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Development & Events
Manager

Kaylan TurnerOperations & Office Manager

Visit **BluegrassLandConservancy.org** for more information about our team and board.

From the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Supporters,

When we experience significant changes in life, many of us turn to nature for solace and direction. Whether visiting a public park, fishing or boating on a local waterway, working in our yard, or walking on a farm, our connections to the natural world can help to calm our minds, steady our spirits, and reveal the answers that we seek.

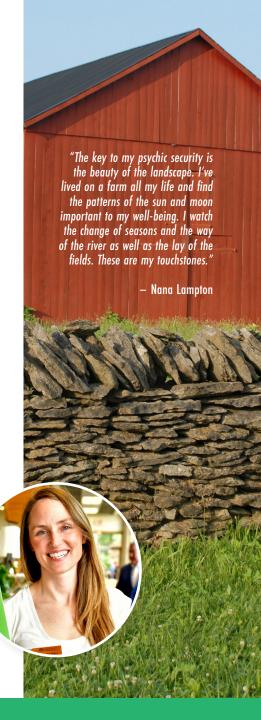
The past year has been one of considerable change at Bluegrass Land Conservancy. After an incredible 23 years of leadership, Helen Alexander stepped down as our Board Chair, turning the reigns over to her successor, Margaret Graves. We welcomed new board member Hanzly Albina and saw the retirement of two long-time board members, Betty Kenan and Nina Bonnie. On the staff side, we saw the marriages and subsequent name changes of two of our employees, Nicole (Zub) Armstrong and myself. We welcomed new team members: Will Adams as Director of Strategic Initiatives, Molly Dunigan as Events and Development Manager, Rosalind Streeter as Communications Manager, and Kaylan Turner as Operations and Office Manager. Additionally, we moved into a new suite within our Lexington office building and embarked on a new strategic planning process.

Changes extended all the way into our operations, and this past year BLC completed our first easement using federal funding to purchase development rights. The first private land trust in Kentucky to do so under the new program requirements, we had to navigate and learn an entirely different system for submitting, drafting, and closing easements. We have since seen another seven farms accepted into the program. Subsequent increases in federal funding for these programs means that we will be focusing efforts on creating significant conservation blocks in the coming years—an effort that can create impactful results for our local communities.

In nature we see that change is a constant part of life, whether the changes within the cycle of a year or changes of growth and adaptation. While stagnation can indicate a problem and too much change can cause damage, change that falls between these two extremes is often a sign of healthy evolution and progression. With the natural world as our touchstone, we are enthusiastic about the changes we have experienced this past year and look forward to seeing how they will continue to carry us forward.

We hope that you enjoy this organizational update and 2022 Annual Report. Thank you for your commitment to protecting this unique place that many of us call home. Your donations and continued support allow BLC to change and grow in positive ways—making sure future generations have access to clean water, healthy soils, fresh air, and open spaces.

Warmly, Jessie (Wilder) Hancock



MISSION

To protect land in Kentucky's Bluegrass region through permanent conservation easements.

VISION

A thriving community where land is protected to sustain our identity, economy, and quality of life.

GOALS



LAND PROTECTION

Permanently protect and steward lands critical to agricultural viability and community character in the Bluegrass region.



ORGANIZATIONAL STABILITY

Grow our financial and organizational capacity to ensure our commitment to perpetuity and to meet dynamic conservation goals.



EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Elevate the importance of land as part of our regional identity, and land conservation as a priority for maintaining a high quality of life and a vibrant economy.

