

NOTES FROM THE LAND
The Reserve/Shaler Project

2

COMMUNITY CONSERVATION
Capturing Carbon

6

ALT DAY OF GIVING
Fostering Regional Resiliency

8

STEWARDSHIP
Conservation and Hunting

12

VISTAS

An Allegheny Land Trust Publication

Fall 2022

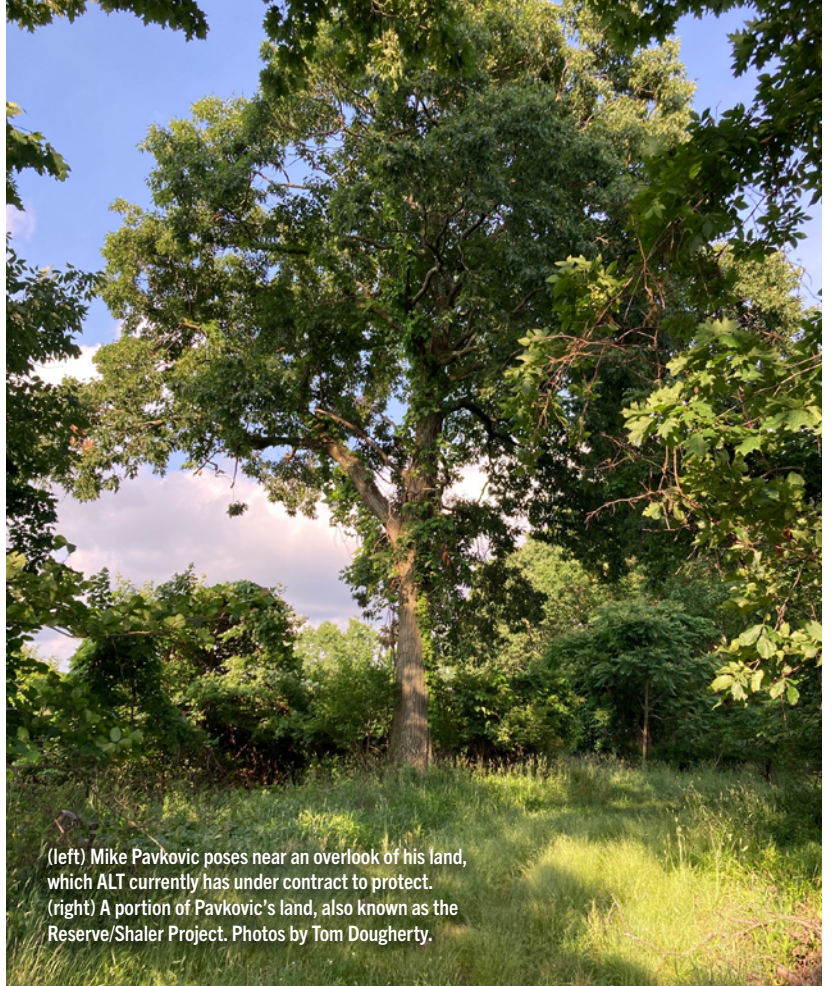


notes

FROM THE LAND:

The Reserve/Shaler Project - Connecting Farmers & Conservation

by Roy Kraynyk | VP of Land Protection & Capital Projects



(left) Mike Pavkovic poses near an overlook of his land, which ALT currently has under contract to protect. (right) A portion of Pavkovic's land, also known as the Reserve/Shaler Project. Photos by Tom Dougherty.

Last fall, our region was on the brink of losing more farmland and green space to sprawling hilltop development that would add to nearby stormwater runoff. Then, the phone rang...

That call began an 8-month, complex, multi-party negotiation resulting in having a developer's purchase contract terminated so ALT and another buyer could purchase 60 acres of land in Reserve Township near ALT's Girty's Woods, merely 3 miles from Point State Park as a crow flies. The parties involved were the Seller, ALT, a Conservation Buyer, Neighbor #1, Neighbor #2 and a Developer. So, you can anticipate how this project was unique and challenging in new ways for this effort, called the "Reserve/Shaler project".

First, ALT had a Conservation Buyer partner who wanted to purchase one parcel of 15 acres of arable land to put back into crop production. In the past, ALT has had buyers approach us to partner on an acquisition, but coordinating the timing, funding and other complex dynamics of such a partnership combined with all the moving parts of a real estate transaction are tough. However, this partner was the real deal and had the flexibility to work within our schedule.

The Seller, Mike Pavkovic, and his ancestors cultivated the land for 3 generations so Pavkovic had a deep connection to the land. Our conservation-buyer partner wanted to continue that tradition. This created a strong alliance among Pavkovic, ALT and the Conservation Buyer, with ALT interested in acquiring an additional 45 acres containing meadows and wooded slopes that provided habitat and water sequestration in the flood prone Girty's Run Watershed.

Some challenges included working out the purchase price with Pavkovic, the cost share for expenses such as a boundary survey and phase one environmental site assessment and respective land costs for ALT and the Conservation Buyer, which we did with an appraisal. We also had to synchronize contract terms such as closing dates.

We succeeded and our combined offers' terms satisfied the Seller's timing and requirement that all the land be bought. He didn't want a buyer to cherry pick only the certain parcels, and he be left with the steep wooded slopes. There was another problem however that would be even more difficult to overcome.

The land was already under contract with a developer! However, Pavkovic was becoming discouraged by delays with the developer, and now knowing that the family farm and surrounding land could be protected, he was interested in getting out of the developer's contract. I reviewed the developer's contract and found an out for the Seller. The developer would only buy the land if he could get two neighbors to sell some of their land for access to the farmland he wanted to develop. So, now we had a strategy.

