

ConserveLand

A Publication of the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association

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Pennsylvania Land Trusts Expand Conserved Lands by 58% in Just Eight Years

Although land trusts have been protecting Pennsylvania's special places since the mid-20th century, their work has accelerated dramatically in the new millennium. The 2011 census of PA land trusts found that the past eight years account for 37% of the acreage ever conserved by land trusts. Conducted biannually by the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association, this latest census found that between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2011, Pennsylvania land trusts:

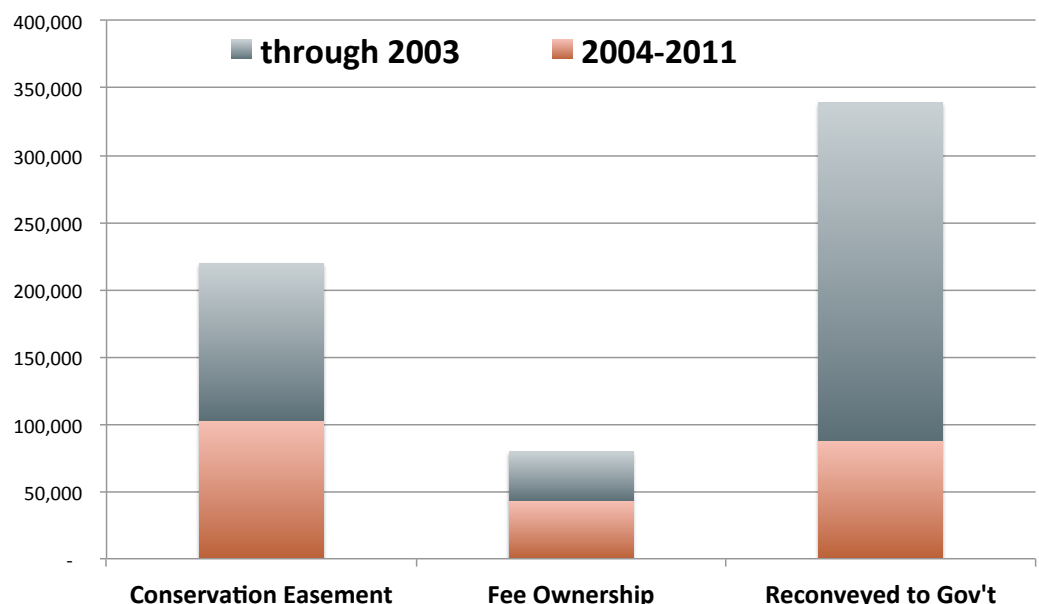
- protected 80 acres per day;
- protected 233,182 acres in total, the equivalent of 2.5 cities of Philadelphia;
- increased the acreage protected by conservation easements by 88%;
- increased the acreage owned in fee by land trusts by 118%;
- increased the acreage reconveyed to governments by 35%; and
- increased the number of conservation easements by 106%.

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from the Pennsylvania
Land Trust Association.

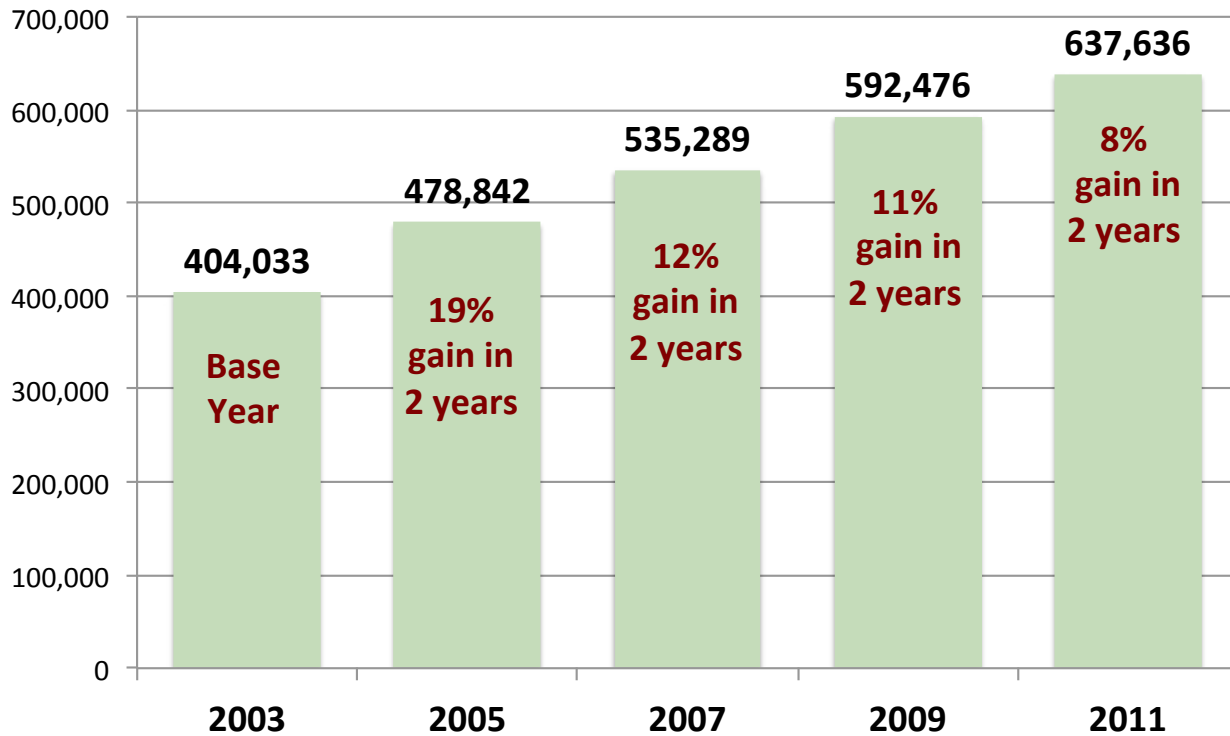
Acres protected in 2004-11 compared to all prior years



