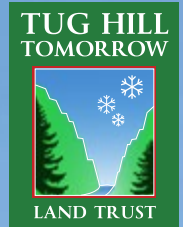


2024 SPRING HIGHLIGHTS
& 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Farming is more than land.
It's a business in an increasingly
tricky growing environment.

Conservation can help.



Farmers on conserved land are managing for a changing climate

Farmers are innovators, part of the solution

When Lynn Murray conserved his farm in 2015, in the town of Champion, his goal was to ensure that his kids could take over the farming later in life.

Farming for Lynn and most of the farm families in the Tug Hill region is a family effort, and many of those farmers want to conserve their land so the next generation can carry on the family legacy.

Yet farming is more than land. It's a business in an increasingly tricky growing environment.

The recent US Agricultural Census elevated this issue when it noted this spring that New York State has lost nearly 2,800 farms between 2017 and 2022, totaling 364,000 acres.

Reflecting on the evolving climate conditions, Lynn, a seasoned farmer, acknowledges the stark shift in weather patterns.

“Well, it’s hard to quantify but obviously the weather seems more extreme than it used to be,” he observes. “So, we’ve had to be prepared for colder than normal summers, warmer than normal, or drier than normal. We have not had an average year in the last few years; it’s been more unpredictable.”

Farmers responding to a changing climate

Jon Ostrowski and his family are working on farming resilience, too. Together, they run an organic farm in the town of Champion — conserved

in 2013. Jon notes, “We used to mow, rake, and bale it, but now, with the increasingly unpredictable weather, we’ve had to adapt.”

By implementing sustainable farming practices and new technologies, the Ostrowskis are investing in their farmland to withstand sudden droughts followed by heavy rainfall.

“The switch to using a tedder to spread out the hay for faster drying has truly changed our approach. With rainy spells becoming more frequent, traditional methods have become nearly impossible during such periods.”

“The farming community is poised to do our part, and down the road, we will have better technologies to do more,” emphasizes Lynn.



Did you know?

The loss of 2,800 NY farms is tragic not only for the farming families and communities in which those farms reside but also enormously damaging to the agricultural economy, wildlife corridors, and our region’s ability to respond to increasingly extreme weather events.

1 Cover crops and rotational grazing can reduce the emission of excess carbon dioxide as well as increase soil health to absorb flood waters.

Farms are helping to slow down the impacts of extreme weather and climate change.

2 Drip irrigation and soil moisture sensors are conserving water resources during periods of drought, strengthening farm viability.

3 Agricultural agreements (technically referred to as agricultural conservation easements) are flexible to allow for farm innovation and diversification of income streams. The farm remains on the tax rolls.

4 The farmer continues to own and manage the land. The land can be leased, bequeathed, or sold, and the conservation easement runs with the land.

Throughout New York State and the Tug Hill region, local families know how important agriculture is to our way of life, economy, and a network of conserved lands for wildlife and water quality.

Together we can conserve these critical lands while there's still time.

“The farming community is poised to do our part...,” emphasizes Lynn Murray of Murcrest Farm.

Meanwhile, Jon stresses, “Conserving the land and keeping it green, whether ag or forest—we can’t keep taking over the land with more buildings; we won’t have the land we need to keep the earth healthy.”

The interest in farmland conservation and climate-smart farming is growing in New York.

Farmers in Oneida, Herkimer, Oswego, Lewis, Jefferson, and St. Lawrence counties are looking to our land trust to assist them in voluntarily conserving their land as part of their long-term strategy to ensure the next generation has the opportunity to farm, no matter the weather.

Your support will conserve more family farms

This summer and fall, we are working with 13 farm families to help them conserve their land.

Thank you for being part of this effort to conserve our region’s farms. Your contribution, no matter the size, provides the foundation to increase the pace of land protection.

Jacqueline Humphrey



Angela Turin Bartelotte

NYS BOND ACT FUNDS

Forest conservation is a top priority

On Nov. 8, 2022, New Yorkers overwhelmingly approved the \$4.2 billion Environmental Bond Act.

State agencies, local governments, and partners will be able to access funding to protect water quality, help communities adapt to climate change, improve climate resiliency, create green jobs, and conserve farmland and natural areas (including working forests).

Bond Act funding will support new and expanded projects across the state to safeguard drinking water sources, reduce pollution, and protect communities and natural resources from climate change.

