

New Jersey Conservation



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ABOUT THE COVER

"During the pandemic this past year, being outdoors in natural surroundings simply felt nice, sane, and free."

MaryAnn Ragone DeLambily took this stunning photo while hiking through Franklin Parker Preserve, one of the many places New Jerseyans found solace over the past year.



From Our Executive Director

Michele S. Byers

It seems like we all need inspiration and hope this year given the not-over-yet pandemic, climate change, species extinction, tribalism, isolation and the news! Getting outdoors is one way to find "Peace in the Pandemic" as you can read about in the pages that follow.

But check into the work of some incredible leaders who are radiating hope and optimism for the future of human life and the many plants and animals on planet Earth.

David Attenborough's film, *A Life on Our Planet*, lays out the stark challenges and threats facing our life and environment. It is a grim picture. But he rallies with real solutions that could turn around the trajectory on climate change and species extinction. "If we take care of nature, nature will take care of us," said Attenborough. "We have to move from being apart from nature to being a part of nature once again."

Jane Goodall has spent her life advocating to protect wildlife around the globe. She could give up and say it's too late to prevent the worst of species extinctions. But she also is optimistic that we humans can turn things around. "Somehow, we must keep hope alive – a hope that we can find a way to educate all, alleviate poverty, assuage anger, and live in harmony with the environment, with animals and with each other," said Goodall.

Sylvia Earle, a lifelong advocate for oceans and marine life, writes about what can be done to protect the oceans, upon which humans all depend. "Please get out into wild places, whether it's in your backyard or if you have the opportunity to travel," said Earle. "It's hard to be narrow-minded if you travel and see other people, how they think, what they do. And get under the sea. Look at creatures and how they live. It's hard to be reckless with nature if you have spent time in a wild place. So be a curious explorer."

And finally, there is Carl Safina, a researcher and writer who is exploring the culture of animal species and opening a window into a better understanding of our animal partners.

These four wonderful human beings are naturalists, observers and scientists. They study what is happening to our planet's climate, air, water, plants and animals. They love animals and recognize that humans are but one species and have an obligation to protect the rest. And they are speaking out with hope, optimism and practical solutions to these urgent challenges.

Take time to watch Attenborough's film, read Goodall's books, learn about Earle's life story and writings, and explore Carl's research in his new book, "Becoming Wild." Get inspired and get in action. You can make a difference!

Thank you so much for your support of saving land in New Jersey. You've already made a difference and please keep going!!

Michele S. Byers

All maps were created by Tanya Nolte, GIS Manager, NJ Conservation



New Jersey Conservation Foundation is a private, non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve land and natural resources throughout New Jersey for the benefit of all.

We protect strategic lands through acquisition and stewardship, promote strong land use policies, and forge partnerships to achieve conservation goals.

For membership information, please visit our website at www.njconservation.org or call us at 1-888-LANDSAVE. Our mailing address is 170 Longview Road, Far Hills, NJ 07931.





VIRTUALLYCAMDEN

an online engagement tool that allows Camden residents to visit Camden's natural spaces

Adriana Amador-Chacon (NJ Conservation Foundation), Priscilla Rios (New Jersey Natural Lands Trust), and Ivana (Eve) Quinones (Center for Aquatic Sciences at Adventure Aquarium) were hired as Alliance for Watershed Education (AWE) of the Delaware River Fellows for Summer 2020. In a COVID-impacted season where traditional forms of engagement were not possible, Amador-Chacon, Rios, and Quinones developed Virtually

Camden, an online engagement tool that allows Camden residents to visit Camden's natural spaces online. Housed by the Center for Aquatic Sciences, Virtually Camden provides guided tours of Camden's natural spaces, encouraging Camden residents to visit them on their own.

Visit Virtually Camden at www.aquaticsciences.org/community/Trails.html

Photo by Milton Lindsay
www.miltonlindsay.com @miltonlindsay on Instagram

FINDING PEACE *in the* PANDEMIC

*Getting outdoors
for body and mind*

A FEW WEEKS BEFORE THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HIT IN MARCH 2020, ROBIN TODD GOT A CALL FROM A FRIEND INVITING HER ON A HIKE IN THE PINE BARRENS. ROBIN, AN ASSISTANT DEAN AT THE RUTGERS LAW SCHOOL, HADN'T SPENT MUCH TIME OUTDOORS IN THE PREVIOUS COUPLE OF YEARS. "LIFE HAPPENS AND YOU GET BUSY," SHE EXPLAINED.

ROBIN ACCEPTED THE INVITE AND IS EXTREMELY GLAD SHE DID. THE PINE BARRENS TREK REKINDLED HER LOVE OF HIKING AND NATURE, JUST AS LOCKDOWNS WERE MAKING TIME OUTSIDE MORE CRITICAL TO PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH.

"After the pandemic hit, it just became part of my weekly routine," said Robin, who lives near the Pine Barrens in southern New Jersey. "It re-energizes you and it grounds you. The energy you get in a forest - with the sun and wind - is so invigorating. It clears your head. I'm addicted to it now."

Robin is now a regular at many parks and preserves, including New Jersey Conservation Foundation's Franklin Parker Preserve in the Pine Barrens. She also hiked the 52-mile Batona Trail from end to end; it traverses the Franklin Parker Preserve.

