



Piedmont
Environmental
Council

ANNUAL REPORT · 2025

Dear Friends,



RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY PARK TREE PLANTING.
Photo by Hugh Kenny

For over 50 years, The Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC) has served as a catalyst for conservation, translating visionary ideas into tangible solutions that protect the lands, waters and communities of the Virginia Piedmont. As we look back on 2025, we have much to celebrate — including the incredible momentum in land conservation. The conserved lands of the Piedmont demonstrate that private land ownership can serve the greater good, protect water quality, sustain wildlife corridors and support productive agriculture.

However, Virginia is currently being tested by a new global economy centered on cloud computing. Our communities within the Piedmont have become the epicenter of a data center explosion that threatens to fundamentally transform our rural landscape. PEC has met this challenge with a multifaceted response — from grassroots organizing to advocacy within the State Corporation Commission and the halls of the General Assembly. We are leading the fight, advocating to preserve the communities and landscapes we have spent five decades protecting.

PEC continues to work in each of our communities to ensure that growth happens thoughtfully and with clear consideration for our natural, historic and cultural resources.

Innovation remains at our core. We are championing a smarter energy future, from launching Virginia's first crop-based agrivoltaics project to defending an expansion of rooftop solar.

The properties PEC owns are regionally significant lands that provide opportunities for public engagement, enhance public access to open spaces and showcase best management practices.

All of this important work is only possible because of you. Whether through your presence at local planning boards or your financial support, your engagement ensures this unique landscape endures for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Chris Miller
President



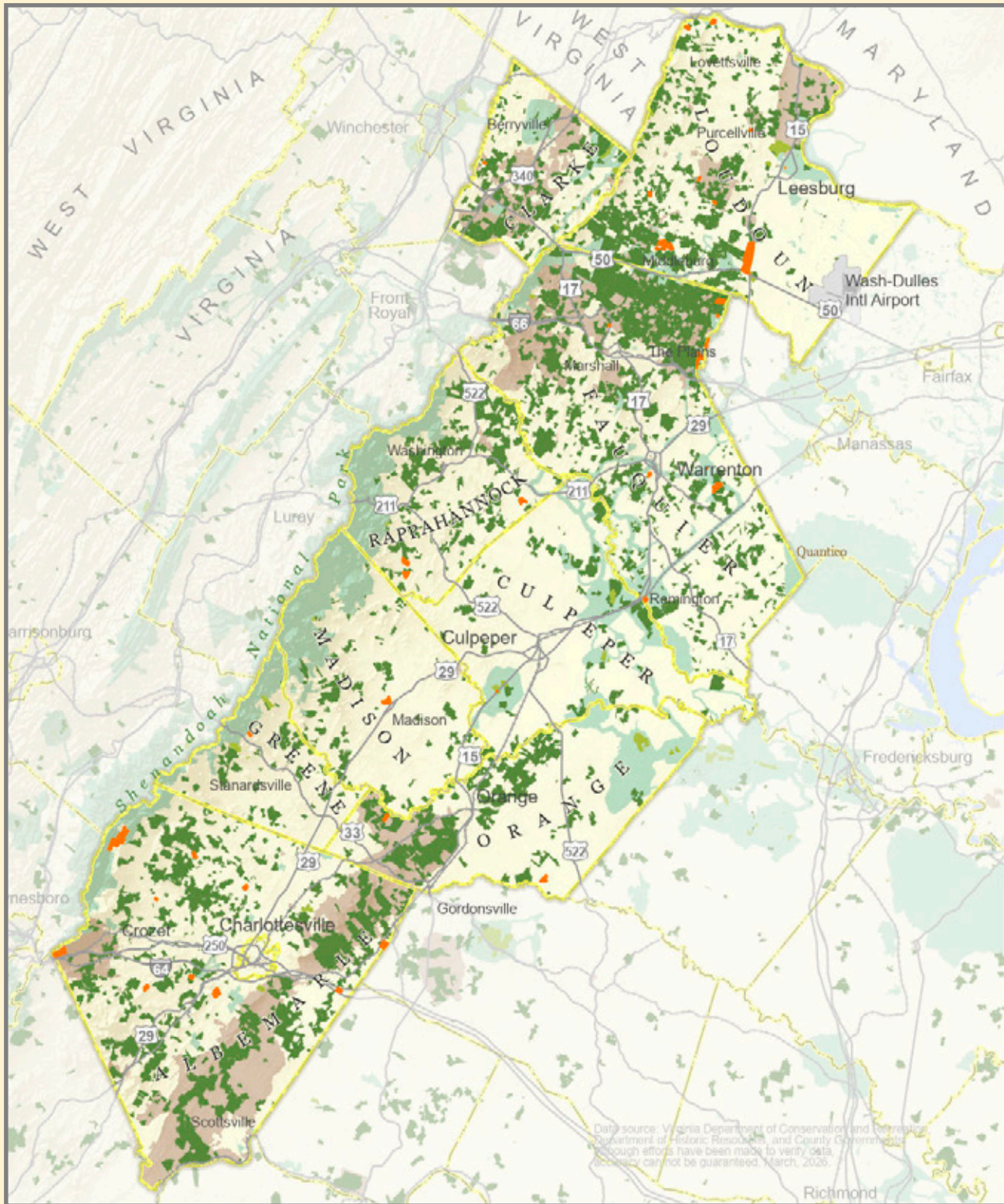
David Aldrich
Chair, Board of Directors



PEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIR DAVID ALDRICH AND PRESIDENT CHRIS MILLER.
Photo by Montana Lanier Ruffner

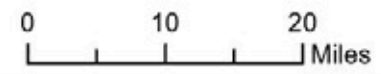
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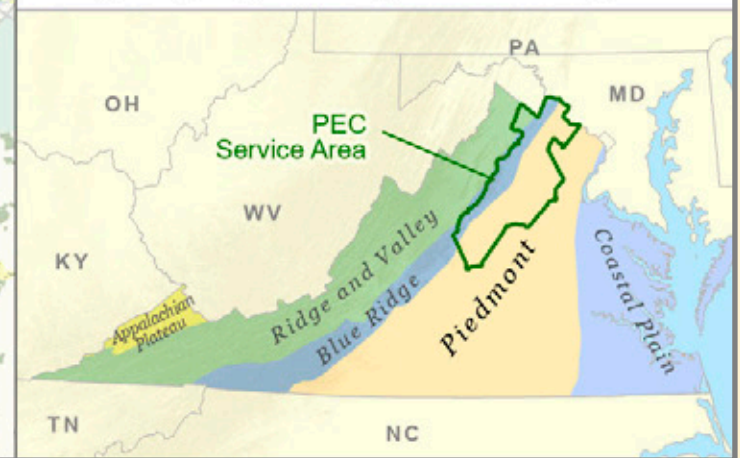
The Piedmont Region

