

# PENNYPACK ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION TRUST



2025 ANNUAL REPORT





PARTNER

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Members and Supporters of the Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust,

It is with great pride and gratitude that I write to you as the 10th President of the Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust's Board of Directors. Having served as a member of the Trust since 2009, and as a lifelong resident of the area, I've long appreciated the beauty of the Pennypack Preserve. But stepping into this leadership role has given me a new and deeper understanding of just how much heart, effort, and expertise go into protecting this extraordinary place.



Since becoming President, I've had the privilege of working closely with all ten of our standing committees. I am continually impressed by the dedication and skill of our staff, volunteers, and board members. From forest restoration and invasive species management to infrastructure improvements and community outreach, the scope of our work is both broad and deeply impactful. Whether organizing large-scale public events or leading intimate guided hikes, the passion behind these efforts is unmistakable and inspiring.

What has struck me most is how deliberately the Trust balances its dual mission: protecting vital habitat for wildlife while offering meaningful access to nature for our community. Many are surprised to learn just how much of the Preserve is managed first and foremost for ecological integrity. It's a philosophy that sets us apart, and one that requires ongoing support and shared stewardship.

This year's annual report highlights a theme that is both timely and timeless: partnership. The Trust exists not in isolation, but in relationship with our neighbors, our ecosystems, and our shared future. If you're among the 91 households that border the Preserve, or one of the thousands who live within a short walk or drive, you play an essential role in the health of this landscape. Simple actions such as leaving leaf litter in place or minimizing outdoor lighting can have a profound positive impact on the local habitat and the species that call it home.

The Pennypack Trust is truly a unique institution in our region. Alongside excellent schools, vibrant neighborhoods, and historic landmarks, we are fortunate to have a living landscape that connects us to nature, to each other, and to something greater than ourselves. Our work, preserving open space, educating future generations, and ensuring ecological resilience, strengthens the very fabric of our community.

As we look to the future, I ask for your continued support. Your membership, volunteerism, and financial contributions make everything we do possible. If you or your business is looking for a way to make a meaningful difference, I encourage you to reach out. I'd be honored to speak with you personally, as would our Executive Director, Chris Mendel.

Together, let's ensure that the Pennypack Preserve remains a place of beauty, balance, and belonging – for our children, and for generations to come. 🌿

With gratitude,

*Tripp Davis*

Louis "Tripp" Davis III  
President, Board of Directors

*Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust*



# STRENGTHENING RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS: COLLABORATING TO MITIGATE BEECH LEAF DISEASE AT THE FOREST SCALE

By Maria Paula Mugnani

When staff first found beech leaf disease (BLD) on the preserve, our immediate response was to learn as much as possible about its history and potential impacts. BLD was first detected in American Beech in Ohio in 2012 and spread steadily eastward over the past 10 years. Surely those to the west of us had developed some methods to control the disease's impact over the years? As it turned out, much of that decade had been spent studying the nematode (*Litylenchus crenatae mccannii*) as the cause of the disease and how it moved through a forest. Some entities had trialed physical and chemical treatments that could help sustain an individual specimen beech, but due to the sheer expense of chemical treatment for hundreds of trees, many state foresters seemed resigned to losing many beech at the forest scale.

In some areas of the preserve, American beech is part of a mix of several tree species in the forest. Its golden coppery leaves hang on well past fall and can be easily picked out in winter's stark palette. In other areas, beech is far more dominant, often outliving other species

during its 400-year life span. Where canopy regeneration is poor, some forests can be almost exclusively beech from the canopy to the understory. Having forest composed of a single species is a critical vulnerability in the face of new pests and diseases.

The devastating loss of ash trees on the preserve is still fresh in the minds of several of our staff who have worked here long enough to be forced to cut down the same ash that they planted and cared for years prior. Decades before that, the preserve lost countless oaks to the spongy moth and all our American chestnut to the infamous blight. The loss of these species is not only one of diversity; it is the loss of food, structure and other ecosystem services that our native wildlife depends on.

As a conservation organization dedicated to innovative restoration and land stewardship, we could not stomach potentially watching American beech fade from our forests. Then, out of some initial communications with local colleagues, an unexpected



Bartlett staff performing the root injection.

partnership emerged. Bartlett Research Laboratories, a special research team within Bartlett Tree Experts, was looking for a host site to experiment with different methods of mitigating the impact of BLD. These research pathologists had been trialing several different treatments on specimen beech and wanted to trial their most promising methods at the forest scale, free of charge.

