The world’s first nearly-complete dinosaur skeleton was discovered in New Jersey in 1858, and paleontologists are still unearthing fossilized remains of dinosaurs and other prehistoric creatures at several active sites.
When dinosaurs roamed the Garden State

Some sixty-five million years ago, the place we know as New Jersey looked vastly different. The Earth was much warmer and sea levels were higher. Most of the southern half of our state was covered by a shallow sea.

Dinosaurs like the Hadrosaurus roamed the land, and giant crocodiles and lizard-like mosasaurs swam the sea. The coastline was far to the west of its current location, running diagonally from today’s Salem County on the Delaware Bay to Monmouth County on the Raritan Bay.

The dinosaur era came to an end when an asteroid hit the Earth, causing a mass extinction. But many of New Jersey’s prehistoric creatures were preserved as fossils. The world’s first nearly-complete dinosaur skeleton was found in New Jersey in 1858, and paleontologists are still making great discoveries today – especially in the geological region known as the Inner Coastal Plain.

In this issue, you’ll read about New Jersey’s special role in dinosaur history, the work being done by paleontologists in the state’s fossil-rich “hot spots,” and how land preservation fits into the picture.

You’ll also read about a preserve being established in central New Jersey’s Sourland Mountains, a donor’s generous gift that helped us expand the Hill & Dale Preserve in Hunterdon County, and why this year’s gubernatorial election is critically important for New Jersey’s environment and land preservation efforts.

Happy spring, and thank you for your steadfast support of New Jersey Conservation Foundation. With your help, we will make 2017 another fantastic year for preserving the best of the Garden State’s natural places!

Michele S. Byers
More than 150 community members (and their dogs!) joined us November 13, 2016 for the annual Donald & Beverley Jones Memorial Hike. We traversed six miles of beautiful trails and farmland that is being threatened by the proposed PennEast Pipeline. Michele Byers, Executive Director, and Tom Gilbert, Campaign Director, were joined by actress Emma Bell and her Standing Ground documentary team (inset).

Hikers returned to the Prallsville Mills for the post-hike Pints Not Pipelines event, which raises funds and awareness to fight the pipeline. We toasted with Flying Fish beer, enjoyed Metropolitan Seafood delicacies, and danced to incredible live music with The Bins featuring Patty Cronheim.
Preserved forests and fields expand in Sourland Mountains

A nature preserve in central New Jersey’s Sourland Mountains is growing, thanks to the recent addition of 151 acres in East Amwell Township, Hunterdon County.

This beautiful parcel was purchased from landowner John Higgins, with whom we’ve worked for years to preserve land in the Sourlands region.

The gently sloping property contains farm fields and woodlands, with panoramic views of the surrounding mountains and countryside.

It’s now open to the public for various activities including hiking, horseback riding, bird watching and nature observation. We plan to create a trail system on the property while continuing to lease the fields to a local farmer.

In 2015 and 2016, we assisted Somerset County in purchasing 78 neighboring acres in Hillsborough Township from Mr. Higgins. The East Amwell and Hillsborough properties will now be managed as a single preserve.

When added to other previously preserved properties, the preserve now totals 758 acres.

The latest purchase was made possible by generous funding from partners: East Amwell Township, Hunterdon County, the New Jersey Green Acres Program, Raritan Headwaters, The 1772 Foundation, Hunterdon Land Trust, and an anonymous donor.

New Jersey Conservation Foundation is planning to preserve additional land owned by John Higgins to add to the new preserve.

The Sourland Mountains region is located midway between New York and Philadelphia, and contains central New Jersey’s largest unbroken forest, with over 20,000 contiguous acres.

The forests and wetlands of the Sourlands protect headwater streams flowing to the Millstone, Raritan and Delaware rivers, and the Delaware & Raritan Canal. These forests...
provide habitat to many threatened and endangered animal species including barred owl, bobcat, Cooper’s hawk, and wood turtle.

The area also supports a large population of forest interior birds such as scarlet tanagers, Kentucky warblers and red-shouldered hawks. In addition, the region serves as a stopover for migratory birds that travel between South America and the boreal forests of Canada, and those that travel from Central America to New Jersey to breed.