- Land Protected in 2025
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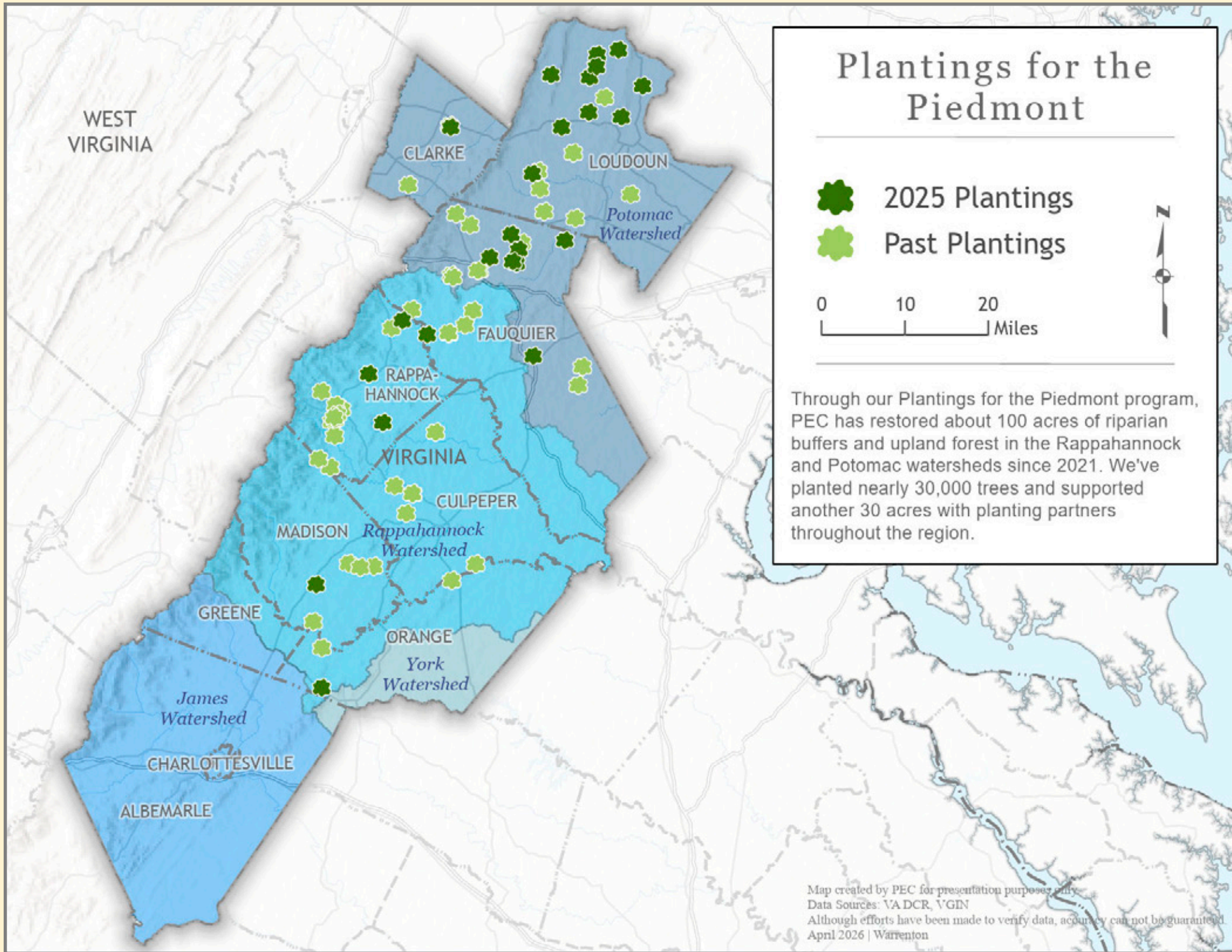


The Virginia Piedmont is a place of exceptional beauty, a globally important ecosystem, tremendous outdoor recreation, and unparalleled significance in America's history. Amidst persistent development pressures, PEC has worked tirelessly with its communities for more than 50 years to protect all that makes this region special.



Physiographic Regions of Virginia



Data source: Virginia Department of Conservation and Forestry, Department of Historic Resources, and County Governments. Although efforts have been made to verify data, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. March, 2020.



Plantings for the Piedmont

-  2025 Plantings
-  Past Plantings

0 10 20
Miles



Through our Plantings for the Piedmont program, PEC has restored about 100 acres of riparian buffers and upland forest in the Rappahannock and Potomac watersheds since 2021. We've planted nearly 30,000 trees and supported another 30 acres with planting partners throughout the region.

Map created by PEC for presentation purposes only
Data Sources: VA DCR, VGIN
Although efforts have been made to verify data, accuracy can not be guaranteed.
April 2026 | Warrenton

Conserving and Restoring the Piedmont's Lands and Waters

OPEN SPACE · WILDLIFE HABITAT · CLEAN WATER · PUBLIC ACCESS TO NATURE



PICNIC AND PADDLE AT MONTFAIR FARM.
Photo by Hugh Kenny

Wild & Connected: Shenandoah Borderlands Protection Continues

When it comes to conserving land, the impact is amplified when parcels are connected. Each one is more valuable as part of a continuous whole. Shenandoah National Park and the privately held lands bordering it are part of the greater Appalachian ecosystem and a global conservation priority for flood mitigation, carbon sequestration, drinking water protection and biodiversity. In 2025, PEC completed conservation projects that are delivering on this vision of interconnected parcels of land protecting these important climate benefits.

One such project was the 400-acre Royal Orchard property, where forestlands provide an invaluable buffer between Interstate 64 and Shenandoah National Park. PEC worked in partnership with the Virginia Department of Forestry and private landowners to complete this conservation project with funding from the U.S. Department of

Agriculture Forest Legacy Program, which works to protect important forestlands from development and ensure a sustainable forest resource for future generations.

PEC served as a catalyst for another Forest Legacy project — the 822-acre Cedar Mountain property at the headwaters of the Moormans River, where spring-fed creeks provide critical habitat for wildlife such as white-tailed deer, black bears and eastern wild turkeys, as well as rarer species like the migratory cerulean warbler and the endangered James River spiny mussel.

Also in 2025, PEC helped sisters Cathy and Gayle Soloe place their 89-acre Greene County property under a conservation easement, forever protecting the forestland they love. Nestled on the eastern slope of Saddleback Mountain and adjacent to Shenandoah National Park, the Soloe property holds immense

conservation value.

This success story is another piece of the puzzle in the protection of the Shenandoah Borderlands. PEC staff have been working for the past six years to strategically identify and protect top conservation priorities adjacent to the national park. We regularly partner with organizations working toward the same goal, including the Shenandoah National Park Trust. Kim Biasioli, PEC Conservation Program Manager for Albemarle & Greene Counties, says this property is “off the charts” when it comes to the metrics PEC uses to identify the most significant lands to conserve. Contiguous habitat is essential for interior forest species

like migratory birds, but the more land is fragmented by development, the less habitat there is, says Biasioli. “Even more common species like black bears need larger areas of habitat to survive and thrive. So, little pockets here and there are not enough, especially if they’re not connected.”



THE SOLOE PROPERTY ON SADDLEBACK MOUNTAIN IN GREENE COUNTY IS NOW FOREVER CONSERVED. Photo by Hugh Kenny

2025 Highlights

- ▶ On Nov. 10, 2025, The Conservation Fund announced its acquisition of Oak Hill, fifth U.S. President James Monroe’s former 1,200-acre estate, ensuring this property is preserved forever. **PEC supports the proposed next step of establishing Oak Hill as a State Park.** Over the past year, PEC has supported The Conservation Fund in its pursuit to conserve Oak Hill by providing maps, reviewing proposals, engaging our constituency through email alerts and leveraging our network of policymakers to educate the Virginia State Senate.



PEC’S LAND CONSERVATION TEAM AT MONTFAIR FARM, ALBEMARLE COUNTY. Photo by Marco Sanchez

- ▶ PEC is part of a coalition seeking dedicated land conservation funding through **The Virginia Great Outdoors Act**. The bill before the General Assembly sought \$250 million in funding. Although the bill was continued to the 2026 General Assembly, progress was made and we will continue to support this important legislation.

2025 Highlights continued

4,178 Acres Protected in 2025

County	Acres protected in 2025* by Conservation Easements	Total Acres* protected by Conservation Easements
Albemarle	1,749	114,741
Clarke	22	27,748
Culpeper	8	21,363
Fauquier	662	112,490
Greene	89	10,501
Loudoun	796	67,057
Madison	193	17,654
Orange	228	40,277
Rappahannock	431	34,742
PEC Region	4,178	446,572

* Numbers are rounded



PEC PLANTINGS FOR THE PIEDMONT PROGRAM COORDINATOR LINNEA SHERMAN WITH GEORGE CALLAGHAN, A FAUQUIER COUNTY LANDOWNER WHOSE PROPERTY ABUTS CEDAR RUN. Photo by Hugh Kenny



PEC'S LAURIA MCSHANE SPEAKS WITH A LANDOWNER AT A CONSERVATION SPEED DATING WORKSHOP IN GREENE COUNTY. Photo by Hugh Kenny

- ▶ In 2025, we completed **stewardship monitoring on the 99 properties** for which PEC holds conservation easements. Required for all easements, this involves PEC staff visiting each property annually, working with landowners to navigate changes to their properties and act as a resource for land management questions. PEC's first full-time stewardship coordinator, Michaela Weglinski, has been the lead helping landowners continue responsible stewardship of their conserved property in perpetuity.
- ▶ For Virginia's United Land Trusts, PEC Deputy Director of Conservation Valerie Peterson continued to convene **a stewardship workgroup of Virginia land trusts, state agencies, and local governments**. The goals of the workgroup include: establishing a peer network focused on stewardship challenges and opportunities in Virginia, sharing successes and seeking solutions to challenges, and increasing knowledge and capacity of stewardship professionals. The workgroup's monthly meetings cover topics such as strategies for building relationships with landowners, opportunities to layer additional conservation practices that provide gains for water quality and wildlife habitat, and monitoring technology, which is now playing a larger role in easement monitoring.