FOCUS AREAS



Farmland & Fresh Food



Clean Waterways



Working Family Farms



Iconic Landscapes



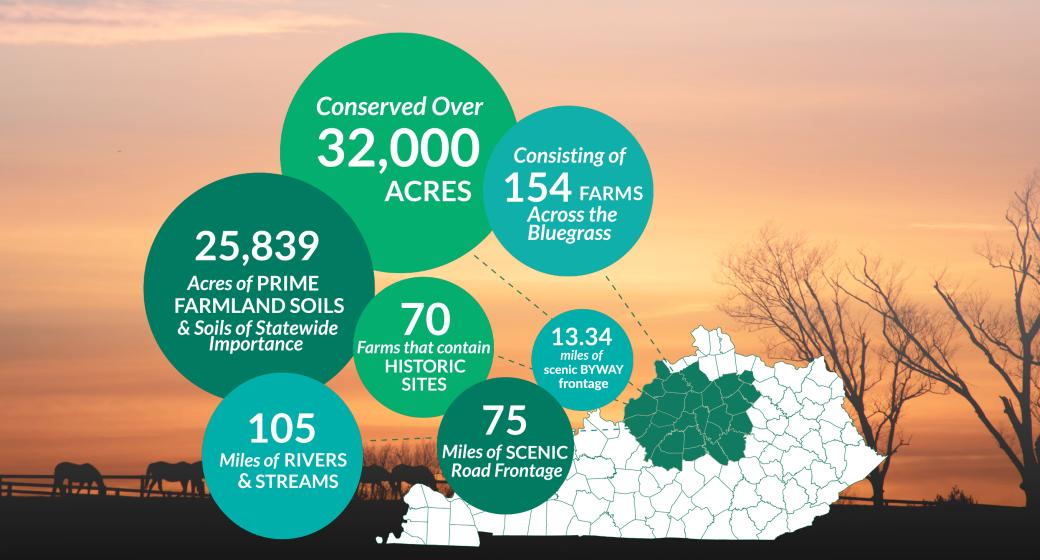
Wildlife Habitat & Natural Resources



Cultural, Scenic, & Historic Resources

CONSERVATION SNAPSHOT

Since 1995 we have...



LAND PROTECTION

Conserving Farms & Natural Lands

With a goal to permanently protect and steward lands critical to agricultural viability and community character in the Bluegrass region, Bluegrass Land Conservancy works on a daily basis with landowners to conserve land through voluntary conservation easements. For the past 27 years, Bluegrass Land Conservancy has saved over 32,000 of our most critical acres from future development. While these lands will remain open for agricultural use and natural habitat in perpetuity, we still have plenty of work to do to combat the rapid pace of development.

In 2022, BLC added a new tool to our conservation toolbox by completing our first easement using federal funding to purchase development rights. A total of eight farms have now been accepted into the program, bringing \$4.4 million in funding and \$8.8 million in total conservation value into Kentucky for local landowners. In 2022 and 2023, we plan to submit nearly \$50 million in requests for federal programs to conserve contiguous blocks of farmland and natural lands. The result will create a meaningful impact for communities across the Bluegrass. With this funding, we hope to conserve an additional 20,000 acres of our best soils, wildlife corridors, waterways, and scenic open space over the next three years.

This new work comes with significant additional requirements for Bluegrass Land Conservancy, from increases in staff time to added transactional costs. Whether you are a partner organization, landowner, or supporter, we need your help to increase the pace of conservation before it is too late!

Is a conservation easement right for you and your family? Every family is unique and so are their farm conservation plans.

We welcome all inquiries, and all conversations are confidential. To discuss the benefits associated with protecting your land and what will work best for you and your family, contact:

Ashley Greathouse agreathouse@bluegrassconservancy.org 859-255-4552



Taking Care of the Land, Every Day...

We are grateful to all those who have conserved or own protected land. We are inspired by your stewardship and commitment. Thank you for all you do for the land, every day. Family Farms are the backbone of Kentucky, and your partnership represents the future of our community and the Commonwealth.

Anderson County

Ann and Darrell Gabhart Panther Rock

Patricia and Dennis Monohan Monohan Farm

Bourbon County

Mary Clay and John Berry Auvergne Farm

Sara Clay and George Branch Canefield Farm

Felicia and Doug Branham Hurricane Hills Hurricane Hills North Hurricane Hills West Flying High Farm

Lendy and Darrell Brown
Stonereath Farm

Brenda and R. Berle Clay Auvergne Farm

Isabel McHenry Clay The Larches

Rhonda Cornum and Kory Cornum Monroc Farm Louise Courtelis Town and Country*

Patricia and Johnny Elkins Chestnut Hill Farms

Point Side, LLC Resting Acres Division*

Seth, Clay, and Dell Hancock Claiborne Farm

Seth and Deborah Hancock Cherry Valley

Staci and Arthur Hancock Stone Farm

Edwina and Robert Hensley Resting Acres Division*

Hinkle Brothers, LLC Hinkle Farm

Sherry and Steve Judy Kane Farm dba 4 Sons Farm*

Michael Kalinyak and Sannie Overly Stone Castle

Gayle and Jim Kane Kane Angus Margaret A. Lake Lake Farm

Lary Farm, LLC Glenlary

Nicholas M. Lotz Briarbrooke

Beatrice Clay Moran Canefield Farm

Miles Chapline McDonnell Jr. The Larches*

Frederick and Denise Morrison Victory Haven*

Pam and Bart McFarland Resting Acres

Narola, LLC Stonereath Stud*

Pamela and Charles Parker The Parker Farm

Kristina and John Penn Pennland

Jeff and Melanie Ramey Stone Columns Stables at Rosemont Farm Kathy and Ted Spears Larkspur*

