

A Letter from our Executive Director

Brent Bailey, Ph.D. Executive Director

A conservation property under consideration by the Land Trust is subject to a right-of-way: A neighbor has the legal right to cross the property to get to his own parcel for such purposes as moving farm machinery, transporting hay, and managing cattle, as well as “hunting, fishing, target shooting, picnics...and romancing.”

Conservation is a romantic notion for many, but this would elevate land-loving to something new for us. We can't wait to meet the neighbor!

Love of the land is behind most of the record-pace six projects we've closed since the start of this crazy year. Nearly 2,500 acres permanently conserved in five counties: four conservation easements and two publicly accessible preserves. Family legacies motivated protection on three; three of the properties have educational components; three of them came via partners at other nonprofit organizations. Streams, rivers, a wetland, forests, historical values, and recreational opportunities – hiking and fishing – are among the many conservation assets that are protected.

Generous landowners, financial supporters, and volunteers combine to keep WVLT's conservation work moving forward. Land Trust staff are all still fully employed, allowing us to continue to respond to new opportunities as they arise. We are very fortunate, and deeply grateful to those who help sustain our operations.

Our Blue Jean Ball went virtual, and people joined in the fun from a distance, helping us meet our fundraising goals. We hope you'll do the same for our Special Places celebration, now planned to run for a week in September (see back cover).

While much of the world has hit the “pause” button, we are barreling ahead. But many of the businesses that supported us in the past now need our support to remain viable (buy gift cards!). Our publicly accessible properties are sought after as safe places to unwind; we're seeking funding to develop trails on more of them.

I'd be tone deaf if I didn't acknowledge that while reeling from the pandemic, we have also been chastened by the Black Lives Matter movement. We've always proudly claimed that our properties are open to everyone to enjoy. But if our properties are seen as risky for visitors who don't look like all our staff members, then we must address barriers to entry. This isn't easy, given West Virginia's demographics, and there are no simple answers. But know that we are more aware, and dedicated to addressing inequities and inclusion so that conservation's benefits truly extend to all.

Stay safe, mask up, and remind yourself that there's safety – and maybe romance – in the outdoors!



In This Issue

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All these protected lands have something in common: They were all donated, reflecting a commitment to a future that includes places of beauty, peace, learning, adventure, conservation, and refuge.

Conservation easements protect history, nature, and recreation in Eastern Panhandle

What do Native Americans, George Washington, hiking trails, drinking water, rare plants and birds, a one-of-a-kind marsh, the Potomac Audubon Society, and a kind and generous neighbor all have in common?

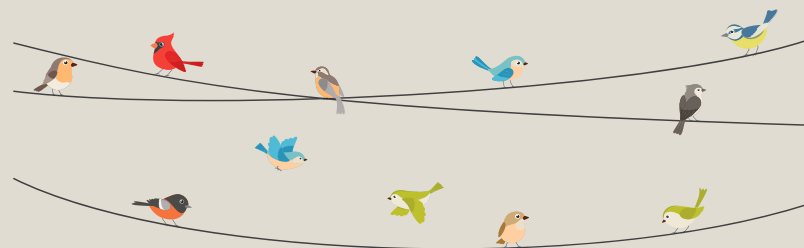
Strange question perhaps, but all these mentions are part of the unique human and natural history now protected by conservation easements held by the West Virginia Land Trust on 63 acres in the state's Eastern Panhandle.

The tale of these conservation easements itself is full of history that all began with the purchase of a piece of land that was once frequented by Native Americans and later became part of George Washington's first-ever land acquisitions in Jefferson County, known as the Bullskin tract. Fast forward 250 years to 1998, when Linda Case bought the property, now called Cool Spring Farm, and an amazing transformation began taking place.

When Linda purchased the property, there was a lot of work to be done—old barns were falling apart, and weeds and invasive plants ruled the landscape. The land use history of the area had transformed the natural features considerably—hundreds of years as a working farm, a dairy, orchard, and more had suppressed a hidden gem on the grounds. But, Linda's eye and passion for the natural world allowed her to realize that the abundant, cold, and clear natural springs popping up along Bullskin Run, which cut through the heart of the property, and the wetland and marsh surrounding it, were something unique to be (re) discovered.

