

Our Origins

The Conservancy emerged from a professional association of ecologists seeking to turn their knowledge of nature into positive action for conservation. Incorporated as a nonprofit in 1951, the Conservancy completed its first land acquisition with a modest 60-acre purchase in New York. The Kansas Chapter was established in 1989, but the Conservancy began its protection efforts in Kansas in 1965 with the purchase of 80 acres of sand dunes, marshes and sand prairie in Harvey County.

Where We Work

Starting with the establishment of the first chapter in eastern New York in 1954, the Conservancy has expanded to encompass all 50 states and 28 countries around the globe, including Canada, Mexico, Australia and countries throughout the Asia-Pacific region, the Caribbean and Latin America. With more than a million members throughout the world and 6,000 members in Kansas, the Conservancy has influenced the protection of 14 million acres of critical landscapes in the United States, including more than 45,000 acres in Kansas, and more than 100 million acres worldwide.

Setting Priorities

The Conservancy protects places where plant and animal species can survive for generations to come. We employ scientific, systematic analysis to identify places large enough in scale and rich enough in plant and animal species to ensure lasting biodiversity. By employing this scientific planning approach – called Conservation by Design – we are developing a blueprint for action throughout the

Americas, Asia and the Pacific Islands to preserve the areas most crucial to the Earth's biodiversity.

How We Work

At each site, we employ a range of methods tailored to meet local needs. We buy land. We help ranchers and landowners to develop innovative approaches to grassland management while maintaining the integrity of the ranching culture and economy. We facilitate public-private partnerships. We collaborate with like-minded organizations.

We seek pragmatic solutions. The Conservancy is committed to working with businesses, communities and individuals to meet conservation challenges, using non-confrontational, market-based strategies. In the United States, working with only willing sellers and donors, the Conservancy protects habitat through gifts, land exchanges, purchases, conservation easements and private land management agreements. Internationally, the Conservancy works with government agencies and partner organizations to provide scientific expertise, infrastructure, community development, professional training and long-term funding for legally protected but currently underfunded areas.

For More Information

Ruth Palmer
The Nature Conservancy in Kansas
700 Sw. Jackson St., Suite 804
Topeka, KS 66603
Phone: (785) 233-4000
Fax: (785) 233-2022
Email: rpalmer@tnc.org

nature.org/kansas