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Our Vision
The Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy contributes to the health of communities by protecting the lands we love.

Photo: Scilla siberica at an MHLC-protected property in Coeymans, NY.
Chair’s Message

“Conservation is not merely a question of morality, but a question of our own survival.” - The Dalai Lama

As I think about MHLC’s past successes and its ever-expanding portfolio of exciting projects, I am increasingly aware of the urgency of the work we do. In our three-county service area, the press of development continues unabated, and the threat to open space, scenic vistas, agricultural and cultural landscapes, and other special places is as grave as ever. Now, faced with the immediate and long-term impacts of climate change, the call to action grows stronger every day.

We know that the time for action is now, and that MHLC plays a meaningful role in responding to the impacts and threats of climate change. We are already engaged in a large-scale project that will protect thousands of acres of forested land for the purpose of sequestering carbon dioxide. In addition, we continue to look for opportunities to create “conservation corridors” that will support the migration and preservation of various species as habitat ranges shift due to the changing climate. Finally, we are exploring opportunities to strategically protect parcels that could help mitigate the impact of the expected rise in sea and river levels. MHLC is committed to doing its part toward ensuring our survival—and the survival of the natural world.

In addition to our renewed focus on climate, 2018 was a banner year for another of MHLC’s conservation priorities: farmland protection. Among our most notable conservation success stories in 2018 was the preservation of the 540-acre Triumpho Farm in St. Johnsville, Montgomery County. This significant farmland project—our first in Montgomery County—ensures that this land will forever be devoted to agriculture. Moreover, this project has generated some interest among agricultural landowners in the westernmost county of MHLC’s service area. This year, we will continue to explore the preservation of additional farmland as we look to have a greater impact in Schenectady and Montgomery counties.

Thank you for your continued support of our efforts. We are so grateful.

Chris Gorka, Chair
MHLC Board of Directors
We protected 1,085 acres this year! The exciting variety of projects met several of the Conservancy's conservation criteria: significant habitats, working landscapes, climate resilience, and connected lands.

- **Bozen Kill Conservation Corridor | 29 acres**
  A 29.3 acre donation of land in the Town of Knox continued our long history of work along the Bozen Kill Conservation Corridor; our first acquisition there was in 1999. This donation linked together 448 acres, creating a continuous swath of MHLC protected lands, ensuring future water quality of the Bozen Kill stream, which feeds the Watervliet Reservoir, and preserving a wildlife corridor for mammal species such as black bear, fisher, and bobcat.

- **Rensselaerville | 340+ acres**
  MHLC added more than 300 acres to our land protection portfolio in Rensselaerville through the transfer of two conservation easements from the Open Space Institute (OSI). Rensselaerville is one of MHLC’s Conservation Priority Areas and as the leading local land trust, we were excited to take over the stewardship responsibilities that come with these easements. The first property, CBM Farms, features deep forests, working farmlands, and spectacular views. The second property preserves part of Hennicke Marsh, a diverse wetland which protects water quality, scenic views, and provides important habitat for songbirds, mammals, amphibians, and rare plants.

  A few months later, we completed an easement on the 40-acre Hernick Wetland in Rensselaerville. Three neighbors banded together and worked with MHLC to save this beautiful wetland and to protect a small tributary which flows into Ten-Mile and Catskill Creeks from this parcel.
**1,085 acres in 2018!**

- **Fisher Boulevard Property | 35 acres | Slingerlands**
  In a creative partnership with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation’s Five Rivers Environmental Education Center and an anonymous landowner, we preserved the Fisher Boulevard property, a 35-acre parcel of undeveloped forests and fields. For over a decade, the fate of this land, one of the few remaining open spaces in Slingerlands, had been under the threat of development. Through our protection, these acres will remain as open space and have been incorporated into Five Rivers, thereby increasing community access to nature, outdoor learning, and recreation.

This partnership was a huge success for conservation and for our local community. Within two months, we met our fundraising goal for this project, enabling MHLC to complete the project while ensuring permanent protection of these 35 acres.