Through the years, Linda established a nonprofit called CraftWorks, which aimed at the perpetual stewardship of the property to preserve its unique natural features. She worked with volunteers to remove invasive plants from the marsh, and invited historians, biologists, ecologists, birders, artists, and others to investigate the property. She created a center for conservation education and community

programming, built trails, and eventually purchased a neighboring property that included another significant part of Bullskin Run and the marsh. In the process—a gem was revealed—the Cool Spring Marsh was identified as an extremely rare habitat type, a Shenandoah Wet Prairie, of which there is believed to be only 100 acres of its type in the world. It is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna, including several rare and threatened species, and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection ranks this marsh in the top 1 percent of important wetlands in West Virginia.



Enter Potomac Valley Audubon Society

Around 2016, Linda decided to take a step back from her own nonprofit and donated part of her land to The Potomac Audubon Society (PVAS). That section of the property included a building that the group turned into a nature center, as well as an historic residence, called the Thornton House, which was once owned by a freed female slave shortly after the Civil War.

In the spring of 2017, Linda approached the Land Trust about placing a conservation easement on 50 acres that included the Cool Spring Marsh and PVAS also arranged to place an easement on the Cool Spring Preserve.

This spring, everything came full circle, the easements were completed, and Linda then donated the protected 50 acres to PVAS. The donation expanded the Cool Spring Preserve

to 63 acres—all protected by conservation easements held by the West Virginia Land Trust. The expansion will allow PVAS to develop more trails and grow their existing programming, which includes home school, preschool, summer camp, Master Naturalist training, community science events, and a variety of other workshops.

WOW!

The West Virginia Land Trust is honored to be part of this project and is thankful to Ms. Case and PVAS for their dedication to protecting this unique landscape for public recreation, outdoor education, and its unique habitats. Additionally, the preserve helps protect the high-quality waters of Bullskin Run, which sits within a drinking water protection area for Charles Town Utilities. The easements placed on the properties permanently protect 12 acres of the Cool Spring Marsh and 1.6 miles of riparian habitat.

The West Virginia Land Trust also extends our thanks to the WVU Land Use and Sustainable Development Law Clinic; Shepherdstown attorney, Frank Hill; Bowles-Rice LLP; and PVAS staff and Board of Directors, in particular, Mike Sullivan, for his whole-hearted efforts to see this project to the finish line.

To learn more about Potomac Valley Audubon Society and programming at Cool Spring Preserve, visit PotomacAudubon.org. Tell them we sent you!

Boy Scouts of America Summit Bechtel Reserve



The Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve (aka Summit Bechtel Reserve) has gotten a lot of buzz in recent years. The 10,600-acre Boy Scouts of America camp, located in Fayette and Raleigh counties, is a home base for the National Scout Jamboree and hundreds of thousands of people have participated in the camps, learning programs, and recreational opportunities at this iconic location adjacent to the New River Gorge National River.

After a number of years in the making, the West Virginia Land Trust is proud to announce that we partnered with the Boy Scouts of America to permanently protect 1,600-acres of the reserve by placing a conservation easement on a wild and remote section of the property, known as "Garden Ground Mountain."

Under a conservation easement, this large forested area will remain undeveloped, protecting healthy headwater streams and fostering habitats that will support an abundance of Appalachian flora and fauna. Protecting large sections of land near the New River Gorge contributes toward its status as a biodiversity hotspot and one of the largest remaining areas of Mid-Atlantic forest in the world.

This conservation project ensures that the area remains a magnet for Boy Scouts and campers seeking a wilderness experience now and into the future.





NOW INTRODUCING

Shavers Fork Preserve

The Shavers Fork is the western fork of the Cheat River originating on Cheat Mountain near Snowshoe Ski Resort. It flows north, passing through Pocahontas and Randolph Counties before meeting the Black Fork of the Cheat in Parsons. Together these two forks form the mighty Cheat River.

Shavers Fork of Cheat River is a wild and remote waterway considered part of one of the longest remaining free-flowing rivers systems in the eastern United States. The river is a longtime destination for people seeking a day of mountain solitude, as well as for those chasing some of the best trout fishing in West Virginia.

For the Wilfong family, Shavers Fork weaves its way through a 113-acre Appalachian landscape in Randolph County that has been owned by their family for generations. In an effort to honor their family’s legacy and conserve a unique mountain landscape for all West Virginians, siblings Richard Wilfong and Sandra Wilfong Smith transferred the property to WVLT to manage as the Shavers Fork Preserve.