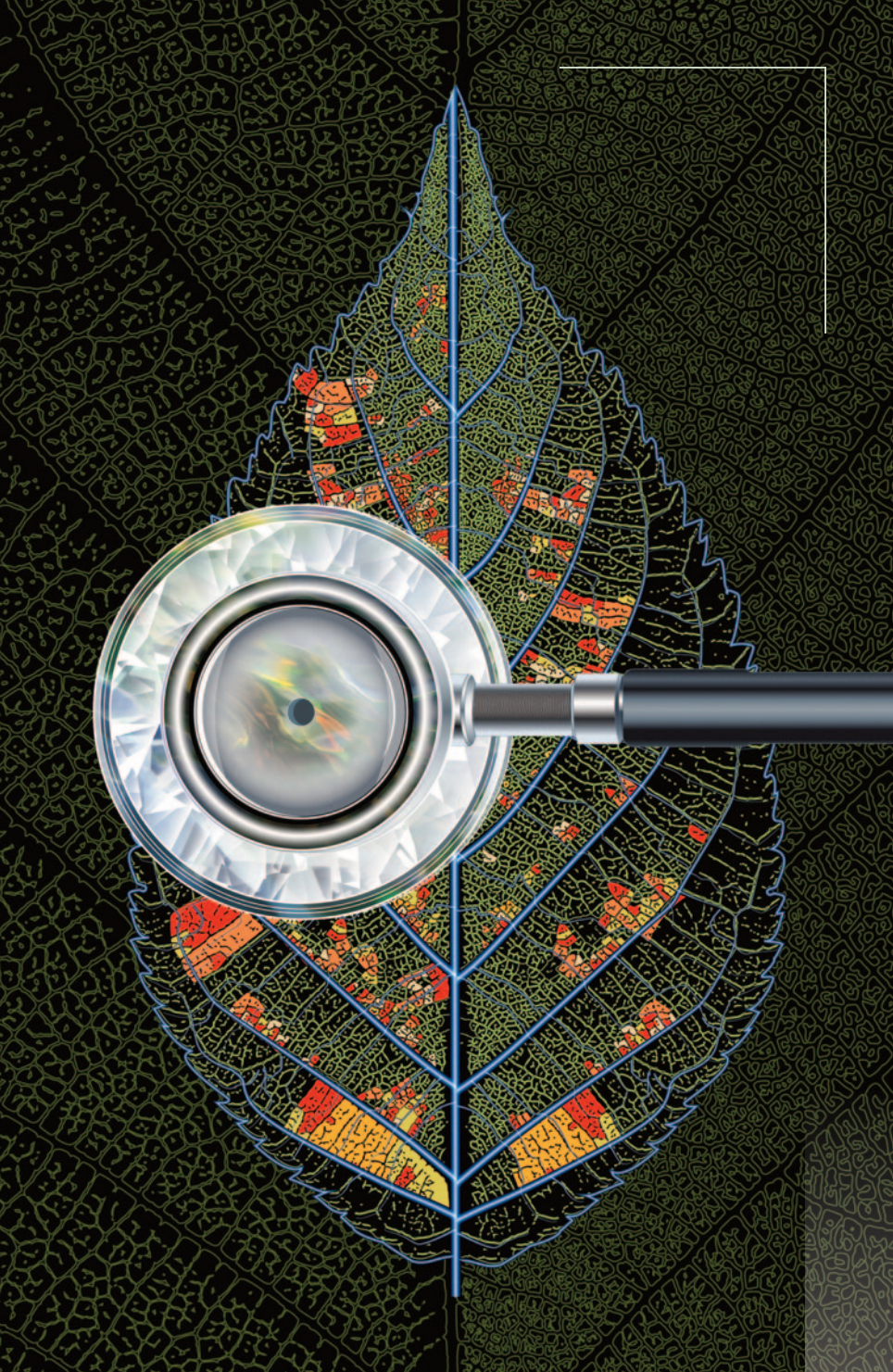
The research would span five years and divide our most beech-dominant forest into two study plots, each containing subplots with different treatments. Over the past year, we have been fortunate to collaborate with Bartlett as they established study plots in the northernmost part of the preserve along Creek Trail, mapping the forest structure and assessing the health of the beech. In July, they conducted selective tree thinning and chemical treatment, the effects of which they will observe for the next four years. Each team of specialists that visited have been consummate professionals in their field. At every stage, they welcomed our staff and interns to

actively join in the process, providing valuable training for our early-career staff.