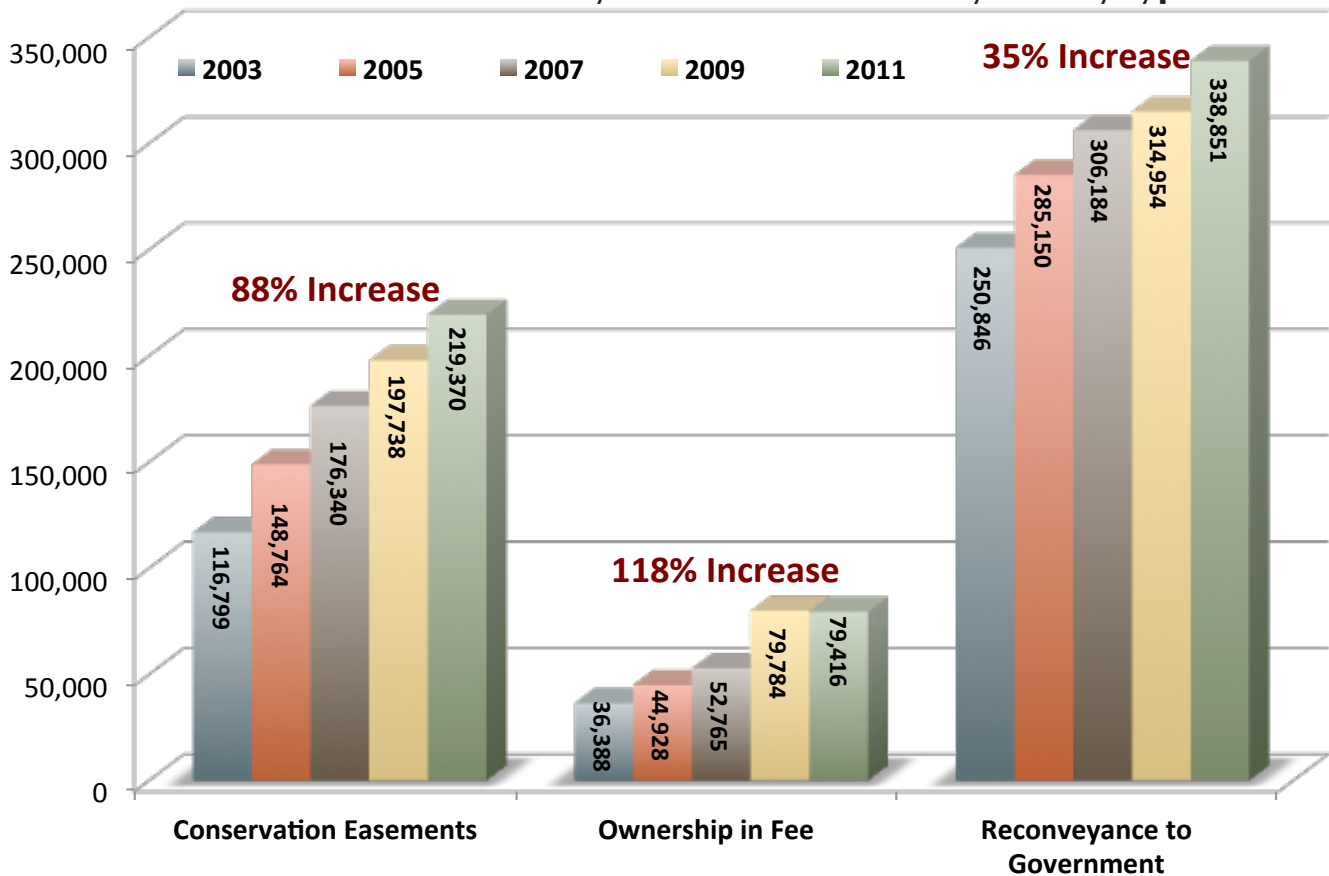
"Till now man has been up against Nature; from now on he will be up against his own nature."
~ Dennis Gabor

