



STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2027

Allegheny Land Trust is a nationally-accredited, land conservation non-profit that has been “helping local people save local land” in the Pittsburgh region for more than 30 years.

Since 1993, ALT has protected thousands of 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 overall quality of life in the region.



**ALLEGHENY
LAND TRUST**



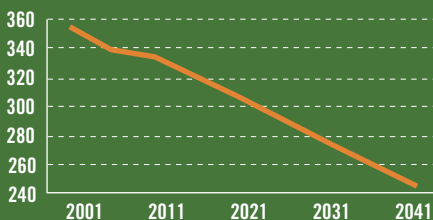
AN ALARMING TREND

Our abundant natural heritage must not be taken for granted, but instead must be valued and protected as a vital regional asset. The amount of green space in Allegheny County continues to decline at an unsustainable rate.

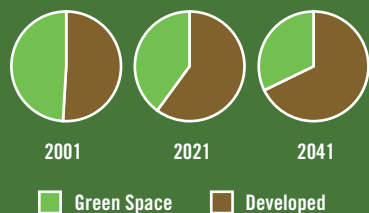
- Allegheny County's **population declined by 25%** between 1960-2014, while the amount of **developed land increased by 69%** during that same period.
- Despite flat population, approximately **19 square miles of green space was consumed** (an area roughly the size of South Fayette Township) in the 2015-2020 time frame.
- Allegheny County continues to **lose three square miles of green space per year**.
- An estimated **30 square miles of green space will be lost to sprawl between 2020-2030** – an area the size of McCandless and Ross Townships combined.

Today, approximately 40% of the County remains as green space, and, without a dramatic change of course, less than a third will remain by 2041. This will irreversibly change the character of our region. ALT seeks to address this situation throughout the course of this Strategic Plan.

Allegheny County Green Space Decline*
(Square Miles per Year)



Allegheny County Land Use
(%)



* Source: ALT analysis of U.S. Geological Survey data.



WHO WE ARE

OUR MISSION is to conserve and care for local land for the health and well-being of current and future generations.

OUR VISION charts a path for a resilient region with abundant green space that is easily accessible and recognized as essential to the quality of life for all.

OUR VALUES are part of our core existence and are practiced daily in our conservation efforts:



Collaborative

We welcome unique and diverse partnerships to build stronger communities.

Diverse

We vary the way we do business, who we work with, and who we hope to serve.

Innovative

We adapt to changing environmental needs and develop creative solutions.

Accessible

We believe everyone should have close-to-home access to green space.

Equitable

We serve everyone regardless of their location, demographics or resources.

Ethical

We are transparent with our stakeholders and accountable to our communities.

Quality

We strive for the highest standards of national accreditation excellence.

Flexible

We respond to the ongoing and changing needs of our communities.

Responsible

We make evidence-based decisions and act with integrity.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Land Conservation

We will act urgently to protect rapidly disappearing green space for the overall well-being of the region. Our goals are:

1. Every Allegheny County resident will be within a 10-minute walk of a protected green space (0.5 mile radius)
2. Pace of conservation will increase annually to balance consumption
3. Strategic, proactive conservation in 10 watersheds in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler and Washington counties

Land Stewardship

We care for and restore our conserved green spaces for perpetual community benefit. Our goals are:

1. Care for and restore the land, habitat and waterways of critical need
2. Expand capacity to address urgent need to increase conservation and meet national accreditation standards
3. Create a welcoming and safe environment for all visitors at our featured properties
4. Strategically align with partners to create new, innovative programming and projects

Nature-Based Education

We will teach bold programs that foster an understanding of regional issues and solutions for current and future generations. Our goals are:

1. Create innovative programming around climate, water, land, air, wildlife, health and resiliency that connects with learners
2. Develop Meyer Farm into a sustainable agriculture educational destination
3. Align education curriculum with stewardship restoration projects
4. Featured properties will have managed, necessary facilities to best accommodate education demand

Community Conservation

We will empower the community through education, innovative programs, and resources to create equity through conservation. Our goals are:

1. Most of our conservation activity will directly impact environmental justice and low-to-moderate income communities
2. Our conserved lands will produce fresh food that is accessible and affordable to the immediate community
3. Collaborate with partners to activate 10% of vacant lots in the City of Pittsburgh

To learn more about our strategic plan and how we measure community impacts, please visit [alleghenylandtrust.org/strategic plan](https://alleghenylandtrust.org/strategic-plan).