At Holden Arboretum, near the epicenter of BLD's origin in Ohio, scientists recently published monitoring data on beech survival over the past decade. They found 30% mortality in their forest plots since 2012, mostly among younger trees and in areas with a higher density of beech. That could indicate that as beech die and become less concentrated, some will survive in isolated areas. Or that larger beech will have the resources to survive long enough until the population of nematodes decline. There could even be some BLD-resistant trees out there. The truth is, we don't yet know what will happen to our beech.

*What we do know is how fortunate we are to be part of scientific research that is approaching the issue through a dedicated partnership.*

We look forward to continuing to work alongside the Bartlett team in the coming years and sharing research findings "with individuals and organizations joined in a common commitment to the future of our native forest." 🌿



## WHAT IS BEECH LEAF DISEASE (BLD)?



**Beech Leaf Disease (BLD)** affects and eventually kills all species of beeches, including our native American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*). BLD is caused by a microscopic foliar nematode (*Litylenchus crenatae mccannii*) that feeds on beech buds, limiting a tree's ability to grow healthy leaves and produce energy through photosynthesis. This leads to the tree gradually weakening and potentially dying over a period of years. The nematode is believed to travel rapidly in windblown water vapor, rain droplets, and on birds and insects.

Symptoms of beech leaf disease are readily visible through black interveinal banding and crumpling of leaves.





# THE IMPORTANCE OF DARKNESS/REDUCING LIGHT POLLUTION

By Chris Mendel, Executive Director

The Pennypack Trust protects 956 acres, almost all of them contiguous to one another. Connectivity is essential because it protects a mass that, once large enough, can contain several types of plant communities and gradients of change between them. But our protected land also has lots of edge.

All that edge rides up against homes mostly. Not all of our neighbors understand or appreciate how fragile the woods really are. Addressing light pollution on your property is a wonderful way to work in partnership with PERT.

The preserve belongs to wildlife at night. Light pollution changes the way certain species navigate. It disrupts the way plants process energy during their “dark cycle.” The Pennypack Trust is closed to the public from dusk to dawn so that wildlife can move as they wish when they’re most active.

Light pollution can be easily fixed. I think most folks have lights on for security reasons. Perhaps they illuminate what your Ring camera or other security system is observing. Maybe it’s just what you’ve always done, and site and

security lighting are just part of keeping a home in good order.

These days, lighting timers and motion sensor flood lights are cost effective, reliable, and easy to use. Also, lighting timers can help save energy. They’re programmed to operate as dusk approaches throughout the year, and you can add your preferences so they’re on only on the days and times that you need them. A timer can spare entire nights or at least many hours of quality darkness for the wildlife to enjoy and make use of your property.

If lighting must be on all night, please shield it and direct it so that it’s illuminating the ground or the area you’re most concerned about. Unshielded lights pollute the most. They also create glare and hot and cold zones where your eyes have to adjust rapidly between dim and bright conditions.

Motion sensor flood lights are a very low-tech means of rigging your outside lighting so that it goes on only when motion is detected. You can determine how long it will take for the light to go off after motion is sensed. This is a

wonderful way of tuning your outside lighting for your security system while protecting darkness.

For those seriously concerned about safety, consider Power over Ethernet (PoE) camera security systems that have high definition night vision (and can also record sounds and conversation) at long ranges. These are becoming more common and are a significant step-up from most Wi-Fi systems like RING, Wyze, or Blink.

PoE systems are impervious to Wi-Fi jamming which seems to be something more professional thieves are using. Higher-end cameras are less likely to be blinded by flashlights. High definition night vision is stealthy, allowing you to see others without alerting an intruder or other animals. These systems can also flood illuminate the area on demand, sound an alarm, and some even have a speaker and microphone. I’m considering using these systems for PERT so that we can address our security needs without disrupting wildlife.

## BENEFITS OF GENERAL WARM WHITE LIGHT

**Less disruptive to wildlife.** Many animals, especially nocturnal ones, are sensitive to blue-wavelength light. Using warm, yellow-toned lights helps minimize disruption to natural behaviors, such as foraging, mating, and predator-prey interactions.



**Doesn't interfere with migration.** Bright, blue-rich lights can disorient and confuse migrating birds, causing them to collide with buildings or circle to the point of exhaustion. Warm white lights are less likely to interfere with migration patterns.






**Minimizes harm to insects.** Insects are highly attracted to cool, blue lights. This can disrupt insect populations and the food chains that rely on them, since many other species feed on insects. Warm white lights attract fewer insects, which helps maintain ecological balance.

**Less confusing for sea turtles.** Sea turtle hatchlings use the natural light of the moon and stars reflecting on the ocean to find their way to the sea. Bright artificial lights on beaches can lead them inland, where they often die. Warm light is less likely to disorient them.