Land Trust Accomplishments in the Last 8 Years

58% gain in total acres conserved by PA land trusts over 8 years

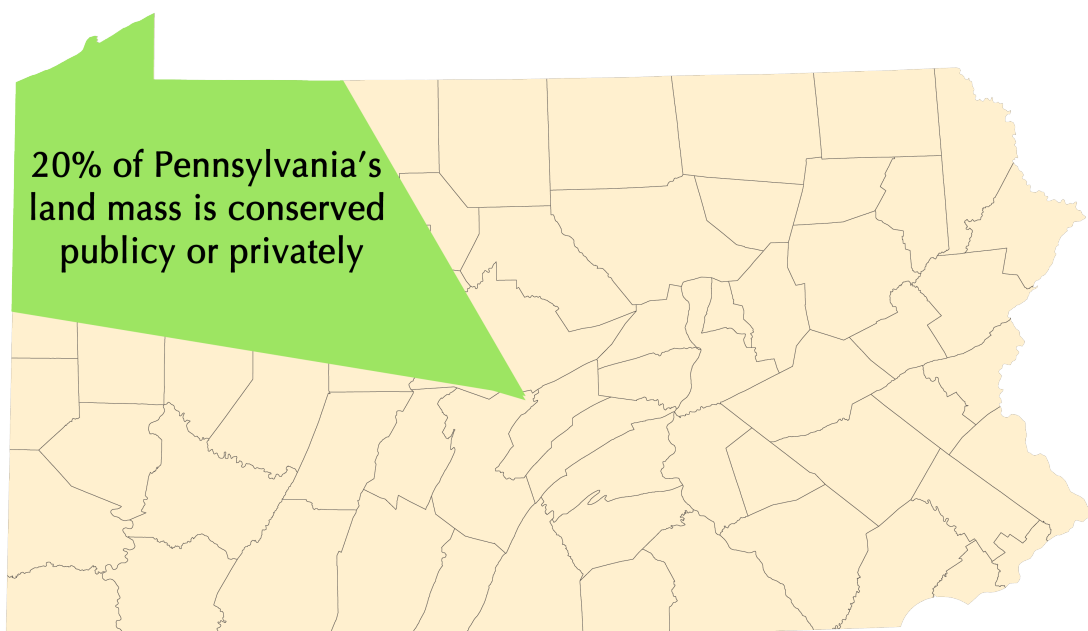


Increase of conserved acres by PA land trusts over 8 years (by type)

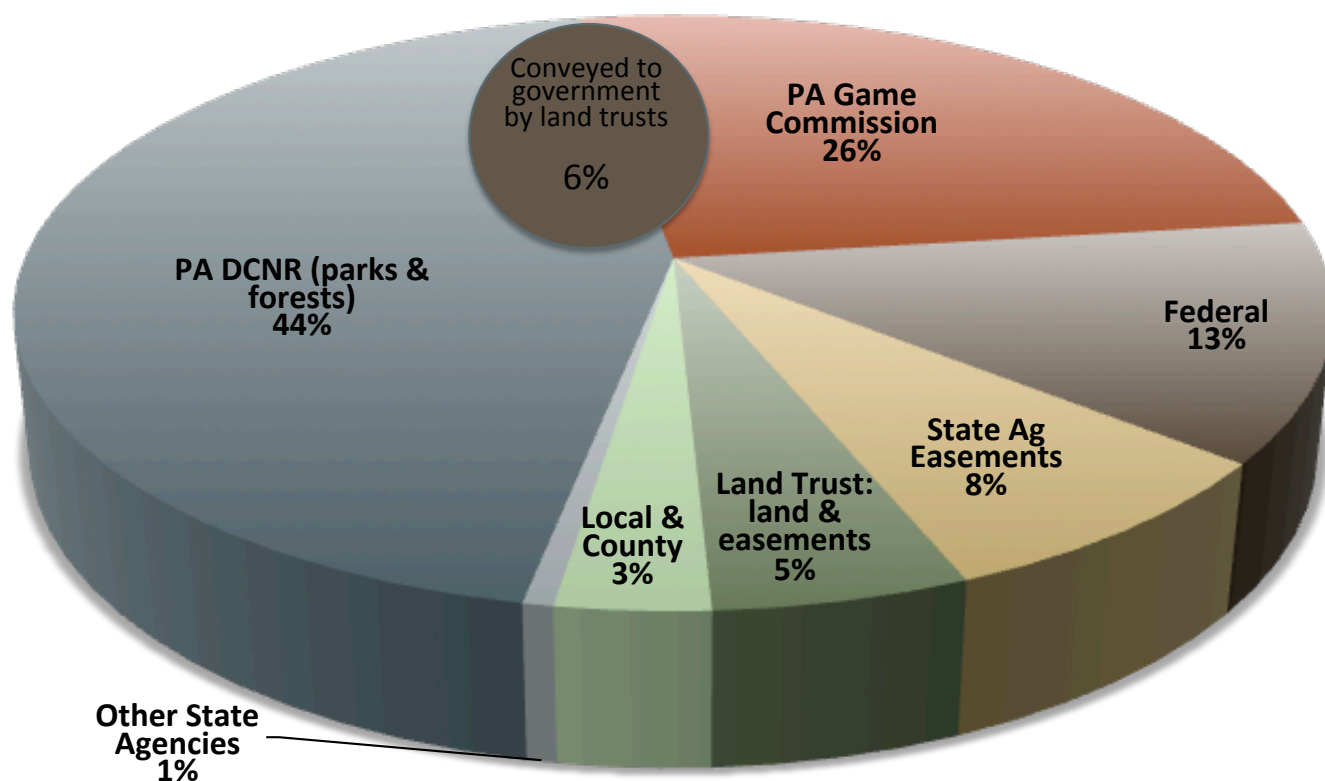


Land Conserved in Pennsylvania

- Pennsylvania land trusts have protected a total of 637,636 acres of land in Pennsylvania.
- 5.6 million (20%) of Pennsylvania's 28.7 million acres enjoy some degree of conservation protection.
- Land trusts have protected 11% of the total lands protected.
- Land trusts have protected over 2% of Pennsylvania's total land area.



Parties responsible for Pennsylvania's conserved lands



Land Trust Accomplishments

Conservation Easements

- Sixty-five land trusts hold a total of 2,957 conservation easements in Pennsylvania, protecting a total of 219,370 acres.
- The average land trust-held easement is 74 acres.
- Thirty-five land trusts completed 124 conservation easement transactions in 2011.