Robin isn't alone in her re-discovery of the health benefits of being outdoors.

Brian Scully lives in the opposite end of the state, in the Sussex County town of Hamburg. An X-ray technician at a surgery center, he found himself with a drastically reduced work schedule when the pandemic hit. "All elective surgeries were put on hold, so we only worked on an emergency basis," he explained.

To maintain "a sense of normalcy" and fill his free time in a healthy way, Brian turned to hiking.

"For many Americans, this past year was one of the hardest they have yet to live through," he said. "Quarantine brought about very surreal feelings of isolation, and confinement. However, the ability to walk outside into nature alleviated these mental burdens, and gave me an unmeasurable breath of fresh air, and sense of freedom."

A year later, Brian still hikes four or five times a week. His favorite spots in northern New Jersey include the Apshawa Preserve, co-owned by New Jersey Conservation Foundation and Passaic County. "That's one of my go-to quiet hikes," he said, noting that Apshawa's rugged trails are rarely crowded.



If you haven't already, get to know New Jersey Conservation Foundation's preserves!

Visit www.njconservation.org/find-nature/ for preserve descriptions and trail maps.



FRANKLIN PARKER PRESERVE

"Hiking into and photographing the cedar and pitch pine forest, streams, marshland and bogs has been a welcome diversion over the past year. When I hike into the Bald Eagle Reservoir or the bogs at Pole Branch, worries about the pandemic disappear as I'm listening to the Red-winged blackbirds wake up."

- Quote and photos by Jon Holcombe



Bald Eagles at Franklin Parker



APSHAWA PRESERVE

"For many Americans, this past year was one of the hardest they have yet to live through. Quarantine brought about very surreal feelings of isolation and confinement. However, the ability to walk outside into nature alleviated these mental burdens, and gave me an unmeasurable breath of fresh air, and sense of freedom."

– *Quote and photos by Brian Scully*

INSET: Garter Snake



FRANKLIN PARKER PRESERVE

"I enjoy quotes from famous or not-so-famous people that I feel help with understanding a particular picture. For instance, I pair this image with a John Muir quote: 'Between every two pines there is a doorway to a new world.'"

*- Quote and photo by
Henry Bossett*



CAMDEN COUNTY

"The pandemic has brought people to Camden's parks and waterways in record numbers which happens to be perfect timing for the Discover the Delaware effort to create an 8-mile greenway and 13-mile water trail."

*- Quote and photo by
Maggie McCann,
Director of the
Camden County
Parks Department*

PICTURED:
Maggie McCann and Don Baugh
of Upstream Alliance paddle along
the Cooper River.



HILL AND DALE PRESERVE

"In my nine years serving on the board of New Jersey Conservation Foundation, I've had the opportunity to go to some wonderful and unusual places in New Jersey. Now that I have the time and am in dire need of the exercise, I am discovering how beautiful these spaces are. I decided to start with the Hill and Dale Preserve. I am a view person and the vista from the highest point at Hill and Dale is just incredible. It's a wide panorama that stretches for miles and there is a bench. It was such a peaceful spot that it was possible to forget the upheaval and stress in the world and in our everyday lives. All the more reason to get up and out exploring in our beautiful state."

*- Quote and photo by
Penelope Ayers*



APSHAWA PRESERVE

"Getting outside this past year was how I de-stressed and found a little bit of normalcy. Being outdoors left me feeling revitalized, increased my energy levels and it allowed me to keep a positive attitude during difficult times."

*-Quote and photo by
Nikita Kumar*





FRANKLIN PARKER PRESERVE

"Outside the cloister of COVID there's a reaffirmation of life through nature and there are few better places for such encounters than in the Pinelands, and particularly Franklin Parker Preserve."

- *Quote and photo by Richard Guida*

UPDATE: PennEast Pipeline Case Heads to U.S. Supreme Court

For more than five years, New Jersey Conservation Foundation has worked to stop the PennEast Pipeline company from seizing preserved lands, damaging pristine streams and jeopardizing rare wildlife to build an unneeded gas pipeline from Pennsylvania, across the Delaware River and through Hunterdon and Mercer counties.

An important legal case involving the project is now before the US Supreme Court. In early February, the Court agreed to hear PennEast's petition to overturn a Third Circuit appellate court ruling. The Third Circuit found

that the Natural Gas Act did not give PennEast the ability to condemn State lands in federal court. The State is defending scores of preserved properties from seizure by PennEast for its private pipeline development project.

New Jersey Conservation Foundation was part of the successful Third Circuit appeal and submitted a brief to the Supreme Court for the first time in our history due to the fact that we co-hold several properties with the State of New Jersey that PennEast is seeking to condemn.

"The Third Circuit's decision to halt taking of an unconsenting state's land by a private party in federal court was well-reasoned. It's a position that should be upheld by the Supreme

Court," said Tom Gilbert, campaign director for New Jersey Conservation Foundation and ReThink Energy NJ.

Regardless of what the Supreme Court decides, PennEast faces numerous legal and regulatory hurdles. The company's application for a certificate with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is under appeal and the project cannot go forward without permits from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection. PennEast also needs approval from the Delaware River Basin Commission, and a wetlands permit from the Army Corps of Engineers for its Pennsylvania route.

Outdoor Equity Alliance Working to Ensure 'Nature for All'

Photos by John S. Watson, Jr.