**Less light pollution and glare.** The blue light in cooler-toned bulbs scatters more widely in the atmosphere, creating a "sky glow" that can hide stars and disrupt nocturnal species. Warmer lights produce less glare and contribute less to light pollution.

## FIVE PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE OUTDOOR LIGHTING

Responsible outdoor lighting is:

- |                        |  |   |
|------------------------|--|---|
| 1. <b>USEFUL</b>       | <b>Use light only if it is needed</b><br>All light should have a clear purpose. Consider how the use of light will impact the area, including wildlife and their habitats.                                     |  |
| 2. <b>TARGETED</b>     | <b>Direct light so it falls only where it is needed</b><br>Use shielding and careful aiming to target the direction of the light beam so that it points downward and does not spill beyond where it is needed. |  |
| 3. <b>LOW LEVEL</b>    | <b>Light should be no brighter than necessary</b><br>Use the lowest light level required. Be mindful of surface conditions, as some surfaces may reflect more light into the night sky than intended.          |  |
| 4. <b>CONTROLLED</b>   | <b>Use light only when it is needed</b><br>Use controls such as timers or motion detectors to ensure that light is available when needed, dimmed when possible, and turned off when not needed.                |  |
| 5. <b>WARM COLORED</b> | <b>Use warmer-color lights (3,500K or lower) where possible</b><br>Limit the amount of shorter wavelength (blue-violet) light to the least amount needed.  |  |

Avoid light overflow that falls beyond your property boundary and onto a neighbor's property or home.





# IMPROVING HABITAT ON THE JUNE FETE FAIRGROUNDS

By Chris Mendel, Executive Director



**TOP:** Indian Grass in the upper fields have been "released" from regular mowing.

**BELOW:** Heavy equipment was needed to clear out a swale that will be planted in October of 2025.



Most people think of the June Fete as a fair, but it's also a place. After all, the fair has occurred on that spot since it was given to Abington Hospital in 1956. And while the fair still has its horse rings and out-buildings, most people don't think about the 14 acres behind it as part of the fairgrounds. These rolling hills sandwiched between Huntingdon Road and Cathedral Road are typically used as overflow parking for the fair and it's where the fireworks are staged on the Fete's Friday night.

To us at the Pennypack Trust, these 14 acres are our first opportunity to improve habitat and water quality. You wouldn't know it by looking at it, but those soils host a wide array of grasses and flowers, some native, some not. As soon as we took ownership last summer, we stopped mowing so that we could see what the seedbank held. We gave those plants time to show us their flowers and set seed heads. The taller grasses topped-out around knee-high and served as excellent forage and shelter for crickets, songbirds, mice, and voles, and therefore better hunting grounds for foxes, hawks, and owls.

Those rolling hills shed water to little streams that are the beginnings of Mitchell Run, a high-quality tributary to the Pennypack Creek. For decades, the fair has let a sliver of shrubs and trees run along those streams but they became over-run by vines and were used as a place to tuck away woody debris. This past fall, over 50 volunteers helped



Volunteers cleared invasives from over 350 linear feet of swale; ready for replanting in October.

us clear away vines. In January, the Trust brought out heavy equipment over frozen ground to clear out woody debris and set even ground for planting. This coming fall we will plant over 500 new trees and shrubs all along the two streams to shade them and provide entirely native forage and cover for our local wildlife.

These subtle moves (reduced mowing, taking out invasive plants, broadening protection for drainageways), make a big difference to the health of our natural areas while still protecting the function of the fair. Preserving the character of small-scale farming that was the story for generations of Upper Moreland families is also not lost on us. 🌿



Thanks to the Huntingdon Valley Garden Club, PERT was able to make this alley; a marching gesture that visually connects PERT's entry to that of the fairgrounds. More on this in-depth collaboration in next year's annual report.



## FOSTERING HABITAT AT HOME:

# Just Leave the Leaves

By Abbi Winters, Communications Coordinator

The Pennypack Trust believes conservation doesn't stop at the Preserve's borders. Members, neighbors, and volunteers like you play a vital role in supporting local ecology. Each season, we'll share simple actions you can take right at home to help care for our local land, water, and wildlife.

Looking for an easy way to help local ecology this fall? Here's one you can do every autumn – just leave the leaves. When autumn arrives and the leaves begin to fall, it's easy to think of them as yard waste. But what looks like “litter” is actually an important resource, alive with connections that support the entire ecosystem.