Surrounded by the Monongahela National Forest, bounded by 1.5 miles of Shavers Fork, and intersected by a smaller pristine stream, Shavers Fork Preserve exemplifies both the “wild” and “wonderful” for which West Virginia is known.

The preserve will remain undeveloped and WVLT will manage the property for recreational access and watershed protection. The public can visit the property to fish, swim, hike, or rock hop along Shavers Fork. We will explore additional recreational opportunities in the future, such as adding hiking or mountain biking trails in forested sections of the property.

WVLT purchased Shavers Fork Preserve with assistance from the West Virginia Outdoor Heritage Conservation Fund (OHCF), a program created by the West Virginia Legislature “to invest in the conservation of unique and important wildlife habitats, natural areas, forest lands, farmlands, and lands for hunting, fishing and recreation.”



Joe Golden and Peggy Burkhardt are pictured here signing their deed of conservation easement, finalizing the multi-year process and decades-long goal!



Rejuvenation Farm

“It is beautiful and peaceful in all seasons” said Peggy Burkhardt and Joe Golden, about their 189-acre farm in Summers County that is now protected by a conservation easement held by the West Virginia Land Trust.

During her first visit to the property, WVLT Land Protection Specialist Amy Cimarolli got an immediate sense about why these landowners wanted to protect the forests and fields located along Lick Creek, a tributary of the New River.

“Two large old gnarly sugar maples and just as tall younger yellow poplars grabbed my attention” Cimarolli said. “I could tell the maples had been around a long time and were probably used for getting syrup, but also likely provided shade for livestock that grazed in the pastures 50 years ago or more.” she said.

While the land had been used as a working farm for many years, Cimarolli got a surprise as she walked the property boundaries.

“While protecting farmland and agricultural landscapes has inherent conservation values alone, Appalachian farms tend to have hidden gems where nature was never converted or controlled,” Cimarolli said.

As she walked old fence lines and tried to follow the boundary from old deed descriptions (and luckily more recent survey marks), she came across a small, but unforgettable area of forest with 3-foot wide oak trees and old logs and snags covering the ground.

“Though not ‘original’ forest,” she said, “it is a good representation of what our Appalachian forests can do when left to grow. We protect working farms hoping that the land will provide farmers and their families a place to continue their agricultural traditions, but also

with the intent to protect the forests, streams, and wildlife that are also part of this landscape.”

Retired from medical careers serving the public in West Virginia and around the world, landowners Burkhardt and Golden now spend their days working with neighbors on their farm to produce hay. In their spare time, they still enjoy traveling and adventure, but permanently protecting their farm is an admirable accomplishment.

“One of our goals in purchasing this farm over 20 years ago was to help protect and preserve the land. Over the years we have come to truly love this land and we want it to remain a place that supports a healthy ecosystem, sustainable farming, and preservation of forested land, biodiversity, and wildlife habitat now and into the future,” they said.



TNC donates 500 acres for Monroe County preserve

In early February, WVLT acquired 500 acres in Monroe County atop Cove Mountain, which will become the Cove Mountain Nature Preserve. This beautiful tract contains a mature forest and a ready-made hiking trail along an old carriage road that travels a ridgetop. The area is wild, remote, and surrounded by a sea of unfragmented forest in all directions. Large and continuous stretches of Appalachian forests are extremely valuable for wildlife, especially migratory and other birds, which need these habitats to thrive.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC), another conservation organization known for protecting important natural areas throughout West Virginia and the world, donated the property to WVLT, because although the Cove Mountain tract has high conservation values, it was situated slightly outside the group’s main focus area at the time.

Several years ago, the property was donated to TNC as a planned gift with a requirement that it be kept forever as a nature preserve.

“This property in Monroe County is special on many levels, but since it is outside our focus area and because the property is meant to be managed as a nature preserve, we turned to our partners at the WVLT as the best stewards to manage this property and ensure the public can access it and enjoy it for years to come,” said Mike Powell, TNC Director of Lands.

“The property has a forest of beautiful mature oak and white pine. There are interesting historic features, such as the old carriage road lined with a massive stone wall,” said Ashton Berdine, WVLT Lands Program Manager.