**How do you feel about the outdoors? Do you see nature as beautiful thing that all humans are part of, or something strange and scary?
Do you feel happy in preserved outdoor spaces, or do you feel unwelcome or uncomfortable?**

The answers to these questions may depend on the color of your skin. In a state with considerable preserved public open space, not everyone feels equally comfortable in public parks and preserves.

The newly-convened Outdoor Equity Alliance was founded in 2019 to ensure nature is available to all. Jay Watson, the head of New Jersey Conservation Foundation's land preservation program and one of the Alliance's founding members, said the group's goal is to make sure that people of all colors can enjoy the benefits of spending time

in nature without feeling afraid or unwelcome.

Jay said that as a black man who has spent a 40-year career preserving parks and open spaces, he feels "personal frustration" that users of outdoor places – and professionals in the field of conservation – are not more diverse.

According to Jay, the Outdoor Equity Alliance is exploring what the real and perceived barriers are to enjoying nature. For example, some people might lack transportation to parks and preserves, while others may feel that they don't have enough experience

in nature and the outdoors to feel safe.

The Alliance is also investigating how outdoor education programs, possibly offered in school classrooms or by outdoor clubs, could turn the situation around. In addition, the group is working to find ways to attract more black, indigenous and people of color to careers in conservation.

To learn more, visit the Outdoor Equity Alliance website at <https://outdoorequityalliance.org/>.



2021

GAINING GROUND

New Jersey Conservation Foundation and its partners permanently preserved 364 acres from November 2020 through April 2021. These lands include family farms, grasslands for grazing horses and cattle, and natural areas that safeguard clean drinking water, protect wildlife habitat and offer scenic beauty and outdoor recreation.

THANK YOU TO ALL MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNERS FOR HELPING TO PRESERVE THESE LANDS!

8 Projects

Nov 2020 - April 2021

★ NJ Conservation Owned: 260 +/- acres
Fee or Easement

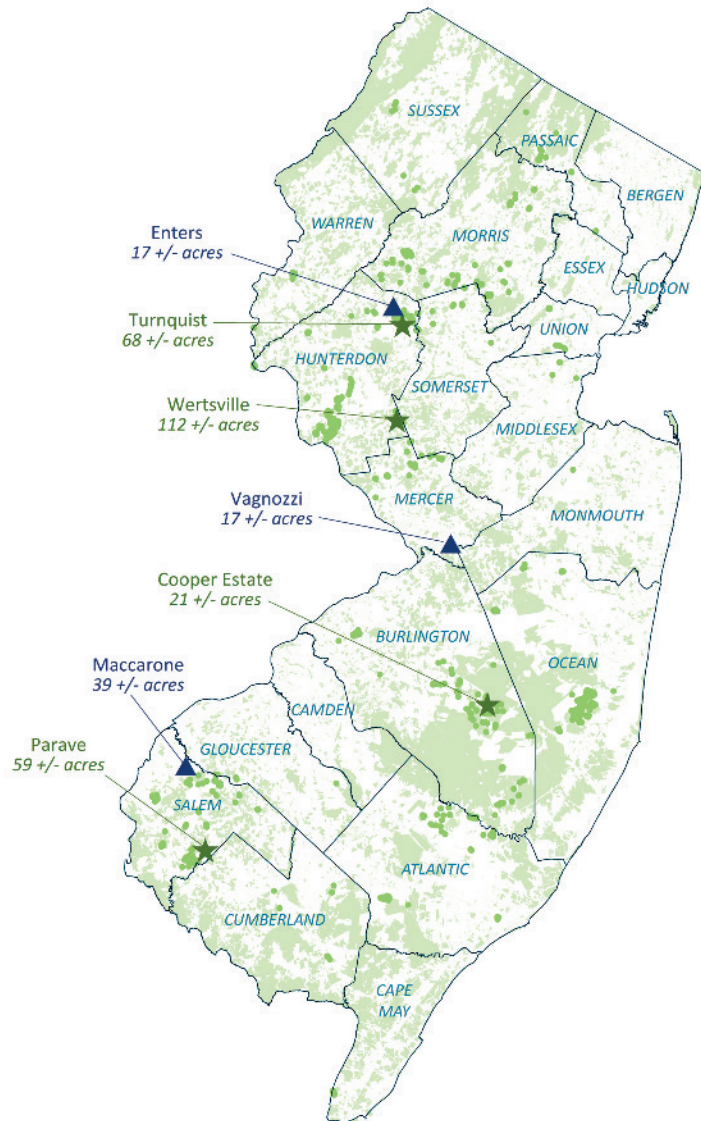
▲ Preserved in Partnership: 73 +/- acres

Other Assisted Projects: 31 +/- acres

● NJ Conservation Foundation
Owned & Managed Properties
(Fee or Easement)

■ Preserved Land
(Open Space & Farmland)

TOTAL: 364 +/- acres



It's easy to join New Jersey Conservation Foundation online – visit the website at www.njconservation.org

Become a Member Today!



Somewhere, over the rainbow... 112 acres added to Rainbow Hill at Sourland Mountain Preserve

Photos by Lisa MacCollum

If you stand in the right place on newly-preserved land in the Sourland Mountains of central New Jersey, will you see a rainbow?

