

# THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

## IN PENNSYLVANIA & DELAWARE

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## Large-Scale Conservation Efforts Require Working Across Borders, Sectors and Political Aisles

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) was founded in 1951 when leading scientists, committed citizens and dedicated leaders came together with a shared vision to protect and care for nature. Today we are the world's leading conservation science organization working to create a world where people and nature thrive together.

We work in 78 countries, using a collaborative approach that engages local communities, governments, the private sector, and other NGO partners to tackle climate change, and to conserve lands, waters and oceans at an unprecedented scale.

In Pennsylvania and Delaware, TNC is leading large-scale conservation programs that protect the lands and waters that are critical to the health and well-being of both people and nature. We work in the central Appalachians to protect, restore and manage one of the most climate-resilient forests on planet Earth. We are working in the region's three largest watersheds; the Ohio River, the Susquehanna River and the Delaware River, to implement a wide range of science-based strategies to protect clean water. We work in cities to deliver nature-based solutions that help address flooding and stormwater pollution, while improving human health and urban wildlife habitat. We are tackling climate change by promoting clean energy to reduce carbon emissions, and natural climate solutions to sequester carbon. And we are building resilience in the communities that we know are the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, such as sea-level-rise.

The challenges facing our natural world have never been greater and the need for bold solutions has never been more urgent. The existential threat of climate change and the rapid loss of nature and biodiversity are the most critical environmental issues of our lifetime. TNC delivers local, science-based solutions to solve these challenges in order to drive a real, collective, global impact.

**1975**

Pennsylvania Chapter established

**1990**

Delaware Chapter established

**2020**

PA & DE Chapters merge

**44**

Total Staff

**34,000**

PA & DE members

**100,000**

Acres Protected in PA

**31,000**

Acres Protected in Delaware

**26**

Preserves in PA  
(12 open to public access)

**6**

Preserves in DE  
(2 open to public access)

The Nature  
Conservancy   
Pennsylvania/Delaware



# How We Work

**Protect Landscapes:** Strategic land protection along the **Kittatinny Ridge** and **Allegheny Front** is helping to create a corridor of connected, healthy forests that will provide a critical pathway for species moving northward or to higher elevations in the face of climate change.

**Manage Forests:** Working directly with landowners and state agencies, TNC is helping to put sustainable management practices on the ground through programs like Working Woodlands so **Pennsylvania's** forests can continue to support local economies while also benefiting wildlife, protecting clean water and capturing carbon.

**Support Sustainable Agriculture:** TNC is working with farmers and agribusinesses to speed the adoption of sustainable farming practices that reduce nutrient runoff, improve soil health and help farmers' bottom lines. These practices are critically important local waterways like the **Susquehanna River**, which is the largest tributary to the **Chesapeake Bay**.

**Clean Rivers:** Major waterways like the **Delaware River** and **Upper Ohio River** provide fresh drinking water to millions of people and are home to a huge array of aquatic and terrestrial wildlife. TNC is strategically protecting land in the headwaters of these rivers, while working with partners like the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to improve the operation of dams and reservoirs to meet the needs of communities while maintaining healthy river systems.

**Build Healthy Cities:** By partnering with communities and connecting with a diversity of partners, TNC is implementing nature-based solutions in cities like **Philadelphia** and **Wilmington** to capture stormwater pollution runoff, help mitigate flooding, and provide new green spaces that bring social and ecological benefits to the communities in which we work.

**Protect and Restore Resilient Coastal Habitat:** Delaware's coastlines are home to countless people and wildlife, but sea-level rise and stronger storms are a steadily growing threat. By protecting and restoring land along the coast of the **Delaware Bay**, TNC is helping to buffer communities against storm surge while providing critical habitat for migratory birds, horseshoe crabs, and many other species.



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## A Message from the Executive Director

Conserving nature at a meaningful scale across Pennsylvania and Delaware compels us to take a collaborative approach across borders, sectors and political aisles. TNC is uniquely positioned to bring together the most important stakeholders and funders to get the job done. Our non-partisan status gets us through doors that are closed to other NGOs, and our willingness to work with the private sector creates economic opportunities that benefit both people and nature. With your support, we can accelerate the pace and scale of this work to create a better world for future generations.



**Lori Brennan**  
Executive Director  
for The Nature Conservancy  
in Pennsylvania and Delaware

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### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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