

Land Protection *news*

WESTERN VIRGINIA LAND TRUST

SUMMER 2002

Cash for Conservation

Virginia tax credit sales offer landowners new options

Recent changes to Virginia's tax credit code give landowners powerful new financial incentives for donating conservation easements.

House Bill 1322 made an important revision to the Code of Virginia that allows landowners to capture 50% of a conservation easement value as a transferable tax credit. In other words, landowners can sell tax credits that they can't use, providing cash for conservation.

The difference between what a property would sell for with and without an easement is the easement value, which must be determined by a certified appraiser. If a \$500,000 parcel of land is worth \$300,000 with an easement that limits subdivision, the easement value is \$200,000. This gives the owner a \$100,000 Virginia tax credit, which can be used or sold.

Remember, the easement donor still owns the property, does not have to grant public access and can continue traditional uses such as agriculture, forestry, recreation and family residential use. And the state tax credit is only one of the many tax advantages of a conservation easement donation.

Before taking a closer look at Virginia's new tax credit status, let's review the other benefits associated with conservation easements.

The primary reason landowners donate conservation easements is to preserve some natural, scenic, agricultural or historic resource of their land *forever*. Many want to establish a legacy for their children and grandchildren. Most value the peace of mind from knowing that their land will always be protected from development.

In addition, easements bring significant income tax and estate planning benefits. In some very specific situations, the combined tax savings could be equal to or more than the reduction in land value due to an easement. In order to be tax-deductible, the easement: a) must be given in perpetuity; b) must be given to a qualified governmental or non-profit organization; c) must have a qualified appraisal; and d) must be donated exclusively for "conservation purposes" (in other words the property must have some significant natural, scenic, historic, scientific, recreational or open space value).

(Please see Cash for Conservation, continued on page 6)

New Easements Pending

Owners of the following properties, in cooperation with the Western Virginia Land Trust, have reached agreements to enter into conservation easements. Look for further details in future issues of *Land Protection News* after the easements are legally recorded.

- A 289-acre farm and historic mill along the North Fork of the Roanoke River
- A 79-acre tract with scenic bluffs on Claytor Lake
- 76 acres of Bedford County farmland
- 11 acres of riverbank along the James River
- 130 acres of land with extensive frontage on the Little River

Preserving "A Little Peninsula" in the Middle of Bedford

For Eliza Thomas, placing a conservation easement on her 45 acres near the middle of Bedford City was a simple decision. "This is the only open land left in town. I could not see having it developed, for sentimental reasons. I read somewhere that 10 percent of the land in the nation is in asphalt...I just could not see it here."

From her back window at the end of Hampton Ridge, Mrs. Thomas looks across her long pasture to Sharp Top and Flat Top of the Peaks of Otter. She's lived there in a comfortable frame house for more than 60 years. Her generous donation



(Please see Bedford Peninsula, continued on page 3)

The Thomas property is the largest remaining open space in Bedford City.

Director's Report:

By Roger Holnback

It has been a hot DRY summer, with a drought of historic proportions gripping our service areas, with public water use restrictions in towns and wells and springs drying up in the country. All this at a time when, due to locally heavy rains, whole mountain communities have been devastated by local flooding. Nature certainly has a way of keeping us off balance and reminding us that she has the last word.

While doing our part to save water, land trust project manager David Hurt and I have been very busy this summer, with lots to tell you about in our efforts at the Land Trust and to inform you about events affecting our service area. Some of these items are featured in articles elsewhere in the newsletter, so read on:

Tax Credit: The state of Virginia is offering a **great new financial incentive** for donating conservation easements on your land (see page 1). As a result of this tax credit program, we are presently in discussion with the owners of several very large properties that we hope to see protected with conservation easements before the end of the year.

Increasing Membership: We are making a concerted effort to increase our membership. If you haven't received an invitation to join the trust, you probably will. If you appreciate our work, please make a tax deductible contribution to WVLT with the enclosed envelope, and if each member recruits just one or two new members...

Ridge and Slope Protection: Botetourt County is in the public workshop phase of developing a ridge and slope protection overlay district plan for the forested mountains in the county. This is particularly timely in the face of the recent Meade/Westvaco sale of 39,000 acres of mountain lands in Botetourt that most residents assumed were "protected". This ordinance will not stop land owners from building on the land they own, just require them to site buildings in locations that are not "on the ridge" or on slopes over 25%. Like any other zoning regulation, the application of any forthcoming regulation will be subject to variances at the discretion of the zoning board, and existing homes will be grandfathered in.