On August 30th, the staff, Board, and Advisory Council of MHLC joined with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the Friends of Five Rivers, elected officials, representatives from the Student Conservation Association, and the donors who gave to this incredibly important project to celebrate this great success. As we met on the Fisher Boulevard Property, in a field lined by milkweed and other wildflowers, monarch butterflies fluttered by while our partners spoke about the great importance of this project as an expansion of an incredible community resource.

*2018 Conservation Successes Continued on Next Page...*

*Photos: Left: The Hennicke Marsh in Rensselaerville protects water quality and habitat. Right: Forests on the Fisher Boulevard property, which will be incorporated into Five Rivers.*
• **Triumpho Farmland | 540 acres | St. Johnsville**

In December 2018, MHLC met our fundraising goal for the Triumpho farmland. These 540 acres are now protected by a conservation easement, and the land remains open for future farming.

This land in St. Johnsville has been the home of the Triumpho family for over 100 years. Herds of dairy cows have grazed here for over a century, cared for by four generations of Triumphos. The fertile soils on the Triumpho farm have been identified as being of statewide significance: these are healthy, nutrient-rich soils which can support a diverse ecosystem and sustainable agriculture. The bucolic, rolling hillsides are iconic to the foothills south of the Adirondacks and the northern reaches of the Mohawk Valley. Hundreds of acres of temperate deciduous forest provide wildlife habitat, soil stability, and carbon storage. Winding through these forests, the Zimmerman Creek provides fresh waters for trout spawning and also serves as an important water source for the town of St. Johnsville.

This significant success was our first farmland protection effort in Montgomery County. It has opened the door to more farmland protection in the Mohawk Valley by generating interest among like-minded agricultural land owners in the westernmost county of MHLC’s service area. This work would not have been possible without the support of our community and funding from the New York State Conservation Partnership Program (NYSCPP) and New York’s Environmental Protection Fund. The NYSCPP is administered by the Land Trust Alliance, in coordination with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. We are grateful to our conservation partners, to the landowner, and to our community for coming together to protect this incredible property!

![Photos: Left: A soybean field on the Triumpho farmland located just south of the western Adirondacks. Right: A young hiker inspects a salamander during our Heldeberg Hike-a-thon’s waterfall hike.]
Events

**Naturalist Series** | Partnering with David Muska of Ondatra Adventures, MHLC offered several free, hands-on learning opportunities in the great outdoors. This year our calendar included Animal Tracking, Mushroom Foraging, Plants of the Rail Trail, and a new Reading the Landscape workshop.

**Summer Festival & Helderberg Hike-a-thon** | On July 22, hundreds of guests enjoyed ten outings across the Helderbergs: a cave tour, a waterfall hike, a treasure hunt, yoga, and more. In the afternoon, we gathered at Indian Ladder Farms for craft beer and cider, local food, live music, Irish dancing, face painting, story-time with the Albany Tulip Court, hay and pony rides, and more.

Staff
We said goodbye to Office Manager Laurie Streeter this year after two years of excellent work during a time of tremendous growth for MHLC. In June, we welcomed Kristi Perri to the team as our Office Manager and Bookkeeper.

Volunteers
MHLC volunteers were busy in 2018 and contributed over **2,600 hours of work with the Conservancy!** Our Earth Day Clean-Up in Coeymans was our biggest volunteer day, and we removed an astounding 30 cubic yards of garbage built up from years of dumping on a private, protected property.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Bender Family Foundation, we were able to increase our number of stewardship work days, and offer an interactive Volunteer Appreciation Party and training event at the end of the season. Volunteers had 26 opportunities, including work days dedicated to improving trail systems and the appearance of our preserves, thereby enhancing nature preserve experiences for the approximately 15,000 guests who visited MHLC preserves this year.
Clockwise from top left: Guests ride the historic carousel at the NYS Museum at MHLC’s Fall Fundraiser. | The Earth Day Clean-Up crew removed 30 cubic yards of garbage from a private, protected property in Coeymans. | Assemblywoman Patricia Fahy and Senator Neil Breslin listen as MHLC Executive Director Mark King announces the protection of the Fisher Boulevard Property. | Participants learn to track animals in winter with MHLC and Ondatra Adventures.
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Save the Date!

