



THE GIFT OF PERSPECTIVE



Last year, Wildlands Conservancy celebrated our golden anniversary of 50 years. We amplified the visionary voices that gave rise to conservation and education mission all those decades ago, and the call to support our efforts on behalf of people and nature in the Lehigh Valley and Lehigh River watershed is more critical than ever.

Our board of directors and staff praised our successes, acknowledged our challenges, and altogether, we remain resolved about being in this forever business for future generations. We are committed to caring for our shared and loved Lehigh Valley and Lehigh River watershed today and tomorrow—and for the next 50 years and beyond.

Protecting Land

Last year, thanks to your generosity, **we expanded South Mountain Preserve in Emmaus by nearly 4 acres**, and you helped us **permanently protect more than 630 acres in Penn Forest Township, Carbon County**, to expand state game lands, enhancing access to outdoor recreation while upholding our commitment to clean water and a healthy environment.

Advancing Water Quality

Your support helps advance the whole health of our 10-county Lehigh River watershed, and last year, we **continued the restoration of Bushkill Creek as it flows through the City of Easton**, removing two dams, which opened fish passage to the Delaware River for the first time in 200 years.

Educating a Tomorrow

A tomorrow for conservation is only as secure as the young minds we educate today, and last year, with your support, **Wildlands benefited more than 4,500 school-age children with environmental education, plus connected more than 17,000 community members with local, natural areas**, including Dorothy Rider Pool Wildlife Sanctuary, South Mountain Preserve, Trexler Nature Preserve, the Lehigh River and destinations in Carbon and Monroe counties.

The Future of Our Wildlands

Last year also closed our five-year **capital campaign for the *Future of Our Wildlands***, raising \$20.4 million to support transformational accomplishments (page 5) for land protection, stewardship and education, Dorothy Rider Pool Wildlife Sanctuary, and our land trust's long-term financial stability.

On behalf of our board of directors and staff, I thank you for the world of nature you make possible for our shared Lehigh Valley and Lehigh River watershed, this year and for many milestone anniversaries to come. You make conservation happen – forever!

See you in nature,

Christopher M. Kocher, President

Our MISSION and VISION

Wildlands Conservancy envisions a Lehigh Valley and Lehigh River watershed that contain expansive natural areas, connected green spaces, healthy waterways, and an enlightened community where people embrace conservation and sustainability. The land trust carries out this vision by protecting and restoring critical natural areas and waterways and educating the community to create a legacy of a healthy, sustainable environment for future generations.

2023 DONOR LISTING

Thank you to the individuals, foundations, businesses and public agencies listed in this report that provided vital support during the fiscal year Jan. 1, 2023, through Dec. 31, 2023. We thank you for your generosity and commitment to conservation.



The Evergreen Society is a special recognition level for individual donors who make leadership gifts of \$1,500 or more.



EXECUTIVE TEAM

Christopher M. Kocher, *President*

Scott J. Cope, *VP of Education*

Elizabeth Dugan, *VP of Development & Communications*

Dan Giannelli, *Chief Financial Officer*

Abigail Pattishall, *VP of Conservation*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tadd Henninger, *Chair*

Michael Stershic, *Vice Chair*

Sharon Leskowsky, *Treasurer*

Michael A. Henry, Esq., *Secretary*

Paul C. Barbehenn

Karen Cooney Duerholz

Gene Ervin

Andrew Fogal

Edward J. Fones

Sam Kennedy

Deborah Kipp

David M. Lobach Jr.

Joe McMahon

J. Stuart Pidcock

Michael A. Pires

Susan Powell

Ronald S. Ruschman

Richard W. Shaffer Jr.