Read Mountain: Fund raising and public awareness for the effort to protect **Read Mountain** will take a great leap forward on September 15 with the Take a Hike-a-thon (see page 4). Come on out and hike the mountain with friends and family and learn for yourself why we consider this such an important Roanoke Valley initiative.

Outreach: We are developing a **new brochure** with the assistance and artistic talent of Diane Smith of Roanoke. Diane is creating a series of original color drawings of scenes of southwest Virginia just for us, and we are excited about the impact this new brochure will have in our outreach efforts.



We have a web site! While we are looking for a grant to help pay for a really great website, full of content, photos, and stories of our work, and copies of our newsletters, for the moment, we have a simple website up and running at westernvirginalandtrust.org. Sorry for the long address, but at least it is easy to spell, and all the easy/short versions were taken. Check it out and look for new content soon!

Trustees: At our June Board Meeting we said thank you and farewell to our five outgoing board members who have so well supported the efforts of the Trust, and in August we officially welcomed our **new trustees** (see page 6). The staff of the land trust appreciates the effort and sacrifice these fine citizens make in support of open space preservation and conservation.

So despite the drought, we have had a great summer and hope that you have as well. Roger B. Holnback



We Invite You to Become Part
of the Western Virginia Land Trust

Please feel free to contact us at any time for more information on the Western Virginia Land Trust.

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WVLT Online

Though still being developed, the first website for WVLT is now up and running. Please visit us at westernvirginalandtrust.org and look for updates and improvements soon.

Our staff also has new e-mail addresses.

Executive Director Roger Holnback can be reached at

rholnback@westernvirginalandtrust.org and

Project Manager David Hurt is at

dhurt@westernvirginalandtrust.org.

City Kids Connect with Nature

Help develop park and greenway

While participating in a WVLT workshop, children and teens witnessed egrets, wood ducks, snapping turtles and even the endangered Roanoke River Log Perch while planting trees, cleaning litter, monitoring water quality and learning about non-point source pollution. In June, WVLT sponsored these activities along a tranquil stream so typical of Virginia's countryside – but this sleepy natural spot is a stone's throw from busy I-581 in the heart of Roanoke City.

With funding from a Roanoke City Cultural Services Grant, WVLT hosted over 100 Roanoke City youth from the West End Center and Boys and Girls Club in educational water quality workshops along Lick Run in Brown –Robertson Park.



Ferrum College students volunteered to assist West End Center day campers at WVLT's Lick Run Workshop

Participants began their workshop by working with an Enviroscope on loan from the Mountain Castles Soil and Water Conservation District. An Enviroscope is a tabletop watershed model that offers hands-on lessons in watershed functions and pollution sources and prevention. After this broad watershed overview, students walked only a few yards to apply their lessons in Lick Run, part of the temporary outdoor classroom.

To gauge the health of the stream and to get an up-close look at what lurks beneath the surface, the budding conservationist participated in an Izzac Walton League Save Our Streams demonstration. Jay Gillum from Virginia's Save Our Streams and Herb Cromier from Explore Park explained how a stream's health can be gauged by counting the number and variety of invertebrates living under rocks. The real fun began when they proceeded with the scientific catch.

Standing in the stream with a net, participants gently moved cobblestones to stir up the stream residents. After the net was moved to a table, everything that wriggled was carefully placed into containers of water. Though not a target species for monitoring, several crawfish marched about the table, proving to be the most popular attraction of the day. After a thorough count, all creatures were returned to the stream.

The final count, though seemingly impressive, showed that the water's health was less than ideal. To do their part to help remedy the situation, the students moved on to really get their hands dirty.

Having seen the important role that trees and shrubs can play in filtering run-off and pollution before it enters a stream, workshop participants planted over 60 trees and shrubs, from surveying and digging the holes to mulching and watering.

In addition to their importance as pollution filters and wildlife homes, the trees will also enhance the next leg of the Lick Run Greenway, which will connect Valley View Mall to the Roanoke City Market. The greenway will travel beside Lick Run the entire length of Brown-Robertson Park.

WVLT's workshops helped over 100 Roanoke City youth appreciate and enhance the natural areas hidden between busy freeways and densely populated neighborhoods.