According to locals, the sweeping views of the rise known as Rainbow Hill make your chances pretty good! For that reason, New Jersey Conservation Foundation decided to name its newest preserve “Rainbow Hill at Sourland Mountain Preserve.”

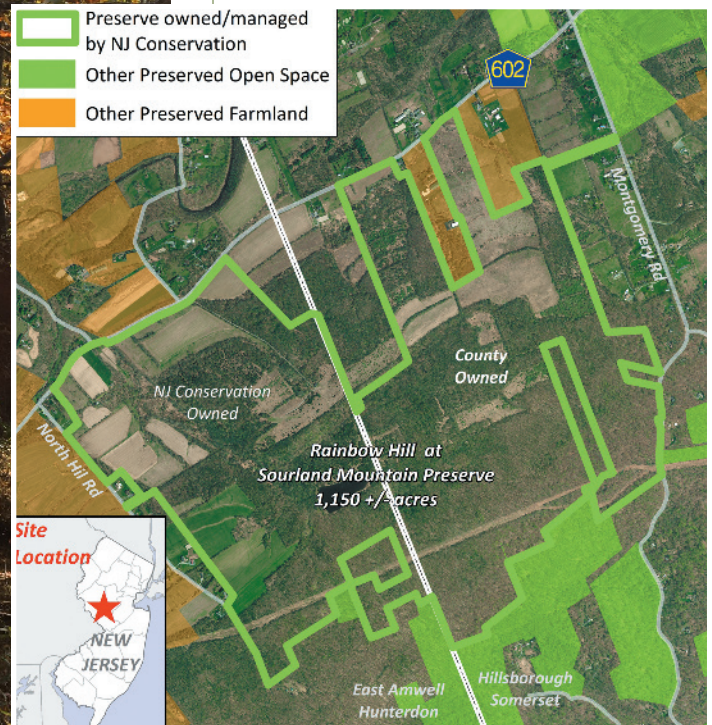
“Double rainbows are quite common after a thunderstorm – with one end on

Rainbow Hill and the other end on the top to the Sourlands,” said New Jersey Conservation Foundation trustee James W. Hughes, who lives nearby.

Rainbow Hill encompasses 1,150 acres straddling the border of Somerset and Hunterdon counties, one of the state’s most scenic and ecologically important areas. The

preserve has been years in the making, with several contiguous properties acquired over the past decade.

The most recent addition came in December 2020 with the purchase of 112 acres of farmland and forest in East Amwell Township, Hunterdon County. The land was purchased from Wertsville Industries,



a family-owned company that had operated the land as a farm since the early 1940s. The property includes a tributary of the Neshanic River, a source of clean drinking water for the region.

The purchase came less than two months after New Jersey Conservation and partners acquired 268 adjoining acres from landowner John Higgins.

“With these new parcels, the preserve in the beautiful Sourland Mountains now totals over 1,150 contiguous acres for public enjoyment and wildlife habitat protection,” said Michele S. Byers, executive director. “We’re very grateful to all of our partners for making this possible, and we are thrilled to open this spectacular land to the public.”

New Jersey Conservation Foundation spearheaded a partnership of public and private agencies that contributed to the preservation of the Wertsville Industries property, including the state Office of Natural Resource Restoration, the New Jersey Green Acres Program, Hunterdon County, East Amwell Township and the 1772 Foundation.

'Happy it's going to stay green'

Samir Shafei, whose late wife's family bought the East Amwell property after moving from Tennessee in the 1940s, said he is pleased to see the land permanently preserved.

"I really love New Jersey and I love that farm," said Shafei. "I'm really happy it's going to stay green for the rest of its life. I feel proud

that I can contribute to that environment."

With the new additions, the preserve in the Sourlands now totals 528 acres in East Amwell, Hunterdon County, and over 600 acres in neighboring Hillsborough Township, Somerset County. The land will be managed as a single preserve spanning the two counties.

The new preserve will be available for passive recreational activities, including hiking, horseback riding, birding and nature observation. The preserve includes some existing trails and a formal trail system is planned for the future.



A farm cherished by generations is preserved forever

Jim Parave poses with his Black Angus cattle.

Some of the farm's resident pigs!

As a child, Jim Parave loved going with his sister for month-long summer visits to their grandparents' farm in Alloway Township, Salem County. They rode horses, learned about farming and enjoyed long days outdoors. "It was really rewarding for us," he said.

Years later, Jim and his wife, Lisa, bought the farm and raised their own family there. Now they're relishing visits from their two young grandchildren, who love tractor rides and chasing after the free-range chickens.

The 62-acre property will remain farmland forever, now that Jim and Lisa have preserved it by selling the development rights. The Paraves still own the farm, but it's permanently limited to agricultural uses.

"I was glad to be able to get this preserved," said Jim. "I've been offered money for building lots, but I never had a desire to do that."

New Jersey Conservation Foundation worked with the Paraves to facilitate the preservation process. Funding to purchase the development rights came from the State Agriculture Development

Committee and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Jim and Lisa raise Black Angus cattle and grow hay, corn, soybeans and other grains. They're also dedicated to working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to make sure their farming practices will protect soil, water and wildlife resources.

For example, the Paraves fenced off a pond on the farm to prevent cattle from wading in it and muddying a headwaters stream that flows into the Alloway Creek, and installed a new watering system for the cattle. They have also graded parts of the property to keep soil from washing away in storms, and are planning to implement a winter cover crop program to prevent erosion and improve soil quality.