We had to convince at least one of those neighbors to say "no" to the developer, which we succeeded in doing by describing the magnitude and consequences of their decision. We asked if they would prefer to live next to a green space and a farm that contribute to the region's resiliency and enable a walk up the street to buy fresh produce, or deal with the traffic, stormwater and other impacts of a major townhome development next door? With one couple finally deciding not to sell



to the developer, we now had what we needed for Pavkovic to demand that the developer's contract be terminated.

To be brief, I'm not going to detail the months long struggle it was for Pavkovic to finally get a written release from the contract. But suffice it to say the developer didn't give up easily and didn't want to sign the release despite the neighbors not selling to him, and the urging of Pavkovic's counsel. The developer kept offering more money and visited the Seller and neighbors almost every day pressing them to sell.

All the while, a major grant deadline was quickly approaching and I needed a Purchase Contract for the grant application. To make matters worse, we learned that Reserve Township revised the zoning to increase the allowable density of residential multi-family development on this and surrounding land. This gave the developer an added incentive to offer more money, which was already hundreds of thousands above our appraisal-supported offer. It was not looking good for us.

Fortunately, Pavkovic was willing to forgo the extra money to protect the family farm. We are also very fortunate that he and the neighbors trusted in ALT and our partner to protect all of his land. He didn't know us and hadn't known ALT existed prior to this. Finally, I got the call from Pavkovic counsel that he had received the developer's written contract release. Now, we had to hustle to finalize and synchronize the details of our respective purchase contracts to still qualify for the grant and quell any lingering

concerns that Pavkovic would be stuck with the steep sloped land after the farmland was sold. We hammered out due diligence and closing dates, and other language that satisfied the Seller and his legal counsel.

Imagine the sigh of relief for us all when Pavkovic signed the contract on May 22 for the 45 acres ALT wanted, and when our partner had his 15 acre farmland under contract soon after.

While we are relieved this complicated contract is underway, the work is far from over. ALT's closing is scheduled for December 2022 pending our successful fundraising for the project. A total of \$650,500 is needed to protect this land for current and future generations. ALT currently has pending grant requests with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (PA DCED), and the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County totaling \$417,500. Additionally, we are in conversations with several local private foundations. In order to close the funding gap and provide necessary local matching dollars, we need to raise \$50,000 from the local community.

We need your help! At the time of writing this article, the community has raised ~\$10,000. That leaves us with \$40,000 to raise before December 2022 to protect this land forever. We hope you'll support regional resiliency by donating to this campaign using the enclosed envelope or our secure website portal.



To learn more about this project, visit alleghenylandtrust.org/reserveshalerproject.

Welcoming Our New Board Members

by Christopher J. Beichner | President & CEO

Allegheny Land Trust is so fortunate to be led by a tremendous volunteer board who have an incredible passion for conservation and offer many different backgrounds and perspectives. ALT's board members approve major items and decisions for the organization including the strategic plan, annual budget, policies and all land acquisitions and easements. The board meets six times per year.

We have recently increased our board size from 17 to 23 members with the appointment of six new members effective July 1, 2022. These new members will serve three-year terms for a maximum of three consecutive terms (or nine total years). We appreciate all our board members and look forward to working with our new directors on several important conservation projects in the coming months.



Lauren Burge, Esq.

Associate Attorney

Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC

Lauren Burge is an attorney at Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott specializing in utilities and telecommunications law. Before entering private practice, Lauren worked at the Pennsylvania consumer advocate's office and also has a background in environmental law and policy. She is a graduate of Purdue University and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

Lauren first discovered her love of the outdoors while living in north-central Pennsylvania as a child. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, biking and traveling. She is a resident of Pittsburgh's East End and is most often found exploring the area with her partner and their two greyhounds.



Erin Copeland

Assistant Director

Allegheny County Conservation District

Erin Copeland is the Assistant Director at the Allegheny County Conservation District; previously she held a position with the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy as their Sr. Restoration Ecologist. She has degrees from both Juniata College and the University of Vermont. Erin is a long-term Pittsburgh resident who values the nearby forests and rivers of this town. She is looking forward to serving on ALT's board and supporting the critical vision of a resilient region with abundant and accessible green space for all.



Dan Deiseroth

President

Gateway Engineers, Inc.

Dan Deiseroth is President, shareholder and member of the Board of Directors at The Gateway Engineers, Inc., a 180-person full service civil engineering firm located in Pittsburgh with a practice spanning over 60 years.

Dan, a Pittsburgh native, is a 1985 Civil Engineering graduate of Bucknell University and is licensed as a professional engineer in five states. He has been involved in land and infrastructure planning and design since he joined Gateway after graduation.



Glade Run Lake in the Fall. Photo courtesy of Glade Run Lake Conservancy.



Elijah Hughes

Associate, EcoDistricts AP
evolveEA

Elijah Hughes practices as an urban designer and strategic planner at evolve environment::architecture (evolveEA) in Pittsburgh and is an Adjunct Professor for the Carnegie Mellon University School of Architecture (CMU SOA). His professional work emphasizes prudent and sustainable investment by public agencies to foster equitable outcomes for the communities he works in. Elijah was previously a researcher at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History where he published on the evolution of the mammalian brain and inner ear. Elijah received a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Carnegie Mellon University and is an EcoDistricts Accredited Professional.



