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On the Cover: Conservation Associate Jess Grant accompanies staff from the US Geological Survey in collecting forest soil chemistry and carbon data in the Raquette Lake area in August 2024.

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Sarah C. Hatfield



Raul J. Aguirre

With Gratitude: A Message from the Board Chair & Executive Director

On behalf of the Adirondack Council Board of Directors and Staff, thank you for your steadfast support of the Adirondack Council and our work on behalf of the iconic Adirondack Park.

The Adirondack Council's political and financial strength is fueled by the support of Park residents, visitors, and people like you who have consistently contributed to the Forever Wild Fund year after year and have helped create an enduring advocacy legacy. Your ongoing commitment to the Park – your correspondence with elected officials, your response to action alerts, your participation in Adirondack Lobby Day, and your ongoing and significant financial support – ensure that the Council is ready and able to address the evolving challenges we face throughout the North Country.

Some of this year's accomplishments include:

- Successfully advocating for legislation to establish a state-wide Road Salt Reduction Council.
- Securing essential funding for critical long-term monitoring of climate impacts to Adirondack waterbodies through the Survey of Climate Change and Adirondack Lake Ecosystems (SCALE).
- Supporting Open Space Land Conservation and Wildlife Action Plans that protect and enhance habitat and biodiversity within and beyond the Adirondacks.

 Promoting the next generation of diverse environmental leadership through the Timbuctoo Climate and Careers Summer Institute to expose youth to conservation and green career paths.

These successes are vital to the conservation and protection of the Adirondacks and across New York State.

As we approach our 50th Anniversary, we reflect on the significant milestones in advocacy and conservation that have made a lasting impact on the wild character of the Adirondack Park. And, with your continued support, we are poised to take on the challenges of the next 50 years. We will remain focused on fighting for an Adirondack Park with clean air and pure water, large 'forever wild' wilderness areas, working forests and farms, and vibrant, safe, inclusive communities. The path ahead calls for collective action.

Through your continued support, we are ready and well-positioned to ensure that the Adirondack Park continues to thrive and inspire the generations to come.

With profound thanks,

Sarah C. Hatfield Board Chair

Raul J. Aguirre C Executive Director "What better time to act than now to make this the true park it has the potential to be, to ensure that the Adirondacks will forever be a wild island of hope for New Yorkers and the world, and to serve as a global model for integrated land use and conservation."

- Gary Alvin Randorf (1937 - 2019)

ACTION Notable Accomplishments

Additional Support for Clean Water Infrastructure

For years, the Adirondack Council has advocated at the state, county and local level for resources to support improvements to clean water infrastructure in Adirondack communities. Programs established to make septic inspections, repairs, and replacements more affordable for Lake Champlain and Lake George residents have proven successful in helping to reduce nutrient loading which causes harmful algal blooms (HABs). In partnership with Warren County, whose septic replacement fund application process is a model program, the Council advocated for improvements to the eligibility process and increased annual block fund allocations. In June. the waterbodies eligible grew from roughly 12 to over 100 lakes and tributaries. This win extends beyond the Adirondacks, where five of the major waterways that start here, including the Hudson River, benefit millions of people.



Timbuctoo Climate & Careers Summer Institute

Governor Kathy Hochul initially proposed cutting funding for the Timbuctoo Climate and Careers Summer Institute in her executive budget proposal for 2024, but through the Council's advocacy and partnerships with legislative leaders in Albany, this incredible program was funded in the state budget. Timbuctoo introduces high school students from New York City to the Adirondacks, careers in the environmental field, and environmental and social justice history. Now in its second full year of operation, Timbuctoo has helped connect over 75 kids to the Adirondack Park, where they learn about antebellum history, hike, bike, canoe, and enjoy themselves in nature.