WVLT Buys Greenway "Missing Link"

In continuing efforts to assist development of the Roanoke Valley greenway system, WVLT has acquired land for the Lick Run Greenway, which runs from Valley View Mall, follows Lick Run through Brown-Robertson Park and will eventually connect to the Roanoke City Market.

In January, WVLT conveyed to Roanoke City a 14-acre tract on which the first mile of Lick Run Greenway was built. This completed section meanders through wooded and pastoral landscapes, concealing its proximity to busy I-581.

In late May, WVLT acted quickly to purchase a small tract of land along Lick Run that helps clear the way for the greenway completion. WVLT re-sold this "missing link" to the City at cost.

When the trail is complete, graduates of WVLT's Lick Run Water Quality Workshop can walk or bike beside the trees that they planted. Perhaps some will return one day with their own children to enjoy the shade of "their" trees and search for an elusive Roanoke River Log Perch.



Read Mountain Alliance

607 Ray Street • Roanoke, VA 24019
540-977-4540

Read Mountain Update

Hike-a-thon to benefit preservation fund

The Western Virginia Land Trust continues a partnership with The Read Mountain Alliance (RMA) in efforts to preserve a Roanoke Valley landmark.

Straddling the Roanoke County/Botetourt County line, Read Mountain is the focal point of a Blue Ridge Parkway overlook and a scenic presence across much of the valley. Its wooded ridges, though pristine for now, are being encroached upon by residential and industrial development. Working hard to preserve the upper slope for future generations, Ron Crawford has led the Read Mountain Alliance to build awareness for the cause and has recruited over 700 supporters. Members of RMA are also working hard to raise money to make their dream a reality.

RMA is working with landowners on the mountain to develop plans for a 500 to 600-acre preserve with hiking and biking trails extending to the Roanoke Valley Greenway at Tinker Creek. The preserve would maintain a diverse wildlife habitat, provide recreational opportunities for the over 200,000 people living within 10 miles of the mountain and save an important visual and historic landmark.

WVLT is supporting RMA by acting as their tax-exempt fiduciary agent, providing technical assistance on grants and working with some of the mountain's landowners in efforts to secure conservation easements to further protect Read Mountain. Land Trust members can support RMA by participating in the Take a Hike-a-thon for Read Mountain on September 15.

The fundraising hike will take place on Sunday, September 15 at 2:00 p.m. Hikers will assemble at Bonsack Elementary School and ride busses to the starting point of the hike.

The hike is approximately three miles long and is of moderate difficulty with a steep ascent for the first half-mile. Hikers should wear sturdy shoes and bring water, although water and first aid stations will be located at several points along the route. The hike will end back at the school, where cold drinks and watermelons will await.

Hikers with sponsorships of \$25 or more will receive a "Take a Hike-a-thon" t-shirt. The more sponsors a hiker gets, the more money will be raised to preserve Read Mountain. All tax-deductible checks should be made out to Western Virginia Land Trust and noted for Read Mountain. Contributions are welcome at any time.

All WVLT members are encouraged to participate by pre-registering. Please call Ron Crawford at 977-4540 or Cathy Crawford at 342-9605. Happy hiking!

Bedford Peninsula *(continued from page one)*

of a conservation easement will enhance the quality of life in Bedford City for generations to come.

Her acreage, "a little peninsula between two creeks...gives you breathing space." It's bounded by a stand of trees and she has "a perfect view of the Peaks." When she and her late husband moved into the house in 1941, she learned that in Bedford everybody had to have a view or a painting of the Peaks.

This land is what's left of almost 700 acres her father-in-law, Fletcher Thomas, once managed for his wife and her three sisters, daughters of Col. William Graves. The family sold the remainder to a Lynchburg developer who built a lot of homes.

At the far end of her field, near the Bedford Hospital, is a thickly populated area, inhabited by a number of people from the Northeast, who retired to Smith Mountain Lake and then moved into the county seat in their later years to be near the hospital and medical facilities.

Mrs. Thomas followed the lead of her friend, Barbara Hatcher, who placed 158 acres at the base of Sharp Top Mountain under easement two years ago. Here on Hampton Ridge, she wants to protect the viewscape and keep the land undeveloped. Open land is "of value to the people who live around it." She has a working agreement with two men who cut the hay and keep her fences repaired.