Jessica Mooney

Project Manager
Duquesne Light

Jessica Mooney has a background in public policy with a focus on sustainability. Currently she works at Duquesne Light Company on the Transportation Electrification team. Jessica previously served three terms on the board of the Allegheny Land Trust and is passionate about conserving local land. She along with her husband and two kids enjoy hiking and exploring ALT properties.



Masoud Sayles

Project Manager in Land Stewardship Innovation
Grounded Strategies

Masoud Sayles is a Pittsburgh area native deeply interested in issues of environmental justice: his work (both professionally and personally) involves improving the ecosystem services provided by vacant and underutilized land in the region he calls home. In particular, he has interest in improving regional food security by localizing food production, increasing carbon capture and long-term storage in urban soils, and reducing landslide risk through the careful stewardship of wooded lands using agroforestry techniques. He enjoys jazz, reading, hiking, gardening and exploring places he's not yet been.

CAPTURING CARBON: ALT's Natural Land Solutions

by Alyson Fearon | Senior Director of Community Conservation & Resiliency

Earlier this year, ALT closed on the entire Northwest Allegheny project, comprising of 90 acres across several parcels in the northwest portion of the county. One of those parcels, Buerkle Woodlands, which sits near ALT's Audubon Greenway, will be our next City Forest Carbon certified project.

We work through several screening criteria when we look at projects to be considered, such as the size and steepness of the parcel, which are indicators of how much of the property could have been developed. The developable area of the forest is the only portion that can be certified under the program, so it is particularly important to maximize this in projects we want to further explore.

Buerkle Woodlands is an excellent example, because its history as a former family farm means there are large, flat areas that appeal to developers. Another important consideration is the age of the forest in the developable area, which varies on the Buerkle Woodlands property. Generally, we would like the forest to be at least 55 years old in the majority of the site. Other considerations are the number of potential visitors and whether trails or other infrastructure is needed, or if the property is habitat-focused, because we want the carbon crediting to be compatible with community needs for the property.

By carefully selecting the projects we choose to certify, it gives the companies that buy our carbon offsets confidence that our project is a high-quality investment. This supports our ability to protect green spaces in areas with strong development pressure, where green spaces are under significant threat, and creates a new conservation income source for us. This is critical in two ways, first, to ensure our sustainability as an organization; and second, to bring this

voluntary investment in conservation efforts to our region increasing sustainability for everyone.

One new aspect of our carbon certification program that I am particularly excited to share is our reporting of how our effort with this project supports the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a list of 17 goals to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all by 2030. We have chosen to select three, as noted by the icons on this page.

We firmly believe in nature-based solutions and one of our priorities is to improve the distributed network of green space in Allegheny County and surrounding areas. Our region is facing multiple environmental challenges that affect the health of our residents and the surrounding environment. Changing rainfall patterns have exacerbated historical flash flood locations and created new hazards, that same rain has increased landslide potential in the region. Historically, poor air quality has more severe impacts when weather-related phenomenon trap particulates and ozone in our valleys.

By protecting forests like Buerkle Woodlands, we're able to employ a nature-based solution and ensure the natural attributes of forest stands and trees can serve current and most critically, downstream communities.



To learn more about ALT's carbon efforts, contact afearon@alleghenylandtrust.org.



science at home

TOP 5 WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR EDUCATION TEAM

by Julie Travaglini | Senior Director of Education & Curriculum

1. COME TO AN EVENT

Our events can be found at:
alleghenylandtrust.org/events

2. SPREAD THE WORD

Share our events with friends
and family, and share our events
on your social media.

3. SHOP OUR AMAZON WISHLIST

Help fulfill our environmental
education wishes at:
bit.ly/altedwish

4. CHOOSE "ALT" FOR AMAZON SMILE

While you're shopping on
Amazon support ALT through
Amazon Smile.

5. DONATE & JOIN

Make a direct contribution to our
efforts! Your contributions help
us advance our mission.

Learn more about the outdoors
in webinars or on the land by
attending an event:

alleghenylandtrust.org/events



(left) An attendee engages in an ALT educator workshop for early childhood water education. (right) An ALT environmental educator continues their education at Wingfield Pines. Photos by Lindsay Dill.



Leaning Into Leadership

by Julie Travaglini | Senior Director of Education & Curriculum

Often when we think of educational leadership, we think of principals and superintendents, individuals in charge of making large and substantial decisions for hundreds or thousands of children. In actuality, every educator has a hand in leadership in some capacity. This is especially true in non-formal educational settings such as non-profits, museums, zoos, nature centers, after school programs and environmental organizations like ALT. It is often these groups that help drive change and innovation in education through leadership and advocacy.

In leading the ALT Education Department, I try to stay on top of trends in education to ensure we remain leaders in the field of environmental education. As of July 1, I've taken over as the President Elect of the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators (PAEE).

In this role, I'm able to advocate for environmental studies and agriculture being included in the new Pennsylvania State Learning Standards.

In fact, I was recently in Harrisburg helping to define and recommend resources to help educators meet these new and changing Learning Standards.

Aside from working with the new standards, I have a lengthy to-do list to accomplish over the next six years of my leadership within PAEE, and I'm excited for the growth it will provide me at ALT as well.

In addition, I am fortunate to be able to attend national and international conferences such as the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the National Science Teaching Association (NSTA) and the North American Association of Environmental Educators (NAAEE) and more. I'm also honored to speak at many of these conferences on the importance of nature in the lives of children.

Your support of ALT and our Education Department on our Day of Giving and throughout the year enables us to continue this critical leadership in environmental education.