Land purchase enlarges Hill & Dale Preserve, adds link to Tewksbury's Ten Mile Trail system

A vision for a Ten mile trail wrapping around Hunterdon County's historic Oldwick village and connecting 1,200 acres of preserved open space and farmland moved a step closer to reality this past winter with the purchase of 68 acres of farmland and forest.



New Jersey Conservation Foundation added the Turnquist family property to the Hill & Dale Preserve, expanding it to over 360 acres.

The acquisition provides a key link in Tewksbury Township's Ten Mile Trail initiative spearheaded by the Tewksbury Land Trust and New Jersey Conservation Foundation to create a hiking and equestrian trail through the rural countryside.

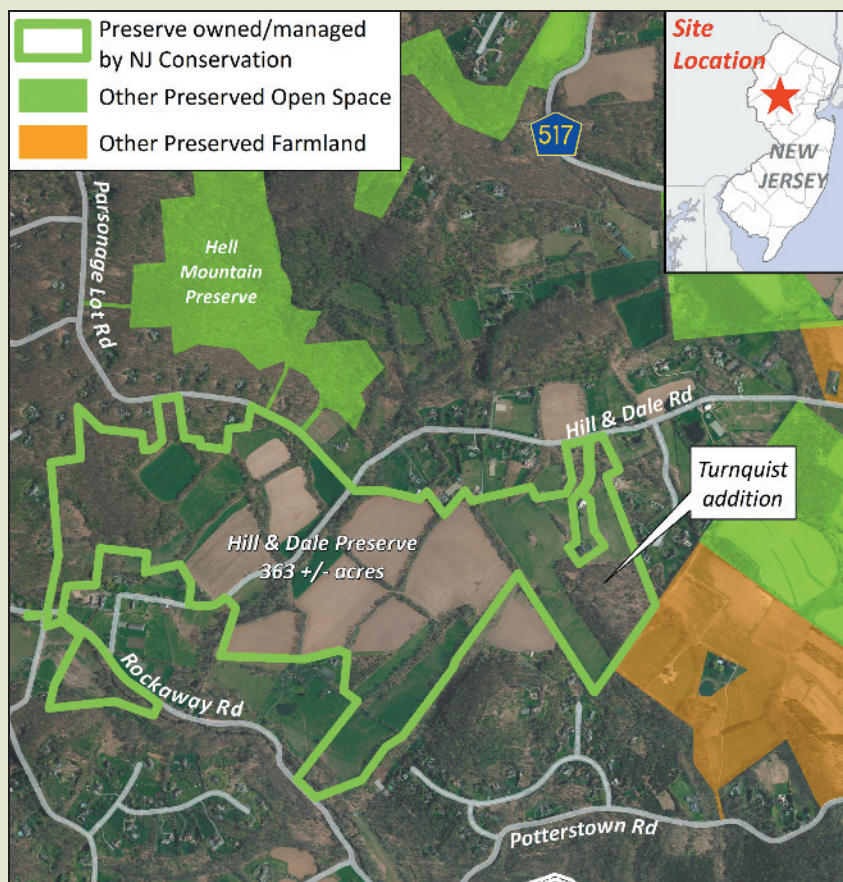
New Jersey Conservation Foundation plans to lease the agricultural fields to a local farmer and will maintain trails along field edges and in wooded areas, as was done in earlier sections of the Hill & Dale Preserve. The new property helps connect the Hill & Dale Preserve with Hunterdon County's Cold Brook Preserve to the east.

The 68 acres were purchased from Eric and Geraldine Turnquist, who sold the property for below market value in what is known as a "bargain sale."

"It has been a pleasure working with the New Jersey Conservation Foundation on the preservation of our land," they said. "We have enjoyed the land for many years and are now happy to share that enjoyment with the greater community for years to come by adding a link to the Ten Mile Trail."

Funding for the acquisition came from the River Branch Foundation, two Hunterdon County grants, proceeds from the sale of a donated house, and a private fundraising campaign by New Jersey Conservation Foundation.

"Seeing these huge swaths of countryside preserved to protect our water resources, provide habitat for wildlife and still allowing the land to be farmed into the future really keeps this area beautiful and productive," said Tewksbury resident Jennifer Johnson Duke of the River Branch Foundation. The River Branch Foundation



has also donated in the past to help purchase other parcels for the Hill & Dale Preserve.

The vision for the greenbelt around Oldwick emerged in the 1980s with New Jersey Conservation Foundation's preservation of the Cold Brook Preserve just north of the village. The preserve was later turned over to Hunterdon County.

Additional lands to be linked by the Ten Mile Trail include the Hill & Dale Preserve, Tewksbury Land Trust's Lance Farm Preserve, Raritan Headwaters Association's Fox Hill Preserve, the township's Hell Mountain Preserve, and the Sullivan, Whitman and Klipstein properties.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Eleanor Campbell



New Jersey Conservation Foundation receives contributions from many donors, but one of the more innovative and generous to come along recently was from a former staff member. Eleanor Campbell worked for New Jersey Conservation Foundation in the early 1990s as special projects coordinator.

Eleanor left to pursue a law degree but she continued to support New Jersey Conservation and even wrote a bequest into her will.