Andrew Stanten

Robert E. Stover

Patricia L. Waller

Susan Williams

EX OFFICIO

Loren Speziale, *Assistant Secretary*

Ronald W. Beitler, *Lehigh County Commissioner-At-Large*

Christopher M. Kocher, *President*

Loren Speziale, *Legal Counsel*

\$50,000+

Merrill and Nancy Brenner

Christian Martin

Stuart and Brooke Rogers

Barbara Roper*

\$25,000-\$49,999

Joseph and Judith Kaminski

Elizabeth Thun

Anonymous (1)

\$10,000-\$24,999

Paul and Melissa Barbehenn

Polly Beste

Ted and Amy Douglass

Jane and Gene Ervin

Tadd Henninger

Michael and Meda Henry

John and Jenny Kemps

Joan Moran

Thomas and Marguerite Mutchler

Ronald and Jennifer Ruschman

Andrew and Michele Stanten

Pat and Fran Waller

\$5,000-\$9,999

Don and Sonja Bowe

Placido and Sandra Corpora

Brian and Maryann Cort

David Coult

Barbara and Doug Fogal

Jeremy Hylton and Tara Gilligan

Patricia Lyons

Joan Miller

\$2,500-\$4,999

Dwayne and Sarah Bauder

Robert and Kristen Bennett

Michael and Jane Benning

W. Douglas and Peggy Brown

William and Irene Brown

Courtney David

Mark and Lauren Fine

Andrew and Rink Fogal

Joe Folger and Marilyn McDonald

Rebecca and Rich Gorton

Andrew and Angela Henry

Edgar and Judith Howells

Sharon Leskowsky

Frank and MarySue Malvezzi

Blake and Marilyn Marles

Stephen and Liane Meli

Eric and Georganne Moyer

Hiram Munger

Aravind Nayak and Ashwini Mulki

J. Scott and Gillian Pidcock

Peter and Laura Polt

Karen and Richard Poshefko

Scott and Karen Richards

Maria Rodale

Richard and Lee Schultz

Kenneth and Lisa Szydlow

Gene and Joan Witiak

Max Yaffe and Joan Amatniek

\$1,500-\$2,499

Barbra Andretti and Giuseppe Curto

James and Lisa Andrews

Denise Bailey

Robin Barends and Clark Chandler

Wendy Body and Todd Ackerman

Jeffrey and Nancy Bogert

Polly Clark and Martin

Zaleskas

Charles and Wanda Cole

Kyle Collina and Lauren Calabrese

Karen and Ken Duerholz

Christine and David Dugan

Elizabeth and Timothy Dugan

Kelly and Bryan Facchiano

Lona Farr and David

Voellinger

Talon Fogal

Richard and Patricia Foltz

Edward and Liz Fones

Glenn and Jane Fretz

Bruce and Pilar Fritzingler

John Hayes

Katherine Heller and Lynn Ratzell

Matthew and Breanna Henry

Regina and William Hobbs

Pamela Hoffner

Donna and Raymond Holton

Valerie Jachimowicz and Bruce Amos

Audra and Jason Kahr

Jan and Floyd Keim

Gloria Kern

Douglas Knappenberger

Christopher and Sheila Kocher

Kenneth and Sharon Kochey

David Lobach

Joseph and Jane Manzella

Jeffrey Mathieu

Charles and Lorrie McKinney

Bonnie and Joe McMahon

Kevin and Laura Michaelis

Carl and Marilee Oplinger

Lydia Panas and Ed Baldridge

Michael and Kelly Pires

Patrick and Cathy Renshaw

Betty Jo Richards

Gerald and Elizabeth Rorer

Richard and Heather Shaffer

Rebecca and Glenn Short

Justin Smith and Holly Deiac-Smith

Kathryn Stagl

Michael and Sybil Stershic

David and Ann Tachovsky

Janet and Glen Tryson

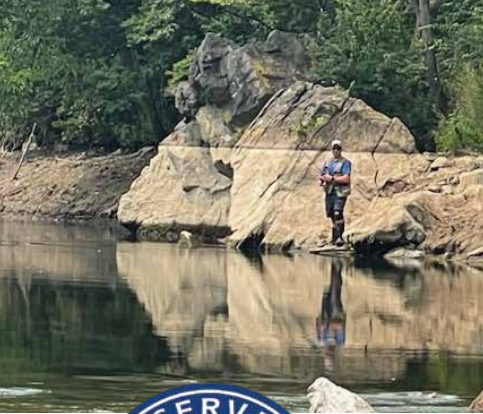
David and Mary Beth Weinstein

Paul and Carol Wessel

David and Beth Zmijewski

Anonymous (1)

* = Deceased



Businesses that demonstrate their commitment to conservation by making annual leadership gifts.

