



North Branch Land Trust

Conserving Precious Land...Forever

Wednesday, May 1
Westmoreland Club
5:30 pm Cocktail Hour
6:30 pm Dinner

\$130

visit nblt.org/events to RSVP



Annual Dinner & Auction



ALTITUDE
PHILANTHROPIES



Phone: (570) 310-1781 · E-mail: info@nblt.org · Website: www.nblt.org

Please Join Us on Wednesday May 1

We are thrilled to extend our warmest invitation to our annual dinner celebration for the North Branch Land Trust! This year promises to be an unforgettable evening filled with delicious cuisine prepared by Westmoreland Club, delightful company of your fellow NBLT members, and auction items ranging from exciting outdoor experiences to a signed boxing glove by Sylvester Stallone!

Join us as we come together to celebrate another successful year and express our gratitude for your continued support and contributions! Your presence will truly make this event special and we look forward to sharing this extraordinary evening with you!

Sincerely,

Tiffany Maakestad and Stacia Arnaud

Annual Dinner & Auction Committee



North Branch Land Trust is incredibly grateful for the hard work of our Staff, Board, and Committees. This event would not be possible without the amazing talent of the Annual Dinner Committee co-chaired by Tiffany Maakestad and Stacia Arnaud.

From planning a delightful menu to preparing a magnificent auction to securing our gracious sponsors, these volunteers brought their talents to the table in support of conservation.

Co-Chairs: Tiffany Maakestad and Stacia Arnaud

Stacia Arnaud
Tony Brooks
Kelly Bray, Esq.

Ellen Ferretti
Katherine Flood
Tiffany Maakestad

Stephen Maakestad
Barbara Rogers
Karley Stasko

Community Stewardship Award

North Branch Land Trust will grant their 2024 *Community Stewardship Award* to the Pennsylvania American Water Company at their upcoming Annual Dinner and Auction on May 1st. Pennsylvania American Water is being recognized for conservation of lands surrounding Huntsville Reservoir and commitment to water conservation in our region and beyond.

“At Pennsylvania American Water, our top priority is serving our customers and protecting the sources of water used as drinking supplies,” said Justin Ladner, president, Pennsylvania American Water. “Collaborating with North Branch Land Trust to preserve and protect this part of the watershed helps further our mission to provide safe, clean drinking water for generations to come.”

North Branch Land Trust has been honored to partner with Pennsylvania American Water since 2021 to conserve 220 acres of conifer forest and wetland that envelops the northern half of the Huntsville Reservoir.

“North Branch Land Trust is excited to celebrate the Pennsylvania American Water Company and their conservation of this iconic Back Mountain natural area,” Executive Director Ellen Ferretti says. “The Huntsville Reservoir provides so many benefits to our community beyond drinking water—stunning habitat for birds and animals; healthy soils, plants, and trees; and a place for all to appreciate Northeastern Pennsylvania’s natural resources.”

But the Huntsville Reservoir is not the only conservation project Pennsylvania American Water has been committed to in the region. The company stewards a 3.5-mile walking trail around its Lake Scranton Reservoir and a 1.5-mile trail around the Dunmore #1 Reservoir. Additionally, six reservoirs in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties are accessible for shoreline fishing through a cooperative agreement with the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission.



Thank you Bill & Wilma James for Sponsoring

Annual Wine Pull

Pinots and Malbecs and Bordeaux... oh my!

EACH PULL IS ENTERED FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A TOP VALUE MYSTERY WINE



Get a sneak preview

visit <https://nblt2024.cbo.io/>

Virtual Auction

The Auction will open on April 24 at 3pm and close on May 1, leaving ample time to shop for Mother's Day while supporting conservation in Northeastern Pennsylvania



VIRTUAL AUCTION

VIEW AUCTION ITEMS AND REGISTER FOR A FREE BIDDER ACCOUNT BY SCANNING THE QR CODE BELOW:



NBLT'S VIRTUAL AUCTION LAUNCHES WEDNESDAY APRIL 24 AND ENDS AT 7 PM MAY 1. THE AUCTION IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN

Thank You Auction Donors to date!