The origin of the name “Sourlands” is a bit of a mystery. One theory is that it’s derived from “sorrel-land,” which describes the reddish-brown soil. Another is that it was named for the Sauerland region in Germany. A third possibility is that early Dutch settlers called it “sauer landt” because the rocky soil is sour, or difficult to farm.

**HARRIS FARM**, Quinton Township, Salem County – 118 acres of Jeffrey Harris’ Mill Hollow Farm were preserved in December. The New Jersey State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) preserved approximately 100 acres of the farm with an agricultural easement that ensures the land will always be maintained for farming purposes. We preserved the farm’s 18-acre forested riparian buffer under a separate conservation easement that requires that the forest be maintained. The forested buffer protects Keasbey’s Creek, which runs into the Salem River and the Mannington Meadows tidal wetlands complex. This project was supported through the Open Space Institute’s Bayshore Highlands Grant Fund, which is made possible with funding from the William Penn Foundation. The Bayshore Highlands Fund seeks to accelerate strategic land conservation in the New Jersey Bayshore and the Pennsylvania Highlands.

**RAY FARM**, Alloway Township, Salem County – Farm owner Henry Ray has been buying, selling, training, transporting and leasing horses for about 50 years. In late December, we helped him preserve 63 acres of the farm where he keeps his horses and his daughter keeps a herd of about 80 goats. “I’m all about farm preservation, I think it’s a great idea,” he said. Our partners on the project were Alloway Township, Salem County, SADC, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service.

**COLE FARM**, Readington Township, Hunterdon County – The protection of the Readington Village Historic District got a boost in February with the preservation of a 21-acre farm that has been in the same family for nine generations. The Cole farm is the last remaining property of sizeable acreage in Readington Village, which is listed on the state and national Registers of Historic Places. The land first came into owner Robert Cole’s family in the late 1700s when his ancestor Casper Berger, a German indentured servant and a mason by trade, was emancipated after fulfilling his obligation to build three homes in the area. Our partners on the project were Readington Township, SADC, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service.
THE FOSSIL STATE: New Jersey is a paleontology

NEW JERSEY IS KNOWN AS THE GARDEN STATE, BUT IT COULD JUST AS EASILY BE THE FOSSIL STATE.
Running along the center of New Jersey, stretching from Salem County on the Delaware Bay to the Raritan Bay in Monmouth County, is a narrow diagonal band known to geologists as the Inner Coastal Plain.

During the Cretaceous period, when the earth was much warmer and sea levels higher, the Atlantic coastline followed the band of the Inner Coastal Plain. The shallow ocean was home to sea creatures like mosasaurs and giant crocodiles, and the carcasses of land-dwelling creatures occasionally would be swept out to sea.

Thanks to this ancient history, the sediments of the Inner Coastal Plain contain fossils of both land and sea creatures. Some of the region’s most fossil-rich soils are greensand, known locally as “marl.” Once sea floor, the greensand is so soft that paleontologists can dig with a garden trowel rather than having to chip through rock. Marl deposits are found throughout the Inner Coastal Plain, reflected in town names like Marlton and Marlboro.

The world’s first nearly-complete dinosaur skeleton was discovered in New Jersey in 1858, and paleontologists are still unearthing fossilized remains of dinosaurs and other prehistoric creatures at several active sites.

“New Jersey is a great place to be if you’re a paleontologist,” says David Parris, paleontologist and head curator of natural history at the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton. “The first dinosaur in North America was found here, and we’re still finding them now.”

Of 11 fossil-rich geologic periods, nine are represented in New Jersey, including the Cretaceous, Jurassic and Triassic periods from 65 to 250 million years ago. Fossils have been found in 19 of the state’s 21 counties.

Today’s paleontologists are especially focused on fossils of the late Cretaceous period, found at sites in Monmouth, Burlington and Gloucester Counties.

David Parris, paleontologist and head curator of natural history at the New Jersey State Museum, collects fossil samples in the field in Hunterdon County.

With such diverse geography in a small state, you can travel 80 miles in a straight line from the Delaware Water Gap to the beaches of Asbury Park – passing through over half a billion years of earth history, recorded in the rocks.

New Jersey’s diverse geological regions

New Jersey may be the fourth smallest state, but its geographic diversity more than makes up for its size. From steep Appalachian mountains to sandy ocean beaches, New Jerseyans are never far from a complete change of scenery.