VISIONARY \$100,000+



LEADERSHIP \$25,000-\$49,999



STEWARDSHIP \$10,000 - \$24,999



SUSTAINER \$5,000 - \$9,999



PRESERVER \$2,500-\$4,999

- City Center Allentown
- Highmark Blue Shield
- Lantek
- Lehigh Country Club
- Milestone Financial Associates, LLC
- Sayre Mansion
- QVC
- Uline

PROTECTOR \$1,000-\$2,499

- American Fence, Inc.
- B. Braun Medical Inc.
- Barry Isett & Associates, Inc.
- Bennett Family Properties, LLC
- Cornerstone Advisors Asset Management
- Feinberg Real Estate Advisors, LLC
- Jeras Corporation
- Octoraro Native Plant Nursery, Inc.
- Rising River Brewery

- Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
- Weis Markets, Inc.

SUPPORTER \$500-\$999

- Bowmanstown Diner
- Buckno, Lisicky & Co.
- Fulton Bank
- Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies
- Serfass Construction Co.

FOUNDATIONS, PUBLIC AGENCIES, AND ORGANIZATIONS

The listing that follows reflects the total value of grants and gifts awarded between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2023.

\$1,000,000+

- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Pennsylvania Game Commission

\$300k+

- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- William Penn Foundation

\$100k+

- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

\$50,000-\$99,999

- The Graymer Foundation

\$25,000-\$49,999

- Austelle Foundation
- Bella Luna Foundation

- Harry C. Trexler Trust
- The Reidler Foundation
- The Rider-Pool Foundation
- United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley

\$10,000-\$24,999

- Fleming Foundation
- John A. and Margaret Post Foundation
- Lower Towamensing Township
- The Martin Guitar Charitable Foundation
- The Nature Conservancy
- Dexter F. and Dorothy H. Baker Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

- A grant from the Peter Bartera & Linda Bartera Fund of the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation
- Monroe County Planning Commission

\$2,500-\$4,999

- Keystone Savings Foundation
- Lehigh Valley Health Network
- Northampton County
- Pennsylvania Environmental Council
- Saucon Sanctuary Committee
- CAPTRUST Community Foundation
- Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor

- MD Lieberman Foundation
- Mohnton Fish & Game Protective Association
- Northampton Borough Municipal Authority
- Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers

\$500-\$999

- Hereford Gun Club
- Jerry Zimmerman Memorial Chapter, NWF
- Lancaster County Bird Club
- St. John's United Church of Christ



The Legacy Society recognizes individuals who have provided for Wildlands Conservancy in their will or estate plans or made significant endowment gifts.

Victor Abeloff
David Aldrich*
James and Bonnie Baker
James R. Baker
Mildred Behler*
Michael and Jane Benning
William and Karen Berry
Merrill and Nancy Brenner
Richard Bold*
Elizabeth Burkhart*
Kenneth E. Burkhart*
Luther* and Jo Ann Campbell
Marvin and Melonia Charles
Bud* and Beverly Cole
Placido and Sandra Corpora
David Coult

Frances Dreisbach
Ros and Miriam Eddy*
Lawrence Erney*
Lona Farr and David Voellinger
William Fenza* and Joan Moran
Fred and Susan Flemming
Elizabeth and York France*
John Gallagher
Ben and Sue Giralico
Virginia Gove
Kevin Grate
Ray and Patricia Groff
Charles Haaf*
Leon* and June Holt
Elizabeth Houck*
Edgar and Judy Howells
Lilla Knox*
John and Veronica Kostenbader

Paula Kresh
John* and Joan Miles
Gerald and Amy Mistal
Norma Nehf*
Bernice and Ronald Payrow*
Heinz Pfeiffer*
Leonard Parker Pool*
Karen and Richard Poshefko
Roland Rhode*
Ardath and Robert Rodale*
Maria Rodale
Simmons Savage*
Sherwood Schnell*
Estate of Richard Shade*
David and Susan Shaffer
Jean Siftar*
Mario and Eleanor Spagnoletti
Robert* and Sidney Spillman
Kathryn Stagl