- ▶ PEC held five **Conservation Speed Dating Workshops** throughout the Virginia Piedmont in 2025. These innovative events are a collaboration of the Virginia Grassland Bird Initiative and other conservation partners throughout our region, offering a casual and fun atmosphere for landowners to meet one-on-one with a variety of technical service providers to learn more about programs and funding opportunities for conservation on their property.
- ▶ PEC's Rappahannock-Rapidan conservation program manager, Bryn Sonnett, is leading ongoing **farmland conservation in the Upper Rappahannock Watershed**. Bryn participates in the Rappahannock River Roundtable to expand and promote the use of the USDA's Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) program in this region.
- ▶ In October, PEC hosted its annual **Sources of Conservation Funding Social**, supported by the Julian Scheer Fauquier Land Conservation Fund. The free event provided information to Fauquier landowners about land conservation and stewardship options in the county. The event featured PEC staff, as well as co-sponsoring partner organizations, speaking on the Fauquier County Purchase of Development Rights Program and Agricultural and Forestal Best Management Practice Cost-Share Programs available through the Virginia Department of Forestry, the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District and Fauquier Agricultural Development.
- ▶ The Virginia Grassland Bird Initiative released the booklet, **Meet Your Virginia Grassland Birds**, designed to shine a spotlight on the vital role that Virginia's working grasslands play in supporting over 60 bird species throughout the year. This comprehensive resource showcases both iconic and lesser-known grassland birds, explores their unique contributions to grassland ecosystems and offers best management practices that can be implemented to protect them. This booklet is available in both English and Spanish.

Plantings, Partnerships and Protecting Water

PEC's Plantings for the Piedmont program supports Virginia's commitment to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. Through the planting of native trees and shrubs in the headwater counties of the Potomac, Rappahannock, and York river watersheds, it improves water quality in streams that feed the bay. 2025 was a record year for the program, with the completion of 29 projects that resulted in the planting of 15,000 trees and restoration of some 50 acres of riparian areas.



TREE PLANTING VOLUNTEERS AT CHANCELLORS ROCK FARM, RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY. Photo by Hugh Kenny

Riparian forest buffers are crucial; they stabilize stream banks, reduce erosion and flooding, filter pollutants, create wildlife habitat, keep waters cool for aquatic life and, ultimately, support clean water.

PEC is invited to properties in various ways; sometimes as the first organization landowners reach out to, other times by our local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, agents from the Natural Resources Conservation Service or other partner organizations, or sometimes through neighbor recommendations.

PEC Plantings for the Piedmont Manager Linnea Sherman shares a favorite success story of plantings, partnerships, and protecting water from 2025: a project at Oakendale Farm in The Plains. She visited Oakendale with a group of technical service providers who help landowners steward their lands. The farm has 400 acres

This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Buffer maintenance is also supported by the VA Department of Conservation and Recreation. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Environmental Protection Agency, nor does the EPA endorse trade names or recommend the use of commercial products mentioned in this document. The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the U.S. Government or the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and its funding sources. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the U.S. Government, or the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation or its funding sources.



LINNEA SHERMAN AND OCTOBER GREENFIELD WORK WITH A LANDOWNER ON A TREE PLANTING PROJECT ALONG A STREAM IN FAUQUIER COUNTY. Photo by Hugh Kenny

of sprawling hayfields, pastures and forest. It also contains a long stretch of Bartons Creek — a tributary of the Little River, Lower Goose Creek and Potomac River watersheds — along with several ponds.

The group talked with landowners Frank and Tamara about their vision for the land and how our planting programs might support their goals. Justin Proctor from Virginia Working Landscapes had organized the visit and

brought together representatives from PEC, the Goose Creek Association, the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Virginia Department of Forestry. The successful collaboration resulted in the planting of nearly 3,000 native trees and shrubs along Bartons Creek. Over time, they will grow, providing shade for the creek's waters and its wildlife, and filter pollutants from entering the stream, which ultimately feeds into the Chesapeake Bay.



Creating Stronger, More Sustainable Communities

LAND USE PLANNING · ADVOCACY · DATA CENTER REFORM · CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

DATA CENTER COMMUNITY MEETING.
Photo by Hugh Kenny

PEC's Engagement Secures Smarter Land Use Planning in Albemarle

After four years and many timeline adjustments, the Board of Supervisors finally adopted the Albemarle County Comprehensive Plan update on Oct. 15, 2025. Along with other PEC staff members, Senior Land Use Field Representative Rob McGinnis put in countless hours of focused work, taking the lead in mobilizing, educating and empowering county residents to actively participate in the process. PEC sent 40 email alerts, wrote letters to the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission and spoke at many work sessions and public hearings.

The new Comprehensive Plan, known as AC44, maintains foundational policies for people and the environment — like the Growth Management Policy — while including hard-fought new changes like removing a proposed

cap on conservation easements and incentivizing smart growth in the Development Areas. It was a true grassroots effort and victory. Major accomplishments include:

- ▶ **Albemarle County's Growth Management Policy remains largely intact.** By concentrating growth where services already exist, this policy is critical to protecting Albemarle's Rural Area communities and natural resources from sprawl, while promoting smart growth in the appropriate location: the Development Areas. Because of its wide-ranging implications, maintaining this long-standing and broadly-supported policy was one of PEC's major priorities during the AC44 Comp Plan update process.
- ▶ **AC44 renews focus on the value of the Rural Area.** The Rural Area represents 95% of Albemarle County's geographic area and includes many of the area's natural, cultural, historical

and economically important resources. Despite this significance, the Rural Area was not a major focus early in the update process. But, as the goals and landscapes of these rural and developed areas are distinct from each other, PEC advocated alongside community members to ensure that the AC44 included a strong recommendation for the preparation of a Rural Area Plan. This advocacy led to the recommendation being included.

PEC's focus has now turned to ensuring the Comprehensive Plan is implemented as intended, as it will guide development and investment in the county over the next 20 years. This includes updating the Biodiversity Action Plan, beginning the initial planning for the Rural Area Land Use Plan, and identifying effective strategies to promote smart

growth in the Development Areas, especially by modernizing the zoning ordinance in the county. We look forward to supporting the county as it continues building its future.



RIVANNA RIVER, ALBEMARLE COUNTY.
Photo by Hugh Kenny

2025 Highlights

- ▶ On Jan. 20, 2025, over 80 Virginians and PEC staff attended the **Data Center Reform Coalition's Lobby Day** to advocate for legislative action around the unregulated growth of data centers. Attendees met with over 50 legislators or their representatives during the General Assembly session in Richmond and shared with dozens more information including findings from the December 2024 Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) study. The study concluded that Virginia will have a difficult time meeting the energy demand of the data center industry and that ratepayers will be subsidizing the necessary infrastructure. Attendees of previous Lobby Days noted that legislators had a much stronger understanding and interest in the issue this year as compared to years past.
- ▶ In March 2025, the **Charlottesville/Albemarle Active Mobility Summit** welcomed over 150 attendees to ideate and collaborate in support of safe and accessible pedestrian and biking infrastructure to promote active, community-centered lifestyles. The Piedmont Mobility Alliance, led by PEC, organized the summit.
- ▶ In November 2025, **a new bicycle and pedestrian bridge crossing US-29 in Albemarle opened for use.** This success was a direct result of a set of transportation solutions for the US-29 corridor, known as Solutions 29, that PEC had championed for more than a decade.