Katie Sutphin Victory Haven

Vintage Farm and Stables, LLC Stonereath Stud*

Yoder Family Lake Farm*

Boyle County

Anonymous

Bright Family, LLC Bright Family Farm

Drs. Katherine L. Bright and Daniel J. Moran Katherine Bright Farm

Louise and Fred Dearborn Fieldstone Farm

Mary Pat and Scott Hankla, Faye and Ren Hankla Hankla Farm

Angereau and Martha McConnell Springhouse Farm

Clark County

Anonymous

Linda and Nelson Barnes Barnes Stoner Bend Farm

Carolyn King
The Richard Hunt Smith Nature
and Wildlife Sanctuary

Ben C. Kaufmann and Janet Zusman CallieCash Farm

Katie Sutphin Sutphin Farm

Leesa and Keith Moorman Bow Wood Farm

Daniel and Allison Mongiardo Via Ferraro Farm*

Dr. and Mrs. John van Nagell Boone Valley Farm Brookfield Farm

Fayette County

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Helen C. Alexander Middlebrook Farm

Estate of Hilary J. Boone, Jr. Wimbledon Farm*

Jeanne Cox and Michael Owens Cornerstone Farm

Susanna and Leon Creek and Ann J. Parker Polohunt Farm

Patricia and Johnny Elkins Chestnut Hill Farm

Clay Hancock EIEIO Farm

Alex Hancock and Jak Knelman EIEIO Farm*

Betty and Jim Kenan Kenan Farm Alston and Johnny Kerr Greenfields

Lori Kirk-Wagner Lori Kirk-Wagner Farm

Nicole Lyvere Cornerstone Farm*

Bonnie and Dick Maynard Maynard Farm

Dede McGehee Heaven Trees

Newtownanner Stud Farm Newtownanner Stud Farm* Newtownanner Stud Farm

Beth and Dan Pride Oxford Farm

Kormendy Farms, LLC Maynard Farm*

Dr. and Mrs. John van Nagell Brookfield Farm Boone Valley Farm

Franklin County

Frances P. Canty Arrowhead Farm

Mary Alice Dacosse Arrowhead Farm*

Dr. Joseph J. and Beverly V. Dobner Dobner Family Farm

Dorothy Meador Wilson Wilson Farm

EASEMENT DONORS& OWNERS

Harrison County

Russell Gray Gray's Run Farm

Susan and R.M. Richards Chicory Ridge

Henry County

Donna and Jim Ludwig Springstone Farm

Jessamine County

Brownwood Property, LLC Brownwood Farm*

Estate of Richard J. Corman R. J. Corman Farm

Marijo and Tom Foster La Fontaine

Dave and Jennifer Harris Seven Stones Farm

Estate of Barbara Hunter Brownwood Farm

Phil and Jan Meyer, Barbara Groves, Sarah and John Mutziger Blue Gate Farm

Verville Ventures, LLC Blue Gate Farm*

Ann and James Robert Wilson The Judge Place Pleasant Grove

Madison County

Lois Combs-Richards Farm Combs-Richards Farm Mary Elizabeth Richards Combs-Richards Farm*

Marion County

Linda and Parker Beam SonBeam Farms

Mercer County

Leigh Andrea DeLair Running Fox Farm

John D. Stuart High Peak Farm-Mercer Co.