Eleanor recently decided to donate her former residence in Chester Township, with the intent for the house to be sold and the proceeds used to support land preservation.

And that's exactly what happened! The house was sold in 2020 and a portion of the proceeds were used to expand the Hill and Dale Preserve in Tewksbury Township. The gift was especially timely, as there was a shortfall in funding to buy the property.

"I'm just happy that the donation helped," said Eleanor. "I gave it with the idea that New Jersey Conservation Foundation could use it as they saw fit. I didn't care if it went to salaries, general operating expenses, land or whatever."

"Eleanor's gift was so incredibly thoughtful and generous," said Michele Byers, executive director. "We're immensely grateful for her dedication to preserving land and for her long-term friendship and support."

Thank you, Eleanor!



thank you!

New Jersey Conservation Foundation welcomes new members and gratefully acknowledges donors who made contributions between October 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020. With your support, we work hard to preserve and protect New Jersey's lands.

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Eric and Patsi Sumner
The Charles E. and
Edna T. Brundage Foundation
The Curtis W. McGraw Foundation
The Delevich Family Fund
The Frelinghuysen Foundation
The Halpern Family Foundation
The Howard Bayne Fund
The Koven Foundation
The Losam Fund
The McCance Foundation
The Tyler Foundation
Liebhaber/Cooke Giving Fund
Mayor Paul H. Tomasko
Michael Torpey
Anne Troop
Union Foundation
Victoria Foundation, Inc.
Mary Walter
Robert K. Ward
John Watson
Larry Wehr
Heidi Wendel
Stephen K. West
Charles F. and Carole A. West
Michael J. White
The William P. and
Gertrude Foundation Inc.
Clifford and Louise C. Wilson
William A. and Elizabeth W. Wolfe
Elise Wright
Aili Liu and Bo Xing
David Farrington Yates
Lee and John Yeash
Beth Yingling
John Yingling

Memorials

(from October 1, 2020
through December 31, 2020)

Candace Ashmun
Ms. Alison E. Mitchell and
Mr. Chris Keep
Eva Smith Beekman
Nancy B. Carringer
John Belle
Amy Greene
Richardson Buist
Jean Buist Earle
Ogden Carter
Robert Carter
Hugh Cosman
Melissa and Michael Hamilton
Charles DeBevoise
Alex Gibney and Anne M. DeBevoise
Phil and Elsie Dunne
The Delevich Family Fund
Marie Dziamba
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Dziamba
John H. Ericson
Sanford & Karen Brown
Roy and Marietta Geisser
Lee and John Yeash
Betty Johnson
Katherine V. Dresdner Esq.
Lawrence Johnson
Marie St. John
Jean Kahan
Frederick Kahan
Leonard Larson
Cynthia and Masoud Gehan
Molly Magee
Mr. James and Linda Pierro

Mary W.T. Moore
Chana R. Fitton and
William A. Timpson
Jonathan Gottscho
Catherine H. Grosfils
Ms. Alison E. Mitchell and
Mr. Chris Keep
Helen and Michael Patichio
Elissa Cullen
Stanley Praiss
Dr. Ursula Praiss
Arthur Spingarn
Roger and Joyce Spingarn
Bruce Vitale
Eugene Mongibell
Gurdon Wattles
The Howard Bayne Fund
Robert Wolfe
John T. and Diane Burgess
Christopher McCrudden
Ms. Alison E. Mitchell and
Mr. Chris Keep
Karen Richards
Anthony and Glorianne Robbi
Chris Schumann and Cathy Wiss
Connolly Taft Family
Charitable Fund of the
Princeton Area Community
Foundation
The Halpern Family Foundation
Myra and Van Z. Williams, Jr.

Tributes

(from October 1, 2020
through December 31, 2020)

Kristopher Alles
James Alles

Ricky and Victoria Axelsson
Erika Graiff
Alix Bacon
Thomas and Katherine Hunt
Barbara Brandt
Mr. Adam Brandt
Kathy Burkhour
Tatyana Foltz
Bob Cassel
Karen Allen
Charles DeBevoise
The DeBevoise Calello
Family Fund
Emile DeVito
Susan Dorward
Kerstin Diehn
James Vogdes
Dr. Rosina B. Dixon
Dave Jones
Jeanne Eisele
Doris F. Forshner
William Flemer
Louise Gross
Einin Gaffney
Patrice Shea
Tom Gilbert
Susan Dorward
Jessie Goehner
Janet Goehner-Jacobs
Paul Grzelak
Randy and Janet Santoro
James D. Hicks
Elisabeth Hicks
Ames Hoyt
Gayle Chamberlin Hoyt
Scott Hoyt
Gayle Chamberlin Hoyt
Daniella Joneja
Inge Knudson

Cynthia and Peter Kellogg
B. M. and Shelden O. Pisani
Joseph and Evelyn Prather
Charlie Leck
Mary A. Leck
Judi and Kevin McBride
David Oglesby
The Hon. Maureen Ogden
B. M. and Shelden O. Pisani
Steven and Candace Oglesby
David Oglesby
Annmarie Pereira
Warren Mueller
Edward Pfeiffer
Carol L. Pfeiffer
Caroline Silva
Martha Jones
The Watson Family
John and Debra Watson
John White
Tyler Baker
Anne Wright Wilson
James and Marjorie Kienle
Gary Zockoll
Karen Richards
Clients of Ronald Berlin Architect, PC:
Evan Anderson & Annie Dunham
Ben Bair & Evelyn Gilbert-Bair
Baxter Construction
Daniel and Carrie Brox
Gary Conroy and Ken Giedd
Matt & Megan Daily
Matthew Feuer & Carol Blum
Constance Fong
Colleen Goggins
Barry and Danielle Rand
Henry and Mary Reath
Matthew and Jacquelyn White
Ronald Berlin

*Denotes deceased members

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or wetland, New Jersey Conservation
Foundation protects open spaces
in your towns, cities and the places
you love to visit.

