

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



SCENIC RIVERS
LAND TRUST



IMPACT



2020 BY THE NUMBERS

LAND CONSERVATION



70 acres of forest conserved on family farmland

5 acres of newly planted trees

3,200 acres under protection

100% of easements monitored



MAJOR MILESTONES

1 new Invasive Species Control Program launched at Bacon Ridge

PEOPLE

1 new board president



3 new board members

41 volunteers

OUTREACH



5 self-led hikes

45 videos produced

300+ participants at Walk & Ride for the Woods



CONNECT WITH US!

Facebook: @scenicrivers

Twitter: @scenicrivers

Instagram: @scenicriverslandtrust

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

Email: exec@srlt.org

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

2020 was a *tough* year for everyone—some far more than others. While the prospect of normalcy beckoned for a short time this summer, we're not even out of the woods yet! Still, when I look for gleams of hope and positivity after reading the news, I can reflect on 2020 and find that I am *proud*.

I'm proud that Scenic Rivers' team was able to continually adapt to keep pushing our mission forward despite the pressures the pandemic put on our work and our lives at home.

We moved several conservation projects forward and took one to the finish line, **permanently conserving 70 new acres**, much of the property being beautiful forest within the South River Greenway, an area we have been striving to protect for over a decade.

I'm proud that the work Scenic Rivers does is directly linked to one of our greatest comforts in the last year and a half: the joy of the outdoors.

Hundreds of hikers and outdoor enthusiasts hit the trails at Bacon Ridge Natural Area to take part in the self-led hikes that we offered throughout the year and our Walk & Ride for the Woods event in October.

I'm proud of the way our wider community has rallied to take care of one another, in all sorts of ways.

Volunteers stepped up to launch our new Invasive Species Control Program at Bacon Ridge, helping to identify, document, and map invasive species infestations along the trails in the fall of 2020. Upholding our national accreditation status, all 70 of our conservation easements covering 3,200 acres were safely monitored thanks to the dedication of our Land Steward Volunteers.

Above all, I am proud (and thankful!) that, even in tough times, Scenic Rivers' dedicated community of supporters will come out in full force to advance land conservation. We ended 2020 a strong and stable organization because of you. We stepped into 2021 with solid footing and look forward to advancing land conservation further with you.

This annual report is a chance to reflect on the high points of last year, but most importantly, it's an opportunity to say, "Thank you!" to the partners, supporters, and friends who made those successes possible. **We can look back on 2020 with pride because of you.**

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 2020 BOARD

Joan Renner
President

John Butler
Vice President

Lucretia Lawson
Treasurer

Patricia V. Melville
Secretary

Edmee Geis
At Large Member, Executive Committee

David Ballard

Phil Dales

Bill Davidson

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Kristen Maneval

Kirk Mantay

Liam O'Meara

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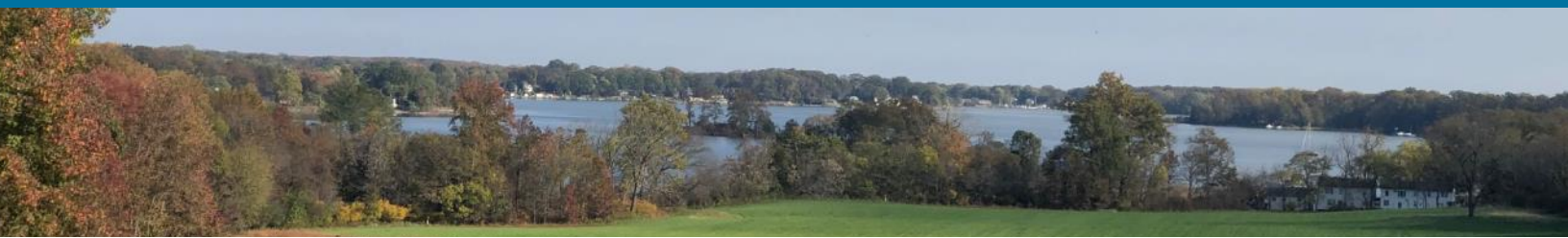
OUR STAFF