The state’s geology is composed of five distinct diagonal bands, natural regions formed by geological events that began hundreds of millions of years ago. Moving from northwest to southeast, the regions are:

- The steep Ridge & Valley region, related to waves of Appalachian mountain building events of the Paleozoic Era from approximately 360 to 500 million years ago.
- The rugged Highlands, tiny remnants of giant mountains formed during the Precambrian Era more than 545 million years ago. Rocks of this region are the state’s oldest, formed before plant or animal life on land, and the first vertebrates were still about 25 million years short of swimming in the oceans.
- The Piedmont, whose shales, siltstones, and volcanic basalts are much younger. They date from the Triassic and Jurassic periods of the Mesozoic Era, between 145 and 250 million years ago, when a shallow sea expanded after Africa broke off and slowly sailed away from North America.
- The Inner Coastal Plain, southeast of the line between Trenton and New Brunswick, built primarily of sands of the seacoast during the Cretaceous Period that ended 65 million years ago. This region contains most the state’s fossil hotspots.
- The Outer Coastal Plain, the youngest region, is ocean bottom sand from the Cenozoic Era of the last approximately 60 million years. The region is located east of a rough line from Freehold to Salem, and is the foundation of the Pine Barrens.
The Vincentown formation is a long and narrow geologic formation that runs along the ancient coastline through six New Jersey counties. The formation was laid down about 60 million years ago, during the Selandian Age of the Paleocene Epoch, about 5 million years after an asteroid strike ended the Cretaceous and wiped out all dinosaurs—except birds.

Dr. Emile DeVito, our staff biologist, visited three fossil sites on a NJ State Museum tour led by Parris last fall. As a bonus, the group took a side trip to New Jersey Conservation’s Vincentown property, where Emile experienced the thrill of discovery as he unearthed a fossilized burrow made by an arthropod millions of years ago when the land was the bottom of a shallow sea.

Hadrosaurus bones, mosasaurs, giant sea turtles and giant crocodiles are some of the fossils being discovered in New Jersey today.

Parris said the preserved Monmouth County site, known as Ellisdale, is yielding thousands of fossils of all sizes, from large to microscopic. Most never go on display, but are safeguarded in the cabinets and drawers of the museum’s “compact storage” area.

For example, one tiny treasure—barely larger than a thumbnail—is a complete lower jaw of a tiny land lizard. Other fossils unearthed at Ellisdale are even smaller, requiring a microscope for identification. “One coffee can full of matrix (fossil-filled rubble) can keep us busy for a couple of years,” noted Parris.

Another active fossil site is a former Mantua Township sand quarry where mosasaurs—ancient sea monsters—have been discovered. Thanks to donors, Rowan University was able to purchase the quarry last November from the company that had mined it for about a century. Permanently preserved, it is now called the Jean and Ric Edelman Fossil Park and is available to Rowan University students, as well as schools and local residents attending “Community Dig” days.

Dr. Kenneth Lacovara, paleontologist and founding dean of Rowan’s School of the Earth & Environment, said the Edelman Fossil Park could become internationally important because it contains a fossil layer with evidence of a sudden mass extinction caused by an asteroid hitting the Earth.
International Conference in Trenton

A mosasaur skull excavated at the Mantua site is now on display at the NJ State Museum ... and its sharp-toothed profile has become the logo for the 4th International Symposium on Paleohistology.

The Symposium will host scientists from around the world from July 8-12, shining a spotlight on the museum’s fossil research.

Paleohistology is the microscopic study of fossil tissue, including bones, teeth, cartilage and egg shells from long-extinct creatures. The Symposium brings together researchers to exchange ideas, approaches and methodologies.

“It’s a fairly new field, but it’s growing,” said Rodrigo Pellegrini, organizer of the conference and the museum’s resident expert on paleohistology.

According to Pellegrini, there’s much to be learned by studying the micro-structure of fossil tissue. For example, he said, researchers can find out an animal’s growth rate, age of sexual maturity, lifespan, age of death, whether it was warm or cold blooded, and whether it was stressed by drought or malnourishment.