Rose Cooper and Allen Bush

Steve and Jessica Elliott High Peak*

Nelson County

Anonymous

Thomas A. Hart and Patricia E. Hart The Meadows

Lida Oxnard Post Oak Farm

Susan Perkins Hard Times Farm

Oldham County

W. Allen Northcutt III Flying Cross Farm

Julia L. Fields
Annewood Farms

Robertson County

Darrin Martin and Troy Martin Martin Farm

Shelby County

Peter E. Leonhardt Lakeview Farms

Sarah and Paul Keith Pine Grove Farm

Scott County

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Andre and Jennifer Regard Cockaigne*

Anna and Paul Isaacs Shagbark

Laura D. and Robert L. Riddle Riddle Farm

Erin and Bill Rouse Rouse Farm

Trey Benson, Andy Burns, Matt Helgerson Rouse Farm*

Washington County

Linda and Parker Beam SonBeams Farms

Woodford County

Anonymous (2)

Helen C. Alexander Spring Station Farm

Gay and Michael Barnett Blackburn Farm

Mina Berger Woodstock Farm Borges-Torrealba Holdings, LLC Three Chimneys Farm*

Frances P. Canty Ridge Farm

Shawn Canty Ridge Farm*

Mary and Joseph Carter Family Carter Farms

Dr. and Mrs. John Caton Hillside Farm

Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. Clay Three Chimneys Farm

Pam and Roger Conley Wildflower Farm

Susanna and Leon Creek and Ann J. Parker Polohunt Farm

Mr. and Mrs. William Curlin Dunvegan

Dr. and Mrs. Mike Daugherty Three Springs Farm

Scott and Evan Dilworth Ashley House Farm*

Elk Horn Farm, LLC Woodstock Farm*

Drs. Claire and Rolf Embertson Chancey Mill Farm

William Davis Fishback, Jr. Trackside Farm

Gerald Ford Diamond A. Farms* Drs. Laurie and David Haas Lookout Farm

Gloria and Jack Halter The Halter Farm

Hoppy Henton Henton Farms

Dr. Stephen and Debbie Jackson Jackson Purchase

Margaret and David Jeffiers Trailside Farm

JMI Farms, LLC Chanteclair*

Libby and Brereton Jones Airdrie Stud Airdrie: Gratz Park & Home Place Woodburn Farm

Captain and Mrs. Richard Kane Horseshoe Bend Farm

Alice Carneal Kinkead Braestone Farm

Dorothy and William Matthews V Hanlen Farm

Newtownanner Stud Farm Newtownanner Stud Farm* Newtownanner Stud Farm

Randle Properties, LLC Ashley House Farm

Allison and Danny Richardson Buckhead Ranch

Sally and Andrew Schneider Millwood Springs Farm* Shenton Business Limited Shenton Farm*

Suzi Shoemaker Lantern Hill Farm

Spring Station Bloodstock, LLC Spring Station Farm*

John D. Stuart High Peak Farms

Jan and Ben Taylor Taylor Farms

Andrea and Bernard V. Tew Willow Springs Farm

Steve South and Sue Van Patten Locust Hill Farm

Nancy A. Vanier, Jennifer E. Allen, Lyda Williamson High Peak Farms*

Elaine and Ben Walden Paul's Mill

Judy Wells Shadewell

Dr. and Mrs. Smiser West Waterford Farm Millford Farm

WNS Holdings, LTD Paul's Mill*

Sheryl Wood and Craig Wood Millwood Springs Farm

Dr. Gary and Kathy Priest Woodspring Farm

*Current conservation easement owner



ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

Bluegrass Land Conservancy is committed to our promise of perpetuity through the sustainable and measurable management of our financial resources. With a goal to grow our financial and organizational capacity to ensure our commitment to perpetuity and to meet dynamic conservation goals, we perform our work with a community and growth-oriented mindset. We know that every conservation easement is a forever promise for future generations, and therefore we are driven every day to ensure the funds and organizational structure needed to fulfill that pledge. In addition to annual operating funds, BLC works to grow a robust Operating Endowment and Stewardship Fund to safeguard our conservation easements forever.

With over 25 years of experience and over 32,000 acres of land permanently protected, BLC is a highly accomplished regional, nonprofit land trust. The collective experience on our Board and staff represents the majority of land conserved in Kentucky. Protecting an average of over 1,000 acres per year, BLC ranks in the top 5% of accredited land trusts in the country in land conserved per year by staff size! We need your help to continue to grow our organization and staff in order to maintain and increase the pace of land conservation in the Bluegrass.

