calendar on www.DelawareHighlands.org for events next spring and summer happening on the trail, gardens, and meadows at our Bethel, NY office.



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Winter Fun!

So many opportunities to see and learn about the bald eagle...

Join us for one of our upcoming eagle events.

Whether you want to sit in a cozy spot indoors, listen to live music, and learn about eagles and winter raptors from the Delaware Valley Raptor Center's Bill Streeter, or join us on a (heated) bus for a scenic drive throughout the region while you learn from an expert guide and look for eagles, we have something for everyone.

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 trip to talk to our volunteers in our eagle-viewing areas.

Visitor Center Hours

December – March

Saturdays and Sundays • 10am-4pm

176 Scenic Drive, Lackawaxen, PA 18435



Thank you to our partners and supporters!



WINTER SCHEDULE

Space is limited and reservations are required for all Eagle Watch bus trips.* Be sure to dress warmly in layers and wear waterproof boots. Bring binoculars, camera, snacks, and a bagged lunch. Fee: \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members.

Call the Conservancy at 570-226-3164, 845-583-1010, or email info@delawarehighlands.org to register.

Sunday November 9

**Little Sparrow and the Eagles:
Live Music and Live Birds of Prey**

Sullivan County Museum • Hurleyville, NY • 2-4:30pm

Sunday November 16

**Little Sparrow and the Eagles:
Live Music and Live Birds of Prey**

**The Cooperage
Honesdale, PA • 2-4:30pm**

Saturday January 17

Eagle Watch Bus Tour

**Upper Delaware Visitor Center
Lackawaxen PA • 10am-1pm**

Saturday January 24

Eagle Day

Hawley, PA • 1-4pm

Saturday January 31

Eagle Watch Bus Tour

**Upper Delaware Visitor Center
Lackawaxen PA • 10am-1pm**

Saturday February 7

Eagle Watch Bus Tour

**Upper Delaware Visitor Center
Lackawaxen PA • 10am-1pm**

Saturday February 14

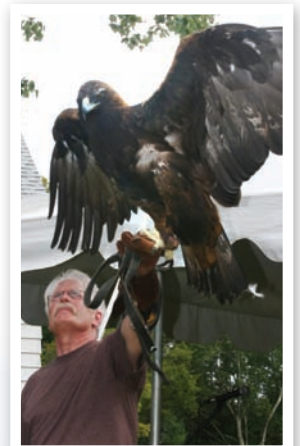
Eagle Watch Bus –

Marion “Becky” Finch Memorial Excursion

**Upper Delaware Visitor Center
Lackawaxen PA • 10am-1pm**

**Little Sparrow and the Eagles:
Live Music and Live Birds of Prey**

Tusten Theatre • Narrowsburg, NY • 2-4:30pm



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*Be sure to check our website for the most up-to-date information and any additional trips. Refunds are not given in the event of cancelled reservations. In the event of inclement weather, snow dates are the Sunday immediately following. Reservations are not required for “Little Sparrow and the Eagles” or “Eagle Day” events.

Hike on a Conserved Property

Much of the Conservancy's protected lands (over 14,000 acres to date!) are privately owned and allow access only as permitted by the landowner. However, several protected properties do allow for public access and even have designated hiking trails! Learn more about these properties and how to visit them:

Partner Ridge at Lacawac Sanctuary **SALEM TOWNSHIP, WAYNE COUNTY, PA**

Visit <http://www.lacawac.org/> to learn more about the property and download a hiking trail map.

Long Swamp at Camp Speers YMCA **DINGMANS FERRY, PIKE COUNTY, PA**

Visit <http://www.campspeersymca.org/> to find directions and more information about the Camp. Visitors are asked to check in at the Camp office and get a map for the Nature Trail to the unique glacial bog.

Milford Experimental Forest (MEF) **MILFORD, PIKE COUNTY, PA**

A 2.5 mile public access trail loop can be accessed via Schocopee Road. The project is currently being developed. Check the Grey Towers Heritage Association website (<http://www.greytowers.org/>) soon for more information about how to access the MEF trail.

Beaver Run Trails system at the Beaver Run Hunt Club property **PORTERS LAKE, PIKE COUNTY, PA**

The privately owned Beaver Run Hunting and Fishing Club lies adjacent to public lands within the Delaware State Forest. The publically accessible trails on the Beaver Run property can be accessed via the 45-mile Thunder Swamp Trail system. Visit <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/recreation/hiking/stateforesttrails/thunderswamptrail/index.htm> for a map and more information about the Thunder Swamp Trail network.