Haddonfield Discovery Site

The group of international scientists will get a firsthand opportunity to see the fossil-rich landscape of New Jersey during field trips to sites in the Inner Coastal Plain. One of the planned stops is Haddonfield, where “Haddy” the Hadrosaurus was found.

Unfortunately, this site is no longer available for excavation by paleontologists. In the 160 years since the discovery of the Hadrosaurus skeleton, significant development has overtaken the area.

All that remains is a small park and a plaque commemorating the event that put New Jersey dinosaurs on the map ... and a good reminder that saving New Jersey’s open spaces may yield more exciting fossil discoveries in the future.

LEFT: Visitors to the New Jersey State Museum crowd around the skull of a mosasaur – a giant swimming Komodo dragon – found in a former quarry in Gloucester County.

New Jersey’s Dinosaur Discoveries

- The upper part of a leg bone of a giant Cretaceous sea turtle was found in Monmouth County in the early 1800s and eventually became part of the New Jersey State Museum’s collection. In 2012, an amateur paleontologist named Gregory Harpel found a partial turtle bone in the same area of Monmouth County. He brought it to the museum, and it turned out to be the lower half of the same fossil. “It fit together just like a puzzle piece,” marveled David Parris of the New Jersey State Museum, noting that finding two halves of the same bone 200 years apart is “unprecedented.” Harpel donated his find, and the two halves are now displayed together.

- Two skulls of mosasaurs, described as giant swimming Komodo dragons, were found in a quarry in Mantua Township, Gloucester County, in 1961. Fifty years later, in 2011, paleontologists found another mosasaur skull in the same quarry.

- Just over a year ago, in February 2016, the fossil of a giant crocodile from 50 million years ago – named thoracosaurus – was discovered in Burlington County, on land next to a New Jersey Conservation property. It was spotted along a stream bank by a resident of the property. It isn’t the only giant croc to be found in New Jersey, and indicates that these crocodiles once thrived here.
Hill & Dale Preserve expands to 300 acres

A multi-year effort to preserve nearly 300 acres of the landmark Hill & Dale Farm in Tewksbury Township, Hunterdon County, was completed in late December with the purchase of another 100 acres.

The gently rolling land was added to the Hill & Dale Preserve, created in 2011 and managed for public recreation and enjoyment. The preserve begins in the Rockaway Creek valley and climbs the steep Hell Mountain, offering panoramic views of the surrounding countryside.

Major funding for the $1.2 million land purchase was provided by the River Branch Foundation, whose trustee, Jennifer Johnson Duke, is a Tewksbury native. Other funding came from Hunterdon County, Victoria Foundation, Tewksbury Land Trust, The 1772 Foundation and numerous private donors.

“We love the gorgeous views from the top of the Hill & Dale Preserve and want to make sure this vista stays unchanged for all to enjoy,” said Mrs. Duke. “We’re thrilled that the community will have more land for hiking, riding horses, fishing and enjoying nature.”

Mrs. Duke and her husband, Joseph, also provided support to preserve 50 acres of Hill & Dale in 2014.

The newly-preserved land includes two tributaries of the Rockaway Creek, a pristine trout production stream that flows into the Raritan River. A portion of the property will continue to be farmed and grazed, and a marked trail system is planned.

Historic Dairy and Horse Farm

For nearly a century, Hill & Dale Farm operated as a dairy and horse farm that grew its own hay, corn and grains. Its graceful Dutch-style barns are an iconic sight along Tewksbury’s rural backroads.

New Jersey Conservation Foundation began working in 2004 with the farm’s longtime owners, the Rothpletz family, to preserve the majority of its acreage.

“We are delighted to complete our plan for preserving much of Hill & Dale Farm,” said Michael Rothpletz. “We are very fortunate to have worked with New Jersey Conservation Foundation on this effort. Their dedicated and extremely effective staff was a great pleasure to work with and really deserve all the credit for making it happen. We look forward to continuing to work with New Jersey Conservation Foundation as our neighbor and friend.”

The newly-preserved land adjoins hundreds of previously preserved acres, including Tewksbury Township’s Hell Mountain Preserve, bringing the tally of contiguous preserved land to nearly 900 acres.

Thank you to our partners for making the Hill & Dale Preserve expansion possible!