For the second year in a row, the state provided funding for a Survey of Climate and Adirondack Lake Ecosystems (SCALE), which provides a long-term look at the overall health of and changes to Adirondack waters. The Adirondack Park is home to one of the longest, most comprehensive sets of water quality data in the U.S., and SCALE continues that work through sampling and testing on more than 100 Adirondack lakes and ponds, including some genetic testing for animal species. SCALE was a pilot program in 2023 and is an important connection



to the long-running work of the Adirondack Lake Survey Corporation, which merged with The Ausable River Association (now the Ausable Freshwater Center) in 2023.



Clean Air Standards Improved

At the federal level, air quality monitoring has taken quite a few budget hits over the past 10 years.

Additionally, recent actions by the Supreme Court severely limited the ability of federal agencies to enact and enforce pollution control regulations. But one piece of good news from 2024 was the decision by the US Environmental Protection Agency to tighten regulations on fine particulate air pollution. By identifying smaller particles as pollution, the EPA can help states fight public health issues like chronic asthma that afflict populations far from the source of the pollution.

Society Listing

The commitment of all members and donors to a wild, resilient, and diverse park makes the Adirondack Council the largest and most effective advocacy organization working on behalf of New York's six-million-acre Adirondack Park. The Board and Staff thank you for caring about the water, air, wildlands and communities of the Adirondacks! We have taken great care to ensure the accuracy of these lists. If you notice any discrepancy, please contact us at 877.873.2240.

Individuals, foundations and corporations that have given gifts (cash-in-hand) of \$250 or more:

*Gifted before their passing

Forever Wild Society (Gifts of \$50,000+)

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Defenders (Gifts of \$25,000 - \$49,999)

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Advocating Safe Passage for Wildlife & Motorists

During the 2024 state legislative session, the Council secured an important win for wildlife with the passage of the Wildlife Crossing Act. The Act, passed by both the senate and assembly directs the state Department of Transportation to identify places where wildlife crossings would be of most use, improving the safety of wildlife and drivers on the road. Crossings range from bridges and tunnels to fencing and culverts that allow for the free movement of species from moose to salamanders. In addition to the obvious benefits to wildlife, crossings reduce vehicle collisions, lower insurance rates, and help local DOT crews by reducing road hazards. If signed into law by Gov. Kathy Hochul, the bill will also allow New York to access millions of federal dollars to ensure safer road conditions for people and animals across the state.

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Preserving Adirondack Working Lands

With thanks to the Klipper Family Fund a donor-advised fund by the Open Space Institute and additional support, Adirondack Council's Essex Farm Institute granted \$24,500 to 16 farmers and value-added producers to increase their environmental and economic sustainability. Now, in its ninth year, the Micro-Grant program has awarded over \$240,000 since its inception in 2016. Funded projects in 2024 include efforts to encourage no-till farming (to control erosion); a pilot project for eliminating oil-based plastics in food vacuum-packaging; tree planting to retain water; solar-powered irrigation and livestock fencing systems; composting facilities and support for organically managed commercial bee hives for apple and grape production, among others.

ABOVE: (L-R) Intern Martha Depoy and Farm Advocate Dillon Klepetar view the Crown Point Farm and Dairy water collection system with owner Mike Kuba

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Progress on Addressing Road Salt Pollution

Reducing road salt use in the Adirondack Park has been a long-term effort of the Adirondack Council. With the release of a state-wide task force report in 2023 on the negative impacts of road salt on our waters and roadways, the Council recognized the need for more urgent action on the report's recommendations. Advocacy efforts by the Council led to the introduction of two bills, by Senator and Encon Chair Peter Harckham (D-Peekskill) and a companion bill by Assemblyman Billy Jones (D-Chateaugay) to establish a standing committee for oversight. While not voted on during the 2024 Legislative session, this sets the tone for action in 2025.