Building a More Resilient Region Together

by Christopher J. Beichner | President & CEO

“Helping Local People Save Local Land” has been the Allegheny Land Trust motto for decades. Its staying power can be attributed to its simplicity and accuracy as it is exactly what we have been doing for nearly 30 years.

That “we” includes far more than just our small staff and dedicated Board of Directors—it includes you and supporters like you who come together to pool our efforts and our resources to make our region a better place to live today and for generations to come.

Local conservation is a true act of community accomplished through the collective action of many to create meaningful benefit for all. Together we are doing just that.

So far in 2022, we have conserved 173 additional acres of woodlands in seven municipalities and have another 200 acres in three different municipalities under contract to be acquired by year’s end. Our land stewardship and environmental education efforts continue to expand, sustainably caring for more green spaces and providing education opportunities to all ages to foster a better understanding of and appreciation for the natural world around us.

We have already accomplished so much this year, and we have the opportunity to do so much more if we can collect the resources necessary to sustain this momentum. This is where we need your help. Preserving and caring for more land and educating future conservationists requires resources.

ALT’s Board of Directors is acutely aware of this need, and has once again stepped up in a big way to support the Day of Giving - individual members have personally pledged a total of \$40,000 to be used as matching funds for this campaign. This means every dollar that our supporters donate on ALT’s Day of Giving will be matched dollar for dollar by our Board. Together, we can turn pledges of \$40,000 into \$80,000 of funding for conservation.

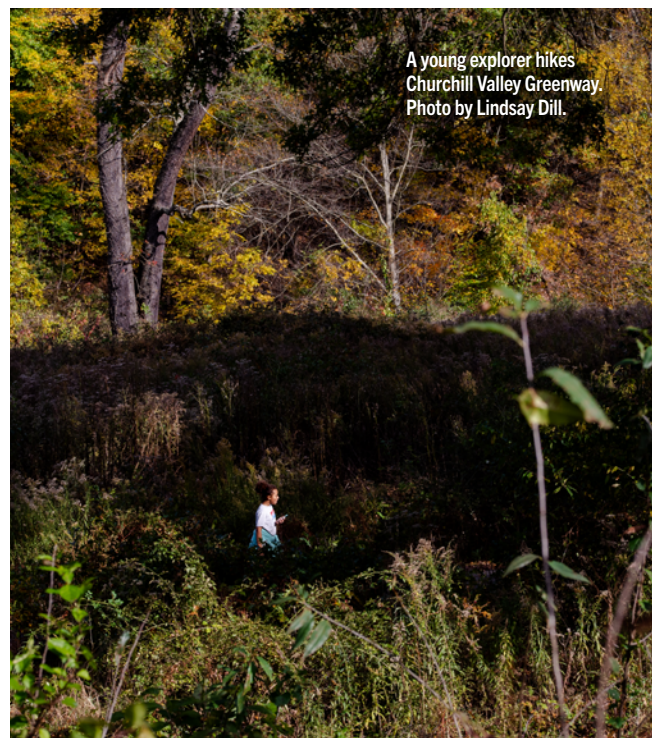
Participating in ALT’s Day of Giving is a unique, effective way to double your support for local land conservation. So, please mark your calendar and plan on donating for conservation on September 8, 2022, and ask a friend or neighbor to join you to become part of the we on ALT’s Day of Giving!



Volunteers build new trail Girty's Woods.
Photo by Lindsay Dill.



Penn Trails creates a walking path at Healcrest Green.
Photo courtesy of Madeline Weiss.



A young explorer hikes Churchill Valley Greenway.
Photo by Lindsay Dill.