To learn more about the Hill & Dale Preserve and download a trail map, go to www.njconservation.org/hillanddalepreserve.htm.
New Jersey Conservation Foundation and its partners permanently preserved 702 acres from October 2016 through February 2017. These include preserved family farms that produce local foods, and natural areas that safeguard clean drinking water, provide outstanding wildlife habitat and offer scenic beauty and outdoor recreation.

THANK YOU TO ALL MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNERS FOR HELPING TO PRESERVE THESE LANDS!

It's easy to join New Jersey Conservation Foundation online – visit the website at www.njconservation.org/donate.htm
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY GEOLOGY PROFESSOR
TULLIS C. ONSTOTT HAS ADDED TO THE GROWING
DEBATE OVER THE PROPOSED PENNEAST PIPELINE,
PROVIDING EVIDENCE THAT IT COULD INCREASE
ARSENIC LEVELS IN DRINKING WATER.

Arsenic and the PennEast pipeline:
A Q&A with Dr. Tullis C. Onstott, Professor of Geosciences, Princeton University

Tullis C. Onstott, professor of geosciences at Princeton University, is taking an active role in the debate over the proposed PennEast pipeline by providing testimony and research to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The pipeline would extend 118 miles from Luzerne County, Pa., to Mercer County, N.J., crossing the Delaware River and numerous streams, wetlands and preserved properties in Hunterdon and Mercer counties. One of Dr. Onstott’s concerns is that the pipeline construction would increase arsenic in groundwater that supplies drinking water wells and streams in the area. Following are some of his thoughts.
Q. Can you please describe the geology of the New Jersey region where the PennEast pipeline is proposed, especially the presence of arsenic in the bedrock?

A. In Hunterdon County, the groundwater passes through sedimentary rock originally deposited in a Triassic-age lake. The rock is rich in radioactive elements and arsenic, and groundwater flows through fractures in the rock. Because the rock porosity is low and the arsenic is high, any disturbance of this system can potentially release substantial arsenic into the groundwater.

Q. What are the health effects of arsenic?

A. Arsenic is currently the leading contaminant in well water in this region of New Jersey. Arsenic is a poison and a carcinogen. Contaminated water used for drinking, food preparation and irrigation of food crops poses the greatest threat to public health from arsenic. Long-term exposure to arsenic from drinking-water and food has also been associated with skin lesions, developmental effects, cardiovascular disease, neurotoxicity and diabetes.

Q. How would the construction and operation of the pipeline impact the amount of arsenic in groundwater, well water and streams?

A. The proposed pipeline threatens to mobilize arsenic into our water. During construction, drilling and blasting will likely increase fracturing of bedrock, thus impacting groundwater flow around the pipeline and enhancing the leaching of arsenic and radioactive elements into the water. Once the pipeline is installed and operational, it will permanently enhance the rate of arsenic release into the groundwater. It will also change the pH, oxygen and carbon levels around the pipeline, enhancing the migration of arsenic to the recharge zones of the aquifer or directly into the aquifer from horizontally drilled boreholes. Consequently, arsenic levels in private and public wells may increase. Arsenic levels in our streams could also increase to a point where these waters exceed water quality standards and threaten aquatic species. Over the course of years, this arsenic plume will migrate further and further away from the pipeline, thus impacting more of our water.

Q. Is there evidence of this happening with other pipelines?

A. Yes. Many scientific publications exist on the migration of arsenic plumes produced from leaking underground pipelines. These arsenic plumes last for decades and they migrate hundreds of yards from the pipeline. It is because our understanding of the microbiology and the geochemistry of arsenic cycling has advanced significantly in the past 10 years, that we recognize the potential threat to our environment. Even the American Petroleum Institute treats arsenic contamination of groundwater as a significant environmental issue.

Q. Does the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s (FERC’s) draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) adequately address the arsenic issue?

A. Yes, indeed, FERC’s draft EIS does directly address the arsenic danger. They state that they anticipate that the pipeline will increase the arsenic exposure to the groundwater of this region. Their recommendation to PennEast is that they provide arsenic filters to those residents whose wells show higher arsenic levels during the construction of the pipeline.