2025 Highlights continued

- ▶ PEC and community residents achieved a major victory for Culpeper in 2025 when the **Board of Supervisors removed data centers as a by-right use on all land outside of the Culpeper Technology Zone**. The action was a result of PEC's advocacy for much-needed zoning changes. Now, all new data centers in the county will require a Conditional Use Permit, bringing necessary and transparent guardrails to future development proposals.
- ▶ Our advocacy and community engagement this year also resulted in a **curtailing of additional data center growth within the Culpeper town boundaries and the elimination of exemptions** for backup generator testing, ensuring that essential noise protections remain in place in non-emergency situations.
- ▶ In March 2025, PEC filed an *amicus curiae* brief in the **Wilderness Crossing rezoning lawsuit**, highlighting how a massive data center complex proposal in Orange County would undermine existing public and private conservation investments in the proposed location. In September 2025, PEC and American Battlefield Trust, among other partners, celebrated the Orange County Circuit Court's rejection of attempts by Orange County and the would-be developers to throw out the legal challenge to the reckless and secretive way this sprawling rezoning was approved.
- ▶ On Aug. 7, 2025, a judge overturned the approval of the Prince William Digital Gateway, the largest proposed data center campus in the world, from being built on rural land next to Manassas National Battlefield Park. This decision, was a monumental victory for transparency, good governance and citizen engagement. For years, PEC has supported the organized **opposition to the Prince William Digital Gateway proposal**. Through the Data Center Reform Coalition, led by PEC's Director of Land Use, Julie Bolthouse, we have been raising awareness and engaging the public on the local impacts of this project, specifically around Manassas Battlefield National Park, as well as the broader impact on Virginia's natural and cultural resources.
- ▶ PEC's Loudoun Land Use team continues to monitor new development applications and proposed transmission line projects, which have been proposed to meet data center needs in the county. To support this work, the team created a **Loudoun Development Tracker**, which is featured on PEC's website for anyone to view.
- ▶ The proposed Eastwinds Resort, along the Blue Ridge mountainside between Ashby Gap and Snickers Gap, comes just as zoning in the Mountain Overlay District in Loudoun County is being reviewed. This resort complex, and its sizable potential impacts to traffic, the environment, and resident quality of life is a prime example of why PEC and many other groups are seeking to prohibit future non-agricultural commercial operations in the Mountainside Overlay District. PEC is one of more than 18 organizations that have formed **the Paris Mountain Alliance to oppose the resort project** and encourage responsible land use and conservation on the mountain, which is a crucial area of forest and groundwater recharge that needs stronger protections.



ACTIVE MOBILITY SUMMIT, CHARLOTTESVILLE.
Photo by Hugh Kenny



PEC PRODUCED A VIDEO TO EDUCATE AND ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY ON THE PROPOSED GIGALAND PROJECT.

- ▶ The Gigaland proposal — a 2.2 million-square-foot data center complex proposed just outside the Town of Remington near residential neighborhoods — was withdrawn by the applicant ahead of a Board of Supervisors vote at the end of August. This withdrawal came after the **Fauquier County Planning Commission recommended denial of the proposed Gigaland project 4-1** in June 2025. This is a victory and a testament to the power of civic engagement through letter-writing, attending public meetings and respectfully voicing concerns. PEC encouraged and coordinated these grassroots efforts with action alerts and maps, graphics and videos to convey community concerns and serve as educational tools. We collaborated with partner organizations, including Citizens for Fauquier County, Protect Fauquier, Protect Remington, and Protect Catlett, that continue to work together as a unified front to prevent additional data centers and transmission lines and preserve quality of life for residents in Remington.

PEC's Leadership on Data Centers Continues

In 2025, PEC's exceptional advocacy and persistence made the impacts of data centers a kitchen-table conversation in the Piedmont and far beyond. Our deep investment in media, outreach, and advocacy has resulted in people and our elected officials finally acknowledging the threat of brown-outs, skyrocketing electricity bills, noise and air pollution, water usage and rural industrialization due to data centers and their significant needs for energy infrastructure in Virginia.

PEC was aware of the impacts of data centers earlier than most, as early as 2016, because we have staff working directly on land use planning in our nine counties. Data centers, and the energy infrastructure they require, are an enormous threat to the region we have all worked so hard to conserve. As the buildout in Virginia increases, we face threats to our air quality, water resources, forests, farmland and our quality of life.

PEC has invested significantly in addressing the impact of this industry on our region and the state. Our field team plays a unique role in reviewing data center proposals in each of our counties and beyond. In addition, we

have crowdsourced and verified data centers across Virginia, providing the most comprehensive assessment of possible future demand for the Commonwealth.

PEC has been tracking 18-20 data center applications (ranging in size from 100MW - 3GW) and numerous proposals for new transmission lines and gas plants in the Piedmont and surrounding counties. Through state and national forums, we are raising awareness of this issue and regularly advising communities on how to engage local boards of supervisors who are making decisions about data center development and the impacts that extend far beyond the county that hosts the development.

In 2024, PEC co-founded the statewide Virginia Data Center Reform Coalition which now boasts over 50 organizations urging state lawmakers to institute commonsense reforms for the data center industry around four key pillars: 1) transparency; 2) state-level oversight; 3) protections for families and businesses; and 4) tax incentives. These pillars have focused our work, including the following accomplishments and progress made in 2025:



WHEN FULLY COMPLETED, MARVEL DATA CENTER WILL BE A 445,000-SQUARE-FOOT TWO-BUILDING DATA CENTER CAMPUS ON 223 ACRES OF A FORMER HORSE FARM IN THE MIDDLE OF RURAL HISTORIC STEVENSBURG, CULPEPER COUNTY.

Photo by Hugh Kenny

▶ PEC challenged Dominion's Integrated Resource Plan, the utility's planning document, on the basis that the extraordinary load growth projected in Dominion's state filing could not be met without the use of fossil fuels. We retained the UVA Environmental Law and Community Engagement Clinic

to file briefs and participated in cross-examination to establish the impact of unrestricted demand on reliability and the broader impacts on the environment. The final order did not address those issues, and we continue to consider ways to make the requirement a part of legislative reforms in the future.

PEC's Leadership on Data Centers Continues

- ▶ On July 16, 2025, PEC submitted expert witness testimony before the State Corporation Commission (SCC) regarding its Biennial Review of Dominion's electricity rates for generation, transmission and distribution services. Our expert's testimony challenged Dominion's proposed methodology of paying for new energy infrastructure that is needed to fuel the tremendous growth of hyperscale data centers in Virginia. We also encouraged PEC supporters and local elected officials to file written comments with the SCC on this case.
- ▶ PEC has been sending press statements, giving interviews, serving on panels, and holding community meetings to share information about how data centers are impacting all of us. Our maps, images, reports and videos are repeatedly reused and republished by media across the globe. We've sent more than 100 action alert emails on data centers since the onset of our campaign. In August 2025, PEC launched Virginians for a Smarter Digital Future, an aggressive, statewide public awareness campaign highlighting the impacts of the data center industry. Our digital and video ads have reached more than 1.4 million Virginians, and our videos have been viewed and shared by hundreds of thousands. In 2025, this campaign helped generate 2,500 letters to the SCC advocating to create a new rate class for data centers, the first step in protecting Virginians from rising energy costs.
- ▶ In reviewing data center proposals across Virginia, PEC staff have been paying close attention to their connections to onsite and offsite fuel generating plants. For example, the proposed Balico site in Pittsylvania County included a 3.5 GW gas power plant that would require an extension of the Mountain Valley Pipeline. Also, in Orange County, PEC staff are investigating a proposed gas power plant in either Gordonsville or as part of the proposed Wilderness Crossing development.
- ▶ Concerned about increasing energy demand for data centers and the constraints of the existing energy grid, PEC began tracking the potential cumulative effects of thousands of back-up diesel generators totaling 12 GW, in anticipation they will be used more and more often for non-emergency use. Meanwhile, data center developers are increasingly including onsite baseload power supply, often gas-generated, in their site plans. This would allow data centers to avoid long delays in getting connected to a grid that lacks sufficient energy to power them. Proposals with onsite power generation are emerging in several counties within PEC's service area.

PEC is known for its relentless determination and growing momentum in the face of powerful obstacles. For us, this persistence comes from the organization's core commitment to protect and restore the lands and waters of the Virginia Piedmont, while building

stronger, more sustainable communities. With the progress made in 2025, we want to see Virginia's leaders acknowledge the scale and the scope of this problem and put in place guard rails to protect communities, our air, water and quality of life.