**Summer Hike-a-thon**
Saturday, July 20, 2019

**Fall Fundraiser**
Thursday, October 3, 2019
New York State Museum
Fall Fundraiser
Thursday, October 3, 2019
New York State Museum

Save the Date!

Michele & Dave Hasso
Audrey Hawkins
Chris & Kelli Hawver
Nancy Heinzen &
Gregory Strizich
Bente Hirsch
Matthew & Sara Hotopp
Martha H. Hubbard
Carol Ipsen & Jim Alpert
Ellen Jabbar
Eric & Mary Lou Jackson
Marion Jackson
Michael Jarus
Ted & Sally Jennings
Amy Jesaitis
Stephen & Victoria Jones
David Jukins
Patricia Jukins
David & Cindy Kahlbaugh
Steven Kamenir
Charles Keefe
Peter & Susan Keitel
Dorothy & William Kelleher
John W. Kent
Carolyn Kerr
Stewart Dutfield & Jean Kerr
W. Michael King
Lois E. Klatt
David & Ann Krischer
Eric & Maria Kroth
Robert Kuhn
Erik Kulleseid &
Mark Eisenhardt
Ann Lapinski
Eileen Larrabee
Susan Lawrence
Linda LeClair
Ellen & Gary Lind
Simon & Edna Litten
Cynthia Lockrow &
Jeffrey Popiel
Kathleen LoGiudice &
John Blanchard
Bert & Sarah Longbotham
Alan Longshore
Sally Jean Lovering
Lauren Lyons-Swift &
Bryan Swift
Laurie & Steven Lysenko
Ellen Manning
Char & Alan Mapes
Maureen & John McAlary
Rose McAvoy
Christopher &
Katherine McCarthy
Laura & Adam McCarthy
Thomas McDonald
John McLennan
Louise McNeilly
Laurie Mead
Donna & Peter Meixner
Linda Mertz & Paul Partridge
Elizabeth Miller
Linda Miller & Bob Lowry
Ron Liberty & Mary Monaco
Tolga Morawski
Paulette Morgan & Bill Howard
Rena & John Mounteer
Mary Lou Murrock
Angela Neal
Sigrin & Jonathan Newell
Pam Otis & Rick Curreri
Terry Palumbo
Nancy Papish
Sallie Pellman
Sarah M. Pellman Fund of The
Community Foundation for
the Greater Capital Region

Bob & Kathy Perry
Jon Pessen
Russ & Amy Pokorny
Kate Pope
Paul & Diana Praus
Chris Dowd & Tricia Putman
John & Regina Rabenstein
Joe & Dorothee Racette
Richard & Mary Raczkowski
Judith Ratner
John Razzano
Margaret Z. Reed
Paul & Katja Rehm
Nola Royce
Nancy E. Rutenber
Dian Ryan
William Sacks
Martha D. Schroeder
Marian Schwager &
Roman Hedges
Geoff & Mary Jane Serfilippi
James & Robin Sevinsky
Darius Shahinfar
Francis & Sarah Sheehan
MaryAnn & Bruce Shubert
Shirley Siegel
Helen & Bob Smith
Nancy R. Smith
Dean S. Sommer &
Dr. Holly Cheever