“

Walking along the old carriage road is a leisurely hike for visitors and provides a wonderful place for nature lovers, birders, and weekend hikers,” he said.

WVLT plans to explore how this preserve can serve other community needs, such as recreational opportunities for mountain bike trails, but this would come much later after developing a management plan and working with local partners.

This conservation project is a win-win for TNC and WVLT—joining forces to make conservation happen for future generations to enjoy.



I Love Science!

By Dr. Rick Landenberger

When I was studying ecology and forestry in the 1980s and 1990s, older forests were misunderstood.

Conventional wisdom posited that older forests were generally carbon-neutral, emitting as much carbon into the atmosphere as they absorbed. But our understanding has recently changed: what we call “over mature” forests are actually carbon sinks, sucking up carbon dioxide at higher rates than they give back to the atmosphere as they age, and storing it mostly in the soil. This has big implications for conservation.

This new understanding represents a fundamental change in how we value and protect our forest resources; indeed, it represents a complete 180 degree turn in knowledge of how older forests affect climate change. Not only are older forests great wildlife habitat, wonderful filters of precipitation, excellent air purifiers, biologically and ecologically diverse, brakes on flood waters, and effective at cooling the landscape, but they help reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide, the major driver of climate change.

The Earth in total is a closed system. Elements, or ‘matter’, cycle from one pool to another but never leave the Earth’s system; they are conserved and cycle continuously. The many pools are either sources or sinks of a given element. So, for instance a carbon source is a pool where carbon is decreasing in total concentration, whereas a sink is where the carbon concentration is increasing. The Earth’s spheres – its biosphere, pedosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere – comprise an open system through which cycling of carbon and oxygen occurs.

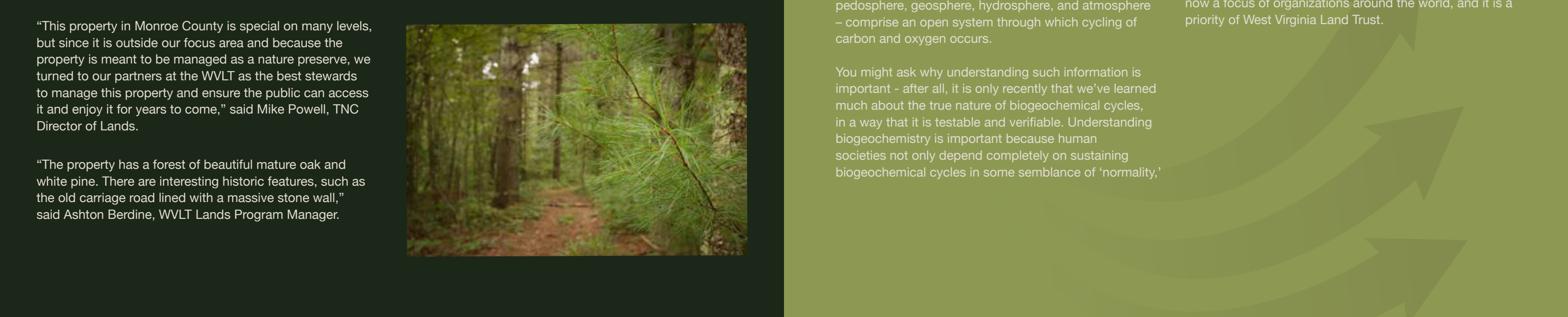
You might ask why understanding such information is important - after all, it is only recently that we’ve learned much about the true nature of biogeochemical cycles, in a way that it is testable and verifiable. Understanding biogeochemistry is important because human societies not only depend completely on sustaining biogeochemical cycles in some semblance of ‘normality,’



but also because we are altering them at a rate that is far from ‘sustainable’. The carbon cycle in particular is intimately tied to forest health and the role that trees play in minimizing negative impacts from climate change.

When the changes became most dramatic – during the industrial revolution in the 19th and early 20th centuries – scientists began to develop quantifiable cycling models. With respect to carbon, Swedish scientist Svante Arrhenius (1859 – 1927) accurately estimated the changes in concentrations of carbon in the atmosphere as it left its source as coal (the geosphere pool) and entered the atmospheric pool as carbon dioxide gas. A brilliant physical chemist, Arrhenius came up with a very accurate estimate of how increasing carbon dioxide would alter Earth via the so-called ‘greenhouse effect’, warming the earth over the next several centuries – and believe it or not, his estimates were (are) accurate.