This funding will augment the Environmental Protection Fund (part of the state's budget allocation) to help local

families and communities accelerate conservation initiatives.

The new Forest Conservation Easements for Land Trusts Program, administered by the Land Trust Alliance's New York program, is an example of a new program funded by the EPF, that could be enhanced through Bond Act Funding.

It offers competitive matching grants to qualified New York land trusts to fund the acquisition of conservation easements on forest land that will increase the pace of forested land conservation to combat climate change.

Preserving nature's legacy

Forest stewardship and community collaboration

In the heart of our local Tug Hill region lies a hidden gem — what is often referred to as the *Core Forest*. A region of wide scale importance for its wildlife habitat and long-term forest integrity, the *Core Forest* is seen as one of New York State's vibrant working landscapes.

John Constable, a steadfast steward of the land, has been the guardian of his own corner of this forested haven for decades. His love for the towering trees, abundant wildlife, and clean, clear streams also mirrors the importance of preserving these forests, with their older trees, in combating climate change.

As climate goals become increasingly urgent, partnerships with individuals like John play a pivotal role.

John conserved his property with a voluntary conservation easement agreement years ago — long before the new forest conservation easement program. The results continue to be an inspiration as John emphasizes the value of these agreements in safeguarding the core forest and the resources it holds.

"I hope others will consider protecting their lands with the help of partnerships with the land trust and grants with the land trust, or donating a conservation easement and receiving the income tax benefits," explains John, when asked about his land protection leadership, "I continue to own and manage my land and can conduct forestry activities that respect the conservation goals that I established with the land trust."

According to the 2020 New York State Forest Action Plan, "Privately owned forestlands cover 13.52 million acres and represent 74% of New York's forests. 10.2 million acres are considered family-owned or non-corporate forests. Nearly 700,000 private forest landowners provide the public with the benefits of clean air and water, carbon sequestration, wildlife habitat, and a forest-based economy."

Property tax credit

Given the importance of land conservation as part of the overall economic vitality of NYS and areas like Tug Hill, New York State also provides a property tax credit for lands conserved with conservation easements.

The Conservation Easement Tax Credit (CETC) offers New York State taxpayers an annual income tax credit of 25% on their school district, county, and town property taxes up to \$5,000. If a landowner's tax credit exceeds the amount he or she owes in state income taxes, the landowner receives a payment for the difference.



Is the Forest Conservation Easement Program right for you?

If you are interested in learning more about the new [Forest Conservation Easement Program for Land Trusts](#) please refer to the Land Trust Alliance's New York State page on its website.

You can also talk to land trust staff about the income tax benefits of donating a conservation easement. Over 115 families have conserved their land with our land trust, including forest lands, farms, wetlands, and stream corridors.

"I continue to own and manage my land and can conduct forestry activities that respect the conservation goals that I established with the land trust."

– John Constable

You're helping pollinators at our conservation areas

Increasing native plant diversity helps pollinators thrive

When Serena Soldani went out to clean off her car this spring, something clicked. “Normally, I would mutter to myself about all the pollen on my car,” she said, “but this spring, given how stressed pollinators are, I decided to be happy about it.”

Serena is on to something. Nationally, we are witnessing a crash of pollinators. A 2022 comprehensive survey in New York found that more than 60% of the insect populations studied ranked as insecure, with 25% at risk and 15% not seen in New York since 2000. Declines are due to habitat loss, pesticide use, and extreme weather caused by climate change.

You may be aware of this, given increasing concern about honeybees in the news, but all pollinators are feeling the stress. According to Cornell University's Pollinator Network, New York is thought to have approximately 450 wild bee species. Wild bees are often solitary and live in burrows excavated into the ground, in wood, or pithy plant stems.

Bees need a diverse diet

Trees and flowering plants offer different levels of proteins and vitamins that pollinators eat and use to feed their young, and a broad mix of sources keeps them healthy. That's one of the many reasons that conserving and managing woodlands, along with a mix of meadow areas, provides important habitats for pollinators like bees, moths, flies, butterflies and birds.

Conservation areas like the Joseph A. Blake Wildlife Sanctuary in the town of Rutland, as well as newer conservation areas like the David Smith Conservation Area in the town of LeRay, and Keller Mohawk Hill in West Turin, are serving as critical havens for both people and pollinators alike.



There are a number of ways you can help local pollinators including in your own garden and supporting local conservation initiatives.