WAYS TO GIVE

CLICK

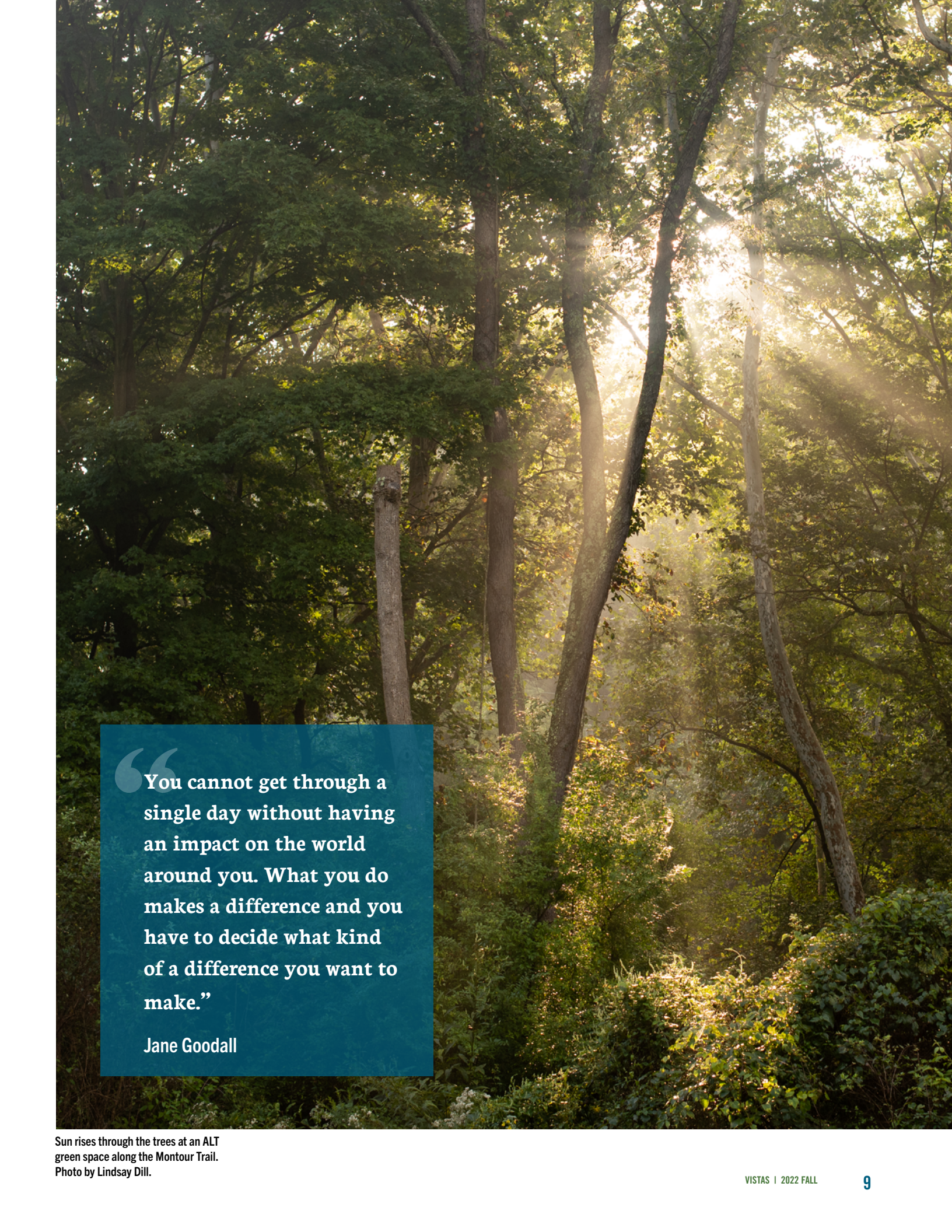
alleghenylandtrust.org/donate

MAIL

Use the enclosed self-addressed envelope to send your gift:
416 Thorn Street
Sewickley, PA, 15143

MATCH

Ask your employer if they match charitable contributions.



“You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of a difference you want to make.”

Jane Goodall

Featured Supporters:



(left) Scouts pose with trash they removed near Sycamore Island. Photo courtesy of Evan Clark. (right) Hikers enjoy a trail loop mapped by a scout at Linbrook Woodlands. Photo by Lindsay Dill.

by Lindsay Dill | Marketing Communications Director

Central to our ethos is protecting land simply as it is. However, with more than 3,600 acres of green space full of flora and fauna, trails and natural amenities, we have a big wish list of “need to have” and “nice to have” maintenance tasks. Fortunately, we have great scout partners to help us fill in the gaps and address these lists more quickly than we’re able to with our small-but-mighty stewardship team.

The Scouts BSA mission is to “prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law,” and the Girl Scouts goal is for girl scouts of “all backgrounds and abilities to be unapologetically themselves as they discover their strengths

and rise to meet new challenges” and to “lead the way as they find their voices and make changes that affect the issues most important to them.”

Through partnering with ALT on improving publicly accessible green space, many scouts have been able to meet this mission, earn badges and engage with their communities through projects in the great local outdoors. With the support of Girl Scouts and Scouts BSA, we’ve been able to maintain and improve biodiversity and wildlife habitat, trails, stream-crossing bridges and more. Below are several vignettes from scouts we’ve had the honor of working with recently.



Luke Haury stands on a bridge he built at Linbrook Woodlands.

LUKE HAURY

As logging and hydraulic fracturing conversations took hold of their community meetings, Luke Haury and his mom Jeanne became very familiar with and inspired by Allegheny Land Trust’s work to instead conserve land in their community.

“We knew ALT was local, and the efforts to save the green space inspired us,” Jeanne said. “Their presence in our immediate community made us want to get involved.”

As part of a service day, Luke had worked to remove invasive burning bush and plant native tree and bush species in its place at ALT’s Devil’s Hollow. So, when he was seeking to earn Eagle, he approached ALT to take on another close-to-home green space, Linbrook Woodlands, as his project site.

Luke achieved Eagle by installing a fence at the green space’s parking lot, blazing a trail that leads to a defunct 1800s cemetery and building a bridge to cross a ravine with a tributary running through it. As a result, it is easier for visitors to find the green space, access the trail past the historic cemetery and find their way through the green space along a cleared, well-marked trail.

While his Eagle project is finished, Luke’s exploration of Linbrook Woodlands and love for nature will continue.

“Conservation and nature in general have been a big interest of mine since I can remember,” Luke said. “And I’m excited to come back and check on the trail whenever I can.”



A fence built by Luke Haury. Photos courtesy of Jeanne Haury.



JENNIFER KRIZNER

Since she was three months old, Jennifer Krizner has been involved with scouting. While she started by attending camping trips with her brother's Cub Scouts troop, she continued her own path by joining Girl Scouts and Scouts BSA.

"I have always loved outdoor skills like fire building, leadership, etc. and being able to apply and teach those skills to others," Jennifer said.

When Jennifer was searching for her Eagle project, she learned about ALT and the Historic Walker-Ewing Log House. She earned Eagle by improving the house through three phases.

Phase One: she cleared space to make way for parking and pedestrian access in the future. Phase Two: Jennifer connected with volunteers and friends to do research and create video content to be used as a tour of the historic house's family history. Phase Three: she created a brochure to promote the log house.

Thanks to Jennifer's efforts, ALT will be better able to share and pass on the Historic Walker-Ewing Log House's past for years to come.