Q. Do you believe filters would effectively remove the danger?

A. The Environmental Protection Agency and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection both agree that this is inadequate. My recommendation is that this issue requires far more study in order to understand just how bad the cumulative impact will be over the long term, because there is no way to predict the impact with simplistic laboratory experiments. The outcome of such a study could determine whether arsenic-rich Hunterdon County should be treated as an exclusion zone for projects like the PennEast pipeline.
Green governor needed in New Jersey

Sweeping changes have come to Washington, D.C. with a new administration in charge of clean water, clean air, parks, forests and wildlife. Decades of hard-won protections for the environment are in danger of being rolled back at the federal level.

New Jersey’s Department of Environmental Protection relies heavily on federal funding to meet its mandates – funding that is now uncertain.

Although New Jersey may not be able to rely on the federal Environmental Protection Agency and other agencies to defend our position in upholding our state’s environmental protections, New Jersey is far from helpless.

This year, New Jerseyans will elect a new governor to replace Governor Chris Christie, whose term is expiring. All 40 seats in the New Jersey Senate and 80 seats in the Assembly will be up as well.

In the face of eroding federal protections, it’s more important than ever that New Jerseyans elect a green governor, along with legislators who are strong on safeguarding our land, water and air.

As election season gets under way, it will be vital to educate candidates and voters alike. Candidates need to recognize how high the stakes are and understand how strong state environmental protections can help compensate for weakened protections at the federal level. Voters need to know where every candidate stands on protecting New Jersey’s land, clean water, clean air and healthy communities.

That’s why New Jersey Conservation Foundation is working with the New Jersey League of Conservation Voters and other partner groups in their “Green in ’17” campaign. That effort will educate gubernatorial candidates on environmental issues that need the attention of the next administration.

Here are some examples of current environmental issues and concerns:

- Protecting our state’s water resources;
- Ensuring that land preservation funds flow quickly and are not diverted for other purposes;
- Moving New Jersey forward on clean energy to counter the threats to preserved lands from unnecessary fossil fuel infrastructure sprawl;
- Addressing the threat of climate change, including sea level rise;
- Promoting the importance of regional planning commissions like the Pinelands Commission and the Highlands Council;
- Ensuring permanent protection of the Palisades Cliffs;
- Protecting New Jersey’s natural heritage, including rare plants and animals;
Ensuring the passage of November’s ballot question to dedicate money received in compensation for environmental damages to environmental projects so it cannot be diverted for other purposes.

Christie Administration Rollbacks

During Governor Christie’s eight years in office, New Jersey has experienced significant rollbacks and lost momentum in its longstanding efforts to protect land, water and air. For example, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection proposed rule changes last year that would weaken protections for water in the environmentally sensitive Highlands region by increasing septic system density.

Other changes weakening the state’s flood hazard and stormwater management rules were adopted in 2016. Appointments to important regional planning commissions in the Pinelands and Highlands have largely favored development interests over conservation.

Earlier in the Christie administration, New Jersey took a step backward on climate change when the governor withdrew the state from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a cooperative effort among states in the northeastern United States to cap and reduce carbon dioxide pollution from power plants. A 2015 study found that RGGI contributed significantly to a decline in emissions in the region, which currently consists of nine states. Under new leadership New Jersey can rejoin RGGI and become part of the solution again.

New Jersey now has the opportunity to resume its place as a leader in environmental protection. Our state can continue to uphold and adopt clean water and clean air policies that are more stringent than federal standards, and it can move forward on action against climate change. All it takes is political will and leadership from a new green governor.

More than 350 land preservation professionals and volunteers came together in New Brunswick on March 17 for the 21st annual NJ Land Conservation Rally, a one-day educational conference about open space and farmland preservation.

This year’s theme was “Healthy Land... Healthy Water” and Dr. David Robinson, New Jersey’s State Climatologist and Geography Professor at Rutgers University, gave the keynote speech on the role of land use as New Jersey’s climate changes.

Twenty-four educational workshops and 5 roundtables explored topics like “Moving from Pipelines to Renewables,” “The New Jersey Lands Blueprint: A New Tool to Accelerate Conservation,” and “Landscaping for Healthy Water with Jersey-Friendly Yards.”

Among the exhibitors were farmers who showcased samples of their products, such as flowers and honey, and an Irish band created an atmosphere to help everyone “celebrate green.”