As extreme weather increases, connecting areas of conserved land—including a mosaic of fields, meadows, stream corridors, and woodlands—will give wildlife of all kinds a better chance to thrive over time. Not only is our agricultural landscape dependent on healthy pollinators, but the woodland plants you love, including many of the iconic trees in our forests, depend upon them for survival.

Is conservation right for you, or someone you know?

Would you like to protect your land? Do you know someone who might be interested in protecting their farm, woodlands, or wetlands?

People protect their land for a variety of reasons. For many, it's a way to ensure their love of the land will remain intact after they leave. For others, it's a way to honor their parents and grandparents. Sometimes it helps with estate planning or financial management plans.

If you would like to explore if conservation is right for you and your family, contact Hanna Wade, Land Protection Manager, 315-779-8240, x11 or email hwade@tughilltomorrowlandtrust.org.

All conversations are confidential to provide your family the privacy it needs to make a decision that is right for you.



- 1 **Sunflower** pollen has been associated with reducing levels of *Varroa* mites in honey bee colonies.
- 2 **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** are known to pollinate over 30 plant species in North America, including Tug Hill.
- 3 **Rosy Maple moth** are more active at night. The moths are attracted more readily to lighter colored and fragrant flowers, and interact with more than 47 different plant species.
- 4 **Adult Monarch butterflies** eat nectar and transfer pollen among a wide variety of flowers, and their young require milkweed. Planting native flowers and host plants can help ease their decline.

What you can do

In addition to supporting greater land conservation and habitat, each of us can also play a role by enhancing the pollinator habitat around our communities. Recommendations from Cornell include:

- **Include native plants in your garden or landscape** that support birds and wildlife throughout the year.
- **Reduce pesticides and herbicides** as they threaten non-target species like pollinators.
- **Control invasive plants and maintain native species.** Invasive plants outcompete and displace the natives that have co-evolved with our native pollinators over thousands of years. Selecting species that bloom throughout the year gives pollinators continuous food sources.
- **Consider pollinators when mowing.** Reducing mowing frequency, staggering areas cut, and cutting at the tallest setting helps preserve floral resources and protect habitat for ground-nesting pollinators.
- **Leave coarse woody materials on your property for habitat.** Dead trees, downed logs, and brush piles provide excellent shelter for pollinators and other animals.

“We all feel like we’ve made a difference together.”

– Bob McNamara



Volunteers enrich outdoor experiences on Tug Hill

Group leader’s efforts fosters fun and community

When Bob McNamara decided to volunteer for the land trust, he wasn’t thinking about becoming a ‘mover and shaker.’

Rather, he just wanted to share his love of the outdoors and have fun with other people on Tug Hill.

A few years ago, he took the lead on getting the Tug Hill Traverse Trail, a 20-mile hiking trail through the heart of Tug Hill, underway.

But time spent with Bob has done much more than build a trail. “Bob has become an inspiration for me,” remarked Bob Keller, who also volunteers. “He’s so passionate about making a difference, and he

knows that no matter your age, your skills, or how much time you have, there’s something you can do to make Tug Hill a bit better. He’s also brought a lot of fun to the task at hand.”

Thanks to their enthusiasm, we now we have two Bobs who are passionate about volunteering, along with so many others. The impact is indeed inspiring.

“Getting outside and working on the trail with a great group of people is as much fun as hanging out with folks bird watching or canoeing,” reflects Bob McNamara. “We all feel like we’ve made a difference together. I hope others join us.”

Tug Hill Traverse Trail Volunteer Work Day

Friday, June 7th
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Join us in the heart of the Tug Hill region to help maintain and extend this 20-mile north/south hiking trail through the deep woods. Stay for an hour, stay for the day — it’s all good.

Sign up through our website and receive all the details for the day via email.

Additional days to help maintain and extend the Traverse Trail:

Sat, June 22

Fri, July 12

Sat, July 27

Fri, Aug 9

Sat, Aug 24

Fri, Sept 6

Sat, Sept 21

Volunteers make amazing things happen

Would you like to make a difference? Depending on your interest and availability, you can spend a couple of hours or all day — whatever works for you. Often, there’s a way to include friends and family.

Some folks like to help with trail maintenance or installation. Others prefer to send photographs, assist with mailings, or help with events. No matter your age or experience, there’s a place for you. Call Lin Gibbs or email her at lgibbs@tughilltomorrowlandtrust.org to explore what feels right.