Instead of bagging them up and hauling them away, you can move leaves into garden beds or around tree trunks to keep your yard looking tidy while still giving nature what it needs. As the leaves break down, they act as a natural fertilizer – locking in moisture, while feeding the soil and beneficial decomposers like fungi and bacteria that recycle nutrients back to plants. Those healthy plants will, in turn, drop their own leaves and seeds, continuing the cycle.

At the same time, fallen leaves provide critical habitat. Fireflies spend most of their lives in a larva stage living under the leaf layer, and without it, we wouldn't see their magical glow when they emerge in the summer as adults. Birds like chickadees forage there, sifting through the leaves to find dried seeds and hidden insects to feed themselves and their young. Important pollinator butterflies and moths rely on leaves for shelter too. Species like the striking green Luna moth wrap themselves in a cocoon made from leaf material and silk to overwinter on the ground before emerging in spring.

By leaving the leaves, you're doing more than reducing yard work – you're helping create a thriving ecosystem that supports life above and below the soil, season after season. 🍂

### FIREFLIES

*Fireflies spend most of their life cycle as larvae in damp, decomposing material like leaf litter. Leaving fallen leaves in your yard provides critical habitat for them to grow and thrive.*



### BOX TURTLE

*A leafy blanket offers them the insulation they need to survive during brumation – a form of hibernation*



### OVEN BIRD

*These birds are avid insectivores, and the leaf layer serves as their primary hunting ground.*



### LUNA MOTH

*Luna moths use the leaf layer for their winter hibernation during their pupal stage.*





# EXCEPTIONAL GIFTS: ESTATE PLANNING THAT SUPPORTS YOUR FAMILY AND THE COMMUNITY

By Maureen Malloy, Director of Development



When you hear the term planned giving, your mind might go to a dark place. Not only does the term evoke the end of life, but it also uncovers a lengthy list of choices that we need to make. We are currently at the tail end of planned giving season, which is why you may have been hearing so much about wills and estate planning lately. This seems like a strange thing to have its own season, but it exists to force the subject a bit. It's hard to set aside time to plan something that no one wants to think about.

You like to plan parties, vacations, hikes, and bike rides, so let's flip the script when it comes to the subject of planned giving. This is about planning your legacy. Think about what you love about the Pennypack Trust. Is it the wildlife? The trails? The activities? The camaraderie?

In placing the Trust in your giving plans, you have the opportunity to pinpoint what you value most in this unique, beautiful place and take steps to protect it for future generations. And planned giving isn't just for the wealthy. Anyone who has or makes a will can name the Trust as a beneficiary in whatever amount you would like to provide.

In 2013, PERT's Board of Directors established the Strong Roots Society to foster the development of a stable, dependable, and permanent source of funding that will guarantee the long-term integrity of the Pennypack Preserve and the organization that safeguards it. The Strong Roots Society is a planned gift program that allows supporters to help ensure that the Pennypack Trust will always be able to fulfill its commitment to the natural world.

You can see its current members listed towards the back of this publication. There is also an option to remain anonymous. The important part is that PERT is informed of your planned promise.

In times of economic volatility, securing these gifts provides some stability to the Pennypack Trust. Legacy gifts are unique, they can be durable and enable us to protect open space and habitat for decades to come. While we rely heavily on membership to fuel our day-to-day operations, we also know that people are spending more carefully these days. Planned giving allows us to adapt and think long-term regardless of the economic uncertainties of the day.

If reading this makes you think about wills, estates and planned giving for the first time, don't worry! PERT plans on holding some informational seminars in 2026 to help you get started and answer any questions that may arise during the process. If you've already named PERT in your will, please let us know so we can get you into the Strong Roots Society. In the meantime, we thank you for your continued support and hope to see you taking advantage of your favorite parts of this magical place.

TO LEARN MORE about the **Strong Roots Society** or to inform us of a Planned Gift that is already in place, please contact Maureen at [mmalloy@pennypacktrust.org](mailto:mmalloy@pennypacktrust.org).

## AT A GLANCE:

### REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS (RMD) AND QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS (QCD)

By Tiffany-Renee Young, Director of Finance

The IRS requires that distributions from some defined contribution retirement plans begin at age 73. Some of those plan types include 401(k), 403(b), profit sharing, and some traditional IRAs.

The amount of the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for each calendar year is determined by the account balance from the end of the prior calendar year along with the distribution period set forth in the "Uniform Lifetime Table" published by the IRS.

Withdrawals can be made in excess of the minimum amount required; however, all withdrawals not previously taxed (most 401ks, 403bs, and IRAs that are not ROTH IRAs) are considered taxable income. This includes the required minimum distribution or RMD.