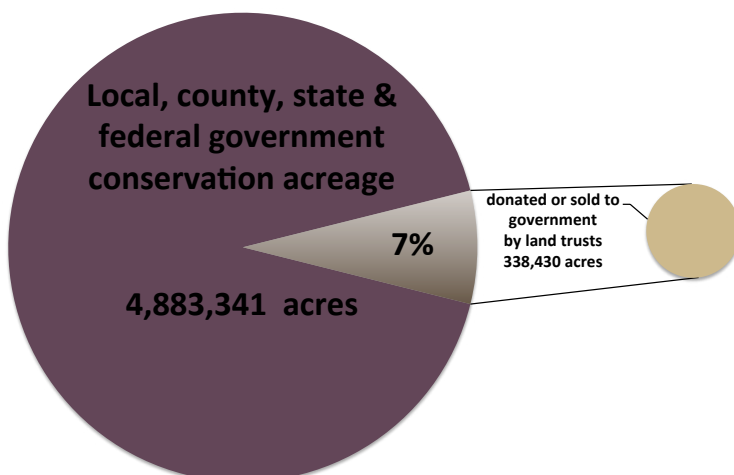
Acquisitions

- Seventy Pennsylvania land trusts own 79,415 acres in fee.
- Twenty-seven land trusts completed a total of 51 land acquisitions in 2011.

Land Reconveyance

- Thirty-one Pennsylvania land trusts have reconveyed a total of 338,430 acres to governmental entities.
- 9,303 acres have been reconveyed from land trusts to other types of non-governmental organizations.
- Land trusts, through reconveyance to governmental entities, have helped protect 7% of lands held by government.

Conserved land held by government and conveyed by land trusts



Spotlight on Easements

Subdivision of Easements

If landowners exercised every right available to subdivide their properties and transfer parcels into separate ownerships, land trusts reported this would result in 3,544 independently owned parcels that they'd be responsible for monitoring.

Of the 52 land trusts that submitted easement data for the 2011 census, thirty-one responded to this question. To the extent that the 21 non-reporting organizations do not track the number of potential ownerships that they may someday have to deal with, PALTA sees this as a potential problem with planning for future stewardship.

Easement Amendments

Thirteen Pennsylvania land trusts reported completing 19 easement amendments in the year 2010 alone.

Note the limitation of the source data: No response from a land trust is indistinguishable from a land trust reporting "0" amendments.
Source: Land Trust Alliance 2010 Census

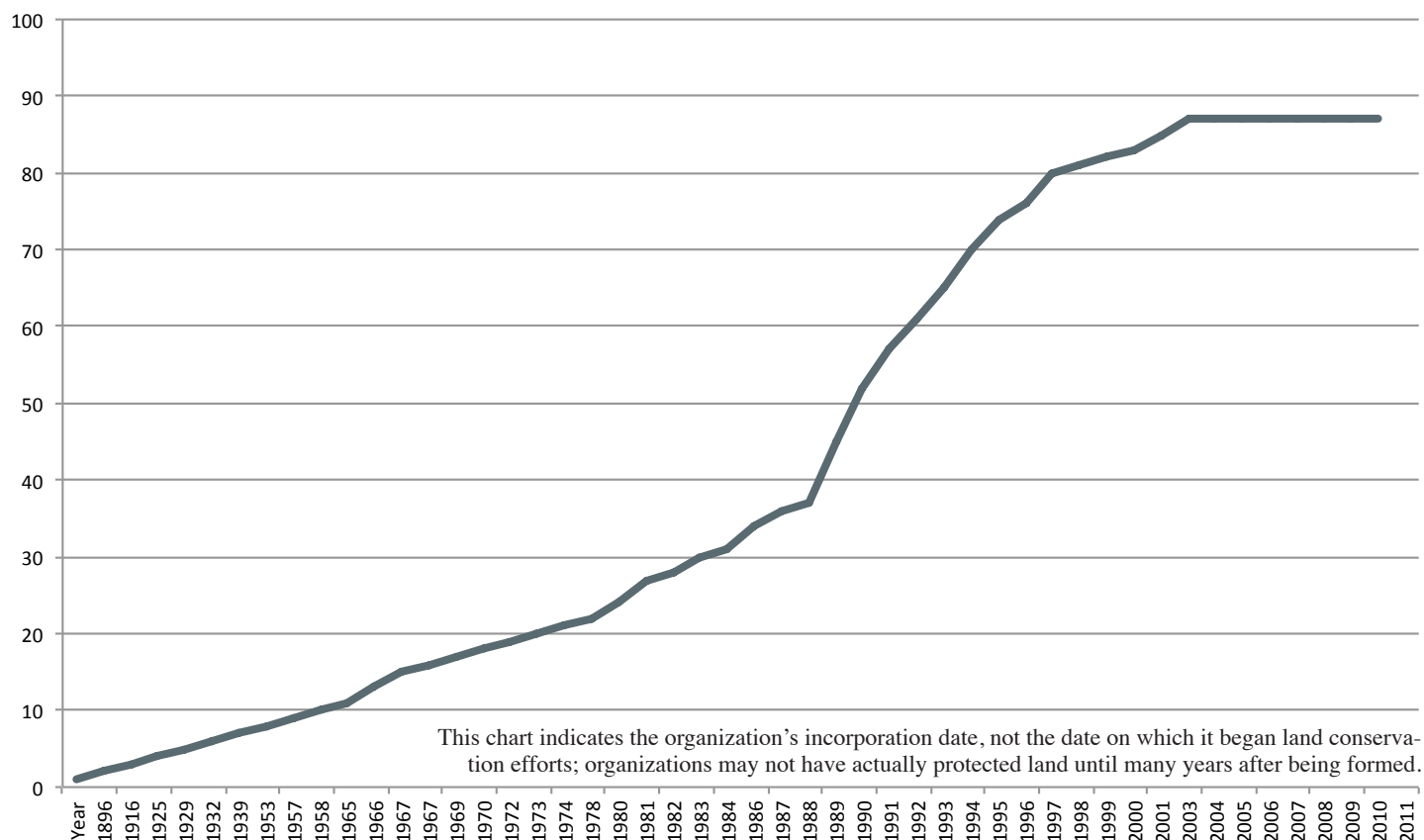
Easement Violations

Over 5 years, ending in 2010:

- 10 Pennsylvania land trusts reported 11 major easement violations.
- 24 Pennsylvania land trusts reported 499 minor easement violations.