For more information about the annual NJ Land Rally, visit www.njconservation.org/conservationrally.htm
New Jersey Conservation Foundation welcomes new members and gratefully acknowledges donors who made contributions between September 2016 and December 2016. With your support, we will work hard to preserve and protect New Jersey’s lands.

New Members
(from September 2016 to December 2016)

Alan Field
Marilyn S Fishman
Melva Fitting
William Fliemter
Noel K. Foley
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory D. Foster
Ross Fried
Marlene J. Fuller
Sean Gallagher
Harry W. Geiler
Mr. Steven B. Gelb
Emily Ginder
Murray and Shirley Goldberg
Roe W. Goodman
Mary Ann Gordon
Richard Gorman
Anita Grammatico
Beth Gross
Heather Haberlie
Helen Hartkopf
Gregory Hartman
John L. Henderson
Richard Herschopf
Karen Hertzog and Chris Stoddard
Angelika Heuer
Carolyn Heuser
Richard Hoover
Giles Houghton
Steven Berry Johnston
Harry Jones
Dennis and Barbara Kailchstein
Theresa and John Kashner
Dr. Andrew Kasper
Daniel Keating
Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. King
Cynthia Kingsford
Ms. B. Susan Keeford
Denise Koetas-Dale
Barbara Koning-Pankow
Thomas Kosiba
Fred Kurtz
Dorothy Kwiatkowski
Michael and Donna Lacey
Rudolph F. Lakat
William Lalor
Steven E. Lane
Elvera Leader
Valerie LeBlanc
David Lee
Maurice Lee
Barbara Leneghan
Lydia Leneghan
William and Joan Lesko
Jay Levenson
Robert and Joan Lewis
Alan Field
Marilyn S Fishman
Melva Fitting
William Fliemter
Noel K. Foley
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory D. Foster
Ross Fried
Marlene J. Fuller
Sean Gallagher
Harry W. Geiler
Mr. Steven B. Gelb
Emily Ginder
Murray and Shirley Goldberg
Roe W. Goodman
Mary Ann Gordon
Richard Gorman
Anita Grammatico
Beth Gross
Heather Haberlie
Helen Hartkopf
Gregory Hartman
John L. Henderson
Richard Herschopf
Karen Hertzog and Chris Stoddard
Angelika Heuer
Carolyn Heuser
Richard Hoover
Giles Houghton
Steven Berry Johnston
Harry Jones
Dennis and Barbara Kailchstein
Theresa and John Kashner
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Michael and Donna Lacey
Rudolph F. Lakat
William Lalor
Steven E. Lane
Elvera Leader
Valerie LeBlanc
David Lee
Maurice Lee
Barbara Leneghan
Lydia Leneghan
William and Joan Lesko
Jay Levenson
Robert and Joan Lewis

$500 and Above Members
(from September 2016 to December 2016)

The 1772 Foundation, Inc.
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Arthur Kontos Foundation, Inc.
Candace M. Ashmun
Atlantic Health System
Penelope Ayers
The Bacon Winslow Family Foundation
Peter and Katie Barnes
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The Charles E. and Edna T. Brundage Foundation
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Austin and Gwen Fragramen
Freilingshuysen Foundation
Jane Morton Galetto
Bruce and Karin Gast
The Gelfand Family Foundation, Inc.
We need members to help us save lands at risk.
New Jersey Conservation Foundation lost two longtime environmental champions and friends with the recent passing of Lillie Ryan DeBevoise and C. Austin Buck.

Lillie, a former resident of New Vernon, was a staunch conservation advocate since the 1960s, when she and her husband, Charlie, were part of a grassroots effort to stop the Port Authority from building an international “jetport” in the Great Swamp of Morris County. The effort succeeded and the threatened land became the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. The citizens group, known as the Great Swamp Committee, evolved into New Jersey Conservation Foundation and Charlie became one of our founding trustees.

Lillie was recognized for her contributions to the preservation of the Great Swamp in the recent documentary “Saving the Great Swamp,” in which she appears on-camera. A graduate of Vassar College, she taught seventh and eighth grade English at the Kent Place School for almost 20 years. She is survived by her three children, Jane, Anne and Charles DeBevoise; and her sister, Seddon Ryan Wylde.