One tax saving alternative to taking the required minimum distribution in full is donating a portion of retirement plan assets to a qualified charitable non-profit organization such as the Pennypack Trust. This type of donation is called a qualified charitable distribution (QCD).

QCDs are also called IRA charitable distributions or IRA charitable rollovers. A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) can be a great way to partially satisfy the required minimum distributions (RMD) and obtain some of the tax benefits of giving. QCDs are not only beneficial to the receiving organization; they can also be largely advantageous for legacy, wealth transfer and estate planning.

A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) permits those aged 70½ years old and older to donate up to a total of \$108,000 (the maximum for 2025) to one or more charities directly from a taxable IRA in lieu

of withdrawing the required minimum distribution. This strategy reduces the donor's tax liability and could avoid higher income tax brackets while keeping other tax deductions available.

Eligible IRA types are those such as traditional, inherited, Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) plan and Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees (SIMPLE) IRA types. No matter the type, the chosen IRA must no longer receive employer contributions or matches. Qualified charitable distributions are sent directly to the eligible charity from the custodian of the IRA either by check, electronic or wire transfer.

While there are many strategies for retirement planning, tax benefits and savings, QCDs are a straightforward approach that reduces taxable income and satisfies the RMD. Qualified charitable distribution (QCD) also provides financial support to qualified charitable organizations, increasing an individual's philanthropy while taking advantage of a larger number of tax deductions and incentives.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** on Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) and Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) consult a financial advisor or tax professional that can help determine the best giving strategy that aligns with your retirement goals. 🌱



In placing the Trust in your planned giving plans, you have the opportunity to pinpoint what you value most in this unique, beautiful place and take steps to protect it for future generations.

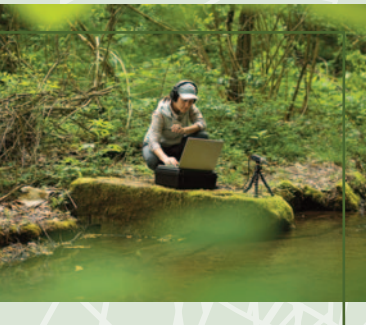


# EVOLVING OUR INTERN'S EXPERIENCE

By Chris Mendel, Executive Director



Thanks to our lead sponsor BLBB Charitable, the Pennypack Trust has hosted 6-8 interns every year for six years running.



In summer, those interns are essential to expanding our team during the height of the growing season. In winter, they help us get a leg-up on trail maintenance and get involved in our more advanced site preparation and carpentry projects. Those of you familiar with our staff know that Luke and Maria Paula are wonderful teachers and resources. They pour their knowledge into our interns, hoping to give them real-world experience in applied ecology, restoration project implementation, and the general operation of a nature preserve.

This year, Luke and Maria Paula made a significant change to the way they educate interns by assigning them real sites in need of restoration management plans. The goal was to give every intern a basic understanding of the fundamentals of natural area management:

- How to analyze the site, its slopes, soils, hydrology, and legacy of disturbance;
- How to characterize the native and non-native plants
- How to identify what is most influencing or inhibiting the site's native plant community;
- How to make a plan that addresses the site's strengths and weaknesses to lead it towards a more self-sustaining and native future.

These experiences will set them apart from their competition and help park systems find qualified staff to manage natural areas. This approach has shown us several benefits. It streamlines and focuses our in-service educational offerings. While Maria Paula has always taught our interns how to use dichotomous keys for plant identification, the intern's sites are giving them immediate use of their newfound skills. Interns will be able to talk about applied ecology and restoration projects with real experience and respect the depth of knowledge and time needed to see real change in living systems. Interns will be more marketable as professionals in the conservation and open space management world.

The Pennypack Trust is excited about this evolution in our internship because we know that there is a real need for this type of training across the country. Too few park systems know how to manage natural areas as habitats or for ecosystem services. By contrast, the golf industry is a multi-billion-dollar economy that fuels turf management schools and the development of purpose-built equipment, fertilizers, and herbicides. Natural area management needs this kind of robust network, too. We are delighted to play a role in the development of careers that support a healthy and diverse environment to support this and other species. 🌿







## THE NEXT GENERATION OF STEWARDSHIP

By Kevin Roth, Director of Education and Outreach

Part of the mission of the Pennypack Trust is to educate the next generation on the importance of being stewards of their local environment. The first step in getting that next generation to care about local conservation is by getting these students on the Preserve.

As David Attenborough once said, "No one will protect what they don't care about; and no one will care about what they have never experienced".