Note the limitation of the source data: No response from a land trust is indistinguishable from a land trust reporting "0" violations.
Source: Land Trust Alliance 2010 Census

of Active Land Trusts Operating in Pennsylvania



Land Trust Supporters

Pennsylvania land trusts have over 128,500 members/financial supporters.

- 63% of Pennsylvania land trusts reported 100 or more members/financial supporters.
- 31% of Pennsylvania land trusts reported 500 or more financial supporters.
- 20% of Pennsylvania land trusts reported 1000 or more financial supporters.
- 10% of Pennsylvania land trusts reported 2000 or more financial supporters.
- Pennsylvania land trusts have a *median average of 250 financial supporters*.

Source: Land Trust Census Data (2010), PALTA Research (2012)

Notes:

Determining what characteristics define a “land trust” is tricky as was determining what organizations to include and exclude from this analysis. Some level of subjectivity is unavoidable. PALTA endeavored to exclude from the analysis on this page:

- organizations that have not yet acquired a parcel of land or easement;
- organizations for which ownership of one or a few property interests appears to be an aberration -- a situation largely unrelated to present purposes;
- organizations that in the past acquired one or more property interests but do not appear to now have conserving additional lands, if they were to become available, as part of their mission; and
- organizations that appear to own land only to advance a specific purpose and the purpose appears to be satisfied (for example, a private nature center that has no plans to conserve additional lands).

Land Trust Accomplishments

Total Acres Owned

	Organization	Acres
1	Western Pennsylvania Conservancy	12,900
2	The Nature Conservancy, Pennsylvania Chapter	12,764
3	Natural Lands Trust	11,766
4	Earth Conservancy	10,000
5	Lancaster County Conservancy	3,838
6	Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association	2,600
7	Brandywine Conservancy	2,349
8	Wildlands Conservancy	2,242
9	The Conservation Fund, Pennsylvania Office	2,040
10	Heritage Conservancy	1,423
11	North Branch Land Trust	1,307
12	Allegheny Land Trust	1,244
13	Pocono Heritage Land Trust	1,139
14	Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust	717
15	Roaring Run Watershed Association	653
16	Allegheny Valley Land Trust	637
17	Somerset County Conservancy	600
18	Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association	584
19	Lacawac Sanctuary Foundation	545
20	Foundation for Sustainable Forests	527
21	Wild Waterways Conservancy	477
22	Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania	469
23	Armstrong County Conservancy Charitable Trust	441
24	E.L. Rose Conservancy of Susquehanna County	438
25	Friends of Salt Springs Park, Inc.	437
26	Central Pennsylvania Conservancy	436
27	Hollow Oak Land Trust	409
28	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	407
29	Berks County Conservancy	407
30	Southern Alleghenies Conservancy	400
31	Open Land Conservancy of Chester County	380
32	French Creek Valley Conservancy	365
33	Montour Trail Council	344
34	Countryside Conservancy	340
35	Allegheny Valley Trails Association	336
36	Mount Nittany Conservancy	333
37	Conemaugh Valley Conservancy	297
38	Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County	265
39	Westmoreland Conservancy	264
40	Mokoma Conservancy	243
41	Willistown Conservation Trust	227
42	Allegheny Valley Conservancy	208
43	Cumberland Valley Rails to Trails Council	185
44	French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust	143
45	Audubon Pennsylvania	142

46	Chartiers Nature Conservancy	122
47	Westmoreland Land Trust	115
48	Appalachian Trail Conservancy	114
49	Lake Erie Region Conservancy	107
50	Lackawanna Valley Conservancy	93
51	Scott Conservancy	77
52	London Britain Land Trust	75
53	Pine Creek Valley Watershed Association, Inc.	67
54	North Fork Conservancy	56
55	Independence Conservancy	47
56	ClearWater Conservancy	44
57	Manada Conservancy	40
58	Pine Creek Land Conservation Trust	38
59	Fox Chapel Land Conservation Trust	35
60	Merrill W. Linn Land & Waterways Conservancy	32
61	Gettysburg Foundation	19
62	West Vincent Land Trust, Inc.	15
63	Mid-Atlantic Karst Conservancy	14
64	Evergreen Conservancy	10
65	Neighborhood Gardens Association	8
66	Land Conservancy of Adams County	6
67	Keystone Trails Association	6
68	Regional Trail Corporation	5
69	Buck Hill Conservation Foundation	2
70	Shenango Conservancy	2

Total Acres Reconveyed to Government

	Organization Name	Acres
1	Western Pennsylvania Conservancy	174,000
2	The Conservation Fund, Pennsylvania Office	82,983
3	Wildlands Conservancy	38,170
4	The Nature Conservancy, Pennsylvania Chapter	12,678
5	Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy	12,388
6	Seneca Highlands Conservancy	4,000
7	ClearWater Conservancy	3,046
8	Trust for Public Land, The	2,733
9	Natural Lands Trust	2,356
10	Central Pennsylvania Conservancy	1,579
11	French & Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust	1,250
12	Delaware Highlands Conservancy	1,191
13	Armstrong County Conservancy Charitable Trust	462
14	Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County	361
15	Friends of the National Park at Gettysburg	320
16	Lancaster County Conservancy	230
17	Pennsbury Land Trust	120
18	French Creek Valley Conservancy	100
19	Montour Trail Council	96

