



SCENIC RIVERS
LAND TRUST

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

IMPACT

2019 BY THE NUMBERS

LAND CONSERVATION

4 properties permanently protected
352 acres newly conserved
3,124 acres under our stewardship
100% of conservation easements monitored

OUTREACH

90+ conservation easement landowners supported
300+ participants at Walk for the Woods
115 attendees at the Conservation Celebration*
1 redesigned www.srlt.org
2 new communication channels: Instagram & monthly email newsletter
*100+ pieces of handmade pottery

PEOPLE

1 new executive director, 2 new staff
1 new board member
50+ volunteers

MAJOR MILESTONES

Became 1 of 5 accredited local land trusts in Maryland
30 years serving Anne Arundel County

CONNECT WITH US!

Facebook: @scenicrivers

Twitter: @scenicrivers

Instagram: @scenicriverslandtrust

Office Phone: 410-424-4000

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2008, Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Email: exec@srlt.org



A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

It is safe to say that this is not the environment in which we expected to be publishing Scenic Rivers Land Trust's first annual report. In fact, it feels strange to reflect on the successes of 2019 when the beginning of 2020 has brought so much uncertainty and stress for our local community and the world at large. So much is unknown. One thing, though, has become very clear during the COVID-19 pandemic: access to the outdoors and open, natural spaces is *healing*.

What has become so obvious in recent months is conserved lands can *make us feel good*. The ability of nature to soothe nerves, refresh our spirits, and provide exercise during this time has strengthened our commitment to protecting Anne Arundel County's land and water.

So, even in times like this, it's good to take a few moments to reflect on the successes of last year.

Scenic Rivers earned national accreditation, making it one of only five accredited local land trusts in Maryland. Awarded by the national Land Trust Accreditation Commission, this distinction signifies our commitment to public trust and shows that we have the practices, policies, and finances in place to ensure that our land conservation easements will be protected forever.

We celebrated two exciting milestones: the 30th anniversary of our first conservation easement and reaching our long-held goal of surpassing 3,000 acres conserved. After completing four easements totaling 352 acres in 2019, Scenic Rivers now holds conservation easements on 3,124 acres of natural and scenic land in Anne Arundel County.

Many of you joined us in October 2019 to celebrate these achievements at our first-ever *Conservation Celebration*. Reflecting on that evening now, we are humbled by what a gift it was to gather together in person to honor and connect with the partners, friends, and supporters who have helped us succeed.

The pages of this annual report reflect on last year's high points and preview some of what we hope to do this year. We hope you'll join us in looking back on 2019 with pride. **We did all of this because of your support.**

Surely, better days are ahead in 2020. We hope we'll see you then. Stay safe and stay healthy!



Sincerely,

Sarah Knebel
Executive Director

OUR MISSION

Scenic Rivers is dedicated to protecting forests, wetlands, farmlands, and other open spaces in Anne Arundel County. We work with landowners and other partners to conserve natural and scenic areas through landowner education and by holding and facilitating land protection agreements.