Sarah Knebel
Executive Director

Lindsay Smith
Stewardship Coordinator

Erin Valentine
Communications Coordinator

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

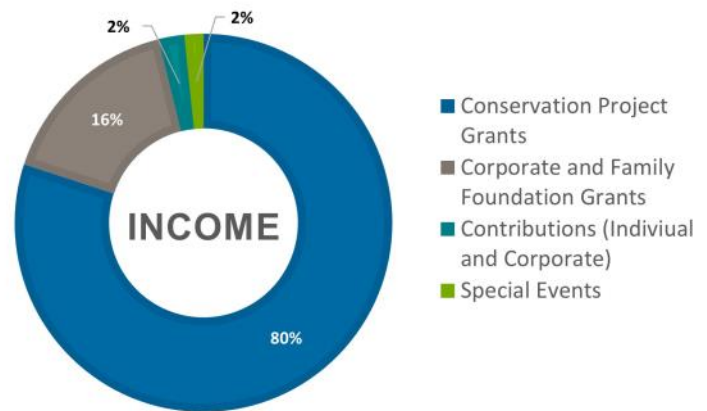


FISCAL YEAR 2020 FINANCES

Thanks to years of strategic planning and sound guidance from our Board of Directors, Scenic Rivers was able to weather the tumult of 2020 with confidence and conclude the year 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.

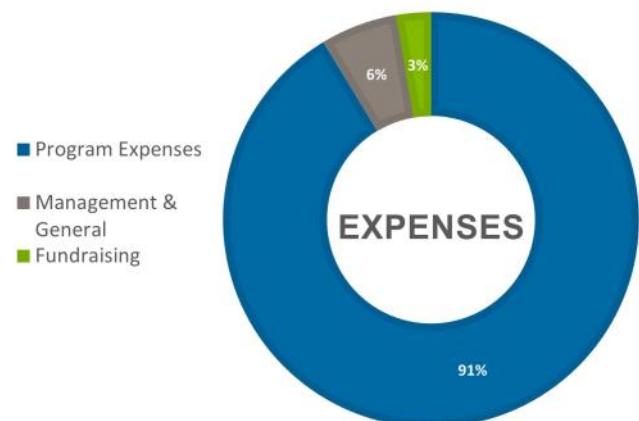
2020 OPERATING INCOME

Conservation Project Grants	\$ 1,487,229
Corporate and Family Foundation Grants	\$ 300,400
Contributions (individual and corporate)	\$ 40,986
Special Events	\$ 29,995
Total	\$ 1,858,610



2020 OPERATING EXPENSES

Program Expenses	\$ 638,783
Management & General	\$ 41,711
Fundraising	\$ 18,838
Total	\$ 699,332





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 County 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 2020 supporters!

\$100,000+

Anonymous Donor

Chesapeake Bay Trust

Paul & Maxine Frohring Foundation

\$50,000-\$99,999

Anonymous Donor

\$20,000-\$49,999

The Helena Foundation

\$5,000-\$19,999

Anonymous Donors (2)

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

The 2020 Walk for the Woods was rescheduled and reimagined and these dedicated sponsors stuck it out with us while we figured out what was next. Thank you for continuing to support us through uncharted territory!



Paul & Maxine
Frohring Foundation



The Grandkids'
Future



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& SIMMONS
EAGLE | TITLE



Phyllis Saroff The Troy-Rucker
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John and Helen Wheeler

Natalie and Harold Woomer

For a complete list of donors, including donations of less than \$100, visit www.SRLT.org.



SCENIC RIVERS LAUNCHES CONSERVATION CHAMPIONS CIRCLE

Expand your impact and receive exclusive member benefits and updates

In the summer of 2021, Scenic Rivers launched the Conservation Champions Circle, an annual giving program designed to honor and acknowledge members of our community of supporters who *go above and beyond to invest in the value of land conservation.*

Conservation Champions Circle members donate annual gifts to Scenic Rivers at \$1,000 and above.

In recognition of their extraordinary commitment to our mission, Conservation Champions enjoy exclusive benefits, such as invitations to special members-only events, quarterly updates from our executive director, meetings with members of our team and other conservation experts, plus fun extras at public events.

Become a
Conservation Champion at
[www.srlt.org/
ConservationChampions](http://www.srlt.org/ConservationChampions)



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UNDER \$100

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

FALL 2021 EVENTS

Lifeline 100 — October 3, 2021

Join us at the Anne Arundel County Lifeline 100 Century Ride on Sunday, October 3, 2021.

Executive Director Sarah Knebel and other members of our dedicated community of land conservationists will be riding for our land and water!

As an official nonprofit partner, a portion of your registration fee goes to support our mission when you register through our website.



Fall Foliage Hike at SERC — October 30, 2021

Join us as we explore Scenic Rivers' second largest conservation easement, the Contee Farm portion of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center campus in Edgewater. This hike promises stunning views of the Chesapeake Bay and beautiful fall colors.

Plus, we'll have fun fall treats on hand for a post-hike snack!

Register for these events online at www.SRLT.org.