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Eclipse Safety & Dark Skies Education

Ahead of the rare total solar eclipse in April 2024, Adirondack towns and villages in the path of totality prepared for the potential dramatic increase of visitors. Concerned about the potential for human injury and environmental damage during the early spring or "mud season" in the High Peaks, the Council partnered with the Adirondack Mountain Club and the Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism on a coordinated public outreach campaign. This collaboration enabled important eclipse safety messaging to reach a massive audience. As a result, forest rangers performed just one rescue on the day of the eclipse and thousands of locals and visitors alike were able to enjoy the rare celestial show. The Council also utilized the opportunity to raise awareness about the benefits of Dark Skies, and smart outdoor lighting, to benefit humans and wildlife alike, which may have also proved useful to enjoying the Northern Lights in our region, only weeks later.

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(L-R) Legislative Associate Aimee Privitera, Clarence Petty Intern Safa Mammeri and Assistant Director of Development Nicholle Gotham attend Adirondack Lobby Day

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*Gifted before their passing

We have taken great care to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you notice any discrepancy, please contact us at 877.873.2240.

Adirondack Legacy Society

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the following members who have chosen to include the Adirondack Council in their estate plans, ensuring a lasting legacy of support for the Adirondack Park.

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Mary Ellen Bliss & Enoch Gordis*

Susan Boettger

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Carol Welch Sue Whan Philip Winterer

Tony Zazula & Mark Chamberlain

^{*}Gratefully remembered for their enduring commitment to the Adirondacks

We have taken great care to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you notice any discrepancy, please contact us at 877.873.2240.

Memorials & Tributes

Many people touch our lives in profound ways and we seek to honor and remember them in a meaningful manner. We are privileged to share the names of these remarkable individuals and those who chose to celebrate them.

In Memory Of

Johanna "Joosje" W. Anderson Anonymous

Ronald Berkenblit

Anna Berkenblit & Geraldine Sheehan Stephanie Freese Lisa Valensi

Kenneth M. Bijur Susan Branch

Ernest Burl Monty Carlo

Ann Butler Annette Russo

James Ridge Cooper, III Kenneth Forziati John Kearney

Gennie Duncan's Birthday
Ariana Valderrama

Edward Dworakowski Sr.

Edward Dworakowski Jr.

Mr. Carl N. Friedman
Beverly Westermeyer

George Ghesquiere Matthew Scholz Celeste Tomich

Lorentz W. Hansen Anonymous

Daniel A. Harris Anonymous

Bruce Hoag Kelley Brown

Leonard & Helen Jacobs Mindi Jacobs

Harold Lazaar Catherine DeGroot

Harold T. Leidy
Colleen Duffy Leidy



(L-R) Executive Director Rocci Aguirre, Conservation Director Jackie Bowen, Conservation Associate Jess Grant and Rewilding Advocate John Davis attend the Land Trust Alliance Rally 2024

James R. "Jim" Lynch

Barbara Cass Amanda Walden Dave & Laura Williams

Herbert Stuart MacArthur

Ted Terasaki

Eric Maloney Rae Ohair

Margaret April Breen

Kevin G. McCane

Yvette Akel Bob Auchinachie Jennifer Bulling Gail Cady Kathryn Carpenter Patti Chaffee Ronald Cooney Jeffrey & Connie Corey Loriann Dell'Arciprete Donald Flanagan

James Gennarelli

Karen Litwak

Noelle Long

Mary Ellen McCane

Laura McDuffee

Stacy Peffley

Lacey Reardon

Carol & Pete Yeager

Saren Goldner

Alice McDougall

Anonymous

Shelley McKay Aichi Amemiya

Arden Merrell Frika Merrell

Carl "Chip" Nichols

Shirley Nichols

Alfred A. Pasquale

Christopher Pasquale

Peter Reich

Roger Spingarn & Susan Reuter

Brian Joseph Reilly

Patricia Bendersky Jennifer Corrigan

Laura Henault

Nancy & Edward O'Leary

Laura Reilly

Becky Ryan Wendi Webster

Patrick Richards

Jennifer Solarte

Carol Schaefer

Natalia Alarcon

Suzie Craft

Peter Schweitzer

Linda & Frederic Cowan Carol Cummins

Flaine Gibberman

Jean Weille

Marilyn N. & Murray W. Seagears

Julie & Jeff Dreebin

Devon Scott

Denise Seton

Timothy V.G. Smith

Anonymous (2)