(top) An explorer looks over blueberries growing at Meyer Farm. (bottom) Fields at Meyer Farm. Photos by Lindsay Dill.



NATHAN MIKLOS

Despite the fact that he wouldn't consider himself an outdoorsman, Nathan Miklos spends much of his free time outside of work with friends and family fishing, hunting or "just being outside."

"I'll fish for anything that'll bite; so, sometimes nothing," Nathan said with a laugh. "It's so calming, and then exciting when you catch something. You can go outside and enjoy nature. It's just nice to get out and do something."

When he realized he could earn Eagle while spending time outdoors, Nathan

went for it. He took on ALT's Meyer Farm green space as his project.

He successfully earned his badge by building and installing six bluebird boxes and six wood bee traps, removing old signage and fencing and landscaping the unique green space. Thanks to his work, Meyer Farm's sign is easier to find, the land looks much better and the habitat for native flora and fauna is healthier.

These three scouts have made an incredible difference at Devil's Hollow, the Historic Walker-Ewing Log House, Linbrook Woodlands and Meyer Farm, and we have worked with many more scouts who have made amazing, lasting impacts across our

conservation areas. While not all of their stories are chronicled here, their difference can be felt by the birds in scout-built boxes, by the hikers along scout-maintained trails and by the native flora and fauna thriving in the scout-tended habitat.



To learn more about scout projects and partnerships on the land, contact Guido Girimonti at ggirimonti@alleghenylandtrust.org.

Our environmental education team can also run custom badge workshops for Girl Scouts and Scouts BSA. To learn more about workshops, contact Julie Travaglini at jtravaglini@alleghenylandtrust.org.



A permitted hunter heads into the woods of Audubon Greenway. Photo by Lindsay Dill.

OUR BUSINESS SPONSORS

Many thanks to the sponsors who have joined us or renewed their support with us since our last edition of Vistas. To view a full list of our current business sponsors, visit: alleghenylandtrust.org/our-sponsors

Please recognize and patronize our business sponsors.

NEW

- Two Men and a Truck - Gold

RENEWING

- FedEx - Gold
- Clearview Federal Credit Union - Bronze
- Northwestern Mutual - Bronze
- Oboz Footwear - Supporting

If you're interested in becoming an ALT sponsor, please contact Tom Dougherty at tdougherty@alleghenylandtrust.org

Conservation Benefits of Hunting

by Caitlin Seiler | Director of Stewardship & Volunteers

Our lands provide opportunities for a variety of recreation including, but not limited to bird watching, hiking, biking and hunting. These opportunities allow visitors to connect to the lands and permitted recreation also has benefits for ALT - bird watchers collect data to assess biodiversity, mountain bikers put many hours into maintaining trails and daily walkers are our best eyes and ears on the land to quickly let staff know when there is an issue like a downed tree or broken sign.

Hunting is another activity that provides a benefit to our lands. Hunters' activities support healthy forests and larger economic benefits to conservation work throughout the region.

Our primary reason for permitting hunting is to improve the health of the forests we protect. Deer threaten the diversity and age of native species. White tail deer overpopulation has been an issue in Allegheny County for many years as it creates a variety of problems for communities. Deer overpopulation upsets the balance of natural wildlife competition, can spread diseases, destroy property and pose safety issues with vehicle collisions and animal attacks.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission oversees rules and regulations for hunting and trapping in the state, monitors deer populations and issues permits to make sure the balance is intact. Without hunters, the wildlife population would grow rampant. In turn, there would not be

enough food and shelter for all the animals. An acre of land can only support so much wildlife.

Deer forage on juvenile trees and acorns but tend to avoid many of the nonnative species that grow in abundance like bush honeysuckle, Japanese knotweed and oriental bittersweet. Just as one can see the tulips in their garden disappear overnight, so can a grove of saplings. When this happens it further decreases the competition against invasive species making it difficult for forests to support a diverse ecosystem.

Hunter's fees for licenses and permits support a wide range of things, which includes land conservation, forest replanting and habitat repair, education and wages to employ conservation officers who have similar enforcement capabilities to police officers and patrol hunting lands to make sure rules are being followed.

Active deer hunting runs roughly from mid-September through January. It is safe for non-hunters to be in the woods during hunting season, especially on ALT's Restricted Hunting lands where only archery for white tail deer is permitted. Hunters don't want to run into trail users as much as trail users don't want to see hunters. We recommend wearing an orange hat or vest during the season for additional safety and always keep your dog on a leash, especially larger ones who could be mistaken for a deer.