Who knows what we’ll learn next about older forests? Hopefully there will be sufficient examples to study and use as a blueprint to restore our home, the only planet we have. Protecting old forests, rather than harvesting, is now a focus of organizations around the world, and it is a priority of West Virginia Land Trust.





Toms Run Preserve These craftily constructed trail steps were built by an American Hiking Society trail crew who spent their “volunteer vacation” with WVLT last summer.

EVENTS RECAP

Blue Jean Ball

Considering the global COVID-19 pandemic, the in-person portion of our 6th annual Blue Jean Ball was cancelled in place of a “virtual” event, which raised \$13,000 online to support greenspace projects in the Mon Valley! The Blue Jean Ball is a yearly fundraiser held with the Mon River Trails Conservancy. During this year’s virtual event, we shared messages from sponsors, celebrated the opening of Toms Run Preserve, and even had some fun cooking up homemade recipes on Facebook.

Toms Run Preserve NOW OPEN!

During the last five years, the West Virginia Land Trust has been working hard to open our Toms Run Preserve in Morgantown. We are sincerely thankful to all of our Blue Jean Ball supporters who supported this project! With the help of all of our grant funders, supporters, volunteers, staff and families, this preserve is finally open to the public!

Stone Tower Brews

In February, Stone Tower Brews (a local coffee shop in Buckhannon) held a fundraiser for WVLT! They created a specialty drink, called “Save the Hellbender Latte” during the month of February and donated \$1 from every drink sold to our organization. We are sincerely thankful for their generous donation!

Is your business interested in hosting a fundraiser for WVLT? Let us know how we can help! Contact Jessica Spatafore by emailing Jessica@wvlandtrust.org.

Shop Local - Protecting our Partners

As a nonprofit organization, WVLT regularly asks local businesses for donations and silent auctions to support our fundraising efforts. Recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting many of the businesses that have supported us through the years, the “Protecting our Partners” fundraiser was one way that we could give back to our supporters when they needed it most.

For two weeks, we highlighted our partners on social media, encouraged people to buy gift cards, and sold a “Shop Local” t-shirt with partner logos—all proceeds went back to these businesses.

Maura Kistler, co-owner of Water Stone Outdoors (Fayetteville, WV), said this about the campaign, “Water Stone is thrilled to participate! We appreciate it and think this is a killer program! Props to WVLT for flipping the script!”

MORE WAYS TO HELP

Planning for the Unplanned

You have the ability to make a lasting impact on your home state through a planned gift. This type of charitable planning lets you protect West Virginia’s special places far into the future and offers tax incentives and other benefits.

How it Works:

Name the West Virginia Land Trust in your will, living trust, or as a beneficiary of your plans. You may designate your gift for a particular purpose that is important to you, or allow us to use the gift where the need is greatest at the time it matures. You may also indicate a set amount (a percentage or the remaining balance) to benefit the West Virginia Land Trust. Your assets remain in your control during your lifetime and you can modify your gift at any time. Under current federal tax law there is no upper limit on the estate tax deduction for your charitable gifts. Please let us know if you have designated the West Virginia Land Trust in your will, so we can thank you while you are alive!



Volunteer Spotlight

Kelly & Russ Nix

The West Virginia Land Trust benefits enormously from a dedicated group of volunteers. They help us build our trail systems, assist with forest restoration activities, and sit on preserve advisory boards and boards of directors. It is safe to say that without our volunteers, the WVLT would not be the effective organization that we are today.

This winter and spring, Kelly and Russ Nix have been helping us restore the old-fields at Toms Run Preserve. Kelly and Russ live nearby and enjoy hiking at the preserve and wanted to contribute. With the new parking lot in place, it seemed like a natural fit to get them started on restoring the old-field forest next to the parking lot. Donning loppers and a small chainsaw, they waded into the vine thickets, determined to free the native trees. After working independently throughout the pandemic lockdown, they’ve cleared over 15 acres of vine-infested forest, helping the young trees to reach the canopy. Their work will speed the recovery process by many years while simultaneously reducing the multi-flora rose, Autumn olive, and other invasives that thrive in vine-covered stands.