Patrick Colby

Nettie Dodge

Virginia Glover

Margaret Henderson Christy Franchot James

Frank Jame Chervl Kevish

Thomas & Sarah Mortimer

Derrick Packer

John Cameron & Abby Packer William & Linda Schwartz

Michael Strange Andrea Veal

Donna Williamson

Neil Tawil

Murray Lantner

Marjorie Sanua

Irwin Tawil

Gary R. Thornton

Claudia Thornton

Suzanne Auer Walsh Alexander Walsh

Robert Washbourn

Thomas & Yvonne Hobbs Randy & Andrea Holloway

Forrest & Lee Whisler

Sandra Whisler

Elmer Jay Whitford

James & Dorothy Robison

Barbara Anderson Wilkes

Catherine Duna

In Honor Of

The ADK Trail Ride

Brian Smith

Rocci Aguirre

Ethan & Anne Winter

Roger & Susan Anderson

William Anderson

Stephanie Aubin

Lisa Coppola

Mary Bijur

The Angelo Family Charitable Foundation

James Carroll

Benjamin Olneck-Brown

Brita & Denis Chagnon

Sarah Chagnon

Travis Cundy

Louis Woolever

Jeff Davis

Zach Davis

Deb DeLorenzo & Henry Crans

Craig & Ann Kolb

Allen Edwards, DVM

Lindsay Edwards

Otto Euller & Becca Falconer

Donna Swauger

Diane Fish

Karen Lee & Frederick Spaulding

Lisa Genier

Susan Senecah

Benj Gleeksman

Carrie Kellman

Chris Hodson & all "The Hodson

Family Hikers"

Suzanne Velazquez

Jesse & Keri Houle

Helen Curtis

William Janeway

Peter & Patty Paine
David & Emily Wormuth

Patrice & Bob Keet

Angela Surkis

Josh & Heather Kent

Sandra & Bruce Partridge

Craig P.A. Machemer, Ethan G.P. Machemer & R. Gordon Machemer

Richard Machemer

Bruce & Sandy Partridge

Joshua Kent

John Sheehan

Susan Senecah

Laurel & Michael Skarbinski

Melissa Elstein & Eric Katzman

Caroline Stancell & Craig Hunt

Cecilia Stancell

Angela Surkis

Laura Slatkin

Rachel Truair

Elizabeth Farris

Fred Yosca

Pamela Yosca

Special Occasion

The Birthday of Ruth Masterleo

Kathleen Dillon

Family Christmas Gifts (15)

Richard Stephan & Frieda Flax

Peter Klarman's Love of the Adirondacks

Peter & Jean Klarman

The Wedding of Allison Courtin & Connor Smith

Alyssa Barrett Denis & Mary Brita Chagnon Anthony Federico Kristin Whitlock



(L-R) Director of Government Relations Kevin Chlad, Membership Director J.A. Tyler Frakes and Director of Conservation Jackie Bowen attend the Adirondack Council's annual Forever Wild Day celebration at Heaven Hill Farm in Lake Placid, NY



(L) Farm Advocate Dillon Klepetar attends the Food Justice Summit at the Wild Center in Tupper Lake

Matching Gift Companies & Giving Platforms

AARP Matching Gift Program Adirondack Foundation Adobe, Inc. The American Express Company America's Charities The Avco Charitable Foundation American Endowment Foundation The American Gift Fund Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation Benevity Community Impact Fund Bessemer Giving Fund BNY Mellon Community Partnership Booz Allen The Boston Foundation Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation The Central New York Community Foundation