Photos (from top to bottom):
Runners at the Earth Day Fun
Run on the Rail Trail. | Earth Day
Storytime event with Bethlehem
Public Library at Swift Preserve in
Bethlehem, NY. | Volunteers
installing a split rail fence at
Ashford Glen Preserve.
$50 to $99
Anonymous+++++
Carol Ackerman
Virginia Acquario
Robert Addis
Brian & Lauren Axford
Caroline Bardwell
David Barnet & Julia Richards
Carol & Gary Barrell
Frank Barrie
Sue Beatty
Joseph Bierman
Mike & Tina Blake
Paula Brewer
Leslie Bristol
Edward Browne
Capt. Phillip J. Bull
Regina Boyles & George Burns
Dennis J. Caro
Jonathan Carp & Deborah Stayman
Judith & Louis Clough
Paul & AnneMarie Comber
Mary Comley
Melissa & Ross Conger
Stacy & Todd Crandall
Anne Crawford
Donna Crisafulli & Richard Kuhn
Jane Twomey & Paul Doyle Jr.
Jacques du Moulin
Shannon Duerr
Sasha Eisenstein
Marla & Steven Elliott
Paul V. Fasano
Janice Fontanella
Jennifer Ford
Mark & Karen Frering
Elizabeth Gagnon
Miles & Evelyn Garfinkel
Louis Garguilo
Michelle Garrah
Carl George
Rick Georgeson & Anne Woulfe
Judie Gilmore
Victoria Gold
Jeffrey Gordon
Elliott & Nancy Greene
Amy Griffin & Danny Goodwin
Tom Hart
Holly Hawkes
Andrea Hersh
Susan Herzfeld
Albert J. Howard
Alice Howes
Susan & Peter Iwanowicz
Carol Jackson
Susan Jacobsen
Jennifer Kenna
The Kaback Family
Betty Ketcham
Doris Kirk
Mark & Karen Kissinger
David Klein & Harriet Jaffe
Laura & Peter Koch
Anne Kuppinger & Dan Liebert
Peter & Donna Kurz
David & Diane Kvam
David & Joyce Laisa
Nancy Landrigan
Al Lansing
John & Susan Leah
George & Lynne Lenhardt
Jeff Levitt
Leslie & Richard Lombardo
Brian Lusignan
Stuart & Jane Lyman
Daniel & Jean Mackay
Hon. Paula Mahan
M.H. Maniccia
Carolyn & James Martel
Joe & Kathleen Martens
R. Bruce & Barbara McBride
Paul & Leonardine McCarthy
Jack & Jan McEneny
Daniel Mehlman & Margaret Shirk
Joseph & Ellen Messina
Sarah Miller & Nathaniel Corwin
Terry & Ivor Moskowitz
Robert E. Mulligan
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Patrick Neary
Kathleen Patentreger
Tim Pierce
Nancy L. Pieri
Karen Pirozzi
Kevin Pittz
Peter & Janet Plourde
Emily Abbuhi Pratt
James & Lisa Preller
Jean Quattrocci
Cheryl Randall
Ruth Rauche
Steve Redler & Ann Lowenfels
Jacob P. Reed
Nancy Reich
Richard & Molly Reilly
Sandra J. Rhoades
Erasmus & Monika Schneider
Bill Schollenberger

Photo: Guests enjoy our November “Reading the Landscape” workshop with Ondatra Adventures on a private easement in Scotia, NY.
"If one really loves nature, one can find beauty everywhere."

Vincent Van Gogh

Quotes, clockwise from top:
Canadian Anenome growing in Schoharie Creek.
Goldenrod in Rensselaerville.
Bird's nest found in Mosheer Marsh.
Up to $50
Anonymous
Riley Ackley
Elisa Tamar Albert
Maggie Allen
Judith Avitabile
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Andy Arthur
In Honor of Kristen
Cady-Poulin
Donna Sawyer
In Honor of Michelle Capuano
Joseph Capuano
In Honor of Sarah Carroll
James Carroll
In Honor of Isabella & Hutton Cascione
Anonymous
In Honor of Sawyer Cresap
Heidi Ann Blackwell
Mr. & Mrs. Claus
In Honor of Sawyer Cresap & Adam Bailey
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Anonymous

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Katherine & William Wolfram

In Honor of the Lott Family  
Catherine Lott

In Honor of Cathie Love  
Paige Hartl

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Diane Reiner  
Eileen Shaffer