Thank you, Kelly and Russ, for your help! Your work and dedication to our mission leaves an ecological legacy that will remain for decades.



Brooks Bird Club

Partner in Conservation

In recent years, the Brooks Bird Club has supported WVLT’s efforts to protect special places throughout West Virginia by making financial contributions to our organization. Since 1932, the Brooks Bird Club has been exploring, studying, and documenting birds and other aspects of nature throughout West Virginia.

Ashton Berdine, WVLT Lands Program Manager, attended his first Brooks Bird Club Foray as a child in 1976. He has since attended club forays and other events throughout his life.

“The people I met through the Brooks Bird Club and the love for knowledge and nature they imparted on me shaped my life, my values, and my career forever,” says Ashton. “I would recommend that any person, especially any family looking for an opportunity to learn about nature, consider joining this group – it’s one of the friendliest and most accepting groups of teachers one could ever hope to find.”

Primarily a statewide club, the Brooks Bird Club has drawn members and experts from around the world. Each June, a “foray” is held at locations across the state and offers members and students the chance to be in the field and take part in an ecological study of a selected area. The program is planned so that everyone can pursue his/ her own interests. There are classes and field work in birds, ferns, mosses, flowers, grasses, trees, geology, fungi, butterflies, reptiles and amphibians, and small mammals.

Brooks Bird Club is an independent, educational, nonprofit organization that promotes the study and enjoyment of birds and other elements of the natural world.

Learn more at www.BrooksBirdClub.org/



Photo: Matt Orsie

Staff Summer Book Recommendations

Lab Girl Hope Jahren • 2016



Hope Jahren is an American geochemist and geobiologist, now at the prestigious University of Oslo in Norway. As a scientist, she is known for using stable isotope analysis to examine fossil forests dating back a million years to the Eocene. She has won many prestigious awards for her research, including the James B. Macelwane Medal of the American

Geophysical Union. Lab Girl is her first book, a funny yet serious and touching memoir of her trajectory as a woman in science, yet also the portrait of a powerful friendship and a fascinating look at plants and the natural world.

Jahren grew up in rural Minnesota. Her father, who taught physics and earth science at a local community college, encouraged her to play in his laboratory. Her mother was a student of English literature that cultivated her love of reading. The thread that weaves the story together is the relationship that Jahren developed with Bill, a brilliant but eccentric student who becomes her lab partner and best friend. In science, their joint efforts are led by Jahren but always underpinned by Bill’s engineering brilliance, and take them from Berkeley to the Midwest, across the United States and back again, over the Atlantic to the North Pole, and to Hawaii, where Jahren was working before taking her current position at the University of Oslo. In Lab Girl, she describes, very vividly, the struggle, the disappointments, the tenacity, the successes and the rewards of her journey and how these shaped her not only as a scientist but as a person. As a woman in science, I found myself smiling, happily or bitterly, recognizing familiar feelings, thoughts, and situations. Jahren’s approach to plants opened my eyes to the importance of a ‘humble’ seed and the fantastic mechanisms of the organisms that evolve around us, following their cycles of life.

Lab Girl is an inspiring book that invites us all to be curious and inquisitive, to learn more, to try more, to accept and respect each other, and, of course, to appreciate nature and protect the environment.

SUGGESTED BY Nektaria Adaktilou

Fiction, Fact, Forests: My Tree-o of Learning
Reviews from Brent Bailey

This triad of tree-related subjects is humbling, astonishing, and great for mental distancing.

FICTION

Fiction’s not my go-to genre, but I got pulled in and carried away on the currents of *The Overstory* by Richard Powers, a sprawling, epic tale that places trees at the center of Planet Earth’s existence, and reduces humans (with their consumptive, polluting, short-term, unsustainable societies) to a level of insignificance that was, oddly, both unsettling and comforting.

Nine main human characters are introduced; each was influenced – for better or worse – since childhood by a memorable interaction with one or more trees. These experiences place each character, and their loved ones, on winding paths over several decades until they intersect in ways that are redeeming, shattering, thrilling, and heartbreaking.

Powers – who won a Pulitzer Prize for this work in 2019 – constructs a deeply researched literary tree of life with many branches that blend science, culture, and history with characters whose voices are unique and whose stories are compelling. Months later, I still think about the humans in the book, and the trees that ultimately are the central characters.