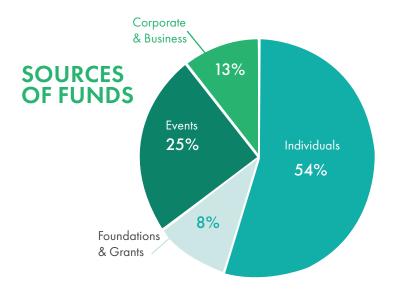
As a community-supported land trust, we rely upon the generous contributions of individuals, businesses, and grantors as we work to preserve our Bluegrass lands. Every dollar donated to BLC helps to further our mission-directed programming. There are multiple opportunities to support BLC—through direct gifts of cash, stock, real estate, auction items, workplace matching funds, planned gifts, and corporate partnerships. With your continued support, our conservation work will continue to play a vital role in our region's quality of life, economic growth, and healthy environment.

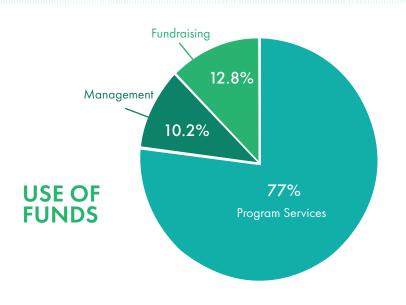
Bequests Providing Impact & Peace of Mind

For many BLC supporters, a bequest is the most direct and impactful way to give, no matter how large or small. A bequest is invaluable to BLC's growth and stability, and ensures that BLC will continue to protect and always care for the Bluegrass. For more information on bequests and other planned giving options please contact:

Will Adams wadams@bluegrassconservancy.org

2020-2021 **Financial Summary**





\$1,095,697

Operating Endowment





\$980,964

Funds Raised for General Operating

\$36,651

Donor-restricted Project Funds





\$1,931,301

Stewardship & Defense Fund

Unique Donors



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Ms. Susan Hamilton and Mr. Edwin C. Krebs

Preservationist

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A Special Thank You

As a community-supported land trust, our mission-critical land conservation work relies on the support of generous donors.



2021 Clays for Conservation, Showbarn Session, & Virtual Auction

Fall of 2021 saw Bluegrass Land Conservancy hosting a unique three-part conservation event series. The event included a charity sporting clays tournament at Ashbourne Farms, a 'Showbarn Sessions' concert and dinner event also at Ashbourne Farms, and a virtual auction featuring over 60 specialty items and one-of-a-kind experiences.

Both fun and successful, the series raised over \$250,000!

2022 Annual Auction

Back in person for the first time in 3 years, the BLC Annual Farmland Conservation Auction and Celebration was a huge success. The evening boasted over 80 unique auction items available to bid on both in-person and virtually, a delectable spread by a Chef Ouita Michel, a locally curated bar, lively music, and plenty of good cheer. Thanks to our event sponsors, in-kind item donors, and in-person and virtual attendees, the evening raised over \$200,000 for land conservation in the Bluegrass! Slated again for April of 2023, we hope to see you this spring!



In May, past and present board members, long-time supporters, and staff gathered at Middlebrook Farm to celebrate the achievement of conserving over 30,000 acres of Bluegrass Land in perpetuity. In appreciation of her outstanding leadership, a toast was made for out-going Board Chair Helen Alexander. The toast, given by incoming Board Chair Margaret Graves, recognized Helen's extraordinary 23-year term during which BLC achieved national accreditation and conserved 151 farms on 30,707 acres!

EVENTS



Earmla

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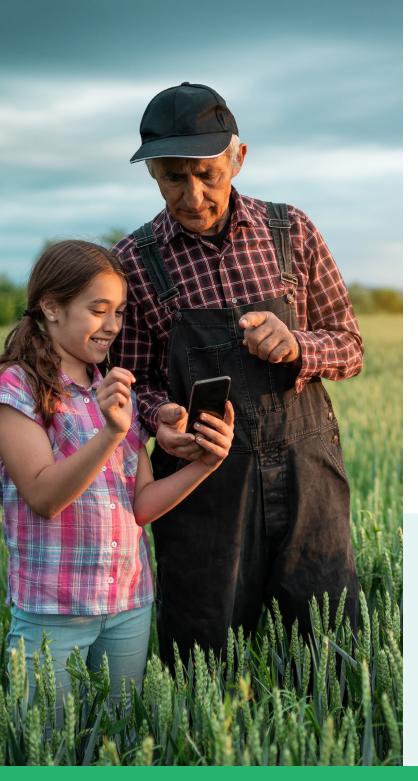