She wants to keep the property in the family—two sons, three grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. The house is not covered by the easement. Her stipulation in the easement says that nothing will be built on the land, except for one dwelling. She wants no vehicles stored there—"I don't want it trashy." If a buyer can be found who will abide by the restrictions, permanently recorded with the county clerk of courts, the land can be sold and the easement goes with the land.

Mrs. Thomas, the former Eliza Mount, was born in Saltville where her father once managed the Mathieson Alkali Works before the family moved to Lynchburg and he became a consulting chemical and mechanical engineer. She grew up in Lynchburg and married William Otey Thomas, who rose through the ranks to become president of Piedmont Label Co., a leading Bedford industry for years. He served in the Navy in World War II and died in 1979.

LANDSAVER:

Rupert Cutler, Environmentalist Inside and Out

Rupert Cutler's obsession with the environment began when his parents took him and his brother camping and hiking from their home in Detroit. That led to a 45-year career in journalism, environmental policy, natural resources public administration and a very busy semi-retirement in Roanoke.

Cutler, a Landsaver par excellence, has gone from directing Explore Park to helping form the Western Virginia Land Trust to probably his biggest challenge—a four-year term on Roanoke City Council—in his 11 years here. Add to that a recent appointment to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation board and a term starting Oct. 1 as president of the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke, an organization of 250 influential valley men and women, and serving on 40 working committees.

"I came to Roanoke to slow down and retire 11 years ago but I'm busting my butt," he said in an interview. After a close election in May, his first run for political office, Cutler is relishing the task of facing Roanoke's problems, especially the hot topic of seeking new sources of water for the city. He favors a regional authority and long-range connections to new water sources.

In his two years at the helm of the Land Trust, he set up the organization to establish a pattern of preserving land across our mountains and valleys. When he retired from that post in March 1999, Cutler had cleared the way for continuing preservation of the natural, scenic and cultural heritage of western Virginia on private land, using voluntary conservation easements. His counsel is often expressed at meetings of the board and the Education Committee. And the pace of easements is picking up.

In Michigan, both of his parents were interested in photography and the outdoors and they passed that along to their son. His grandparents were painters, who met while students at the Fine Arts Academy in Cincinnati. His father was a chemical metallurgist and his mother was a music teacher and a poet. His grandfather, Edward J. Cutler, was the architect who designed Greenfield Village, a collection of historical structures assembled by Henry Ford. The elder Cutler, a friend of the auto pioneer, designed the Ford Motor Co. logo, based on the French curve in Ford's signature.

At his first job, writing instruction books for Argus Cameras, Cutler met Gladys Rothenbecker and they were married. He adopted her children and they have a daughter in Bristol and a son in Olympia, Wash., plus five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Gladys, a quiet lady who marvels at her husband's energy, set something of a record when she recently prepared a list of the books she's read—12,000 in all! In her working years, she was executive secretary of several organizations.

Cutler has one of the longest biographical sketches of anyone in this part of the world. He was a wildlife management major at the University of Michigan and he earned a master's degree and a doctorate in



Rupert & Gladys Cutler

environmental litigation from Michigan State University. He edited a weekly newspaper in Arizona, *Virginia Wildlife* in Richmond and *National Wildlife* for the National Wildlife Federation.

Then he held a series of executive posts in environmental organizations. He was assistant executive director of The Wilderness Society, senior vice president of National Audubon Society, executive director of Population-Environment Balance and president of Defenders of Wildlife. He interrupted that series to work on his doctorate and serve as assistant professor of resource development and state extension specialist in natural resources policy at Michigan State.

In 1977, President Jimmy Carter named Cutler assistant secretary of agriculture for conservation, research and education. He provided policy direction for the U.S. Forest Service, Soil Conservation Service and the research, extension and library agencies of the Agriculture Department. These agencies employed 80,000 people with a total budget of \$4 billion.

Since retirement from the Land Trust in 1999, he has served on three advisory committees: a state study of the impact of chip mills, a land use plan for Carvins Cove reservoir water-shed lands and a plan for the city parks and recreation department. In addition to the Land Trust, he's on the boards of Blue Ridge Public Television, the League of Older Americans in Roanoke and Harrison Museum. He had to drop his commitment to barbershop quartet singing, a real love, because the singers meet on Monday nights when Roanoke City Council has other work for him.