FACT

One of Powers’s memorable characters is Patricia Westerford, a scientist whose groundbreaking, early-career insight into the communications powers of trees is initially mocked, but ultimately verified by science. The real-life model for Dr. Westerford is Dr. Suzanne Simard, a forest ecologist in British Columbia whose work has reframed forest communities less as cutthroat competitors but more as cooperators, with interspecies, underground sharing of nutrients, chemical signaling that alerts other trees to impending threats, and multigenerational stands of trees that favor direct offspring and provide support for their growth. Her 18-minute Ted Talk (“How Trees Talk to Each Other”) will shake up what you thought you knew about forests and trees you know.

FORESTS

Peter Wohlleben is a German forester with a folksy tone and a tendency to freely describe tree growth and forest development with phrases that reflect human emotions and actions in *The Hidden Life of Trees*. But it’s translational, putting scientific findings (including Suzanne Simard’s) into terms that the general reader can understand. His love of forests, and reverence for their enduring, persistent presence, comes through on every page.

Our Staff

- Brent Bailey, Ph.D.**
Executive Director • brent@wvlandtrust.org
- Ashton Berdine**
Lands Program Manager • ashton@wvlandtrust.org
- Debby Berry**
Administrative Assistant • info@wvlandtrust.org
- Jesse Cecil**
Operations Coordinator • jcecil@wvlandtrust.org
- Amy Cimarolli**
Land Protection Specialist • amy@wvlandtrust.org
- Terrell Ellis**
Organizational Consultant • tellis@te-associates.com

Rick Landenberger, Ph.D.
Science & Management Specialist
rick@wvlandtrust.org

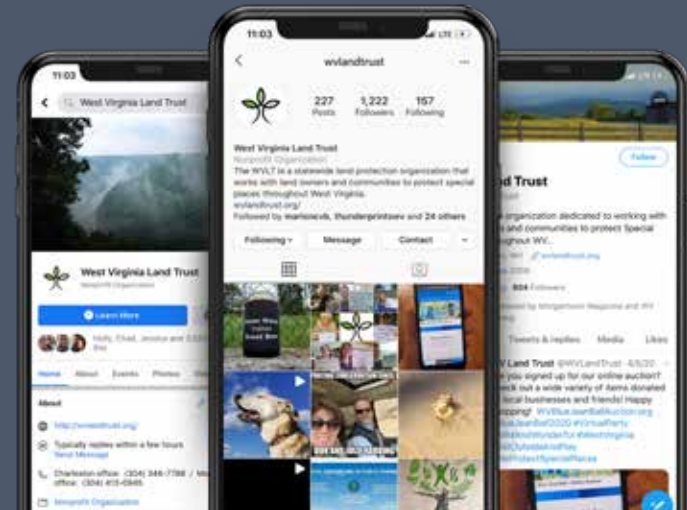
Jessica Spatafore
Director of Development & Communications
jessica@wvlandtrust.org

Adam Webster
Conservation & Communication Coordinator
adam@wvlandtrust.org

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PO Box 11823
Charleston, West Virginia 25339-1823

www.wvlandtrust.org

Please Recycle Me!



VIRTUAL *Special Places* CELEBRATION

Plans are underway for a virtual celebration September 18 – 25. The party will kickoff on Friday, September 18 at 5:00 P.M. with a BYOB Virtual Happy Hour! Grab a drink and join us for a toast that will include a celebratory update on current projects. A weblink will be sent to all participants. Reserve your spot today by visiting www.WVSpecialPlaces.org.

Exciting Update this year

Traditionally, attendees would enjoy a delicious farm-to-table dinner at the event. Since we are going virtual, in lieu of a sit-down meal we will be donating the normal catering bill from the event to the Mountaineer Food Bank!

Mountaineer Food Bank distributes food to 48 counties across West Virginia, servicing 460 food pantries and soup kitchens. They have a variety of feeding programs to actively fight hunger, including: the Mountaineer Food Bank Mobile Food Pantry, community food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, backpack programs, Summer Feeding program, the Veterans Table, and more. In 2019 alone, Mountaineer Food Bank distributed 20.7 million pounds of food to people in need!

This event raises valuable dollars to support our important work! Visit www.WVSpecialPlaces.org for sponsorship opportunities and ticket details.