For the past 20 years, the Trust has been doing just that with students from the Upper Moreland School District thanks to the unwavering commitment from one teacher, Michelle Meeks. Ms. Meeks, with help from our education department, is the driving force behind the district's annual 6th grade field trip to PERT.

Although the event has evolved over the years, the basics have remained the same: Get students out of school and onto the Preserve to get their hands dirty and experience what the Pennypack Trust has to offer. Students plant trees, test the water quality of the Pennypack



Creek, build beaver lodges, and enjoy mindful moments in nature.

"When students make real-life connections to what they're learning, the content becomes more meaningful – and more memorable," Meeks said.

"It's not just science in a textbook anymore; it's their world, their impact, and their responsibility. That is exactly the opportunity PERT provides for sixth grade students at Upper Moreland. It began with a simple goal: I wanted my students to learn about the environment of their school community and become stewards of that environment. Most of all, I wanted them to experience and appreciate the amazing natural world surrounding them," she added.

Ms. Meeks said the program started with tree planting and exploring the watershed. But the program has since grown to encompass so much more, including learning about habitats, native and invasive species, water quality, and human impact. Year in and year out, students are making meaningful connections between their education and their surroundings, especially

*I wanted my students to learn about the environment of their school community and become stewards of that environment. Most of all, I wanted them to experience and appreciate the amazing natural world surrounding them.*

MICHELLE MEEKS | UPPER MORELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

through their activities in and around the school's rain gardens, which are directly tied to PERT.

Years later, several students who participated in the sixth-grade program became adult volunteers at "Free-a- Tree" events and special social engagements. Some have even made encouraging career choices. Kris Aldrete, a current intern at PERT, learned about local conservation during his trip while he was in 6th grade at Upper Moreland.

"I still vividly remember my 6th grade field trip to Pennypack with Upper Moreland Middle School. Planting trees and searching for salamanders by the marsh pond sparked something in me – it was the first time I really connected with the natural world," Aldrete said.



"That experience stayed with me and played a big role in shaping my passion for the environment. It ultimately led me to pursue a bachelor's degree in environmental health. Today, I'm proud to be part of the staff at PERT, working on the very same land that first inspired me as a kid."

Now, it's not only the 6th graders visiting PERT, but students from almost every school in Upper

Moreland. Students from the Primary School, the Middle School, and the High School are now taking their education outdoors to gain hands-on experience in local conservation.

Now students of all ages can see, hear, and understand what the Pennypack Trust, and nature, have to offer. 🌿







# OPERATING STATEMENT

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

## Revenues and Support

Membership and Annual Appeal .....	\$ 332,200
Endowments .....	497,202
Unrestricted Contributions .....	97,888
Programs, Events and Retail Sales (net) .....	53,704
Grants.....	71,369
Other .....	264,186
<b>Total Revenues and Support.....</b>	<b>\$ 1,316,549</b>

## Expenditures

Ecological Restoration and Stewardship .....	\$ 730,479
Membership Programming and Communications .....	57,928
Administration .....	75,473
Facilities .....	63,552
<b>Total Expenditures .....</b>	<b>\$ 1,227,432</b>

# THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS

As a private, non-profit organization we rely on our membership to help preserve and restore the natural lands we are entrusted to steward. Support from our members enables us to provide habitat for animals, build buffers for stormwater runoff to keep creeks clean, establish strong reforestation for cleaner air, and maintain beautiful spaces in which to discover the wonders of nature.

(Active members July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025)

## Preservationist (\$5,000 & Over)

Mark and Lynda Arrimour  
Brent and Kelly Asplundh  
Eric and Kelly Asplundh  
Gregg and Christine Asplundh  
Kurt and Jennifer Asplundh  
Meredith Asplundh\*  
Susan Asplundh and Chuck Blair  
Dick and Sally Brickman  
Lach and Dorothy Brown  
Chris and Julie Carr  
Andrew Christy and Nicole Tomlinson  
Louise D'Alessandro and Richard Hamilton  
Louis and Jennifer Davis III  
Peter and Kathryn Davis  
Thomas DeKornfeld  
Gail Faulkner and John S. Oyler  
Duncan and Martha Pitcairn  
Corey and Daniel C. Rudderow

## Conservationist (\$2,500 – \$4,999)

Martha Asplundh  
Elaine K. Faulkner  
Owen & Jess Frazier  
George Zotalis and Niki Bili  
Julie Hodges Gouveia  
William and Mindy Mikulik  
Andrew G. and Madeleine C. Nehlig  
Vickie Rosskam  
David B. Rowland  
Lewis S. Somers and Christine L. Sweeney  
Bill & Libby Weihenmayer  
Carol S. and Robert B. White, Jr.  
Kathlene White Nissenbaum

