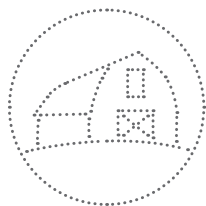




Preserving the rural character, natural habitats and scenic beauty of Saratoga County so that these irreplaceable assets are accessible to all and survive for future generations.



**CONSERVING
FARMLAND**



**PROTECTING
WOODS + WATERS**



**BUILDING
TRAILS**

fieldnotes FALL 2021

A time of transition



While it has truly been an honor and pleasure to serve as Saratoga PLAN's executive director for 14 years, 2022 is emerging as a good time for both me and for PLAN to make a change. I will be stepping down as PLAN's executive director next spring and transitioning into a part-time support role for the organization.

PLAN is in the strongest condition it has ever been in, with a seasoned team of accomplished professionals, expanded capacity in the works, engaged and effective volunteers, partners, and Board members, generous donors, exciting conservation projects, and solid financial footing. We are ready for fresh leadership, and it gives me tremendous delight to pass the baton for the next lap while we are in such a solid position.

I have enjoyed sharing my passion for protecting Saratoga County's beauty and bounty and am grateful to everyone who has joined in conserving its qualities that sustain our physical, mental, and spiritual health. Thank you for your friendship, your support, your caring and sharing ways.

Exciting things are happening at PLAN: read on for a glimpse into what we've recently accomplished and what lies ahead.

With deep appreciation,
Maria Trabka



The Executive Director job description is available online at
www.saratogaplan.org/staff/
Application deadline is September 10, 2021.

Farmland Conservation

174 ACRES OF FOREVER FARMLAND

This April, we helped the Hanehan family to conserve 174 acres of the Hanehan Family Dairy in the Town of Saratoga. The farm's productive soils grow feed and pasture cows and calves, and its woodlands and wetlands serve as wildlife habitat. The farmland itself acts as an excellent rainwater capture system, replenishing groundwater and preventing flooding. Additionally, by conserving their farmland, the Hanehans are not only helping to ensure access to our local food supply but are also keeping the rural scenery of Saratoga intact.

Funding to protect this farmland came from the Dairy Transitions Farmland Protection Initiative administered by the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets.

HEAR FROM THE LANDOWNERS



"Our passion and motivation for the preservation of this beautiful property translates to deep roots, love of the land, open space and family legacy."

– Charlie and Barbara Hanehan



"Preserving this valuable land resource will guarantee it stays available for future generations to follow our family's agricultural legacy."

– Clifford and Kathleen Hanehan

Community Engagement & Stewardship

NATIVE WILDFLOWERS BLOOMING AT GLOWEGEE CREEK SOUTH TRAILHEAD



Earlier this year, on Earth Day, the Galway Lions Club and Capital Mohawk PRISM partnered with PLAN volunteers to restore the trailhead at the newly opened Glowegee Creek Trail South in the Town of Galway. Together we seeded a 5,000 square foot space with native wildflowers and removed invasive multiflora rose and honeysuckle from the perimeter to prevent them from

creeping into the field. Saratoga PLAN volunteers later planted native trees and shrubs along the border of the meadow to further increase local vegetation and support native pollinators. We look forward to watching the meadow bloom in the years to come. We are so thankful to all volunteers and community partners for bringing this project to fruition.



Meet Our Summer Interns

This summer, we're lucky enough to have the talents and skills of three interns working in communications, stewardship, and research.



YAZMINE PEREZ
Land Steward Intern



DRAKE STASYSHYN-AUSTRO
Land Steward Intern



ELIZA GIFFORD
Community Engagement Intern

Current Conservation Projects

- 18 active land conservation projects
- 2,089 acres to be protected +5 public trails to be developed
- Sarah B. Foulke Friendship Trails Master Plan for Southern Adirondack Foothills completed

Events

→ CONCERT FOR A CAUSE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH, 12 PM @ THE SPA CITY MOTOR LODGE (RAIN LOCATION CAFFE LENA)