But we can't do it alone.
We need members
to help us save lands at risk.

As a private, not-for-profit
organization, we rely on donations
from members who care about
preserving New Jersey's precious land
and resources for future generations.

Help keep nature in New Jersey! Join New Jersey Conservation Foundation to preserve land and natural resources.

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY.

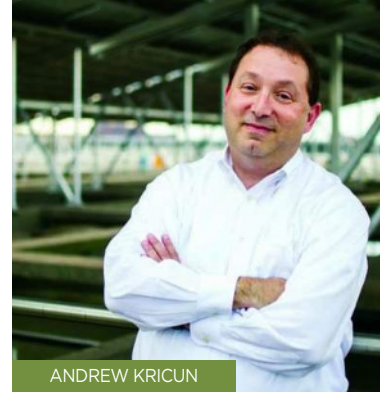
Visit our website at www.njconservation.org

Welcome New Trustees

New Jersey Conservation Foundation recently welcomed two new members to the Board of Trustees: David Cronheim and Andrew Kricun.



DAVID CRONHEIM



ANDREW KRICUN

DAVID, a resident of Bernardsville, is an avid outdoorsman and attorney specializing in commercial real estate and business law. He serves as CEO and general counsel of the Watchung Valley Golf Club, and as a consultant overseeing the restoration of the historic Rock Springs Golf Club in West Orange. He's also an enthusiastic alpine skier and president of the Hickory Ski Center in the southern Adirondack Mountains of New York, where he is spear-

heading a coalition to support affordable family skiing and preserve over 500 acres of mountain habitat. David is a graduate of Cornell University and the Cornell Law School.

ANDREW, a resident of Gloucester Township, is a licensed professional engineer and board-certified environmental engineer. He is the former executive director of the Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority, where he served for 35 years. Currently, he

is managing director at Moonshot Missions, a nonprofit organization devoted to helping utilities in underserved communities. Andrew is also serving as a Senior Fellow for the US Water Alliance, working on their national water equity initiative; Senior Advisor to The Water Center at the University of Pennsylvania; and a member of the NJ Environmental Justice Advisory Council. He is a graduate of Princeton University.

Remembering Catherine "Cam" Cavanaugh

As a textbook editor, Catherine M. "Cam" Cavanaugh knew the importance of facts and grammar. As a conservationist, she understood the power of citizen action in protecting treasured places. As a recent retiree after a career of over 40 years, she was feeling bored. And as a member of New Jersey Conservation Foundation's board of trustees, she wanted to be useful.



Scott Morris, Cam Cavanaugh, Nic Platt

So when Cam was asked in the early 1970s to write a definitive history of the battle to keep the ecologically-sensitive Great Swamp in Morris and Somerset counties from being turned into a 10,000-acre airport, she said yes.

Her 1978 book,

"Saving the Great Swamp: The People, the Power Brokers and an Urban Wilderness," detailed the David-versus-Goliath fight by a local grassroots organization – the precursor of New Jersey Conservation Foundation – to stop the mighty Port Authority.

Local residents and libraries snapped up copies of the book, and a number of colleges used it in their environmental courses. To Cam's delight, it became the inspiration for an acclaimed documentary four decades later.

Cam passed away on Dec. 30 at the age of 89. A true conservation trailblazer, she will be remembered for her intelligence, generosity and love of the environment. At the time of her passing, she served as an honorary trustee for New Jersey Conservation Foundation, alongside three former governors and a former Assemblywoman.

Many thanks to Cam for her dedication to the causes of preserving land and local history. She is greatly missed, and will not be forgotten!

Caroline Huber remembered

New Jersey Conservation Foundation lost a great friend and longtime supporter when Caroline Parker Huber passed away on Feb. 9 at the age of 93.

Caroline was trained as a teacher and was fiercely committed to learning. She served on a variety of nonprofit boards, helping to establish Red Bank's Two River Theater and promoting environmental protection, food security, housing stability, and mental health services. In 1998, she established the Stone Foundation of New Jersey, and served as its guiding visionary until her final days. She was universally generous with her time, her talent, and her money.

Caroline and her husband Michael, who died in 2009, were actively engaged for decades in New Jersey Conservation's mission of preserving land and natural resources.

Caroline and Michael loved nature, especially birds, and traveled the world in pursuit of knowledge and adventure. In their home state of New Jersey, they especially loved the Pine Barrens and worked hard to protect it. Michael served as a New Jersey Conservation Foundation board member, and the Michael Huber Prairie Warbler Preserve in the Pine Barrens is named for him.

Caroline's brother, the late Franklin E. Parker III, was a founding member and former board president of New Jersey Conservation Foundation. The Franklin Parker Preserve in the Pine Barrens is named for him.