Cutler feels good about the two Rogers who have succeeded him in his former Roanoke posts. "We're lucky to have those guys," he says of Roger Holnback at the Land Trust and Roger Elmore at Explore Park. Cutler recalls that "roger" has a "thumbs-up" connotation in slang and military parlance.

If he had a chance to tackle his diverse career again, would he do it? "Of course. It was a lot of fun." The Cutlers had an easy choice for a retirement location. They have lived all over—from Arizona to Boston and Roanoke has "the ideal size...the personal relationships. In those other cities, you don't know who lives next door."

Cash for Conservation *(continued from page one)*

1. **Federal Income Tax Deduction** The donation of an easement is treated as a charitable gift and the value of the easement may be deducted from the donor's income for purposes of calculating income taxes.
 - Deduction is limited to 30% of the landowner's adjusted gross income in the year the donation is given (the unused portion of the gift may be carried forward to be used as a deduction for an additional five years, subject to the 30% limit each year).
 - Alternatively, the landowner may elect to reduce the amount of the deduction to the basis of the property. Then the value of the gift (as reduced to basis) will be deductible up to 50% of the landowner's adjusted gross income (for one plus five years). *This election may be advantageous to the landowner if the donation of an easement is made shortly after acquiring the property.*
2. **Estate Tax Reduction** Estate taxes can be as high as 55% of the value of the donor's estate. *In many cases, a landowner's heirs must sell the property just to pay estate taxes.* By donating an easement, landowners can reduce these taxes in two ways:
 - First, the estate will have been reduced by the value of the easement (smaller estate value means less—or perhaps no—estate tax due).
 - Secondly, the American Farm and Ranch Protection Act of 1997 allows heirs to exclude up to an additional 40% of the remaining value of their land from estate taxes.
3. **Reduced Real Estate Taxes** In counties where "use value" taxation is in place, land subject to an easement is automatically entitled to taxation at use value rates. In localities that do not have use value taxation, land under easement is assessed without regard to the development value that has been extinguished by the easement.
4. **State Tax Credit** Since 1999, Virginia has offered easement donors a tax credit for 50% of their easement value. This credit can be applied against state income tax for up to six years. In effect, most easement donors don't have to pay state income tax for six years. However, even after eliminating state taxes for six years, many easement donors would have to leave significant tax credit value unused. *Starting this year, the unused tax credit can be sold.*

While some details of the tax credit transfers are still being fine-tuned and interpreted, the basic provisions of the law are clear. Any Virginia taxpayer who donates land or an easement for conservation purposes is entitled to a tax credit worth 50% of their gift. Any portion of the tax credit may be sold or given to other Virginia taxpayers, with a cap of \$100,000 per taxpayer per year (for up to 6 years).

Several brokers have already established guidelines for tax credit exchanges and WVLT staff has been in consultation with local professionals who will be able to provide tax credit buyers in our service area.

Some in the conservation community speculate that, due to state budget woes, the General Assembly may revise or even eliminate the

new tax credit provisions next year. However, once a taxpayer is granted tax credits under current law, he or she has them to use as current law permits.

For further information, please contact the Western Virginia Land Trust. As always, WVLT strongly urges prospective easement donors to consult their own financial and legal advisors as well.

Four New Faces on WVLT Board of Trustees

Four trustees elected to the board of the Western Virginia Land Trust in June are Anne Jennings, A. W. "Skip" Brown, Lynn Meyer and J. Richard Wells.

Anne Jennings, who chairs the Conservation Committee for the Garden Club of America, has held other Garden Club posts. She serves on the Poplar Forest regional board and is an energetic conservation volunteer.

Skip Brown, a Roanoke investment representative with Edward Jones, is an active musician and amateur photographer. Skip brings to WVLT additional financial and estate planning expertise associated with conservation easement donations.

Lynn Meyer, active volunteer with The Roanoke Symphony Orchestra and other civic causes, is an avid angler who enjoys fishing local waters and traveling afar with her husband to explore other fishing grounds.

Richard Wells, president of Leisure Publishing and publisher of Blue Ridge Country and The Roanoker magazines, is president of Friends of the Blue Ridge Parkway and committed to historic preservation in the Roanoke Valley.

WVLT Advisory Council Named

Seven former WVLT trustees—all experts in their fields—have been named to a new Advisory Council by the board of trustees of the Land Trust. They are expected to be available for counsel or contacts when needed by the Land Trust for specific programs or projects.