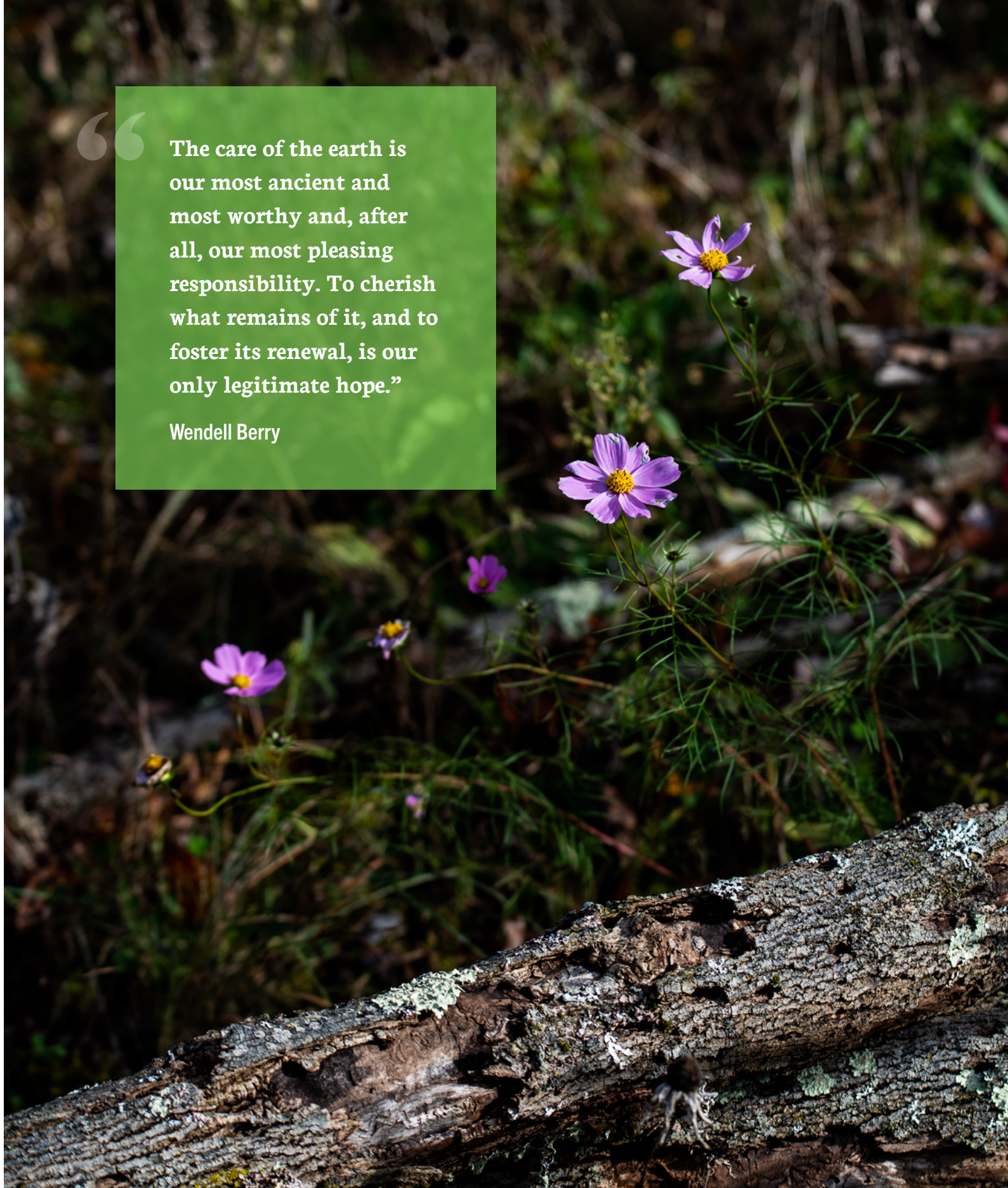


For more information visit: alleghenylandtrust.org/hunting/

“

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 legitimate hope.”

Wendell Berry



Fall wildflowers in bloom at Audubon Greenway. Photo by Lindsay Dill.

UPCOMING EVENTS

E Education Events

V Volunteer Events



Photo by Lindsay Dill.

DAY OF GIVING

September 8, 2022

Your gift will go twice as far in supporting our efforts to protect more land, maintain our green spaces, and provide environmental education to more communities during our upcoming Day of Giving. So, please, mark your calendar to help support Allegheny Land Trust as we continue helping local people save local land in our region.

You can contribute to our 2022 Day of Giving by using the enclosed envelope or by visiting: alleghenylandtrust.org/donate



Photo by Lindsay Dill.

First Friday Hike Series

September 9 | Bethel Green

October 7 | Wingfield Pines

November 4 | Devil's Hollow

December 2 | Audubon Greenway

Start off each new month with a First Friday Hike! This series invites explorers to enjoy and learn outdoors with an environmental educator. Each hike's content is unique to the educator, attendees, and land - so join us once or every month to learn more! Each hike runs from 10 to 11:30 am.

All Ages | Cost: \$5



Photo by Lindsay Dill.

50+ Walking Series with AARP Pennsylvania

September 10 | Churchill Valley Greenway

September 20 | Dead Man's Hollow

October 8 | Barking Slopes

October 20 | Wingfield Pines

November 5 | Bethel Green

Geared towards hikers aged 50+, we'll walk ALT lands over moderate terrain and distances, taking breaks to talk about local flora and fauna. Each hike runs from 9 to 10:30 am. Sponsored by AARP Pennsylvania.

All Ages | Cost: \$5



Photo by Christopher Bechner.

Webinar Series

September 14 | Fall Wild Edibles

October 5 | The Science of Spiders

October 26 | Batty for Bats

November 2 | Fall & Winter Gardening for Wildlife

December 14 | Winter Warriors

Continue gaining nature knowledge from home, work, or wherever you have an internet connection. Each webinar focuses on a different topic and will leave time for attendees to ask questions. Lessons run from 5 to 5:45 pm.

All Ages | Cost: Free



Photo by Lindsay Dill.

Mushroom Hikes

September 16 | 10 am - 12 pm | Audubon Greenway

October 28 | 10 am - 12:30 pm | Dead Man's Hollow

Join ALT staff and the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club to learn how to spot, collect, and identify fungi. October's event is a "Slightly Spooky Mushroom Hike" where attendees will also learn about the Hollow's haunted history. NOTE: We will not be foraging on these hikes.