20	Westmoreland Conservancy	57
21	North American Land Trust	53
22	Montgomery County Lands Trust	42
23	Land Conservancy of Adams County	41
24	Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association	37
25	Countryside Conservancy	34
26	Heritage Conservancy	28
27	Allegheny Valley Land Trust	25
28	Wallace Trust, The	22
29	Allegheny Land Trust	14
30	Wild Waterways Conservancy	11
31	Lackawanna Valley Conservancy	2

32	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	512
33	Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County	485
34	Pine Creek Valley Watershed Association, Inc.	419
35	E.L. Rose Conservancy of Susquehanna County	360
36	Gettysburg Foundation	289
37	Lebanon Valley Conservancy	289
38	Eden Hill Conservancy	217
39	West Vincent Land Trust, Inc.	200
40	Pennsbury Land Trust	181
41	Allegheny Land Trust	179
42	Wallace Trust, The	166
43	Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania	136
44	Allegheny Valley Trails Association	130
45	Conservancy of Montgomery County, The	128
46	Buck Hill Conservation Foundation	125
47	Open Land Conservancy of Chester County	118
48	Lower Merion Conservancy	98
49	Hollow Oak Land Trust	96
50	Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust	92
51	Lake Erie Region Conservancy	80
52	Schuylkill County Conservancy	79
53	Chestnut Hill Historical Society	74
54	Mid-Atlantic Karst Conservancy	70
55	Lackawanna Valley Conservancy	56
56	Independence Conservancy	46
57	Appalachian Trail Conservancy	45
58	Pine Creek Land Conservation Trust	38
59	Sandy Creek Conservancy	35
60	Fox Chapel Land Conservation Trust	32
61	West Pikeland Land Trust	25
62	Montour Trail Council	20
63	London Britain Land Trust	17
64	Radnor Conservancy, The	12
65	Southern Alleghenies Conservancy	5

Total Acres Protected by Conservation Easements

	Organization Name	Acres
1	Brandywine Conservancy	34,726
2	Western Pennsylvania Conservancy	31,500
3	Lancaster Farmland Trust	23,770
4	Natural Lands Trust	19,480
5	The Nature Conservancy, Pennsylvania Chapter	12,878
6	North Branch Land Trust	10,175
7	Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County	8,851
8	Delaware Highlands Conservancy	7,585
9	Land Conservancy of Adams County	7,428
10	Wildlands Conservancy	7,039
11	Berks County Conservancy	6,590
12	Heritage Conservancy	6,043
13	French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust	5,015
14	Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy	4,590
15	Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy	4,429
16	Tinicum Conservancy	4,075
17	North American Land Trust	2,871
18	Montgomery County Lands Trust	2,828
19	Pocono Heritage Land Trust	2,416
20	Willistown Conservation Trust	2,026
21	Central Pennsylvania Conservancy	1,595
22	ClearWater Conservancy	1,565
23	Lancaster County Conservancy	1,036
24	Countryside Conservancy	915
25	French Creek Valley Conservancy	868
26	Merrill Linn Land & Waterways Conservancy	830
27	Manada Conservancy	750
28	Centre County Farmland Trust	727
29	The Conservation Fund, Pennsylvania Office	725
30	Allegheny Valley Conservancy	632
31	Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association	558

**Mark your calendars for this
full-day seminar:**

***Preparing Easements to
Stand the Test of Time***

September 13, 2012

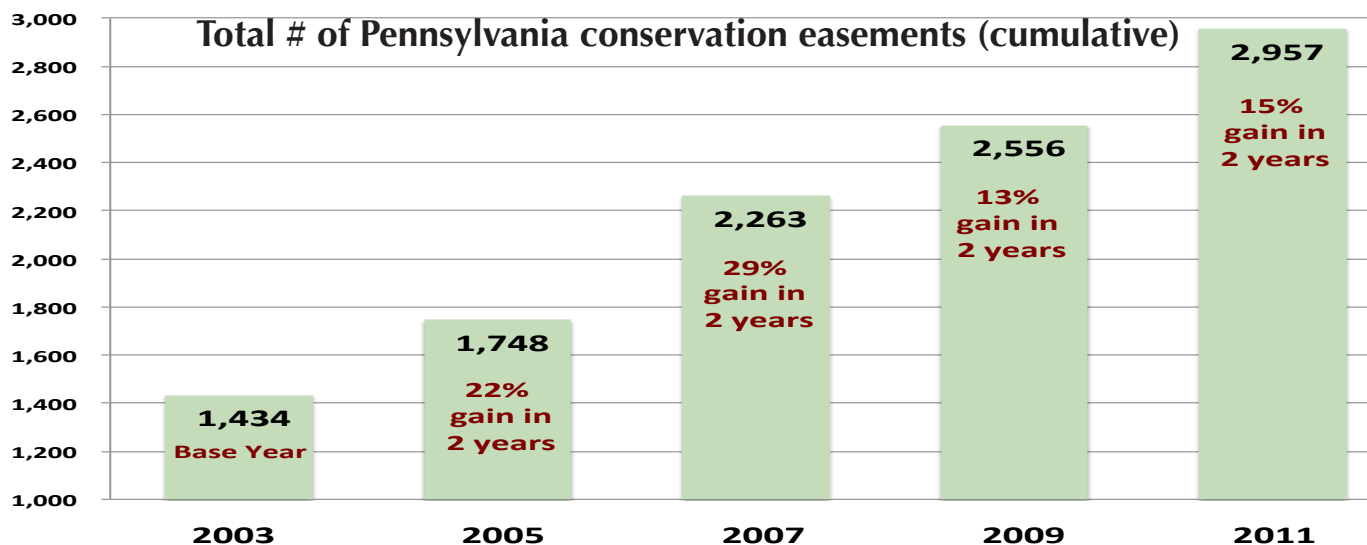
Patricia Pregmon, Esq. | Andy Loza
Valley Forge

