



DELAWARE
HIGHLANDS
CONSERVANCY

Highlands JOURNAL

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Protecting What You Drink

Our forested lands and natural areas help to protect our clean drinking water. This means that to care for the land is to care for the water. And to care for the water is to care for our health, now and for generations to come.

Yes, I'm taking action!

- ☐ **I will not pour anything onto the ground or into a stream that I wouldn't drink.**
- ☐ **I make sure my septic system is in good working order.**
- ☐ **I keep a buffer zone to protect my stream/pond/lake.** The area of vegetation that separates the water from pollution of many kinds that runs off the manicured lawn or a parking lot is critically important to keeping our water clean. Instead of mowing right to the edge, I leave that "riparian buffer" vegetation where it is. It helps stop sediment and chemicals from ending up in the stream—and provides important shade and wildlife habitat.
- ☐ **I keep my stream clean.** Even organic materials like leaves or grass clippings can harm my stream, as they reduce the oxygen content. Instead, I'm starting a compost pile for my yard and kitchen scraps.
- ☐ **I'm installing a rain barrel** under a downspout, which captures rain from the roof to water my garden.
- ☐ **I'm a forest steward.** I'm working with a forester to develop a forest management plan and implement good forest stewardship practices.
- ☐ **I'm protecting my land with the Delaware Highlands Conservancy** or a like-minded organization.



Whether or not you own land, you can take steps to ensure that our water stays healthy and clean—for people and for wildlife.



DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

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Why do you love where you live?

Over 120 individuals gathered May 2 at the Settlers Inn in Hawley, PA, to celebrate everything that's special about our region—our working farms and forests, sustainable local businesses, clean waters, and healthy wildlife habitat.

Green Lodging Partners and locally owned businesses donated absolutely wonderful getaways that showcased why we love where we live and why millions come to visit us!

LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE

If you missed out on the auction, consider re-creating these 'getaways' yourself this summer:

- **Plan a "Craft Beer Lovers' Getaway"** at the luxurious **Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort** on the banks of the Delaware River and enjoy tastings at the on-site ShawneeCraft brewery followed by a delicious meal.
- **Set aside time for your "Sportsmans' Weekend at Villa Roma"** and enjoy golf on the world-class course, relaxation and fun with the resort's activities and games, and nearby access to the Delaware River for fishing or paddling.
- **Pamper yourself with an indulgent stay at the Lodge at Woodloch**, set on over 150 pristine wooded acres with a 15-acre private lake, and enjoy the spa, fitness facilities, and classes.
- **Spend some time in the "Town and Country" with an overnight stay at the breathtaking ECCE Bed and Breakfast in Barryville, NY**, overlooking the Delaware, and an overnight stay in the Harrington House in downtown Milford, PA. You'll want to try out some of our fabulous local restaurants and find some great hiking trails on TrailKeeper.org to get the full experience!
- **Visit www.DelawareHighlands.org/greenlodging** to learn more about all of our Green Lodging Partners and the wonderful activities and amenities they have to offer.



We offer very special thanks to our Gala Dinner Committee, including our honorary co-chairs Gary Beilman (The Dime Bank) and Henry Skier (AM Skier Insurance); Jeanne Genzlinger, Amy Litzenberger, Karen Lutz, Donna Ross, Brenda Ruello, and Keith Williams. We are also very grateful to everyone who attended or donated in support of the dinner.

Funding raised from the event goes directly to our work conserving the lands and waters of the Upper Delaware River region.

amazonsmile

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.

Vanessa Joy Van Gorder Memorial Scholarship

In March, the Conservancy announced the establishment of a Memorial Scholarship in honor of Vanessa Joy Van Gorder, who tragically lost her life on December 26, 2014.

A recent graduate from West Chester University with a degree in education, Vanessa was passionate about the outdoors and loved exploring the lakes, rivers, and forests of the Upper Delaware River Region with her friends and family. The Conservancy established this scholarship in Vanessa's memory and to honor her dream of becoming an educator.

One scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 per year will be awarded to a graduating senior from either Wallenpaupack, Honesdale, or Delaware Valley school districts who is pursuing a career in education or environmental stewardship.

"We were inspired by the number of individuals that stepped forward to make contributions in Vanessa's memory, and we wanted to channel that inspiration to the next generation of students by helping them pursue their educational goals," states Executive Director Sue Currier.