DATA CENTER REFORM LOBBY DAY ATTENDEES DEPARTING FOR RICHMOND BEFORE SUNRISE.

Shaping and Advancing Virginia's Clean Energy Future

EXPANDED SOLAR OPTIONS · PLANNING FOR ENERGY DEMAND · LOWER ENERGY BILLS



AGRIVOLTAICS AT PEC'S COMMUNITY FARM AT ROUNDABOUT MEADOWS.
Photo by Hugh Kenny

Agrivoltaics at Roundabout Meadows

In October 2025, more than 70 community leaders came together at The Piedmont Environmental Council's Community Farm at Roundabout Meadows to officially "cut the ribbon" on Virginia's first crop-based agrivoltaics project. The ceremony was a celebration and announcement of the culmination of 18 months of research, planning, collaboration, installation and planting. Solar panels now generate 100% of the energy needed for the farm's operations, with rows of vegetables planted between the panels. The site serves as a demonstration project to study and show how this type of energy generation can help meet clean energy goals while keeping land in use for farming.



AGRIVOLTAICS RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY. Photo by Hugh Kenny

Agrivoltaics Achievements:

- ▶ **Dual-use Production:** Forty-two solar panels are installed on 6-foot high mounts in a 1/4-acre block, with vegetable crops growing both in-ground and in raised beds underneath. Four rows of vegetables are planted directly in the ground to mimic a traditional farm setup, and four rows are planted in raised beds. A portion of the project not under solar array serves as a control group. Crops planted include spinach, beets, kale, cabbage, broccoli, and radishes, all guided by the needs of local food pantry partners.
- ▶ **Battery Backup:** The system includes two batteries that keep the farm running, even when the grid goes down. When combined with other solar-plus-battery systems in the region, batteries can also function as a future revenue stream for farmers through virtual power plants.
- ▶ **Farm Energy Independence:** The fully operational panels and battery backup together generate enough to power the farm's energy needs, including well pumps, refrigeration and greenhouse functions. The farm has added battery operated landscaping tools, all charged by the sun.
- ▶ **Demonstration Site and Replicability:** The design is engineered for easy adoption by other farmers, and the raised beds make the project equally relevant to non-traditional applications, including urban settings, parking lots, (flat) rooftops and other built environments.
- ▶ **Legislation:** PEC worked with Virginia Farm Bureau to craft a bill that defines agrivoltaics for the state of Virginia and sets a path for a future workgroup that will identify best practices and suggest incentives for farmers.

PEC advocates for clean energy solutions that respect and preserve the region's natural resources and rural economy. This project is meant to demonstrate energy independence and electric bill savings for farmers and how smaller-scale distributed generation and battery storage can be a much larger part of Virginia's clean energy system, all without sacrificing working farmland. The groundbreaking project has the potential to revolutionize the conversation around solar and agriculture.

2025 Highlights

- ▶ In the lead-up to the agrivoltaics installation, PEC presented across the state and beyond about the project, including at the **U.S. Solar Farm Summit in Chicago, the Solar Summit in Richmond, Choose Clean Water Conference in Harrisonburg, and Environment Virginia at Virginia Military Institute**. These experiences both increased understanding of our project and strengthened our relationships with universities and such national and state-wide partners as National Lab of the Rockies, Virginia Farm Bureau, American Farmland Trust, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Department of Environmental Quality and others.
- ▶ This summer, we supported a highly successful **Solarize Piedmont program, facilitating over 75 rooftop solar projects**. We also engaged with hundreds of stakeholders on distributed generation projects, held numerous presentations, webinars and meetings to educate on solar issues in the Commonwealth and helped create first steps in local and legislative solutions.

2025 Highlights continued

- ▶ **PEC commissioned a study to calculate the actual value of distributed solar generation to every Virginian** — factoring in the range of benefits that utilities do not acknowledge when they are proposing big cuts to net metering values. Some of these benefits include the speed at which clean energy can be connected to the grid, reducing the negative impacts of new transmission and generation projects, and maintaining the environmental benefits of conserving lands that would otherwise be lost. The report's findings were the basis for our intervention in the Dominion Energy SCC case, where we advocated to preserve net metering and expand the implementation of distributed generation in the Commonwealth. The report supports PEC's interests in land conservation and ratepayer impacts, and thanks to a successful rollout of various website, email, and social media content as well as webinars highlighting its findings, the report informed a robust public comment process that yielded over 1,200 comments to the SCC and over 50 public testimonies.
- ▶ PEC advocated for and contributed to 12 key clean energy bills proposed in the General Assembly, all of which were signed into law in 2026 — pending two minor amendments from the Governor. An **agrivoltaics bill (HB 508/SB 340)**, which PEC developed in partnership with Virginia Farm Bureau, defines agrivoltaics in code. The **Distributed Generation Expansion Act (HB 628/SB 175)** establishes distributed generation targets in Virginia and builds upon our 2024 parking lot solar bill

ASHISH KAPOOR'S TEDx TALK ON "THE RADICAL MIDDLE."
Photo courtesy TEDx Warrenton



by significantly increasing the amount of solar that Dominion must build on parking lots, brownfields and coalfields. This session's fundamental **Energy Storage bill (HB 895/SB 448)**, includes a key PEC-driven element that would create best practices and include a storage model ordinance informed by local stakeholders and land use experts. **HB 590/SB 382** lowers the soft costs around rooftop solar by streamlining permitting. **HB 1439/SB 823** increases consumer protections and **HB 395/SB 250** enables balcony solar.

- ▶ This past fall, PEC Senior Energy and Climate Advisor Ashish Kapoor was selected for and presented a **TEDx talk, "Three ways to find the radical middle," inspired by his work on PEC's agrivoltaics project.** With a focus on community action, Ashish highlights — both explicitly and implicitly — the core values that drive all the work that PEC does. By elevating community engagement, local listening, and pragmatism, he applied the radical middle principle to PEC's agrivoltaics project as an example of a solution that both farmers and rural communities can get behind. View the TEDx talk and learn more at pecva.org/tedx.
- ▶ As part of the Virginia Conservation Network's (VCN's) Common Agenda Briefing Book, PEC co-authored three Climate & Energy white papers, **"Accelerating Large Scale Solar While Protecting Natural Resources," "Leveraging Battery Storage,"** and **"Maximizing Rooftop Solar and Distributed Generation"** that helped inform and elevate legislative efforts.



SOLAR PANELS ON A HOUSE IN LOUDOUN COUNTY. Photo by Hugh Kenny

- ▶ PEC was active in **VCN's solar siting workgroups** on responsible large-scale solar development with policy leads at AppVoices, Southern Environmental Law Center, Sierra Club, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley and others. These were complex and important conversations about the challenges of large-scale solar that seeded such solutions as all-terrain trackers, thoughtfully developed agrivoltaics, increased local listening, and solar on built environments.
- ▶ PEC serves as a member of the **Equitable Solar Coalition and its steering committee**, a group that includes Advanced Energy United, the Southern Environmental Law Center, the Virginia League of Conservation Voters, and Solar United Neighbors. The coalition works to develop distributed solar and storage legislation, and the partnerships allowed PEC to bring important local and land use lenses to bills related to storage, distributed generation and solar permitting.

Setting an Example Through Land Ownership

FOOD PRODUCTION · LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES · PUBLIC ACCESS · COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



MEADOW WALK AT THE PIEDMONT MEMORIAL OVERLOOK.
Photo by Hugh Kenny

The **Piedmont Memorial Overlook** is recognized by Scenic Virginia as a **Treasured View**

In 2025, Scenic Virginia recognized PEC's Piedmont Memorial Overlook as a Treasured View in Virginia. Selected through a process of nomination, documentation and evaluation, the Piedmont Memorial Overlook was one of just five new additions to the Scenic Virginia Viewshed Registry.

Fauquier County Community Development nominated the overlook earlier in the year. Not only did the site meet all criteria for this honor, but after careful review by a committee of experts, it scored the highest marks possible. This designation shines a spotlight on a place where rolling Piedmont fields rise gently to meet the iconic Blue Ridge Mountains above the Crooked Run Valley, creating a landscape that is both pastoral and majestic.