The first members of the Advisory Council are: Charles Blankenship, Roanoke, an active urban forester, retired from the Jefferson National Forest; Cabell Brand, Salem, a member of Virginia Conservation Network board, an active member of the Nature Conservancy and an environmentalist; Archie Campbell, retired Wytheville lawyer, former veteran member of Virginia House of Delegates; Liza Field, Wytheville environmental activist, writer, teacher; Robert B. Lambeth, Bedford lawyer, president of Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges; Stephen Lemon, Roanoke real estate attorney and conservation easement specialist, and John B. Williamson, chairman of RGC Resources Inc. (parent of Roanoke Gas Co.) and Appalachian Trail walker.

WVLT Member Gifts

WVLT is sustained in large part by member contributions. The following individuals and organizations have generously contributed to WVLT since the publication of our Spring newsletter,

Chris Barlow	Roger B. Holnback
Laura E. Benjamin	Lesley Howard
G. Carl Bogges	David and Katrina Hurt
Howard W. Boise	Donna Hurt
Nancy A. Bourne	Doris and Arnold Hurt
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Boxley	Reginald K. Hutcherson
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Bray	Dr. & Mrs. Robert S. Hutcheson
Denis J. Brion	in memory of Stephen C. Jarecki
Mrs. D. Blackwell Brown	Robert P. Kegley
Charlotte Burnette	The KVA Foundation
Archie A. Campbell	Mr. & Mrs. Stanford F. Landford, Jr.
David W. Carr	Anna and Tom Lawson
Nancy K. Carson	Mr. & Mrs. J.P. Lawson
Phyllis A. Carter	James B. Lawson
Mr. & Mrs. E.D. Clower, Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. W. Tucker Lemon
Glen E. and Mary Ann Conrad	The Little River Foundation
Jane Walker Cooper	Mr. & Mrs. Samuel B. Long
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Anne Lee Gravely	William Wasserman
Otis F. Hall	Mr. & Mrs. M. Lanier Woodrum
Ted Harris, Jr.	Ned and Janet Yost
Fenton F. Harrison, Jr.	

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendar for the following dates:

Come to the **AECP Energy Fair** on Sept. 13-14 at the Roanoke Civic Center and learn about energy conservation, new building materials and water conservation techniques. The event is free and features many exhibitors.

Join **The Read Mountain Alliance** for the **Read Mountain Hike-a-Thon** on September 15. Each hiker is requested to have sponsors willing to contribute toward the preservation of the local scenic vista. For more information, call Ron Crawford at 977-4540.

Appalachian author speaks and signs new book at Cantos Booksellers on The Roanoke City Market. Chris Boliagno, author of *Appalachian Forest* will present her new work, *Living in the Appalachian Forest, True Tales of Sustainable Forestry*, on Thursday, September 19, at 7:00 p.m.

Clean Virginia Waterways Clean-Up Day is Sept. 21. Help get the trash out of streams and report what you pick up as part of this worldwide effort. Go to web.longwood.edu/cleanva for a registration form.

The Virginia Watershed Management Conference will be held Sept. 25-27 at the Hotel Roanoke. Learn about watershed management, land conservation and land use planning. Call 804-786-0237 or visit dcr.state.va.us/watershed.

The Earth Summit will be Nov. 7 at the Higher Education Center in Roanoke. Call 540-772-2535 for information.

Living Within Nature, a two-day conference sponsored by **The Cabell Brand Center** is set for Nov. 21-22 at the Hotel Roanoke and will include programs on low-impact development, disaster mitigation and conservation practices. Call 540 345-6579 to find out more.



Join the Western Virginia Land Trust Today!

WVLT's activities are supported in large part by membership dues and contributions. If you are not a member, please consider adding your support to ongoing efforts to preserve western Virginia's natural and cultural heritage.

If already a member, your assistance in recruiting new members would be greatly appreciated. Why not offer memberships as gifts for special occasions? There's no better gift for someone who has everything than to include them in a legacy of conservation. Future generations will thank them – and you!

A postpaid, pre-addressed donor envelope is enclosed for your convenience.



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WESTERN VIRGINIA LAND TRUST MISSION STATEMENT

*A publicly-supported charitable organization providing voluntary means
to promote the preservation of western Virginia’s natural & cultural heritage*



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