OUR 2019 BOARD

Nina Fisher
President

Patricia V. Melville
Vice President

Joan Renner
Treasurer

Lucretia Lawson
Secretary

Edmée Geis
At Large Member

David Ballard

Bill Davidson

Richard T. Davies

John Butler

Jack Flynn

Kristen Maneval

Kirk Mantay

Liam O'Meara

Bonnie Persinger

Victoria Sanchez

Eve Terran

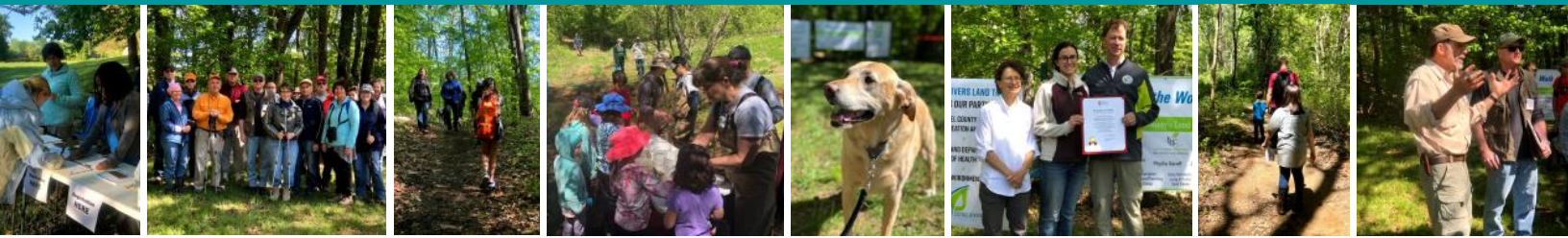
OUR STAFF

Sarah Knebel
Executive Director

Lindsay Smith
Stewardship Coordinator

Erin Valentine
Communications Coordinator

EVENTS



2019 WALK FOR THE WOODS

We celebrated the 14th Annual Walk for the Woods on Saturday, April 27, 2019, with more than 300 members of our community. Families, seasoned hikers, birders, and other outdoor enthusiasts joined us for a day of guided and self-directed hikes throughout the 900+ acres of the Bacon Ridge Natural Area in Crownsville—the crown jewel of Scenic Rivers’ conserved properties.

County Executive Stuart Pittman presented Scenic Rivers with an executive citation celebrating our 30th anniversary and our contributions to the County’s ecological health. Educational programs were held throughout the day, including an artifacts display by the Department of Planning and Zoning’s Cultural Resources Division; the popular “Feet, Tails, and Fins” aquatic wildlife program presented by Coastal Resources, and the “Say My Name” remembrance ceremony conducted by historian Janice Hayes-Williams.

THANK YOU TO THE 2019 WALK FOR THE WOODS SPONSORS!



Paul & Maxine Frohring Foundation



Chaney Enterprises • Charm City Run Annapolis • Phyllis Saroff • Jennifer Troy • Regional Veterinary Referral Center
Annapolitan Assisted Living • Arundel Rivers Federation • Champion Financial Planning Group •
Gary Schneider, Long & Foster Real Estate • Renner & Renner, LLC • U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services



2019 CONSERVATION CELEBRATION

Scenic Rivers hosted our first-ever Conservation Celebration fundraising gala on Thursday, October 10, 2019, at The Bistro at South River in Edgewater, Maryland. We gathered with partners, friends, and supporters to commemorate our 30th anniversary, celebrate our distinction as a nationally accredited land trust, and say thank you to those who have helped us along the way.

Guests enjoyed a fall-themed buffet, live classical guitar, a presentation on agroforestry from landscape designer Lincoln Smith, and a silent auction and raffle. Three awards were presented at the event:

- Local artist and illustrator, Phyllis Saroff, received the “Outstanding Volunteer Award” for her long history of donating custom artwork for Scenic Rivers’ annual Walk for the Woods.
- James and Sylvia Earl received the “Pillars of Conservation” award to recognize their steadfast support of Scenic Rivers and other conservation efforts throughout the county.
- Paula Frohring of the Paul and Maxine Frohring Foundation received the “Transformational Supporter Award” in recognition of the foundation’s impact on Scenic Rivers’ recent achievements.

“It was important to honor these individuals at our celebration because their support is so closely linked to our recent successes,” said Board President Nina Fisher.

THANK YOU TO THE CONSERVATION CELEBRATION SPONSORS!



