



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



2022 HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CONSERVATION

- 5 newly acquired conservation easements, covering **224 acres**
- 2 new watersheds in expanded service area (Bodkin Creek and Patapsco River)
- **500 acres** of projects in process

STEWARDSHIP

- **100%** of easements monitored
- **3,400 acres** under our protection
- **11 acres** of invasive plants removed

CONNECTION

- **80** volunteers, **200** volunteer hours
- **1** new staff member
- **35** Conservation Champions
- **2** conservation workshops

INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL PROGRAM AT BACON RIDGE NATURAL AREA



2022 WALK FOR THE WOODS



CONNECT WITH US!

Facebook: @scenicrivers

Instagram: @scenicriverslandtrust

Office Phone: 410-424-4000

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

Email: exec@srllt.org



A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

If you're reading this, you likely know that land conservation work can feel *slow*. Most often it takes *years* of connecting with landowners, applying for grant funding, completing baseline documentation, waiting for surveys and appraisals, and negotiating easement terms to place a property in conservation. Sometimes, it can feel like we're making progress one inch at a time.

In the end, it's always worth it to steadily ensure that more of our remaining natural and open lands are protected forever.

That's why our end of 2022 felt especially exciting. In December, we accepted five conservation easements, totaling 224 acres, from Pasadena-based North County Land Trust.

When North County Land Trust first approached us about their plans to shut down, there was no question that we were ready and willing to take on the stewardship of the easements they had so carefully cultivated during their nearly 20 years in operation. (The Swan Creek Wetlands Conservation Area is a true gem!) We are so thankful for the work they've done in northern Anne Arundel County.

And, we're thankful for this opportunity to expand our approach to conservation. The landscape of northern Anne Arundel County will need us to take on new types of projects from pocket parks to community gardens to water access points. We can't wait!

Of course, Scenic Rivers was able to take on more easements and an expanded service area thanks to our incredible community of land conservation supporters—supporters like you.

In fact, your support made all of our 2022 highlights possible—from expanding our invasive plant program at Bacon Ridge Natural Area (now referred to as our Healthy Forests Program), to hiring our new Stewardship Coordinator, Evann Magee (an FAA-certified remote pilot), to collaborating with the county and the Maryland Environmental Trust on plans to conserve a portion of the Crownsville Hospital property.

This annual report is a chance for us to reflect on the accomplishments you helped us achieve in the last year. And to remind ourselves that the days can feel slow, but the years go by fast.

We have so much work to do. We're so glad you're here to help us get it done.

Thank you for your support and partnership as we work together to protect the natural and open lands we all love.

With gratitude,



Sarah Knebel
Executive Director

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.

2022 BOARD

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*At Large Member,
Executive Committee*

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Paul Zanecki

STAFF

Sarah Knebel
Executive Director

Evann Magee
Stewardship Coordinator

Erin Valentine
Communications Coordinator

EXPANDING CONSERVATION: NORTH COUNTY EASEMENTS

Scenic Rivers accepted five existing conservation easements, totaling 224 acres, from the North County Land Trust, expanding our service area to include the Bodkin Creek and Patapsco River watersheds within northern Anne Arundel County.

The Swan Creek Wetlands easement, located in Curtis Bay, is widely regarded as one of the best places for birding in Maryland. Stay tuned for opportunities to visit!



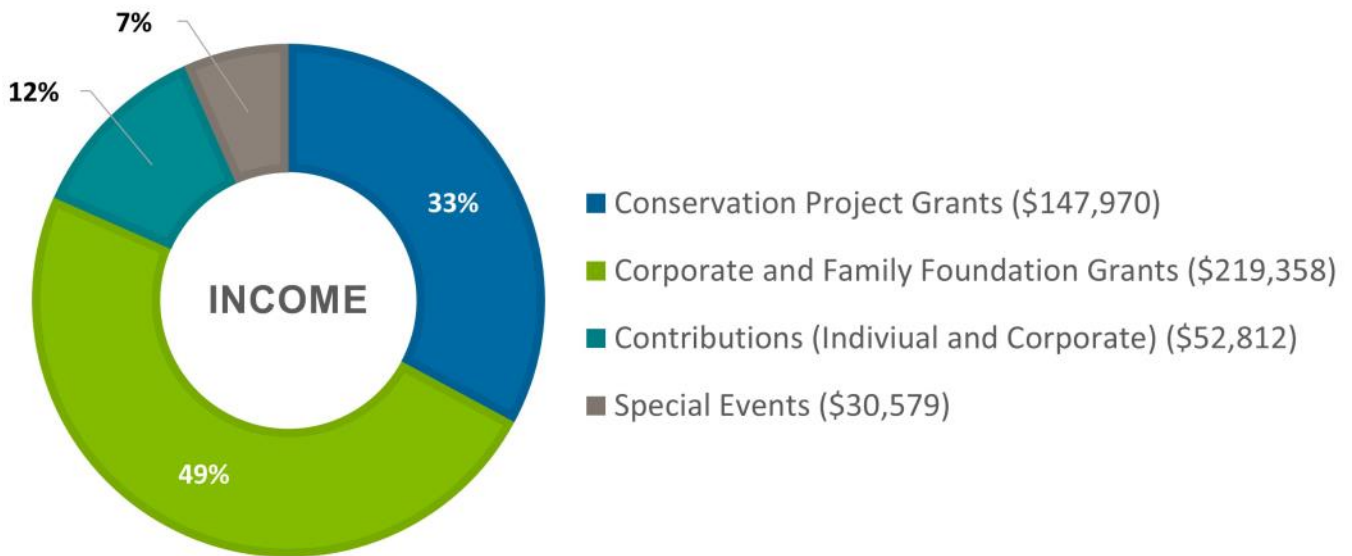
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