Land Trust Accomplishments

Total # Conservation Easements

	Organization Name	#
1	Brandywine Conservancy	505
2	Lancaster Farmland Trust	382
3	Natural Lands Trust	276
4	Western Pennsylvania Conservancy	169
5	French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust	145
6	Berks County Conservancy	119
7	Heritage Conservancy	115
8	Land Conservancy of Adams County	115
9	Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy	102
10	Tinicum Conservancy	101
11	Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County	98
12	Lancaster County Conservancy	76
13	Wildlands Conservancy	65
14	Willistown Conservation Trust	62
15	North American Land Trust	60
16	Delaware Highlands Conservancy	54
17	Montgomery County Lands Trust	49
18	North Branch Land Trust	47
19	Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy	43
20	Chestnut Hill Historical Society	36
21	The Nature Conservancy, Pennsylvania Chapter	35
22	Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association	31
23	Central Pennsylvania Conservancy	20
24	Countryside Conservancy	20
25	Wallace Trust, The	20
26	Lower Merion Conservancy	18
27	Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County	16
28	ClearWater Conservancy	13
29	Manada Conservancy	12
30	Open Land Conservancy of Chester County	12
31	Conservancy of Montgomery County, The	11

32	Merrill W. Linn Land & Waterways Conservancy	11
33	French Creek Valley Conservancy	10
34	Pennsbury Land Trust	10
35	West Vincent Land Trust, Inc.	10
36	Centre County Farmland Trust	9
37	Gettysburg Foundation	9
38	Pocono Heritage Land Trust	9
39	Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust	7
40	Allegheny Land Trust	6
41	Mid-Atlantic Karst Conservancy	6
42	Pine Creek Valley Watershed Association, Inc.	6
43	E.L. Rose Conservancy of Susquehanna County	5
44	Lebanon Valley Conservancy	5
45	London Britain Land Trust	4
46	Allegheny Valley Conservancy	3
47	Radnor Conservancy, The	3
48	Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania	2
49	Conservation Fund, The - PA Office	2
50	Eden Hill Conservancy	2
51	Hollow Oak Land Trust	2
52	Independence Conservancy	2
53	Lackawanna Valley Conservancy	2
54	Lake Erie Region Conservancy	2
55	West Pikeland Land Trust	2
56	Allegheny Valley Trails Association	1
57	Appalachian Trail Conservancy	1
58	Buck Hill Conservation Foundation	1
59	Fox Chapel Land Conservation Trust	1
60	Montour Trail Council	1
61	Pine Creek Land Conservation Trust	1
62	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	1
63	Sandy Creek Conservancy	1
64	Schuylkill County Conservancy	1
65	Southern Alleghenies Conservancy	1



Total # Easements Acquired in 2011

Organization Name	#		
1 Lancaster Farmland Trust	22	18 Pocono Heritage Land Trust	2
2 Heritage Conservancy	11	19 Wildlands Conservancy	2
3 Berks County Conservancy	10	20 Central Pennsylvania Conservancy	1
4 Land Conservancy of Adams County	9	21 Centre County Farmland Trust	1
5 Natural Lands Trust	9	22 Chestnut Hill Historical Society	1
6 Western Pennsylvania Conservancy	7	23 ClearWater Conservancy	1
7 Brandywine Conservancy	6	24 Conservation Fund, The PA Office	1
8 Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy	5	25 Countryside Conservancy	1
9 Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County	5	26 Lancaster County Conservancy	1
10 Tinicum Conservancy	4	27 Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County	1
11 Montgomery County Lands Trust	3	28 Lebanon Valley Conservancy	1
12 Wallace Trust, The	3	29 Lower Merion Conservancy	1
13 Allegheny Land Trust	2	30 Manada Conservancy	1
14 Delaware Highlands Conservancy	2	31 Mid-Atlantic Karst Conservancy	1
15 E.L. Rose Conservancy of Susquehanna County	2	32 North American Land Trust	1
16 French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust	2	33 Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy	1
17 French Creek Valley Conservancy	2	34 Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust	1
		35 Willistown Conservation Trust	1

Total # Fee Acquisitions in 2011

Organization Name	#
1 Western Pennsylvania Conservancy	5
2 Allegheny Valley Trails Association	4
3 Central Pennsylvania Conservancy	3
4 Lancaster County Conservancy	3
5 North Branch Land Trust	3
6 Wild Waterways Conservancy	3
7 Audubon Society of Western PA	2
8 Brandywine Conservancy	2
9 Conservation Fund, The - PA Office	2
10 Countryside Conservancy	2
11 Foundation for Sustainable Forests	2
12 Natural Lands Trust	2
13 Nature Conservancy Pennsylvania Chapter	2
14 Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust	2
15 Wildlands Conservancy	2
16 Allegheny Land Trust	1
17 Allegheny Valley Conservancy	1
18 ClearWater Conservancy	1
19 French Creek Valley Conservancy	1
20 Lake Erie Region Conservancy	1
21 Lebanon Valley Conservancy	1
22 Manada Conservancy	1
23 Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy	1
24 Open Land Conservancy of Chester County	1
25 Pocono Heritage Land Trust	1
26 Trust for Public Land, The	1
27 Westmoreland Conservancy	1