Stairway Ridge within the Delaware State Forest **WESTFALL TOWNSHIP, PIKE COUNTY, PA**

Visit http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/cs/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr_20028947.pdf to obtain a map of the Delaware State Forest in northeastern Pennsylvania. The Stairway Ridge property is located along Cummins Hill Road near Millrift, PA in Westfall Township and contains several trail heads that provide access to the Stairway Wild Area and Buckhorn Natural Area.

Smallwood Forest Reserve **TOWN OF BETHEL, SULLIVAN COUNTY, NY**

This former golf course located within the residential hamlet of Smallwood provides access for passive recreational activities (walking, bird watching, etc). Contact the Town of Bethel, NY for more information on access points and trails.

Lemons Brook Farm and the NY Field Office of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy **BETHEL, SULLIVAN COUNTY, NY**

The Conservancy has a field office located within the heart of this privately owned agricultural and forest land outside of Kauneonga Lake, NY. With the help of volunteers and Sullivan Renaissance Environmental Initiatives grant funding, the Conservancy is developing a 1 mile interpretative trail, a pollinator garden, reverted meadows and a kitchen herb garden to use as teaching tools for other landowners. The property is available to visit by appointment. Please call the Hawley office: 570-226-3164.



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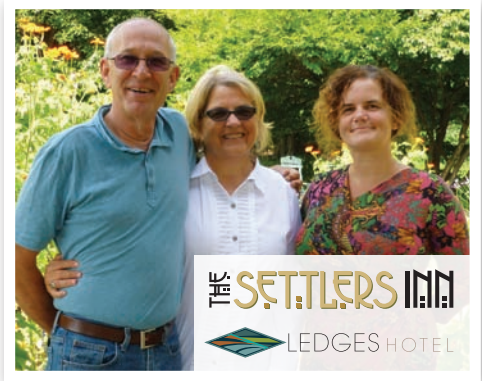
Visitors Give Back

Green Lodging Partnership: Investing in Our Community

The Green Lodging Partnership, an initiative which pairs local hotels and inns with local conservation through a voluntary \$2-per-stay contribution to the Conservancy, celebrated its two-year anniversary this year. **Visitors to our region recognize how important it is, and have welcomed the opportunity to join you in investing in its future.** As a result, more than \$25,000 has been collected through the 12 lodgings participating in the program and donated back to the Conservancy.

Here, Conservancy staff meet with owners or managers of a few of the properties, including Grant and Jeanne Genzlinger of the Settlers Inn and Ledges Hotel in Hawley, PA; Bob Kiesendahl and Tess Murray of Woodloch Resort in Hawley, PA; Andy Gottehrer of The Sullivan in Rock Hill, NY; and Xavier Morales and staff of the Hotel Fauchère in Milford, PA.

The Conservancy thanks all of the Green Lodging Partners for their commitment to conserving our lands, waters, and sustainable local communities. Find complete listings on www.DelawareHighlands.org/greenlodging.



Help the Monarchs

The monarch butterfly population is in decline, largely as a result of habitat loss across the country. Monarchs need milkweed to survive, but the widespread use of herbicides has eliminated the plant in many areas, which means migrating monarchs do not have the resources they need to survive their long trip to Mexico.

But you can help! Planting milkweed in your own backyard can help create important habitat for monarchs, and provide 'waystations' for them to stop along their migration route. You can start the seedlings indoors, and plant them in the spring after the last frost. To learn more about monarch butterflies, their annual migration and threats to their habitat, and what you can do to help, visit www.MonarchWatch.org, and join the Conservancy at our annual monarch program with naturalist Ed Wesely each August.





You don't want to miss our eagle-watching bus trips (and our "Little Sparrow and the Eagles" events with live music and fun)!

Winter schedule and registration information inside.



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To learn more about...

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

 Find us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/DelawareHighlandsConservancy> and on Twitter  @DHConservancy

When our lands and waters are healthy, we are healthy too.

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PO Box 218 Hawley, PA 18428-0218

SERVING NEW YORK AND PENNSYLVANIA

DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

"Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you...while cares will drop off like autumn leaves." – John Muir

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