Cerity Partners Foundation

Community Foundation for the

Greater Capital Region

Corning (Inc.) Foundation

Charities Aid Foundation of America

Davenport Donor Advised Program

Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo

FarthShare NY Fidelity Online Giving **GE** Aerospace Foundation The Gilbane Foundation Give Lively Foundation Givinga Foundation Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund Greater Horizons The Greater Washington **Community Foundation** The Home Depot Foundation Jewish Communal Fund Johnson & Johnson The KIND Foundation Linde PLC McKinsey Morgan Stanley GIFT. (Global Impact Funding Trust) National Philanthropic Trust The New York Community Trust PavPal Giving Fund Pinkaloo Pledgeling Foundation Princeton Area Community Foundation

Renaissance Charitable Foundation The Rochester Area Community Foundation Sanofi US Services Charitable Giving Program State Street Foundation Stripe T. Rowe Price Charitable Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America Tides Foundation Truist **UBS Community Affairs** The U.S. Charitable Gift Trust UK Online Giving Foundation Union Pacific Vanquard Charitable **Vermont Community Foundation** Virtu Financial Wellington Management Company, LLP YourCause, LLC Trustee

Special Thanks & Gifts-in-Kind

Adirondack Explorer Adirondack Life, Inc. Sheri Amsel Michael Barker. **Integrated Marketing Services** Nancy Battaglia Champlain Area Trails (CATS) Depot Theatre Brad Edmondson & Tatiana Werbizky ES11 Web Development Green Goddess Carl Heilman II. Wild Visions, Inc. Greta Heilman Lake George Mirror Lake Placid Center for the Arts Loremans' Embroidery, Engraving. & Screenprinting, LLC Larry Master, masterimages.org Pondside Studio Derek Rogers The Sembrich Spruce Mountain Design Fric Teed University of Rochester

The Raymond James Charitable

Endowment Fund

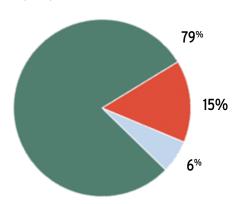
Prudential

Reckitt

Regeneron

OPERATING EXPENSES

Total: \$2,849,116



Program: Environmental Preservation, Education, Outreach & Advocacy

Management & General

Fundraising & Membership

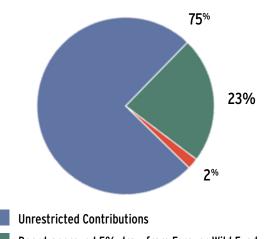


- 1. The Adirondack Council does NOT accept government funding of any kind.
- 2. Net Assets at year-end of Fiscal Year 2024 stood at \$10,388,308 up from \$9,790,746 at year-end of the previous fiscal year.
- 3. The Forever Wild Fund (quasi-endowment) is included in the net assets and stood at \$9,433,853 at the end of Fiscal Year 2024 up from Fiscal Year 2023 at \$8,512,968. Forever Wild Fund gifts received in Fiscal Year 2024 totaled \$261,080.

You can view the Adirondack Council's IRS 990 at guidestar.org or at AdirondackCouncil.org. A complete audited financial statement can be obtained on our website, by calling the Adirondack Council at 877.873.2240 or through the office of the New York State Attorney General.

OPERATING SUPPORT & REVENUE

Total: \$2,647,817



- Board-approved 5% draw from Forever Wild Fund
 - Special Events, Sales (net), Other Income



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SUPPORT ADIRONDACK CONSERVATION



NEW! 2025 Forever Wild Calendar | \$15 + tax & s/h

12-month calendar featuring Adirondack landscapes from award-winning photographer Carl Heilman II

Adopt a Loon, Moose, or Otter | \$35 + tax & s/h

Help protect an Adirondack loon, moose or river otter with a symbolic adoption. Includes plush toy, canvas tote bag and personalized adoption certificate.





Canvas Tote Bag | \$15 + tax & s/h

Made from 10oz sturdy, 100% cotton canvas, measures 19"W x 15.5"H x 5", gusset & long handles. Features the Adirondack Council loon logo.