5 Cow Farms	Jessica Morandi
Stacia Arnaud	Metz Culinary Management
Anthony Brooks	O'Donnell Family
Buka	Andrew Pohl
Lissa Bryan Smith	Simon & Co. Jewelry
Cross Family	Sundance Vacations
Sarah Carr	Stasko Family
Discover NEPA	Ski Shack
Ellen Ferretti	Thompson Family
Freidman Hospitality Group	Three Sisters
Flood Family	Emma Thompson
Golden Business Machines	Valentine's Jewelry
Hoegen Family	Verve Vertu
James Family	Wild Birds Unlimited
Maakestad Family	Zembruski Family
Magnotta Family	

Visit auction website for a full list of items, sponsors, and donors

Thank You Dinner Sponsors

Major Sponsors



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Woodlands Sponsors



Koehl, Youngman, Levy, Rosenthal
& Shaffer Wealth Management
Merrill Lynch Wealth Management



Geisinger



Thank You Dinner Sponsors

Highlands Sponsors



SORDONI
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Dr. Thomas G. & Janis Winter



Nature Sponsors

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Rob Friedman

Visit Luzerne County



Our Sincerest Thank You



Together with all of our Board Members, we'd like to personally invite each of you to North Branch Land Trust's 2024 Annual Dinner & Auction!

The North Branch Land Trust's Annual Dinner & Auction is an important opportunity to meet and bring inspired people together in celebration of the natural beauty of Northeastern Pennsylvania. The

Mission of the Land Trust directs our work to "partner with Landowners, Communities, and Stakeholders to conserve and care for Northeastern Pennsylvania's Lands and Waters". And we are excited that we are not slowing down after all these years!

More importantly, this is our opportunity to come together as a community to renew our commitment to appreciate and learn about what's being done to protect our common wealth of natural resources, encourage appreciation and stewardship of our surroundings, and provide nature based opportunities for outdoor recreation in Northeastern Pennsylvania, our home.

Late 2023 saw the end of our prior Board Chair's term at the helm of North Branch Land Trust, Christina Dilks Taylor. Christina did an epic job as Board Chair. Her advice, commitment to mission and drive was so very appreciated and valued.

We welcomed Stephen Maakestad our our new Chair. Steve has served on the Board and Land Committee for several years. His advice, understanding and willingness to help out has been vital.

As the newly elected Board Chair, I want to thank everyone for their support over the years. I am always impressed by Ellen and the team and I truly enjoy working with the Land Trust, not only because of the value I know it provides to the region, but also the connections and friendships that we've made while endeavoring towards a common goal. I admire all of the great work that was done under the leadership of Christina during her time as Chair and I look forward to helping accomplish our mission which is to conserve the beauty and natural diversity of Northeastern Pennsylvania. What we do now will ensure a sustainable future and be appreciated by future generations."

"My Staff and I are looking forward to this event, to see many of you, reconnect with some, and get to know new friends united by our passion and appreciation of the regional conservation work of the Land Trust and this beautiful place we call home."

We remain continually impressed by the passion and creativity of the Land Trust's supporters. From its Board and staff, members, donors, the communities that we serve, our easement landowners, and volunteers, there are so many perspectives on how to be a good steward to our local natural resources, now and into the future.

Balancing the built environment and conservation is critical to the success and vibrancy of any community. It takes a spectrum of commitment from all sectors to create a desirable place to live, work and enjoy. The Land Trust's role is conservation and stewardship awareness and education. From our preserves to our events and publications, we exist to serve.

On the ground conservation will always be our main stay, but North Branch Land Trust also continues to further engage our youth, our next community conservation leaders. Will they embrace that balance by understanding and appreciating the beauty and critical functions of forests, fields, and protected waterways; the sense of pride in ensuring that this region, our home, retains its natural beauty and vibrant wildlife habitats; that we have exciting nature based outdoor recreation opportunities close to home to enjoy – now and for generations to come, while we "Leave no trace"?

North Branch Land Trust continues to seek partners and avenues to actively not only engage this conversation but provide meaningful steps to succeed. Small steps, but necessary. We need the new version of Manny Gordon with his infectious smile and iconic "Enjoy, enjoy" mantra. Or the new Woodsy Owl... 'Give a Hoot, Don't Pollute.'! They were very effective for many of us. What can our children now relate to?

We should all be very proud of where we are today and excited about where we are headed.

We thank you for your support of conservation of Northeastern Pennsylvania. For your support of North Branch Land Trust, your land trust.



Thank you

FOR YOUR
MEMBERSHIP

Join NBLT today



Scan for more information
or visit nblt.org/member

North Branch Land Trust Membership Levels

Highlands Guardian ...\$5,000+

Woodlands Guardian...\$2,500

River Guardian.....\$1,000

Protector..... \$500

Conservator... \$250

Sustainer.....\$100

Steward.....\$ 50