See what's new at



- **Management of Document Preparation Process** - Good document management and control practices help prevent time-consuming missteps and confusion.
- **Authorization of Real Estate Transactions: Rules and Processes for Nonprofits** - Within the bounds of state law and private standards, a nonprofit has considerable flexibility in establishing policies and procedures regarding the authorization of real estate transactions.
- **Economic Benefits Series (parks, smart growth, natural goods & services)** - These guides identify major economic impact studies, summarize key findings of each and provide hyperlinks to the studies.
- **Collaborative Opportunities for Land Trusts** - This guide identifies opportunities for collaboration, provides guidance, and presents examples of successful partnerships.

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Land Trust Community Honors Barbara Yeaman

The Pennsylvania Land Trust Association has honored Barbara Yeaman of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy (DHC) with the Lifetime Conservation Leadership Award, an award that has been given to only eight other individuals.

Seventeen years ago, at the age of 70, Barbara organized a group of volunteers and founded the conservancy, which has since preserved more than 13,000 acres in the Upper Delaware River Region. Barbara has continued to lead and serve DHC in multiple ways over the years, from President to Land Protection Chair to publicist to graphic designer.

The conservancy is a lasting legacy that will benefit generations to come, thanks to Barbara's inspiring leadership.

Read more about Barbara's conservation work at ConserveLand.org. 



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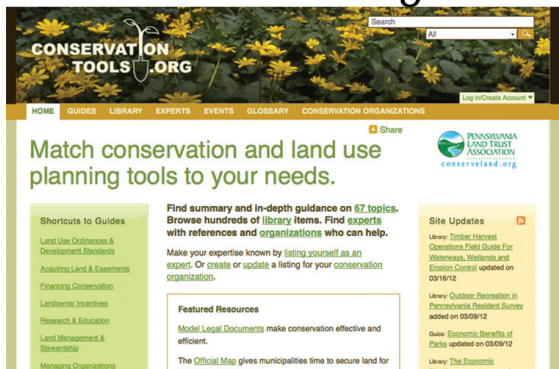
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Allegheny Land Trust
Allegheny Valley Conservancy
Allegheny Valley Land Trust
Allegheny Valley Trails Association
Armstrong City Conservancy Charitable Trust
Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania
Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy
Berks County Conservancy
Brandywine Conservancy
Buck Hill Conservation Foundation
Central Pennsylvania Conservancy
Centre County Farmland Trust
Chestnut Hill Historical Society
ClearWater Conservancy
Conservancy of Montgomery County
Countryside Conservancy
Delaware Highlands Conservancy
E.L. Rose Conservancy of Susquehanna City
East Nantmeal Land Trust
Eden Hill Conservancy
Evergreen Conservancy
Farm and Natural Lands Trust of York City
Foundation for Sustainable Forests
Fox Chapel Land Conservation Trust
French & Pickering Creeks Conservancy Trust
French Creek Valley Conservancy
Green Space Alliance
Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association
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Montour Trail Council
Mount Nittany Conservancy
Natural Lands Trust
North American Land Trust
North Branch Land Trust
Northcentral PA Conservancy
Open Land Conservancy of Chester County
Pennsbury Land Trust
Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society
Pennsylvanian Ecological Restoration Trust
Pine Creek Land Conservation Trust
Pine Creek Valley Watershed Association
Pocono Heritage Land Trust
Regional Trail Corporation
Schuylkill County Conservancy
Somerset County Conservancy
The Conservation Fund, Pennsylvania Office
Land Conservancy for Southern Chester City
The Nature Conservancy
The Radnor Conservancy
The Trust for Public Land
The Wallace Trust
Tinicum Conservancy
Tricounty Rails to Trails
West Pikeland Land Trust
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
Westmoreland Land Trust
Wild Waterways Conservancy Inc.
Wildlands Conservancy
Willistown Conservancy Trust
Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association

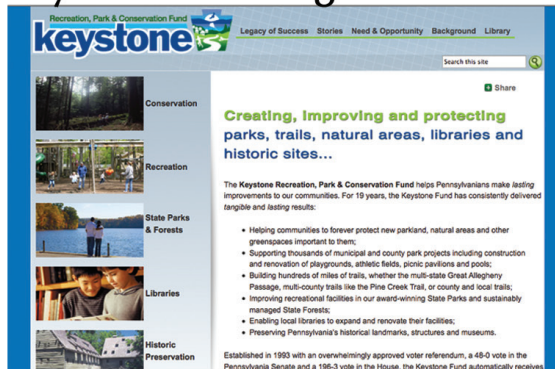
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Bureau of Recreation & Conservation,
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation
& Natural Resources (Growing Greener Program).

PALTA's Educational Websites

ConservationTools.org



KeystoneFund.org



GrowingGreener.info



ConserveLand.org



Congratulations to Pennsylvania's Accredited Land Trusts

**Allegheny Land Trust | Bedminster Land Conservancy
Brandywine Conservancy | Chestnut Hill Historical Society
Clearwater Conservancy | Countryside Conservancy
Delaware Highlands Conservancy | Heritage Conservancy
Lancaster County Conservancy | Lancaster Farmland Trust
The Land Conservancy of Southern Chester County | Montgomery County
Lands Trust | Natural Lands Trust | North Branch Land Trust
Tinicum Conservancy | Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
Willistown Conservation Trust**



Pennsylvania leads the nation in the number of accredited land trusts.