Austin, a resident of Bernardsville, cared passionately about the environment and education. He served on the NJ Conservation Board of Trustees from 1999 to 2006 and later on our Advisory Council. A businessman, he worked in his family’s mineral import and export company, Leonard J. Buck & Co., and co-founded Hall-Buck Marine, a shipping and marine services business that operated terminals throughout the country.

Austin was an accomplished sportsman and enjoyed fly fishing and hunting upland birds. In addition to New Jersey Conservation Foundation, he served on the boards of the Atlantic Salmon Federation, Ethel Walker School, Blooming Grove Hunting & Fishing Club and the Morristown Club. He is survived by his wife, Marguerite; his three children, Belinda Buck Kielland, Wendy Buck Brown and Leonard Jerome Buck; and his sisters, Nancy Buck Pyne and Martha Buck Bartlett.

We extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Lillie and Austin.
Welcome New Staff

We are pleased to welcome Heidi Roldan as Corporate and Foundation Relations Coordinator, Jane Gardner as Campaign Project Assistant and Allison Williams as Easement Steward.

Prior to joining New Jersey Conservation Foundation, Heidi was an environmental consultant at Tetra Tech, Inc. in Morris Plains for 22 years, where she served as a project manager and regulatory compliance specialist. Heidi received a bachelor’s degree in environmental engineering from Rutgers University, and a master’s degree in environmental management from New Jersey Institute of Technology. She enjoys spending time outdoors, especially hiking, kayaking, boating, camping and gardening.

Jane joined New Jersey Conservation Foundation team to work on the pipeline campaign. She has over 15 years of experience working at non-profit organizations, specifically in government affairs, public policy and public health. Most recently, she worked as a research analyst and state reporting associate at a large insurance company. Jane earned her Bachelor of Science degree in public health from William Paterson University and is a Certified Health Education Specialist.

Allison is responsible for the monitoring and stewardship of our easements. Her previous experience includes habitat restoration, endangered species monitoring, and volunteer management with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy in California and Delaware State Parks. A New Jersey native, Allison holds a Bachelor of Science degree in environmental science from the University of Delaware.

Each year we welcome a group of fantastic interns who assist with projects throughout the organization. This spring’s group included (left to right) Danny LoGatto of Drew University, Christina Allex of Morris County Community College, and Amanda Colombo of St. Peters College.

Staff

Michele S. Byers, Executive Director
Erica Arles, Administrative Assistant, Land Acquisition & Stewardship
Alix Bacon, Regional Manager, Western Piedmont
Mark Barwick, Information Technology/Office Manager
Tim Brill, Central Jersey Project Manager
Beth Davison, Project Manager, Black River Greenway
Justin Dennis, Camden Land Steward
Emile DeVito, Ph.D, Manager of Science & Stewardship
Wilma Frey, Senior Policy Manager
Jane Gardner, Campaign Project Assistant
Tom Gilbert, Campaign Director – Energy, Climate & Natural Resources
Olivia Glenn, South Jersey Regional Manager
Amy Hansen, Policy Analyst
Maria Hauser, Personnel Manager/Executive Assistant
Steven Jack, Land Steward
William Lynch, Assistant Director, Education Programs & Communications
Lisa MacCollum, Assistant Director of Land Acquisition
Alison Mitchell, Director of Policy
Stephanie Monahan, Pine Barrens Regional Manager
Timothy Morris, Director of Stewardship
Marie Newell, Project Coordinator, Acquisition
Tanya Nolte, GIS Manager
Sandy Stuart Perry, Staff Writer
Lauren Ramos, Development & Outreach Coordinator
Francis Rapa, Regional Manager, Delaware Bay Watershed
Karen Richards, CPA, Director of Finance & Administration
Heidi Marie Roldan, Corporate & Foundation Relations Manager
Greg Romano, Assistant Director & Director of Statewide Land Acquisition
Gerard Sauchelli, Associate Land Steward
Susan Schmidt, Administrative Assistant/Receptionist
Bill Scullion, Land Steward, South Jersey
Laura Szwak, Director of Outreach & Education
Ingrid Vandegaar, Manager, Highlands Region
Kathleen Ward, Director of Development & Communications
Allison Williams, Easement Steward
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www.njconservation.org

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