From this elevated vantage point, visitors can take in working farms, forested hills, and the valley that winds south toward Goose Creek, a designated Virginia State Scenic River.

The Piedmont Memorial Overlook is surrounded by a remarkable network of protected lands, including Sky Meadows State Park, the Appalachian Trail, and thousands of acres of privately conserved property held in permanent conservation easements. Together, these lands form one of the most significant and well-preserved conservation landscapes in the eastern United States. It is publicly accessible 365 days a year via trails from Sky Meadows State Park and the Appalachian Trail.

In the late 1990s, this area faced

multiple development threats, including a proposed golf course and mountain-side housing. In 2000, the Piedmont Environmental Council, with the support of local families and foundations, purchased 1,235 acres to protect this extraordinary landscape. Shortly thereafter, PEC transferred nearly 450 acres to the U.S. Department of the Interior to realign and improve the Appalachian National Scenic Trail and to provide public access to this exceptional viewshed.

Over 900 connected acres surrounding the town of Paris, Virginia were sold to private landowners who worked with land trusts to permanently protect one of the largest blocks of conservation easements found anywhere in the eastern United States. Today, PEC retains



PEC AND SMITHSONIAN'S VIRGINIA WORKING LANDSCAPES HOSTING A MEADOW WALK AT THE PIEDMONT MEMORIAL OVERLOOK. Photo by Hugh Kenny

50 acres at the Piedmont Memorial Overlook, which continues to serve as a lasting memorial to area conservationists, a demonstration site for responsible habitat management and a beautiful place now known officially as a Scenic Virginia Treasured View.

2025 Highlights

- ▶ **In 2025, PEC welcomed over 17,000 people to the Piedmont Memorial Overlook**, including hikers and people who came for our events. The Piedmont Memorial Overlook, adjacent to Sky Meadows State Park, is a popular hiking destination in northern Fauquier County. As we manage the property for wildlife habitat and encourage public access, in 2025, PEC added a people-counter to monitor visitor frequency and created signage to help visitors interpret the landscape.



- ▶ We expanded our offering of public events at the Piedmont Memorial Overlook, including a history hike partnership with Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area Association (VPHAA) and a nature photography walk led by Hugh Kenny. We also offered more public programs at the Roundabout Meadows property, including birding and wildflower walks. **These events provide more opportunities for the public to connect with PEC's habitat restoration and natural resource conservation work.**

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY WALK AT THE PIEDMONT MEMORIAL OVERLOOK. Photo by Hugh Kenny

2025 Highlights continued



COMMUNITY FARM VOLUNTEER WORKDAY. Photo by Lea Justice

- ▶ **PEC's Community Farm at Roundabout Meadows continued a relationship with George Mason University (GMU)**, serving as a vital outdoor laboratory for GMU students. Dr. Andrea Weeks brings her classes out to Roundabout Meadows each year to conduct a floristic survey, using the site as a field lab to learn about data collection. They share findings via iNaturalist, and collect specimens for the Ted R. Bradley Herbarium at GMU.
- ▶ In 2025, the Community Farm at Roundabout Meadows grew **over 57,700 pounds of fresh produce, which was donated to hunger relief organizations in Loudoun and Clarke counties**. Since its first growing season in 2019, the Community Farm has leveraged its 3.5 acres for vegetables and 1 acre for fruits and berries to increase its yield every year, ultimately growing and donating over 240,000 pounds of food to support local food-insecure people and families. The retail value of this produce nears \$950,000.
- ▶ In 2025, the Community Farm held 56 distinct volunteer opportunities, including school, corporate and "open volunteer" events, at which we welcomed **802 volunteers who donated over 1,600 hours of service**. Volunteers are a critical part of the farm's operations, supporting all aspects of the growth cycle, from seeding and planting to tending and harvesting, while connecting to the Piedmont's vital agricultural history and participating in its legacy.

- ▶ In 2025, the Community Farm became **Certified Naturally Grown**, a peer-reviewed certification for farmers who produce food, flowers and fiber for their communities without relying on synthetic chemicals or genetic modification (GMOs). The certification reflects standards based on the highest ideals of the organic movement and prioritizes transparency and direct relationships — all perfectly aligned with the Community Farm's focus on showcasing sustainable practices.
- ▶ In 2025, PEC mailed **320,000 Buy Fresh Buy Local guides to every household within our nine-county region**, and distributed another additional 6,000 guides at public events and such access points as farmers markets, grocers, farmstands and public libraries, among others. Since 2006, PEC has proudly published *Buy Fresh Buy Local* guides to support working farms and to make fresh, healthy Piedmont-produced foods easily available to people in our region.

PEC'S DANA MELBY AND VOLUNTEERS HARVEST A BOUNTY OF BEETS.
Photo by Lea Justice



Connecting Agriculture and Community

From March through October, PEC's Community Farm at Roundabout Meadows is a whirlwind of activity, connecting area residents to the Virginia Piedmont's vital agricultural history, while providing tens of thousands of pounds of locally grown fruits and vegetables that are donated to area food banks every year. Over the past seven years, we've transformed 8 acres of PEC's 172-acre property into a highly productive community farm — with 4.5 acres under cultivation of orchard, berries and vegetables — creating a valuable asset for our community. The larger property also includes the Gilberts Corner Farmers Market, the Old Carolina Road Trail and the Roundabout Meadows Wildlife Area.

The farm depends on volunteer labor to operate. At least twice a week, dozens of volunteers visit our farm to learn about and engage in local agricultural practices and to help with planting, tending and harvesting vegetables that are then distributed to our hunger relief partners in Loudoun and Clarke counties. Thousands of pounds are loaded into trucks every week, and from there, that food makes its way to 1,000+ families throughout the Piedmont, which is

home to more than 50,000 people experiencing food insecurity. At a time when funding for hunger relief programs is being cut despite an increased need, local produce is essential to fill the gaps.

The team at PEC's Community Farm continues to increase food production and outreach year over year. At the same time, we have engaged a record number of volunteers and built partnerships with educational institutions, nonprofits, corporations and community leaders to increase the reach of our mission. In addition to helping people experiencing food insecurity in Loudoun and Clarke counties, the Community Farm also supports PEC's mission to demonstrate the value of conservation and open space — for creating public access to trails and historic sites, producing local food to meet the needs of food-insecure communities, and showcasing agricultural best management practices for water quality and soil health.

When we involve more of our community members in the work of hunger relief and the legacy of local agriculture in the Piedmont, we empower each other to build stronger, more sustainable food systems and protect our vital agricultural resources.



DELOITTE CORPORATE VOLUNTEER DAY AT THE COMMUNITY FARM.
Photo by Hugh Kenny



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY VOLUNTEER DAY.

2025 Annual Gathering at Eldon Farms

On June 8, over 400 enthusiastic members of the community descended on Eldon Farms — a scenic 7,100-acre farm in Woodville in Rappahannock County — for a day of learning and fellowship.

PEC's Annual Gathering marked a major milestone in the Akre family's work as owners of Eldon Farm with world-renowned landscape architect Thomas Woltz and his Charlottesville-based firm, Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, LLC. Since 2022, they've been working together on a five-year plan to transform the well-known property into a destination for the

community to learn about farming and conservation, gather for events and enjoy nature.

That work inspired the idea to hold this year's event at Eldon Farms. As their plan was coming to a conclusion, PEC's annual gathering provided the perfect opportunity to share their vision with the community. The Akres envision this property as an accessible resource for all. Their generosity in sharing it



2025 ANNUAL GATHERING KEYNOTE SPEAKER THOMAS WOLTZ. Photo by Hugh Kenny

with PEC and the conservation community is a testament to the family's commitment to environmental stewardship and education.

Woltz — who is shepherding Eldon's transformation to incorporate agriculture, community and ecological health — was our keynote speaker and gave a captivating talk about the confluence of conservation, cultural landscapes, agriculture, community and ecological health. PEC President Chris Miller spoke to the global outlook and impact of the work being done in the Piedmont, highlighting Eldon Farms. Miller noted that forces of change are centered in the Virginia Piedmont and that partnership and collaboration will continue to help protect and conserve the lands and waters of the Piedmont.