FISCAL YEAR 2022 FINANCES

Scenic Rivers continues to maintain solid financial footing thanks to a sound strategic plan, expanded fundraising efforts, and strong relationships with partners, sponsors, and donors. Revenue includes project grant funding that will not be expended until 2023.

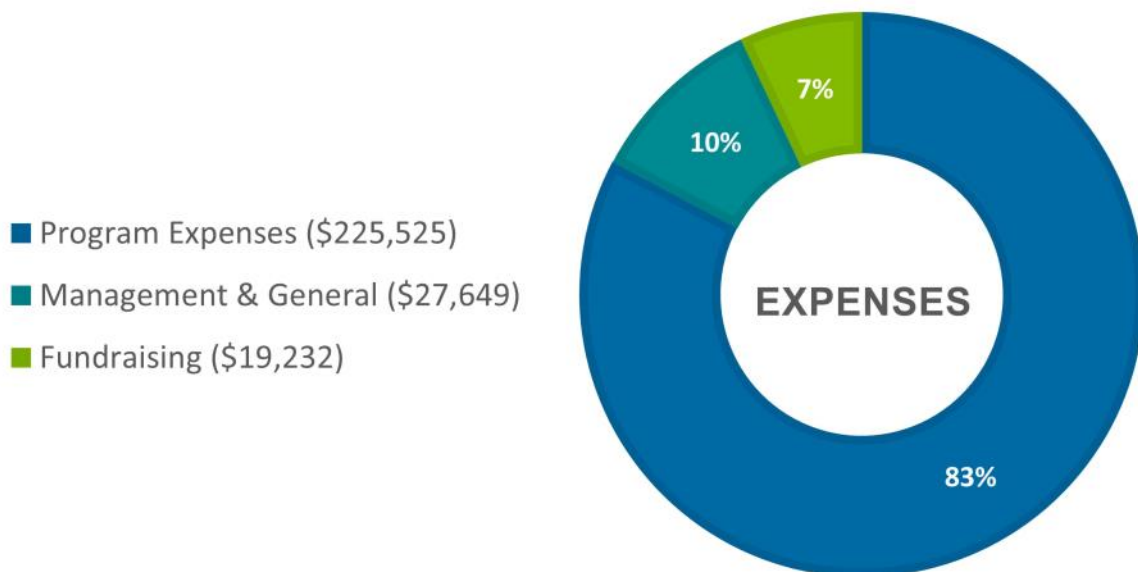
2022 INCOME BY SOURCE

Total Revenue: \$450,719*



2022 EXPENSES

Total Expenses: \$272,406*



* Unaudited at the time of publication.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS & DONORS!

We can't do it without you. Thank you donors, volunteers, and partners for supporting us in our work with landowners throughout the county to ensure the natural and open spaces we all love are there for us now and in the future.

Special thanks to these partners for their continued support:

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

CONSERVATION CHAMPIONS CIRCLE

Members of our Conservation Champions Circle invest in the power of land conservation because they believe that protecting our land and water is key to a healthy, thriving community.

Their commitment and generosity ensures that we can fulfill our mission to protect more of the natural, open lands we all love in Anne Arundel County. Thank you!