When nature changes lives

Local youth throughout the Tug Hill region are getting outside

Where did your love of nature come from? Was it close to home? In the company of others? Did you have ongoing experiences to look forward to? Many youth in our region don't have access to "nearby nature." That's why we are working hard to accept land donations to create new community nature areas and work with community groups to provide inspiring programs on the land.

Research has documented that for most people, early experiences in nature with a mentoring adult are critical in creating a lasting love of the land.

Often the adult in a youth's life other than a parent who can have a huge impact is someone in the community who shares a passion for youth engagement in a fun and interactive way.

Kare, a local high school student in Utica, who participated in a snowshoeing excursion with one of our land conservationists, explains, "There are a couple of reasons many people my age don't get much time in nature. One is that there just aren't many lands nearby to explore.

"The other is that many of us don't have the confidence to go ourselves. Visiting a nearby property with somebody and learning about what we saw while snowshoeing was such a powerful experience."

This summer, thanks to people like you, Kare and other students are getting a chance to connect to nature.



"Visiting a nearby property with somebody and learning about what we saw while snowshoeing was such a powerful experience." – Kare

Phyllis Roberts



Phyllis Roberts

Tax-savvy ways to conserve what you love

When Margaret Mead said, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has,” she was thinking about people like you. There are so many ways you can help.

Become a monthly donor

Make a monthly gift that keeps conservation going all year long. Become one of our sustaining donors whose generosity makes an ongoing difference throughout the year. It’s your monthly gift that allows us to seize opportunities and respond to unexpected challenges. Monthly gifts range in size from \$5 to \$1,000.

All contributions of any size are greatly appreciated.

Gifts of stock

A gift of stock is a great way to help avoid capital gains taxes, receive an income tax deduction, and support local land conservation. If you itemize your deductions, you may be able to take a charitable deduction for the entire donation amount. Your support will make a big difference and help conserve the region’s farms, clean waters, and woodlands while creating new trails and community programs.

Make a gift in your will

Many people find that they want to include the land trust in their will.

Give from your IRA

If you are 70.5 years or older and have a traditional IRA, you can make a donation from your IRA account to support conservation. IRA gifts are generally not recognized as taxable income and may count toward meeting your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). If you must take an RMD this year, giving from your IRA is a strategic way to fulfill it.

Other ways to give

Some donate property to create public conservation areas or to resell, once conserved, to boost programs.

For other ways to give go to our website:

tughilltomorrowlandtrust.org/ways-to-give

As always, please consult your tax advisor/attorney for advice on your specific situation.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Last year set the stage for a lot of conservation work, this year.

In 2023, you, and other donors and partners like you helped us serve more people throughout the Tug Hill region, including new conservation project opportunities and community programs:

Public Conservation Areas

- Enhanced public conservation areas with work on trail improvements, parking areas, and wildlife habitat. We now own over 1,000 acres of land in the region for hiking, walking, and wildlife observation. Work on these areas is continuing in 2024.
- Continued to advance the Traverse Trail through the Tug Hill's core forest region. Volunteers are instrumental toward the creation of the 20-mile trail.

Land Conservation Projects

- Assisted 15 landowners all over the region to conserve their farms, forestlands, wild habitat and streams, protecting thousands of acres of land in the region.
- Explored opportunities with several landowners who are interested in donating their land to establish new public conservation areas.

Public Education Programs

- Expanded the horizons for inner-city youth by providing outings on a special property in Forestport known as Camp Woodlot and partnered with Young Scholars Liberty Partnership Program and the Midtown Utica Community Center.
- Featured birding as a key program that you can join every spring, regardless of whether you live in Tug Hill. The Bird Quest hosted 950 participants divided into 52 teams to observe 49 different species of birds in a 5-month program.
- Broadened our nature explorers backpack program with local libraries, providing more opportunities for youth to experience nature using the materials in the backpack.

2023 in focus

A financial summary made possible by you.

We are able to conserve the lands of the Tug Hill Region in a fiscally responsible and efficient manner because of *You*.

Thank you for supporting us through your financial contributions, volunteer service, or just in spirit. Together, we will continue to ensure that Tug Hill remains one of the best environmentally healthy regions in New York State.