Robin and David Geis



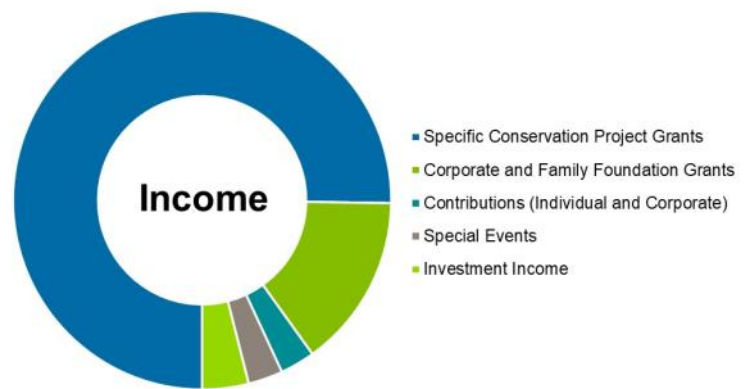
FISCAL YEAR 2019 FINANCES

We are pleased to report that Scenic Rivers concluded 2019 with a healthy operating surplus. The majority of the surplus is tied to restricted grant funds carrying over into the new year with the remainder being surplus operating funds. This surplus has been a small source of comfort as we navigate the complexities that have arisen in the first half of 2020. The “Specific Conservation Project Grants” cited below reflect several significant grants from the Anne Arundel County Forestry and Forested Land Protection Grant Program, which funded three of the four properties conserved in 2019.

2019 OPERATING INCOME*

Specific Conservation Project Grants	\$ 1,006,197
Corporate and Family Foundation Grants	\$ 198,623
Contributions (individual and corporate)	\$ 39,394
Special Events	\$ 38,256
Investment Income	\$ 46,628

Total **\$ 1,329,098**



2019 OPERATING EXPENSES*

Program Expenses	\$ 1,167,720
Management & General	\$ 27,456
Fundraising	\$ 34,904

Total **\$ 1,230,080**



*Unaudited at the time of publication.

PARTNERS & DONORS



WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU. THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS & DONORS!

Scenic Rivers' success begins with our dedicated community of land protection supporters—the donors, volunteers, and partners, like you, who give so generously to our mission to protect Anne Arundel County's land and water. We are grateful that you choose to invest in us, so that we can work with landowners throughout our county to ensure that the natural, open spaces we all love are there for future generations. Special thanks to these partners for their continued support:

- Anne Arundel Department of Recreation and Parks
- The Brick Companies
- Maryland Department of Health
- Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- Maryland Environmental Trust
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Thank you to all of our 2019 supporters!

\$100,000+

Chesapeake Bay Trust
Paul & Maxine Frohring Foundation

\$50,000–\$99,999

Anonymous Donor

\$20,000–\$49,999

The Helena Foundation

\$5,000–\$19,999

BGE

The Brick Companies

Douglas John

Keep Maryland Beautiful

Mars Foundation

Maryland Department of Transportation

Maryland Environmental Trust

\$2,500–\$4,999

Anonymous Donor

Environmental Quality Resources

Friend Commercial Real Estate
Patricia Melville

\$1,000–\$2,499

Anonymous Donors (2)

John and Diane Butler

Chaney Enterprises

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Elm Street Development

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Rose Jacobius

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Bruce Potter

Regional Veterinary Referral Center

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Mary Sinclair

Jennifer Troy

\$500–\$999

Blaxall Fund for Economic Growth

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Lucretia and Bob Lawson

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Kristen and John Maneval

Renner & Renner

Jay Resnick and Judith Sarubin

Lisa and John Sherwood III

Matthew Stover

Sandy and Sean Sweeney

Jason and Erin Valentine

Ann and Robert Whitcomb

\$250–\$499

Annapolitan Assisted Living

Arundel Rivers Federation

Susan Barrett

Champion Financial Planning

Kathryn Collings

Kathleen and John Flynn

Kathy Gramp

James Kaper

Richard Moser and Carol Adamson

Kristin and Vince Nesline

Lynne Rockenbauch

Conrad Schaefer

Gary Schneider, Long and Foster Real Estate

Brian and Tomi-Lyn Spirt

Betty and Larry Thompson

Margaret Vail

Robert Vom Saal

PARTNERS & DONORS

\$250+ donors continued

Mary Ann Warner and
Raydene Cady
Jill Whittall and Jane Clark
John and Janet Williams
Natalie and Harold Woomer
Tracy Wroe