## Steward (\$1,000 – \$2,499)

Elizabeth Parker Allen\*  
Leigh and Carol Altadonna  
Gwen Asplundh  
Marilyn P. Asplundh  
Steven and Lisa Asplundh  
Stewart and Jackie Asplundh  
Paul and Amy Baker

Carol Beam  
Richard D. and Lowell Booth  
Scott and Diane Brown  
Mark and Shirley Davis  
Doris and Jack DeLong  
Lisa Donahue  
Jeffrey and Sarah Elsing  
Kathleen and Max Ernst  
Mary Felley  
George and Gretchen Graham, Jr.  
Cyane Gresham  
David & Joanne Harrar  
Steve & Clara Huntzinger  
William Bergen Junge  
Tracy Russo and Mitch Kelly  
Paul and Muriel Lange  
Robert and Patricia Lima  
Arthur and Alice Lintgen\*  
Jenny and Jody Maddock  
Dean Malissa  
Anthony and Carolyn McGrail  
John Medveckis  
Chris and Rebecca Mendel  
Robert and Karen Peterman  
Clark and Peggy Pitcairn  
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Dan Reynolds is an Elkins Park-based journalist, outdoorsman and poet who assisted in editing the Trust’s newsletter this year.





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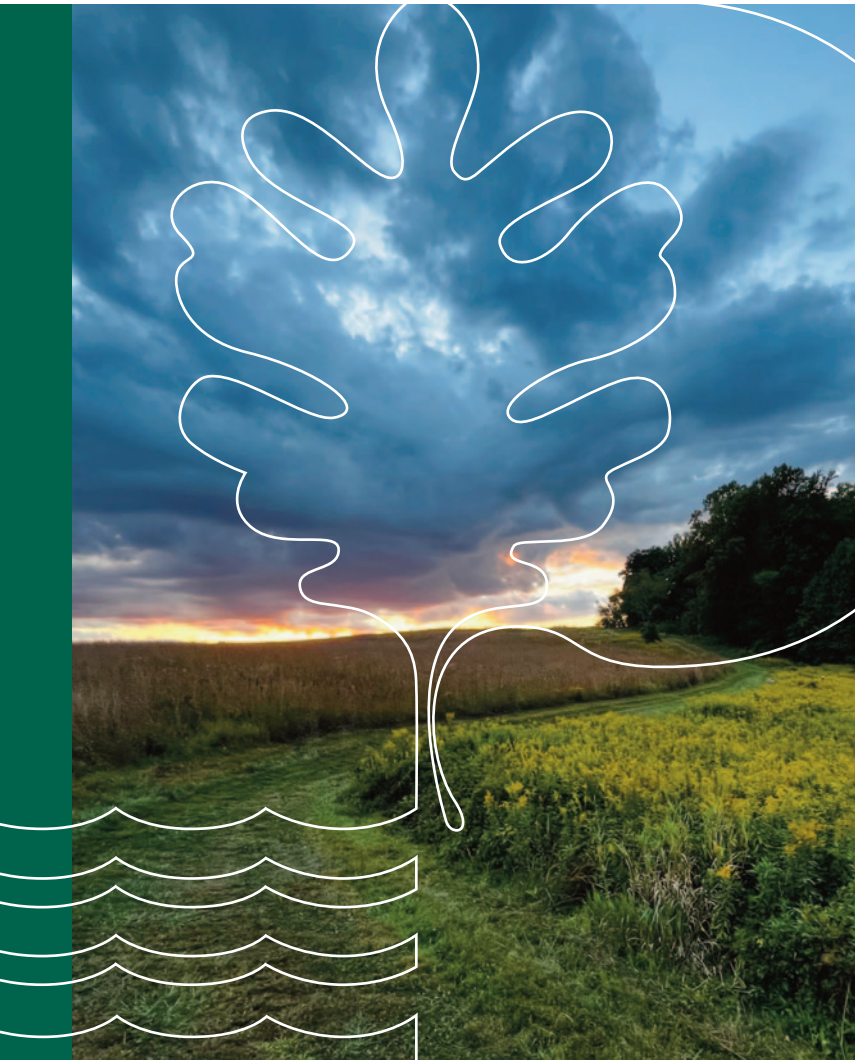




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Support forever a natural landscape populated  
by native plant and animal life, and

Become a standard of excellence for innovative  
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