The New Jersey Conservation staff will sorely miss their regular birding trips with Caroline at Sandy Hook, Huber Woods in Monmouth County, and the Pine Barrens.



Caroline Huber and Michele Byers

Welcome New Staff

New Jersey Conservation Foundation welcomed three new staff members in early 2021: Rudisha Okezie, Outreach Manager of Camden Parks and Greenways; Rob Ferber, Project Manager in the Delaware Bay Watershed; and Logan Davis, Agricultural Land Steward.



RUDISHA OKEZIE

RUDISHA, who grew up in Camden's Cramer Hill neighborhood, holds a Bachelor of Science degree in urban planning from Rowan University and worked as a project manager with the Cooper's Ferry Partnership, one of New Jersey Conservation Foundation's Camden partners, for five years. As a Camden native, Rudisha brings to her new job a deep knowledge of the City and longstanding relationships with community members and leaders.

ROB has nearly 30 years of experience in agriculture, outdoor recreation, and education. He most recently served as founding director of Pineland Adventures, a nonprofit enterprise designed to expand low-impact recreational opportunities and innovative educational programs in New Jersey's Pine Barrens.



ROB FERBER

Previously, he was business operations and strategic marketing director at Linvilla Orchards in Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of Neumann University in Aston, Pa., and attended the New Jersey Agriculture Leadership Development Program.

LOGAN is working on a demonstration project of climate-friendly agricultural practices at the Rainbow Hill at Sourland Mountain Preserve this summer and fall. He is a graduate of Bard College and subsequently earned a certificate in permaculture design. He has been farming since 2014 and has developed expertise in agroforestry and regenerative agriculture practices that utilize natural solutions and materials to replace chemical fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides.



LOGAN DAVIS

Intern digs into NJ Conservation history

Theodore Roosevelt once said that the more you know about the past, the better prepared you are for the future. Thanks to intern Miroslav Bergam's research into the history of New Jersey Conservation Foundation's land preservation work in urban areas, we're primed for a strong future.

Miro, a Harvard University sophomore from Short Hills, interviewed former Executive Director David Moore to get a firsthand account of New Jersey Conservation's efforts during the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s in Newark, Camden, the Arthur Kill watershed in Union, Essex and Middlesex counties, and Allison Park in Bergen County.

Miro also helped New Jersey Conservation Foundation's outreach efforts by gathering information on running virtual workshops.

Meet Intern Ben Yaskulka

For Ben Yaskulka, a senior at Ramapo College, it was natural to seek an internship at New Jersey Conservation Foundation. His dad, David, was Director of Communications at New Jersey Conservation Foundation 20 years ago!

A resident of Long Valley, Ben is developing recommendations for improving New Jersey Conservation's volunteer program. One of his contributions will be a "best practices" guide for recruiting and managing volunteers.

Ben is also working to establish an "Adopt a Property" program to pair outdoor or environmental clubs with preserved properties in need of stewardship help. He recently organized a volunteer workday at the Hill and Dale Preserve in Hunterdon County to remove old barbed wire from the forest, making the trail safer and more scenic.



FROM LEFT: Don Walter, Justine Aiosa, David Yaskulka, Ben Yaskulka, Dan Walter, Juaquin Goodbar

Staff

Michele S. Byers, Executive Director

Adriana Amador-Chacon, Camden Fellow

Erica Arles, Administrative Assistant, Land Acquisition & Stewardship

Alix Bacon, Regional Manager, Western Piedmont

Mark Barrick, Information Technology/Office Manager

Tim Brill, Central Jersey Project Manager

Erica Colace, Development Manager

Logan Davis, Agricultural Land Steward

Beth Davisson, Project Manager, Black River Greenway

Justin Dennis, Urban Parks Manager

Emile DeVito, Ph.D., Manager of Science & Stewardship

Robert Ferber, Regional Manager, Delaware Bay Watershed

Jane Gardner, Campaign Project Assistant

Tom Gilbert, Campaign Director—Energy, Climate & Natural Resources

Jane Halsted, CPA, Accounting Manager

Amy Hansen, Policy Analyst

Maria Hauser, Personnel Manager/Executive Assistant

Steven Jack, Land Steward

Russell Juelg, Senior Land Steward

Bill Lynch, M.S., Assistant Director, Education Programs & Communications

Lisa MacCollum, Assistant Director of Land Acquisition

Melanie Mason, Land Steward

Alison Mitchell, Assistant Director & Acting Director of Development

Stephanie Monahan, Assistant Director, South Jersey

Timothy Morris, Director of Stewardship

Marie Newell, Project Coordinator, Acquisition

Tanya Nolte, GIS Manager

Rudisha Okezie, Outreach Manager, Camden Parks & Greenways

Sandy Stuart Perry, Staff Writer

Francis Rapa, Regional Manager, Delaware Bay Watershed

Karen Richards, CPA, Director of Finance & Administration

Heidi Marie Roldan, Corporate & Foundation Relations Manager

Bill Scullion, Land Steward, South Jersey

Ingrid Vandegaer, Manager, Highlands Region

John S. Watson, Jr., Senior Director of Statewide Land Protection & Community Relations

Allison Williams, Stewardship Coordinator

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FOUNDATION

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