Michael and Sybil Stershic
Thomas Stoneback and Maggie Prorok
Elaine and Robert Strauss
Ferdinand* and Elizabeth Thun
Ronald Treichler*
Alan Viani
Paul and Winifred Viani
Pat and Fran Waller
Ellen Warmkessel*
Anne Nelson West*
Julia and William Westley*
Morton White*
Donald Wittlinger*
Joycelyn Young*
William Young*
Deana Zosky and John Gallagher
Anonymous (9)
* = Deceased

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR WILDLANDS: 2019-23

Our region is losing 2,000 acres of open space each year, and land protection is vital to our quality of life by giving us clean water, expansive green space, opportunities to connect with nature, find a home for rare, threatened and endangered species. To these ends, Wildlands' five-year capital campaign raised \$20.4 million to accomplish:

Land Protection:

- Protected 3,879 acres with Lehigh River watershed
- Added three conservation easements
- Established three new nature preserves
- Expanded preserves by 132 acres

Dorothy Rider Pool Wildlife Sanctuary:

- Restoration of the barn and boardwalk along the Floodplain Trail
- Improvements to Air Products Environmental Education Center
- Establishment of a visitor center

Building Long-term Financial Stability:

- Established the Land Preservation Endowment
- Designated \$890,000 of campaign funds to the organization's endowment

Stewardship & Education:

- Led the Lehigh Valley Riparian Buffer Initiative
- Continued habitat management at Thomas Darling Preserve to facilitate the return of the Golden-Winged Warbler and monitor for at-risk Northern Flying Squirrel presence
- Hosted programs for 61,121 students and 86,501 community members

Wildlands Conservancy recognizes and thanks the following supporters who made significant contributions to special projects and initiatives that will further the future of our Wildlands.

Pledges were received by 2/28/2024.

Air Products
Paul and Melissa Barbehenn
Ron Beitler
Patricia Beldon
Michael and Jane Benning
Polly Beste
Don and Sonja Bowe
Merrill and Nancy Brenner
W. Doug and Peggy Brown
Asare Christian
Scott J. and Karen G. Cope
Ted and Amy Douglass
Karen and Ken Duerholz
Tim and Elizabeth Dugan
Embassy Bank for the Lehigh Valley
Jane and Gene Ervin
Kelly and Brian Facchiano
Lona M. Farr and David Voellinger

Andy and Rink Fogal
Glenn and Jane Fretz
Ronald and Elizabeth Gawlik
Dan and Mary Giannelli
Rebecca and Rich Gorton
Katherine Heller and Lynn Ratzell
Kathy and James Henderson
Tadd Henninger
Michael and Meda Henry
Richard and Michele Holt
Ron and Sue Horiszny
Pia Houseal
Bob and Jean Hunsicker
Just Born Quality Confections
Audra and Jason Kahr
Joseph and Judith Kaminski
Sam and Courtney Kennedy
Deborah Kipp

Chris and Sheila Kocher
Sharon Leskowsky
David M. Lobach Jr.
Jennifer L. Mann
C.F. Martin & Co., Inc.
Christian F. Martin IV
Joseph M. McMahon III
Milestone Financial Associates, LLC
Joan Moran
Eric and Georganne Moyer
Tom and Marguerite Mutchler
Abigail Pattishall and Bryan Gibson
Paul G. Phillips*
J. Stuart Pidcock
Michael and Kelly Pires
Peter and Laura Polt
Susan and Brian Powell

Patrick and Cathy Renshaw
Maria Rodale
Brooke and Stuart Rogers
Ashley and Joe Russo
Carol and Richard Saeger
David and Susan Shaffer
St. Luke's University Health Network
Andrew and Michele Stanten
Michael and Sybil Stershic
Robert Stover
Ken and Lisa Szydlow
Robert and Anne Teufel
The Martin Guitar Charitable Foundation
The Pidcock Company
The Star Foundation
Francis J. and Patricia L. Waller
Susan Williams
Anonymous (3)
* = Deceased



MATCHING GIFT COMPANIES

The following companies matched contributions from individual donors.