Anonymous (3)

Annapolitan Assisted Living*

Blaxall Fund for Economic Growth

The Brick Companies**

John and Diane Butler

Hamilton Chaney

Charm City Run⁺

Bill Davidson

Mike and Trish Davis

Environmental Quality Resources**

Carol and Joseph Friend

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Edmee Geis and Greg Griffin

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The Troy Family in Memory of Colby B. Rucker*

Regional Veterinary Referral Center*

Blue text denotes Conservation Heroes.

** = 2022 Walk for the Woods sponsor; ⁺ = 2022 Lifeline 100 sponsor*

PROJECT GRANTS

The following grantors generously support our Land Conservation, Stewardship, and Healthy Forests programs.

BGE, an Exelon Company

Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County Environment Anne Arundel Fund

Forever Maryland

Land Trust Alliance

Microsoft Community Empowerment Fund

Mars Foundation

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

Maryland Department of Natural Resources Keep Maryland Beautiful Janice Hollmann Grant

Maryland Department of Transportation

Maryland Environmental Trust

PARTNERS & DONORS

MONTHLY DONORS

Supporters who make monthly gifts to Scenic Rivers are helpful in ensuring that we are financially stable and always ready to take action on behalf of our natural lands.

John Adornato III

Kristine Kaske-Martin

Thomas Kimbler

Joshua Lloyd

Jennifer Troy

2022 DONORS (\$100+)

Anonymous (6)

Thomas and Barbara Ake

Annapolis Striders

Andreas Apter

Jane Bachner and
James Derwin

David Ballard

James Baxter

Tom and Pat Bender

Lex and Allison Birney

Bernie Blickenstaff

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Joy Chambers and
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Champion Financial Planning Group*

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Chris and Marry Ann Gordon

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Jerry and Gwen Hoyt

Douglas John

Aaron Jones

Jill Joyce

James Kaper

John Keene

John Kiess

Jon and Kathy Korin

WELCOME, EVANN MAGEE!

Evann Magee joined the Scenic Rivers team in October 2022.

As stewardship coordinator, Evann oversees the annual monitoring of our 78 conservation easements.

As an FAA-certified drone pilot, he's expanding our monitoring work.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Volunteers Lynne Rockenbauch and Noreen Krispin joined us for nearly every workday of our 2022 invasive plant control season.

We are so thankful for their willingness to share their expertise and their commitment to keeping our local, protected forest healthy.



- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Land Preserve LLC | Oculus CAS, LLC* | Janice Spicknall |
| Richard Leader | Linda P. Orff | Henry Stehr |
| Deborah Li | Michael Paredes | Andrew Stone |
| Janet Lindsey | Stephen Perry | Ann and Eric Swanson |
| Lisa Lisko | Joseph Ports | Henry Taft |
| James Lyons | Tomify Prats | Treffer Appraisal Group |
| Jill Mandel | Gail Price | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service* |
| Kristen and John Maneval | Michael Puma | Jason and Erin Valentine |
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| Joyce Miller | Michele Sager | What's UP Media** |
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| Bonny Mitchell | Camilla and Jay Schwarz | John and Janet Williams |
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| Paul Myers | Rachel Smith | Paul Zanecki |
| Annette Najjar | | |

* = 2022 Walk for the Woods sponsor; ** = 2022 Lifeline 100 sponsor

For a complete list of donors, including donations of less than \$100, visit www.SRLT.org. We want to honor you correctly. Please let us know of misspellings or missing names.

CONSERVATION CHAMPIONS CIRCLE

Conservation Champions Circle members were invited to join us for a tour of our Bay Ridge conservation easement in spring 2022. Members of the Bay Ridge HOA joined the Scenic Rivers team to lead a private tour of their community's conserved forest.

We learned about the Bay Ridge community's decades-long conservation journey and discussed the community-run invasive species removal program they developed to maintain the health of their forest.

To join us at future events like this, consider becoming a member of our Conservation Champions Circle.

www.SRLT.org/ConservationChampions



PARTNERS & DONORS

2022 DONORS (UNDER \$100)

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Laura Armstrong Falvey and James Falvey
Margaret Atterbury
Dawn Bahen
Carolyn Baker
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Mary Vincent
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Stephanie and Duane Wilding
Ginger Woolridge
Richard Worth
Mark Zablotny



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

LIFELINE 100: RIDE FOR LAND & WATER WITH SCENIC RIVERS LAND TRUST

15, 30, 65, and 100 Mile Route Options

Join us at the Anne Arundel County Lifeline 100 Century Ride on **Sunday, October 1, 2023**.

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.

Plus, you can sign up to raise funds for Scenic Rivers and win fun prizes. **The top fundraiser wins a two night stay at a Deep Creek Lake area cabin!**



Register online at www.SRLT.org/Lifeline100.