Enjoy a free afternoon concert featuring the Hot Club of Saratoga. Donations from the event will support PLAN's ongoing protection of critical resources helping to combat climate change, including farms that provide local food access, forested lands absorbing CO2 and rainwater, and open spaces providing wildlife corridors for



native plants and animals. Saratoga Arts made this program possible with a Community Arts Grant funded by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

→ FEAST OF THE FIELDS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH, 3-7 PM
@ OLD TAVERN FARM IN THE TOWN OF SARATOGA



Indulge in a delicious picnic overlooking picturesque Saratoga Lake or pick up your meal and enjoy a picnic at a favorite spot. Your meal ticket supports the conservation of the lands that nourish you. Tickets are \$125 and can be purchased at www.saratogaplan.org/feast-of-the-fields/. Deadline to purchase tickets is September 5th. On-site picnic space is limited.

A chef-curated picnic featuring locally sourced produce and products awaits you!

Can you help?

As we begin to experience adverse effects of a changing climate, like heat waves, increased rainfall and storm frequency, we need to look more critically at how our natural resources can sustain us. Did you know that forests absorb and reroute water, lowering the risk of flooding? Now's the time to ensure that the natural flood defenses in our region stick around for the long haul.

We are so close to permanently protecting three incredible forested landscapes. Can you be part of the solution?

BARKERSVILLE TRAILS



From a fern-carpeted forest floor to birds singing in the trees, this lush, wooded landscape is full of life. Adventure awaits you on the 2.5 miles of winding trails open to the public. In order to protect this 168-acres forever, we still need to raise \$9,000. *(Please make a note that your donation is for Barkersville).*

ALDRICH COMMUNITY FOREST

With plans to incorporate trails for active recreation as part of the larger Sarah B. Foulke Friendship Trail system, this viridescent 145 acres in the Town of Greenfield is every outdoor enthusiast's dream. To date, we've raised 30% of the \$88,000 needed to protect this forest with a conservation easement for the future. Help us get closer to forever. *(Please make a note that your donation is for the Aldrich Community Forest).*



COUNTY COMMUNITY FOREST



Saratoga PLAN, the Open Space Institute, and the towns of Wilton and Greenfield are assisting Saratoga County with the purchase of over 200 acres of the Palmertown Range for a community-managed county forest, with important woodlands, streams,

and historic sites, as well as future hiking and mountain biking trails. The project has already been awarded \$391,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Community Forest Program; we now need to raise private funds to secure this important community resource. *Contact us to learn more about how you can contribute to this conservation priority.*

Thank you 2021 Business Partners!

BARNRAISER

Brookfield Renewable Power
Old Tavern Farm

HARVESTER

Anderson Financial Group
Town of Ballston
Stewart's Shops

CULTIVATOR

Adirondack Trust Company
Boulder Brook Farm
Brittany Cummings Photography
Christopher Dailey Foundation
King Wealth Management Group
SKS Bottle & Packaging, Inc.
Welcome Stock Farm
Wild Birds Unlimited Saratoga Springs

TRAILBLAZER

Artisanal Brew Works
Ballston Spa National Bank
CLA Site Landscape Architecture,
Engineering & Planning, P.C.

Engineering America Co.

Free Form Fibers
The Alpine Sport Shop
The Top Floor
Saratoga Backcountry
Horsemen
Stone Industries LLC

SUPPORTER

Galway Lions Club
Saratoga Apple
Westwind Ag LLC

FRIEND

Brookside Nursery
Eildon Tweed Farm
Fish Creek Rod & Gun Club
H & N Bovine
Vincek Farms

OTHER

Adirondack Mountain
Club Glens Falls-Saratoga
Chapter
Schuylerville Garden Club



saratoga
PLAN
Preserving Land and Nature

FOR MORE INFORMATION
VISIT WWW.SARATOGAPLAN.ORG
OR CALL 518-587-5554



@saratogaplan



@Saratogaplan



info@saratogaplan.org



Donate: www.saratogaplan.org



Volunteer: 518-587-5554



Recycle: pass it on to a friend



Give today to protect tomorrow.

You can donate securely online at www.saratogaplan.org,
over the phone (518-587-5557) or by mailing a check to
Saratoga PLAN, 112 Spring St., Room 202, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866