Agilent Technologies	Olympus Corporation
Air Products	of the Americas
Bank of America Charitable Foundation	PPL Corporation
Costco Wholesale Corporation	Prudential Financial
Intel	Salesforce
Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies	The Guardian Life Insurance Co.
KLA Foundation	Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
	United Health Group

EDUCATION INCOME TAX CREDIT COMPANIES

Campbell, Rappold & Yurasits, LLP	Serfass Construction Co.
Capital Blue Cross	The Neffs National Bank
Embassy Bank for the Lehigh Valley	Truist
Fulton Bank	UGI
PPL Corporation	Waste Management
	Weis Markets, Inc.

2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	2023 Thousands	2022 Thousands
Total Assets	\$13,253	\$12,095
Total Liabilities	\$805	\$492
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$12,448	\$11,603

	2023 Thousands	2022 Thousands
Total Revenue, Gain, and Other Support	\$6,918	\$3,442

Expenses	2023 Thousands	2022 Thousands
Conservation	\$4,419	\$1,453
Education	\$831	\$858
Management and Development	\$823	\$705
	\$6,073	\$3,016
TOTAL INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	\$845	\$426

OPERATING SUPPORT

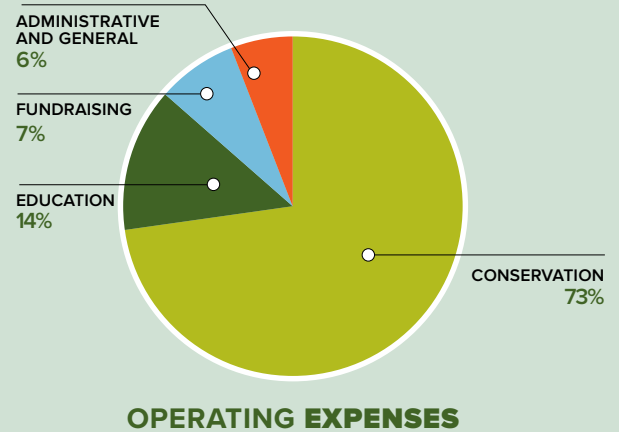
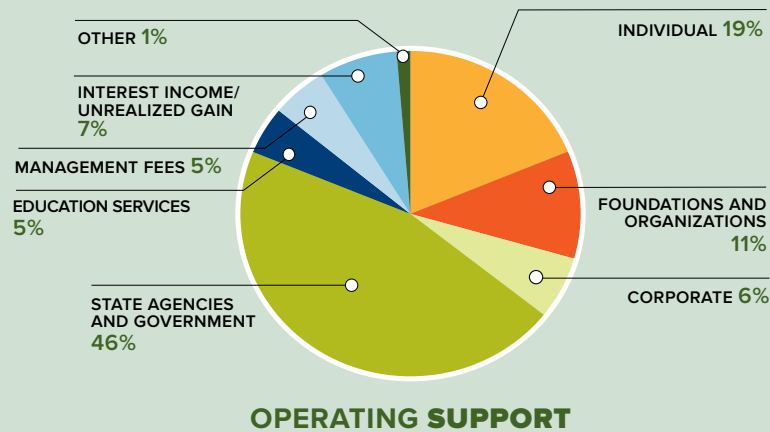
Contributions and Grants	Thousands	%
Individual	\$1,300	19%
Foundations and Organizations	738	11%
Corporate	429	6%
State Agencies and Government	3,149	46%
	5,616	82%

Earned and Unearned Income	Thousands	%
Education Services	327	5%
Management Fees	368	5%
Interest Income	517	7%
Other	90	1%
	\$6,918	100%

OPERATING EXPENSES

Programs	Thousands	%
Conservation	\$4,419	73%
Education	831	14%
	5,250	87%
Fundraising	464	7%
Administrative and General	359	6%
	\$6,073	100%

OPERATIONS AT A GLANCE



WILDLANDS CONSERVANCY 3701 Orchid Place, Emmaus, PA 18049-1637

For more information, visit wildlandspa.org or contact us at 610.965.4397.

To donate, please go to our website and click DONATE. wildlandspa.org/donate.



Wildlands Conservancy, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to land and river preservation and environmental stewardship through education. The 2023 annual report is published by Wildlands Conservancy, Inc., 3701 Orchid Place, Emmaus, PA 18049, 610-965-4397. Reproduction or use of any part of the 2023 annual report without written permission from the publisher is strictly prohibited. Wildlands Conservancy is a tax-exempt organization as provided by IRS regulations. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.