Attendees enjoyed the afternoon, touring the farm and participating in PEC-led workshops on data centers and clean energy, conservation corridors in the Piedmont and the importance of native plants in restoring the Upper Rappahannock watershed. Attendees took home ideas and motivation to continue the important work of conservation, one acre at a time. It was an exciting and inspiring day for everyone.



WORKSHOP ATTENDEES OF THE PEC ANNUAL GATHERING AT ELDON FARMS. Photo by Hugh Kenny

In Memory

2025 witnessed the passing of several passionate advocates and effective leaders for protecting and restoring the lands and waters of the Virginia Piedmont, and building stronger, more sustainable communities. All will be sorely missed and their names will be added to a plaque at the Piedmont Memorial Overlook.

Lisa Ben-Dov

Lisa Ben-Dov was an ardent champion for the Piedmont, its people and animals, and was a pillar of Virginia's hunt and conservation community. Lisa and her husband Zohar purchased Kinross Farm in Fauquier County in 1986. They were frequent guests at PEC events and were involved with many PEC projects. Over time, they became generous supporters of PEC, always engaged and focused on the big picture. Kinross Farm, which is protected by several conservation easements, is a world-class training and hunting facility and a model of good land stewardship.

Leslie Cheek III

After a distinguished and far-reaching career as journalist at *The Washington Post*, legislative assistant on Capitol Hill, lawyer, lobbyist and expert on environmental liability, Leslie returned to Virginia. He became active in local conservation organizations, ultimately serving as president of Citizens for Fauquier County, an organization partnering closely with PEC on Fauquier County-specific issues and generously supporting our work.

Mike Stevens, OBE

After a distinguished career in economic development in Africa, the Middle East, and South East Asia, initially working in British Commonwealth countries and later at the World Bank, Mike Stevens retired to his farm, Bonny Brook on Cedar Run in Catlett, Virginia. For the last 22 years, Mike and his wife Margrete have hosted PEC's Bluebell Walk, opening their farm to the public to enjoy the magnificent display of flowers along the Cedar Run and the progress of restorative work and tree plantings on their farm, which is protected by a conservation easement. Until a week before he succumbed to ALS, Mike actively served on the committee that launched Protect Catlett, which resulted in the withdrawal of an application to build five data centers in the village of Catlett.



BLUEBELLS ON THE BANKS OF CEDAR RUN, FAUQUIER COUNTY.
Photo by Hugh Kenny

Margaret Hinckley Wise

Margaret Hinckley Wise had deep roots in Virginia. She was a landowner in Orleans, a daughter and mother of past and present Masters of the Old Dominion Hunt, and a graduate of Foxcroft School. She was the sister of Steedman Hinkley, a past PEC Chairman. Land conservation causes were a family tradition that Margaret continued with her support of PEC; the Fauquier County Natural History Day camps, run by PEC in the 1980s and 1990s, were especially dear to her heart. Her causes and interests were many, including the Fauquier Free Clinic in Warrenton. Every community she committed herself to was better because of her involvement.

The PEC Randal Fellowship

Twelve college students and recent graduates from around the country joined us for the **19th annual Randal Fellowship**, an eight-week immersion program into PEC's work and exploration of conservation-related careers. With PEC staff as their instructors and advisors, our 2025 Randal Fellows learned about the role of nonprofit and local engagement in addressing complex and interdisciplinary environmental issues facing communities today.

The Randal Fellowship is named after the late Judy Randal, a former PEC board member who supported the program to provide direct conservation experiences for undergraduate and graduate students. She was a strong believer in education and the importance of sharing PEC's success in conservation, environmental policy and civic engagement.



"Very few environmental internships support this level of peer-to-peer engagement, field learning and mentorship. My experience with PEC was unparalleled because it encouraged me to work with PEC staff and other fellows to create a practicum project that was meaningful to PEC as an organization, the counties that PEC serves and myself."

— **Elizabeth Bock**, South Pasadena, CA

Duke University, Class of 2023



"I've already spent a lot of time in the environmental and conservation field, but now I know a bit more about what parts of conservation I might want to run with in the future. I really appreciated getting to see all aspects of a nonprofit, because there are

also parts of financing, fundraising and communications, and all of these things that are important to the functioning of a nonprofit."

— **Kawther Said**, Loudoun County, VA

Stanford University, Class of 2025



"I think the program is valuable because you can bring all these people into one space, and although you might be focusing on the environment you're also learning from every single person at PEC and your fellow Fellowship members, and each perspective brings something to the table."

— **Luke Antesberger**, Scottsville, VA

Rhodes College, Class of 2025

PEC Staff

This list includes current PEC staff as of the publication of this Annual Report.

Land Use and Policy

Michael Barber, SR. ENERGY
INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY ANALYST

Gem Bingol, SR. LAND USE FIELD
REPRESENTATIVE FOR LOUDOUN COUNTY

Julie Bolthouse, DIRECTOR OF LAND USE

Tia Earman, SR. LAND USE FIELD
REPRESENTATIVE FOR LOUDOUN
& CLARKE COUNTIES

Evelyn Eichorn, SR. LAND USE FIELD
REPRESENTATIVE FOR FAUQUIER COUNTY

Emily Johnson, LAND USE FIELD
REPRESENTATIVE FOR LOUDOUN COUNTY

Peter Krebs, ALBEMARLE COUNTY
/ CHARLOTTESVILLE COMMUNITY
ADVOCACY MANAGER

Don McCown, LAND USE FIELD
REPRESENTATIVE FOR ORANGE
& MADISON COUNTIES

Rob McGinnis, SR. LAND USE FIELD
REPRESENTATIVE FOR ALBEMARLE
& GREENE COUNTIES

Jared Mummert, SENIOR DATA CENTER
REFORM CAMPAIGN COORDINATOR

Sarah Parmelee, LAND USE FIELD
REPRESENTATIVE FOR CULPEPER COUNTY

Farms and Food

Catherine Fisher, COMMUNITY
FARM ASSISTANT MANAGER

Dana Melby, GILBERTS CORNER
PROGRAM MANAGER

Teddy Pitsiokos, COMMUNITY FARM MANAGER

Jen Wilkins, GILBERTS CORNER
FARMERS MARKET MANAGER

Land Conservation

Kim Biasioli, CONSERVATION PROGRAM
MANAGER, ALBEMARLE & GREENE COUNTIES

October Greenfield, WILDLIFE
HABITAT PROGRAM MANAGER

Mike Kane, DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATION

Lauria McShane, WILDLIFE HABITAT
OUTREACH SPECIALIST

Keely Murphy, CONSERVATION FIELD
REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE POTOMAC WATERSHED

Valerie Peterson, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATION

Linnea Sherman, PLANTINGS FOR THE
PIEDMONT PROGRAM MANAGER

Bryn Sonnett, RAPPAHANNOCK-RAPIDAN
CONSERVATION PROGRAM MANAGER

Emily Stern, CONSERVATION FIELD
REPRESENTATIVE FOR RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY

Michaela Weglinski, STEWARDSHIP COORDINATOR

Ellie Young, PLANTINGS FOR THE
PIEDMONT ASSISTANT

Outreach & Communications

Jessica Edington, PUBLICATIONS ASSISTANT

Lea Justice, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Hugh Kenny, MULTIMEDIA COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

Lindsey Loving, COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

Elizabeth Ransom, MEDIA & PUBLIC
RELATIONS SPECIALIST

Cindy Sabato, CO-DIRECTOR OF
OUTREACH & COMMUNICATIONS

Marco Sánchez, CO-DIRECTOR OF
OUTREACH & COMMUNICATIONS

Faith Schweikert, COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

Douglas Stewart, RANDAL FELLOWSHIP COORDINATOR

Advancement

Kendra Atkins, ADVANCEMENT SPECIALIST

Liese Dart Hodges, SENIOR STRATEGY
& ADVANCEMENT OFFICER

Gertraud Hechl, MAJOR GIFTS

Montana Lanier Ruffner,
MEETING & EVENTS MANAGER

Laura Schliesske, ADVANCEMENT ASSISTANT

Nora Seilheimer, DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT

Kim Votruba-Matook, GRANTS MANAGER

Finance & Administration

Karen Hunsberger Adam, CRM SPECIALIST

Amanda Aiyar, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HR

Jessica Collins, BOOKKEEPER

Kristen Price, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Lauren Seeling, ACCOUNTING & REAL
ESTATE TRANSACTION SPECIALIST

Executive

Ashish Kapoor, SENIOR ENERGY & CLIMATE ADVISOR

Jasmin Khangura, SENIOR
CARTOGRAPHER AND GIS ANALYST

John McCarthy, SENIOR ADVISOR &
DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Chris Miller, PRESIDENT

Leigh Ross, LEGAL ASSISTANT & RECORDS MANAGER

Assma Shabab, CARTOGRAPHER AND GIS ANALYST

Amy Weinhouse, GENERAL COUNSEL

Bri West, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS
& TECHNOLOGY ADVISOR

Dawn Wilmot, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

PEC Board of Directors

This list includes Board members who served at any time between January 2025 and January 2026.