All ages | Cost: \$5



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Hunter
Chair
Joanne Foerster
Vice Chair
Emily Mueller, Esq.
Secretary
Edward Weller, CPA
Treasurer
Lauren Burge, Esq.
Erin Copeland
Daniel Deiseroth, P.E.
Patricia DeMarco, Ph.D.
Daniel Dickerman
Ashley DiGregorio
Tony DiTommaso, Esq.
Beth Dutton
Christine Graziano, AICP
Elijah Hughes
Brian Jensen, PhD.
Sherwood Johnson, M.D.
Alex Lake, CPA
Jessica Mooney
Bryan Ritti
Masoud Sayles
Lauren Terpak
Jennifer Thoma
Sally Wade, SHRM-SCP, SPHR

STAFF

Christopher J. Beichner
President & CEO
Tyler Chilcott
Development Director
Lindsay Dill
Marketing Communications Director
Tom Dougherty
Vice President of Development & External Affairs
Alyson Fearon
Senior Director of Community Conservation & Resiliency
Guido Girimonti
Land Manager
Shelley Harnett
Development Associate
Roy Kraynyk
Vice President of Land Protection & Capital Projects
Casey Markle
Conservation Associate
Jaclyn Rosenbaum
Bookkeeper
Emilie Rzotkiewicz
Vice President of Stewardship
Caitlin Seiler
Director of Stewardship & Volunteers
Julie Travaglini
Senior Director of Education & Curriculum

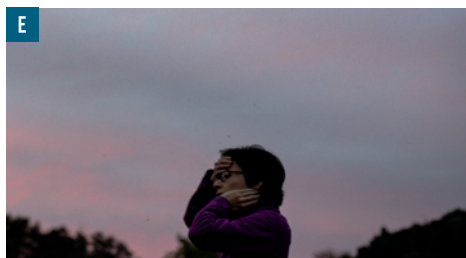


Photo by Lindsay Dill.

Starlight Stroll Series

September 23 | 7:30 - 8:30 pm | Bethel Green

October 22 | 6:30 - 8 pm | Dead Man's Hollow

December 21 | 5 - 6 pm | Bethel Green

Visit our green spaces after dark! Each starlight stroll will explore on wonders of the night, nocturnal animals, and a different focus. September's hike is free as part of the Allegheny County Regional Asset Days (RADical Days) programming, and will focus on fall equinox facts and folklore. October is our "Not So Spooky" Starlight Stroll leaning into the Halloween season and exploring the Hollow's haunted history. December's hike will focus on winter solstice facts and folklore.

All ages | Cost: \$5*

**September's stroll is free as part of RADical Days Programming.*



Photo by Lindsay Dill.

Workday Series: Girty's Woods

October 6, 13, 20, and 27 | 5 - 7 pm

Join fellow volunteers Thursdays in October as we maintain, improve, and build the trail system of Girty's Woods.

All Ages | Cost: Free



Photo by Lindsay Dill.

#OptOutside Hikes

November 25 | 9 - 10:30 am | Bethel Green

November 25 | 9 - 10:30 am | Churchill Valley Greenway

Opt out of indoor Black Friday shopping and get into the outdoors with an ALT environmental educator for a general nature hike.

All ages | Cost: \$5



Photo by Lindsay Dill.

Christmas Bird Count

Wingfield Pines

December 17 | 8 - 10 am

Become a citizen scientist learning how to use field guides and iNaturalist to identify and catalogue birds with the Audubon Society's annual Christmas Bird Count. Then, submit your data to Audubon to help scientists track and monitor bird migration.

All Ages | Cost: \$5

For registration & more information, visit:
alleghenylandtrust.org/events

Our 2022 event availability and pricing are made possible in part by support from Duquesne Light Company and Public Lands.

EVENTS & THE PANDEMIC | The health, wellness and safety of all ALT visitors, volunteers and staff are our top priority. We continue to adhere to recommendations from the PA Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control and local authorities. We'll notify event attendees of any necessary updates.





ALLEGHENY LAND TRUST

416 Thorn Street, Sewickley,
Pennsylvania 15143
phone | 412.741.2750
email | info@alleghenylandtrust.org
web | alleghenylandtrust.org



ABOUT ALT

Allegheny Land Trust is a nationally-accredited land conservation nonprofit that has been helping local people save local land in the Pittsburgh region since 1993.

ALT has protected more than 3,600 acres of green space in dozens of municipalities to preserve our region's unique natural beauty, provide expanded outdoor recreational opportunities, protect and improve water and air quality, sustain biodiversity and enhance the quality of life for all in our region. ALT's areas of strategic priority include Land Conservation, Land Stewardship, Community Conservation and Environmental Education.

With conservation areas in 36 municipalities, there is now an ALT conservation area within 8 miles of every Allegheny County resident. The benefits of ALT's efforts can be experienced across the region from McKeesport to Franklin Park, Upper St. Clair to Blawnox, Mt. Washington to Plum and many places in between.



KEEP IN TOUCH

FOLLOW US:



Please recycle or reuse this newsletter when you're finished — use it to help start a fire and eat some s'mores! Email us with your creative reuse of Vistas.

Vistas is underwritten by an anonymous donor. Thank you!

@Allegheny Land Trust 2022.

FRONT COVER: Fall grasses at Churchill Valley Greenway.

BACK COVER: Fall trees and a cloudy sky at Audubon Greenway.

Photos by Lindsay Dill.



Printed on
Recycled
Material.



EFP's Combined
Federal Code
is 62348