\$100–\$249

Christina and Bruce Aist
Thomas and Barbara Ake
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Derwin
Murray H. Baldwin
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David Barker
Alexandra Bely
Nichole Bentz
Judith Blum
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Danielle Brooks
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Pete Bungay
Alice Cain
Jon and Sanya Chapman
Diane and Matthew Chasse
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Wendy and Tom Crowe
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Barbara Fawkes
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Jere and Doris Glover
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Melanie Hartwig-Davis
Pierre and Danalee Henkart
Marjorie Henry
Perrin Hicks
Katherine Hoette
Janet Holbrook
Joseph M. Holley
Zachary Howard
Alan Hyatt
Joseph and Jeanne Jehl
Heather Johnson
John Keene
John Koontz
Jon and Kathy Korin
Richard Leader
Ann and Mark Lister
Nancy Lundquist
Jill Mandel
Mango and Main
Kirk Mantay
Joyce Miller
Rosemary Miller
Billy Moulden
Lara Mulvaney

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Sue Ann Ricciardi
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Laurence Schuler
John Schwarz
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Meriel Steines
Ann and Eric Swanson
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Juanita, Christopher, and Pat
Tate
Richard Templeton
John Van Arsdall
Barbara Van Horn
Lorraine Wakeman
Benjamin Wechsler
John Wheeler
Stephanie and Duane Wilding
Ginger Woolridge
Mary and Ming Yee

\$1–\$99

John Adornato III
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James Falvey
Cynthia Auld
Monika Barilla
Virginia Behrends and Paul
Brehrends

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Eden
Timothy Bond
Steven Bookshester and
Pamela Forbes
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Cathryn Dippo
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Joseph P. Ferrara, Jr. and
Linda Ferrara
Sarah Findlay
Lynne Forsman
Denise Frey
Kate Fritz
April Gibson
Tracy Gill and Arthur Gruner
Pamela Godfrey
Chris and Marry Ann Gordon
Aaron Gough
Cathie Greene and Robert
Gallagher
Nancy Grisham
Jackie Guild

PARTNERS & DONORS

\$1-\$99 donors continued

Matthew Hannum	Jody Lacey	Nancy Parsons	Tony van Hover
Richard Hillman	Debra Lambert	Melissa Paton	Lisa VanBuskirk
Richard Hoferkamp	Elaine and David Leaverton	Janice Radford	Eric Verploegen
Janford Hof and Linda Girdner	Katie Leavy	Kevin and Joan Renner	Bruce Vogt
Jerry and Gwen Hoyt	Tim Lobach	Holly Richardson	Michael Wagener
Julie Hoyt	Betsy Love	C Roberts	Margaret and Warren Ward
Paul Hyland	Brianna Luna Pendleton	April and John Rogers	Jasmine and Isaac Wilding
Ann Jackson	Jennifer Matsumoto	Elizabeth J. Rogers	N. Woolridge
Jane McWilliams	Michael Matton	Karl Roy	Richard Worth
Greg and Mary Kenefick	Joe Mayer	Diane Rubin	Christian Zazzali and Kernan Bussiere
Kathleen Kennedy	Patricia and Gail McCandles	Heather Schinner and Jeffrey Snider	
Nancie Kennedy	Carroll McGillin-Greve	Ian Shantz	
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Anita Kraemer	Lene Nielsen-Paton	Eve Terran	
	James OConnell	Ben Torreon	
	Barbara Palmer	Jeffrey Van Arsdall	

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE 2020 WALK FOR THE WOODS SPONSORS!

With the 2020 Walk for the Woods postponed, and a new date still to be determined, we are incredibly thankful to the generous local sponsors who are supporting this year's event. Thank you for sticking with us through uncharted territory!



The Troy-Rucker Family • Phyllis Saroff





SCENIC RIVERS LAND TRUST
P.O. BOX 2008
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21404

2020 EVENTS

Yes, the 2020 Walk for the Woods is postponed, but many of the events we have planned for 2020 can still move forward as virtual events.

We're optimistic that we'll be able to reschedule the hikes we've been planning. The other events listed here will be held virtually if circumstances require.

We'll announce dates, times, and locations via social media and www.srlt.org once it's safe to schedule in person events again!



July 23: Virtual Workshop: Conservation Easement 101 for Landowners

Aug. 19: Volunteer Stewards Training & Kickoff Meeting

Oct. 4: Lifeline 100 Century Ride

Dates Still TBD:

October: Breakfast Briefing for Professional Services Providers

October: Conservation Easement 101 Landowner Workshop