2023 Income

Grants & Contributions	\$410,189
Other Income	\$ 99,181
Special Events	\$ 35,389
Program Services	\$ 30,315
Total*	\$575,074



2023 Expenses

Program Services	\$402,892
Administration	\$153,630
Fundraising	\$ 74,303
Total	\$630,825

**Based on audited 2023 financial statement. Grants reflect state and federal government grants received for the purchase of development rights and contributions include all monetary donations to the Land Trust.*

For over 30 years, the Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust has grown to conserve well over 22,000 acres of significant forest, farm, and other wild lands in the Tug Hill Region.

None of this would have been possible if it had not been for your support. With your help, we can double the conservation of our region and conserve special places, while there's still time. Thank you for being there with us.

Let's celebrate...

Thanks to you, more of Tug Hill's farms, woodlands, waters, and wildlife

Thank you to all who donated to the land trust in 2023. Clean water doesn't happen by accident. Nor does remembering our local heritage. Your compassion, generosity, and enthusiasm are what makes our community a better place to live, work, and play for today, tomorrow, and generations to come.

Together, we are conserving the extraordinary places of Tug Hill and providing places for people from all walks of life to enjoy, close to home.

We sincerely apologize for any errors or omissions. Please give us a call at 315-779-8240 if you have a correction to make.

✧ Donors giving more than 10 years

♣ Donors giving more than 20 years

Friends up to \$49

Anonymous (3)
Anonymous ✧
Scott Adams ♣
John Boyce ✧
John Boyce ✧
R. Gerol
Paul Gundrum
Robert W. Hindman
Richard & Pamela Jones ♣
Wardwell & Marcia Jones ✧
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Steven Mix
Dan and Mary Murphy
Stephen Register ✧
Gerry & Larry Ritter
Eleanor Scheidelman ♣
David & Eleanor Sheldon ♣
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Jenny Spencer
Christine Stelzer
Darlene Trytek ✧

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Dennis & Maryanne Brady ✧
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David & Denise Males
Andy & Katie Malinowski ♣
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Melinda Broman ♣
Thomas & Patricia Brown ✧
Larry & Corky Bull ✧

What better way to say you care?

When you provide a gift in honor of someone, it says a lot about them — and you. We will send the person you have honored, or in the case of a memorial gift the family, a card letting them know of your thoughtful contribution.

It's a lovely way to note how special they are and how much they cared about the lands, waters, and community we all cherish.

In Memory of

Martin Brown
John Hosp
Christopher & Virginia Kelly

Fritz Parker
Virginia Parker

James L. Davis
Alan & Lisa Davis

Dick Hill
Jane McCarty

In Honor of

Heidi Jones & Jonas Kelly
Bob & Carol Keller

habitat are conserved

Robert Burt
Kelley Campbell
Paul & Deborah Carlson
Tom Cavataio ♡
Ben & Peggy Coe ♡
William & Mary Coffin ♡
Scott Collins &
Rosette Schureman ♡
Naomi Dee
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Randy & Robin Dewar
Mark & Celia Domser
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Anne Ferris & Tom Starr ✨
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Linda & Peter Gibbs ♡
Roger Gray ✨
Mike Grygiel
Mary Gydesen
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Bill & Lorena Hardam ♡
John & Terese Hart ✨
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Martina J. Henry
Carolyn Hoera & Peter Tittler
Missy Ingerson & Rick Holley
John Hosp ✨
Floyd Houck
Martha Jablonski
Peter & Diane Johnson ✨
Deb Kahkejian
Matt & Sue Kimak
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Judith Misch
Mike & Maria Mogg
Emma Moore
Lynn K. Morgan ✨
Theodore Orlin
Desmond Parker
Sandy Rea &
Stephanie Dean Judson ♡
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Stan & Chris Riveles ✨
Glen & Lucia Roberts ♡
William & Mary Roberts ✨
Robert & Patricia Robinson
Dean Roczen ✨
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Corey & Jonne Smith ✨
Steve & Stacey Smith ✨
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of Herkimer & Oneida
Counties, Inc. ♡
Nadine Thomas
John & Janet Thompson ✨
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Christine VanSlyke ✨
Marietta von Bernuth ♡
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Zachary Wakeman ✨
Jerry & Karen Weiman ✨
Sam Welch & Mark Landrey
Mary & David Young
Tom Yousey ♡
Dave & Barb Zembiec ♡

Continues on page 14



RD White

Top of Mind from the Bottom of the Hill

Paul and Diane Miller live at the Bottom of the Hill. Tug Hill that is — along Fish Creek near where it flows into Oneida Lake.

Growing up on Fish Creek, Paul came to love the outdoors, fishing in particular, at an early age.