This scholarship is the second that the Conservancy is offering to area students, with the first established in 2004 in honor of the Conservancy's founder, Barbara Yeaman, and open to schools in the Upper Delaware River region in both Pennsylvania and New York. If you wish to make a contribution to the scholarship fund, please contact the Conservancy at info@delawarehighlands.org or call 570-226-3164 or 845-583-1010.



Green Lodging Partners

Apple Pond Farm
Callicoon Center, NY
845-482-4764

ECCE Bed and Breakfast
Barryville, NY • 845-557-8562

Harrington House B&B
Milford, PA • 570-296-2661

Hotel Fauchere
Milford, PA • 570-409-1212

The Inn at Starlight Lake
Starlight, PA • 570-798-2519

James Manning House B&B
Bethany, PA • 570-253-5573

Ledges Hotel
Hawley, PA • 570-226-1337

The Lodge at Woodloch
Hawley, PA • 570-685-8500

Pepacton Cabins
Downsville, NY • 607-363-2094

Roebeling Inn on the Delaware
Lackawaxen, PA • 570-685-7900

Santosha on the Ridge B&B
East Stroudsburg, PA
570-476-0203

Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort
Shawnee on Delaware, PA
570-424-4000

The Settlers Inn
Hawley, PA • 570-226-2993

The Starlight Lodge
Starlight, PA • 570-798-2350

The Sullivan
Rock Hill, NY • 845-796-3100

Villa Roma Resort
Callicoon, NY • 877-256-7506

Woodloch Pines Resort
Hawley, PA • 570-685-8000



DELAWARE
HIGHLANDS
CONSERVANCY

Green
Lodging
PARTNERSHIP

Stay Overnight

Protect Clean Water • Wildlife Habitat
Working Farms and Forests

The Delaware Highlands Conservancy works with landowners, local businesses, and communities to protect the beautiful forests, working farmlands, and pristine waters of the unique Upper Delaware River region.

Through the Green Lodging Partnership, guests at participating hotels can join in the protection of this unique region with every reservation.

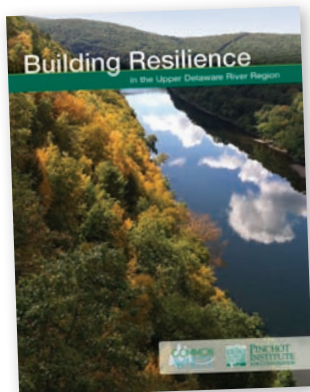


© Delaware River photograph courtesy of ECCE Bed & Breakfast



Shop Local
Save Land
★ PENNSYLVANIA & NEW YORK ★

Find complete listings on: DelawareHighlands.org/greenlodging
DelawareHighlands.org • ShopLocalSaveLand.com



Building Resilience

IN THE UPPER DELAWARE REGION

Building Resilience, a summary of the regional plan “Adapting to a Changing Climate: Risks and Opportunities for the Upper Delaware River Region” (www.pinchot.org/adapt), addresses the critical need to build local community resilience against the impacts of climate change.

The Common Waters Partnership and Pinchot Institute for Conservation developed this climate adaptation plan with the input of many local partners. Implementing the plan’s recommendations will lead to communities that can better withstand impacts of change upon their natural resources and economies in the decades to come. These are “no regrets” solutions—they are beneficial regardless of what the future brings, but particularly important in the context of a changing climate.

The most costly thing we can do is nothing.

Opinions differ about the underlying causes of climate change, but the earth’s climate is indeed changing. Residents of the Upper Delaware River region are already experiencing these changes.

Focusing on Our Forests

Forests account for about 75% of the region’s land cover, supporting generally excellent water quality and providing drinking water for 16 million people in four states, including urban populations of New York City, Trenton, and Philadelphia.

Forests in the northeast region already face many challenges that will be exacerbated by climate change. Anticipated forest impacts specific to climate change include:

- Loss of water purification, flood control, and air quality benefits provided by healthy forests
- Reduced winter deer mortality and higher deer populations that hinder natural regeneration of trees
- Changes in forest species composition
- Shifts and loss of bird and wildlife habitat, migratory corridors, and breeding areas
- Longer fire season and increased wildfire risks
- Tree mortality resulting from extreme weather events

***Building Resilience* covers a range of climate change impacts and strategies to address them, and may be downloaded at: www.pinchot.org/resilience**

Ecosystem impacts from extensive hemlock die-off due to the invasive hemlock woolly adelgid (inset) include higher soil and stream temperatures, accelerated nitrate runoff, increased soil erosion and water pollution, and changes in plant species distributions.