Mr. Steve South and Ms. Sue Van Patten

Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Keith III Dr. William N. Offutt IV

Mr. Billy Van Pelt II

Ms. Holiday Banta



EDUCATION & OUTREACH

"It's our landscape which defines our identity and it's what I'm most grateful for." ~ Mick Dodson

The great and small experiences in our lives are made and enhanced by our surroundings. Our work at Bluegrass Land Conservancy can go largely unseen by most people, yet it ensures the future of many amenities we care about and love. Land conservation helps to ensure less polluted air, healthy soils, clean waterways, and available farmland for ourselves as well as future generations. Many of the family farms, beautiful scenic drives, and outdoor recreational spaces that form the backdrop of our lives have been permanently protected through conservation easements.

At Bluegrass Land Conservancy, we seek to elevate the importance of land as a part of our regional identity, and land conservation as a priority for maintaining a high quality of life and a vibrant economy. We work to educate landowners and citizens about the importance of land conservation, both for themselves and for the entire Bluegrass region. By helping people understand how land conservation benefits each and every one of us, and is key to so many issues that are close to our hearts, we hope to cultivate a passion for conservation within our broader community. Help us engage with citizens across the Bluegrass today by hosting a BLC event, following us to social media, signing up for our Enews, or spreading the word about the benefits of land conservation!

CONNECT



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Visit BluegrassLandConservancy.org to sign up for our Newsletter

EVENTS



Landowner Cultivation Events

To reach our goal of protecting an additional 1,000 acres a year, we partner with local friends and easement donors throughout our service area on cultivation gatherings that increase landowners' knowledge of land conservation. In May, Bluegrass Land Conservancy and American Farmland Trust co-lead a bus tour of protected property highlighting the unique and valuable Kentucky agricultural soil. If you would like help host a cultivation event in your area, please let us know!

2022 Creek Cleanup

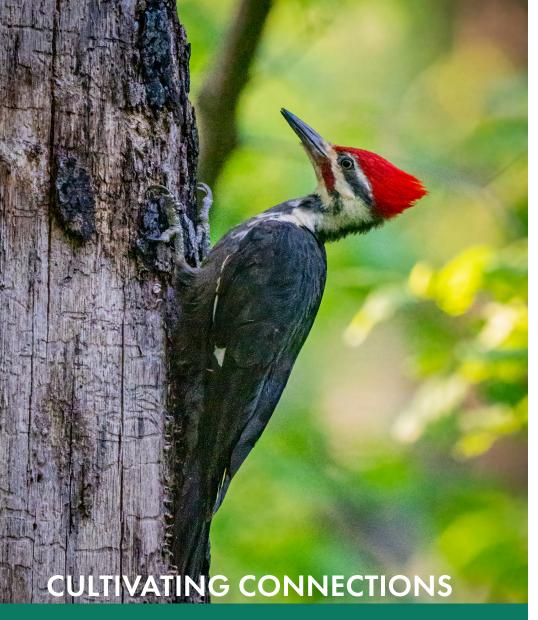
In May, BLC partnered with Can'd Aid and Ama On The Creek for a clean-up of the Elkhorn Creek in Franklin County. Volunteers collected two truckloads full of trash that were taken to the local landfill. All of the hard work was followed by bluegrass music and a cookout. The cleanup coincided with the announcement of a new 60-acre easement on the creek, which, along with conserving local farmland and creek frontage, is also home to two nesting bald eagles!

Bourbon Country Burn Bicycle Ride



Once again in 2022, BLC was a charity partner for the Bourbon Country Burn, a three-day bicycle tour of central Kentucky's bourbon distilleries and horse farms. With nearly 1,500 cyclists from all 50 states and beyond, this year's participants not only cycled through protected landscapes, they also were able to observe historic protected farms and other "points of interest" throughout the course.





2022 Annual Impact Report

Bluegrass Land Conservancy protects land in Kentucky's Bluegrass region through permanent conservation easements. We seek to ensure a future where the region's distinctive soils, cultural heritage, scenic vistas, natural resources, and farms are preserved forever. As a nationally accredited, community supported, 501(c)(3) nonprofit land trust, we work on a voluntary basis with landowners, community groups, and municipalities to encourage the preservation of land for agricultural viability, natural habitat, rural heritage, and scenic open space.



Lexington: (859) 255-4552 Louisville: (502) 297-1596

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