In Memory of Harvey Artnett  
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In Memory of Sharon Kathleen Bemis  
Joseph & Rita Okoniewski

In Memory of Susan Berzinis  
Al Berzinis

In Memory of Jay H. Bosworth  
Eileen Bosworth

In Memory of Nancy Bosch Bowerman  
Julann Constantine

In Memory of Mary S. Brennan  
John Brennan

In Memory of Bill Burrill  
Mary Beth Burrill

In Memory of Dan Carroll  
Harriet Seeley

In Memory of James Andrew Carusone  
Leonard & Susan Carusone

In Memory of Steve Cotler  
J. Cotler

In Memory of Daniel A. Driscoll  
Deborah Driscoll  
Dr. & Mrs. J. Michael Ritty  
Fred Ulrich

In Memory of Lisa Lyon Evans  
Karen C. Beck  
Mary & Chris Mattson  
John Razzano  
Dave & Arlene Sampson  
Caleb Wistar

In Memory of Susan Berzinis  
Al Berzinis

In Memory of David A. Bosworth Jr.  
Eileen Bosworth

In Memory of Nancy Bosch Bowerman  
Julann Constantine

In Memory of Mary S. Brennan  
John Brennan

In Memory of Bill Burrill  
Mary Beth Burrill

In Memory of Dan Carroll  
Harriet Seeley

In Memory of James Andrew Carusone  
Leonard & Susan Carusone

In Memory of Steve Cotler  
J. Cotler

In Memory of Daniel A. Driscoll  
Deborah Driscoll  
Dr. & Mrs. J. Michael Ritty  
Fred Ulrich

In Memory of Lisa Lyon Evans  
Karen C. Beck  
Mary & Chris Mattson  
John Razzano  
Dave & Arlene Sampson  
Caleb Wistar

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Mary Jane & Charles Heffernan

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Teresa Gehrer

In Memory of Thomas M. Genovese  
Dennis Caro

In Memory of Peter Henner, Esq.  
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In Memory of Deb Hiller  
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Janet Kerr

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In Memory of John D. Petweiler  
Nancy & Glen Slack

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Shirah Pollock

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Jaclyn Pilette

In Memory of David W. Martin  
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Virginia Boyle Traver

In Memory of Captain Timothy J. Moshier  
Katie Suhr

In Memory of Brenda S. Noonan  
The Noonan Family

In Memory of Eugene C. Ogden  
Everett B. Ogden

In Memory of Nadine Pavik  
Charles Seeley

In Memory of John D. Petweiler  
Nancy & Glen Slack

In Memory of Dr. Charles B. Pollock  
Shirah Pollock

In Memory of Bob & Marion Raymond  
Dorothy Matsui

In Memory of Tom Schottman  
Jeff Leon  
The Schottman Family

Photo opposite page: Maidenhair fern at the Normanskill West Preserve in Bethlehem, NY.
“THE EARTH IS WHAT WE ALL HAVE IN COMMON.”

Wendell Berry
In Memory of Ruth, Albert, and Allen Slatky
Larry Slatky

In Memory of Art Stauffer
Linda Delfs

In Memory of Anthony Ken Umina
Carol A. Furman

In Memory of T. Robert & Jane White
Steven R. White

In Memory of Sarah Whiting
Sharon Whiting

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You are important to our success... Thank you!

Photo: Left: Forested land protected by a conservation easement in Rensselaerville. Right: A group of MHLC volunteers gathered for a photo after a work day in Ashford Glen Preserve, Colonie, NY, on National Trails Day.
“2018 was a monumental year for conservation in our tri-county service area: Albany, Montgomery, and Schenectady Counties. The growth of the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy reflects a larger phenomenon: as more land is developed year after year, our communities are driven to protect the remaining natural spaces of our home. Because of our supporters, MHLC has been able to become the Capital Region’s local land trust, acting quickly and decisively to protect more acres than ever before.”

-Mark King, Executive Director