After a career in the Marines, he and Diane returned to Paul's family home on the southern boundary of the Tug Hill region.



As part of their love of the outdoors — something they passed along to their three daughters — Paul and Diane got involved with Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust.

In 1994 they responded to our first community-wide request for support to initiate local conservation efforts. Our land trust has stayed “top of mind” for them ever since.

One of Paul's biggest contributions to the Tug Hill region has been researching the wild genetic characteristics of brook trout in the remote core forest known as the *Heart of Tug Hill*. “Fishing,” says Paul with a twinkle in his eye “is tough volunteer work, but someone has got to do it!”

Paul continues to be one of our foundational volunteers, reflecting a commitment to the land trust of over 30 years.

Today, in addition to volunteering, they are monthly donors as a way to support conservation throughout the year.

Together, we are connecting people to the land and waters they love

Continued from page 13

Stewards \$250-\$499

Kate Adams & Randy Baranak ✨
Chuck & Lynn Alleger ✨
Caroline Anna
Frederic Baldwin ✨
Gary & Marion Bartell
Andy Beers ✨
Sheldon & Kathryn Brown, ✨
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Katherine Hill Compton
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Rodney & Kathy Kent ✨
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Kurt Ellis & Lenore Lampert ✨
Norah & Tony Machia
Vincent Mariano, DMD ✨
F.X. & Pam Matt

J. Kemper Matt,
Rod & Margaret Murdock,
Barclay & Lynda Mutch ✨
Diane Olivo ✨
Brent Petrie
Cathy Pircsuk
Jane Robens & Esther Frazier
Jeff & Julie Rubenstein
Ellen Sartin
Robert Sauer ✨
Pat Service ✨
Hertha Thayer ✨
Howard Lennon—
The Goldmine Jewelers
Floyd & Jane Thelen
Lee Willbanks &
Judy Drabicki ✨
Charlene M. Zebley ✨

Benefactors \$500-\$999

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Virginia Parker ✨
Robert & Janet Quinn ✨
David & Mary Stone ✨
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Champions \$1,000-\$4,999

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Jan & Natalie Bogdanowicz ✨
John & Patti Constable ✨
Dani Friedman-Baker ✨
Alan I. & Lisa Davis
Cary Fassler &
Deb Kahkejian ✨
Peter Fenner
Mel & Dave Geurtsen ✨
Heidi Jones & Jonas Kelly ✨
Sedge Kernan
Dave & Patty Kohr ✨
Lillian Matt
Paul & Diane Miller ✨

Volunteers are what make conservation and connections happen

Have you thought you'd like to make a new friend, do something meaningful with your family, or learn a new skill?

Perhaps you'd like be part of a community of like-minded folks who believe in the importance of voluntary land conservation and connecting people to nature.

As a community-supported land trust, our volunteers make conservation and connecting people to nature a reality. We want to thank our dedicated volunteers. Whether it's helping with mailings, trail work, leading programs, and taking photographs, everyone makes a difference.

Thank you to the 2023 volunteers!

Programs

Dani Baker
Sarah Barker
Gavin Barker
Dave Clements
Caryn Clements
Laurie Frykholm
Peter Gibbs
Jeven Goutermout
Bob Keller
Bob McNamara
Peggy Morgia
Melanie Parker-Guertsen
Bob Quinn
Ray Spahn
Serena Soldani
Carla Van Wormer
Dr. Andrew Weir

Trail Work

Jan Bogdanowicz
Peter Cheresnoski
Dave Clements
Diane Covell
Marty Jo Henry
Bob Keller
Bob McNamara
Ian McNamara
Peggy Morgia
Matthew Smith
Arthur Smolinski
Ray Spahn
Cindy Stewart
Tristan Stewart
Cheryl Tousant
Zach Wakeman
Gabe Yerdon

Mailings & Publications

Kerry Palmer
Nate Palmer
Anne Richter Ashley

Invasives Surveys

Kathy Allardice
Andrew Bird
Carlene Bird
Deb Canaan
Patricia Casler
Peter Casler
Candy Gibb
Joseph Hall
Barbara Hartman
Bruce Kapfer
Heidi Libertella
Joann Mix
Michael Parkin
Hubert Parrow
Mary Ann Van Der Jagt
Luke Russell
Meg Wheadon
Vicki White
Frank Williams