Cerulean warblers (left) are already declining, and the mature hardwood forests where they breed are predicted to diminish due to climate change.

Resilience: the ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change.



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Eagle Observation Area Renamed in Honor of Conservancy's Founder

In April, the Conservancy unveiled the newly renamed "Barbara Yeaman Eagle Observation Area."

Originally funded by supporters of the Eagle Institute, the Barbara Yeaman Eagle Observation Area is located on Route 97 just downstream from the Roebling Bridge (just upstream from Barryville, NY) and is a fixture for residents and visitors looking to view eagles.

It is open to the public year-round and is staffed by volunteers during the winter months to help visitors view and learn about eagles. Observing eagles from inside an observation blind ensures that the birds are less disturbed by human presence.

The opportunity to rename the Observation Area was auctioned off at the Conservancy's 20th Anniversary Celebration last November. Top bidders elected to combine their funds to name the blind in honor of the Conservancy's founder, Barbara Yeaman, and her vision for the region.

Donors included Greg Belcamino and Judith Welcom; Michael and Elizabeth Geitz; Grant and Jeanne Genzlinger; Tony and Debby Waldron; and Bill Yeaman, Barbara's son.



Women and Their Woods Spring Retreat

On April 25-26 in Milford, PA, the birthplace of the American conservation movement, Women and Their Woods graduates, friends, and professionals gathered to share experiences, learn new skills and get dirty planting 465 American chestnut seedlings on this historic property.

The weekend included tours, educational presentations, story-sharing, and networking with other forest landowners as participants learned about the history of the Grey Towers mansion and Milford Experimental Forest and gained valuable skills for stewarding their own forestlands.



Women and their Woods is a network of forest landowners and professionals who work together in order to cultivate women's connections to and care of healthy forests. Learn more at www.DelawareHighlands.org/watw.

The Women and Their Woods program is administered by the Delaware Highlands Conservancy and Penn State Natural Resources Extension with support from the US Forest Service at Grey Towers and the PA Forest Stewardship Program.



The Delaware River Watershed Initiative

Launched in 2014, the Initiative began with a three-year \$35 million investment from the William Penn Foundation.

The goal is to accelerate conservation in eight “clusters.” The Pocono-Kittatinny Cluster is located in our Upper Delaware River region, and encompasses portions of New York’s Catskills and Shawangunk Mountains, New Jersey’s Kittatinny Ridge, and Pennsylvania’s Pocono Mountains.

The funds from this program are helping the Conservancy improve our outreach to the public about the importance of our forests to protecting water quality, to encourage landowners to take action to protect their land, and to work with local government on actions that will safeguard our water resources.

Also, **landowners within the Pocono-Kittatinny Cluster may be eligible for funding to protect their lands with a conservation easement.** Learn more by contacting us at protect@delawarehighlands.org, or at 570-226-3164.

Leaving a Legacy

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.

We hope you will consider joining them to help ensure that we can carry out our mission into the future. If you would like to learn more, or if you have already considered us in your estate plans, please contact us at info@delawarehighlands.org or 570-226-3164.

Legacy Leaders

Sue Currier

Mary Evans

Susanne Hand and David Kinsey

Susan Hartney

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

Did you get our email last month with our latest video about protecting land and water?

If not, sign up on www.DelawareHighlands.org so you can stay up-to-date on all the latest news and events.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 13

**Native Plants Walk with
Ann Rhoads at NatureFest
Lake Ariel, PA**

New this year, join us at Lacawac Sanctuary's NatureFest 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 week-ends available through the summer; visit website for details.

July 11

**Hike the Partner Ridge Trail
Lake Ariel, PA**

Join Jamie Bartholomew at Lacawac Sanctuary for a guided hike on the Partner Ridge trail.

August 29

**Community Picnic for Our Members,
Volunteers, and Friends
Bethel Office, NY**

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



SPECIAL THANKS TO DAVID B. SOETE FOR PROVIDING PHOTOS THROUGHOUT THE NEWSLETTER.

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



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SERVING NEW YORK AND PENNSYLVANIA

DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

"No matter how much one may love the world as a whole, one can live fully in it only by living responsibly in some small part of it. Where we live and whom we live there with define the terms of our relationship to the world and to humanity." – Wendell Berry

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