Officers

David Aldrich, CHAIR
Leslie Cockburn, VICE CHAIR*
Margrete Stevens, SECRETARY*
Chris McLean, TREASURER

Albemarle County

Robert "Bob" Bernard*
John Birdsall, III*
Carol Carter
Jane Fisher
Chris McLean*
Hamilton "Chip" Moses, III*

Clarke County

Susan "Sisi" Gallagher
George Ohrstrom, II*

Culpeper County

John Grano*
Andrew Gutowski
Seth Heald*
Linda "Boo" Ingram*
Eugene Triplett

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Mimi Abel Smith*
Steve Dahllof
Robert Dove
George Grayson*
James Kleeblatt*
Mark Ohrstrom*
Jean Perin*
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Chloe Squires
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Jim Hurley
Alton Keel*
George Overstreet*

Loudoun County

Eugene Gulland*
Bonnie Mattingly*
Eleanor Morison*
Natalie Pien

Madison County

Kemp Hill
Dana Squire

Orange County

Pam Jaske

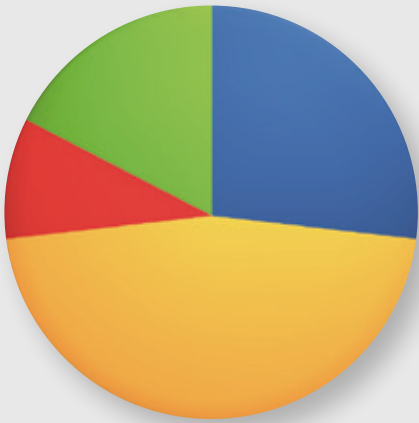
Rappahannock County

David Aldrich*
Leslie Cockburn*
Helen DuBois*
Joe Gale

* Executive Committee member

2025 Financial Report

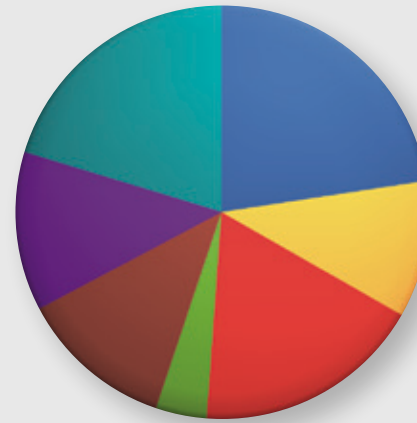
Sources of Organizational Support



● Individuals	\$ 2,935,195	26.8%
● Foundations, Businesses and Institutions	5,083,945	46.4%
● Government	1,027,824	9.4%
● Piedmont Foundation	1,902,763	17.4%
Total	\$ 10,949,727	100%

The above figures are pending final audit and include the activities of the Coalition for Smarter Growth, a division of PEC. They do not include the activities of the Piedmont Foundation. Copies of the consolidated financial statements of PEC and the Piedmont Foundation, and of PEC's IRS form 990, may be found at PEC's website at www.pecva.org/donate. For more information, please contact PEC's accounting office at (540) 347-2334.

Program and Operating Expenditures

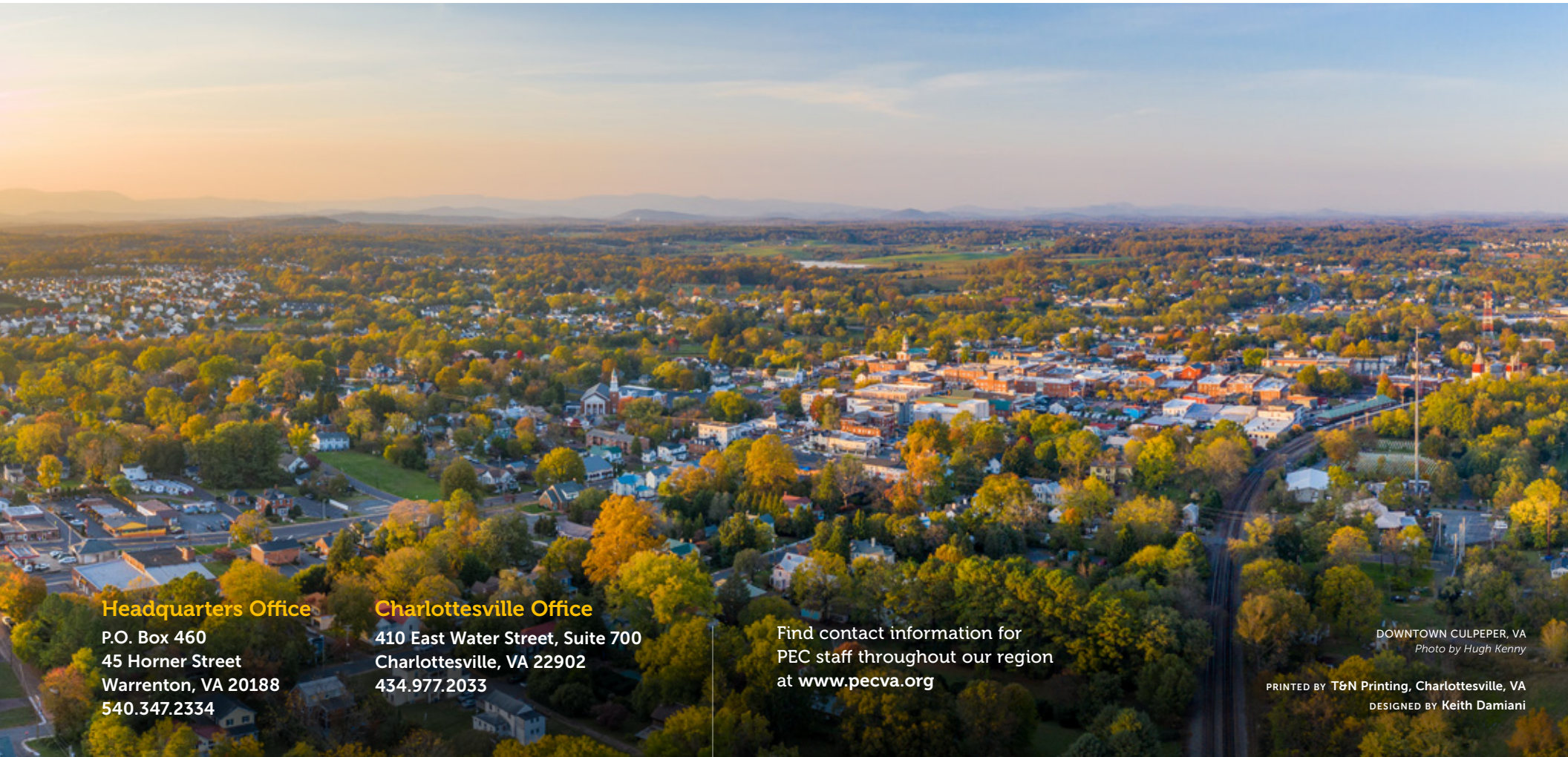


● Conservation, Stewardship and Habitat	\$ 2,473,545	22.6%
● County Issues and Planning	1,173,398	10.7%
● Policy and Transportation	1,964,188	17.9%
● Farms and Food	439,764	4.0%
● Outreach and Education	1,321,794	12.1%
● Advancement	1,373,577	12.5%
● Administration	2,222,839	20.3%
Total	\$ 10,969,105	100%



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Find contact information for
PEC staff throughout our region
at www.pecva.org

DOWNTOWN CULPEPER, VA
Photo by Hugh Kenny

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