Robert Murphy & Cynthia Rye ✨
 Peter & Laurie Pike
 John Stetson ✨
 Sam Sutphin & Kerry Dinneen
 Dr. Vincent & Catherine Vannicola †
 Chuck & Carolyn Whitfield

Core Forest Society
5,000-9,999

Anonymous ✨
 Gilbert Butler ✨
 Christopher & Virginia Kelly ✨
 Jennifer Speers
 Beth Steria
 Martha N. Wilson

Headwaters Society
\$10,000+

Bob & Carol Keller †
 Ruth Norton
 Mr. & Mrs. Bob Pender,
 Beth Steria
 Chris & Melany Welch ✨

Heart of Tug Hill
Planned Gift Pledge

Carol Beck
 Harold Boyce
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fort
 John & Marcia Gosier ✨
 Gordon Hayes, Jr ✨
 Steve & Madeline Hunter †
 Bob & Carol Keller †
 Russ & Rebecca Myer †

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The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties

Bob & Carol Keller Family Fund
 Alfred & Elizabeth Duffy Fund
 James C. O'Shea Family Fund
 John B. & Margaret T. Stetson Fund

Northern New York Community Foundation

Walker Family Community Fund
 Dyckes Family Fund
 Dave & Mary Stone Family Fund

Central New York Community Foundation

Shadowfax Charitable Fund
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American Funds

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Cape Cod 5
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Schwab Charitable

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Foundations

Butler Conservation Fund
 The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Onedia County

✨ *Donors giving more than 10 years*

† *Donors giving more than 20 years*

Businesses invest in Tug Hill conservation

Local businesses are increasingly stepping it up to ensure that what makes Tug Hill a special place to live, work, and play, is here for generations to come.

We couldn't ramp up the pace of our educational programs, special events, habitat restoration, or improvements to public conservation areas without their support. We hope you will join us in thanking them for their commitment to conservation and connecting people to the land and water.

If you would like to explore how to become a business sponsor and join our Corporate Eagles program, please contact Emily Males at 315-779-8240 or email her at emales@tughilltomorrowlandtrust.org.

In-Kind Gifts

Anonymous
 Art Baird Pottery
 Community Consultants
 Coughlin Printing
 Darrah Cooper Jewelers
 Dartbrook Rustic Goods
 Harbor House Inn
 Jake Johnson Properties
 Jay-K Lumber
 Northern Credit Union
 Pepsi Co

Raquette Lake Navigation Company
 State Street Hardware
 The Curious Otter
 Victory Promotions
 W Design
 Walmart Evans Mills
 Walmart Supercenter
 Watertown Home Depot
 Woodland Farm Brewery
 Zoo New York

2023 Corporate Eagles



Bob & Carol Keller




We're here for you...

Want to find out about new projects, family-friendly programs and hikes, conservation tips, and community events?

Sign up for our updates

TugHillTomorrowLandTrust.org

 [@TugHillTomorrowLandTrust](https://www.facebook.com/TugHillTomorrowLandTrust)

 [@tughillnature](https://twitter.com/tughillnature)

 [@tughillnature](https://www.instagram.com/tughillnature)

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Zachary Wakeman, Pulaski

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Hanna Wade
Land Protection Manager



Photographs: All photographs are taken by staff unless otherwise noted.
Front Cover: Joshua Eaves.

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120 Washington Street, Suite 510
Watertown, NY 13601

315.779.8240

You're invited...

Paddle and birdwatch with us

Redfield Reservoir Paddle

Friday, June 21st • 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Redfield Reservoir • Redfield, NY

Take a relaxing afternoon paddle with us. We'll paddle in the reservoir as well as upstream to explore the interesting nooks and crannies of the river's flat water. Bring your own canoe or kayak and paddles. PFDs are required.

Evening Birding

Tuesday, July 23rd • 6:30 - 8:00 PM

NYSDEC's Demonstration Forest • NYS Route 812, Lowville, NY

Learn about, look and listen for birds as we take an easy walk through this arboretum of more than 400 species of native and non-native trees, shrubs, perennials and fruit trees that provides a wide variety of bird habitats.

Save the Date: Saturday, August 10th

Tug Hill Community Picnic

Watch for more details soon about our Tug Hill Community Picnic at our newest conservation area, The David S. Smith Public Conservation Area in LeRay (near Fort Drum). Plan for a day of morning nature walks with a mid-day lunch and program including special guest speakers.

Join us as we celebrate conservation.

