

a year of
HOPE

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

**"MY HOPE IS THAT
YOU TOO FEEL
ENERGIZED BY THE
UNWAVERING SUPPORT
OF THIS CONSERVATION
COMMUNITY."**

MARIA TRABKA

We find ourselves at the end of another year, for people and planet, that tests our resilience, our resourcefulness, our fortitude. For the last 12 months, record-breaking weather patterns, expeditious development, and an unrelenting pandemic have held the global center stage. While the uncertainty can be easily overwhelming, I must say that the strength of Saratoga County's conservation community has once again carried Saratoga PLAN through a challenging year. In striking opposition to the weight of news headlines, over the course of the last year Saratoga PLAN has seen unprecedented volunteer numbers, generous financial support, spectacular land donations, fruitful collaborations, and endless encouragement. These outpourings of community support have given us boundless hope, encouragement, and inspiration amidst uncertainty.

The pages that follow capture a bit of that hope. They are characterized by camaraderie and compassion and are filled with teamwork, enthusiasm, and action. They highlight the efforts of our 100+ volunteers, the addition of 275 acres of permanently protected lands, and new milestones in the multi-use trail network planned for the Palmertown Range, among other memorable moments. Despite its challenges, this year was in fact filled with motivation and revitalization; it was a year of hope.

As such, my hope is that you too feel energized by the unwavering support of this conservation community. Whether you volunteered, donated, shared a social media message, walked or biked a trail, attended an event or found another way to actively participate, thank you for contributing to protecting the forests, farmlands, and waterways of Saratoga County. Thank you for having hope.

With gratitude,

Maria Trabka

MARIA TRABKA
Executive Director

Farmland Conservation



Three generations of Charles and Barbara Hanehan's family

In 2021, Saratoga PLAN permanently protected 275 acres of farmland across 3 farms in Saratoga County. Wildly different in purpose, a dairy operation, cooperative permaculture farm, and horse rescue haven will forever be available for agricultural use.



HANEHAN FAMILY FARM

Town of Saratoga
(174 acres)

MIDDLE LINE FARM

Town of Milton (25 acres)

HALF-A-CHANCE FARM

Town of Northumberland
(75 acres)

CELEBRATING OUR CONSERVATION HEROES

Saratoga PLAN proudly honored 11 individuals as Conservation Heroes in 2021 in recognition of their extraordinary efforts related to conservation. While these efforts range from permanently conserving farmland and forests to remarkable volunteer work, the reason for partnering with PLAN stays constant: love of the land.

The following were honored for their contributions to land conservation:

Ruth & the late Fritz Drumm

Charles & Barbara Hanehan

Clifford and Kathleen Hanehan

Eric and Noelle Smassanow

Michele Peters & the late June Corbett

The following volunteer was honored for his dedication of time and talents in advancing our Geographic Information System (GIS):

Russell Brennan

Trails

Though 2021 may have left us a bit lost in some ways, it certainly was never on a Saratoga PLAN trail, thanks to the dedicated work of the Stewardship staff and volunteer stewards. In addition to opening new trails, PLAN also refurbished and outfitted a storage facility, the Stewardship Resource Center, to store tools used by stewards to maintain PLAN preserves and trails.



STEWARDSHIP RESOURCE CENTER

Thanks to the help of over 40 volunteers and community partners, the existing structure at the Galway Nature Preserve has been transformed into The Stewardship Resource Center. It will now house equipment and materials for Saratoga PLAN staff and stewardship volunteer use. Special thanks to Regeneron Pharmaceuticals for partnering a third year in a row for their annual Day for Doing Good and to the Dockstader Charitable Trust for funding the project.



Volunteers "stress test"
the newly installed bridge
in November of 2019

GLOWEGEE CREEK TRAILS

This April, we proudly opened 3 miles of quality trails in the Town of Galway. Glowegee Creek, a tributary to the Kayaderosseras, gurgles along a portion of the trails and a geological fault line runs through the site, bringing limestone and a sea of wildflowers to the surface in several places.

People & Partnerships

This year, there was no shortage of camaraderie. From businesses to nature preserve neighbors, the community showed up for conservation like never before. It brings us great joy to highlight a couple of key moments when kindred spirits came together.



BURSTING WITH BLOOMS AT GLOWEGEE CREEK PRESERVE

Galway Lions Club and Capital Mohawk PRISM partnered with PLAN volunteers to restore the natural area at the south trailhead for the newly opened Glowegee Creek Trails. 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. We also planted native trees and shrubs along the border of the meadow to further increase local vegetation and support diversity and native pollinators. The meadow was in peak bloom in August, so mark your calendars for 2022!

The habitat restoration project began in 2019 with the removal of an old barn. The area has since been cleared and planted and has transformed into a native plant meadow.



100+ volunteers

3,785+ volunteer hours



SCOUTING SARATOGA'S FORESTS FOR NEW THREAT

PLAN enthusiastically partnered with NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to help protect Saratoga County forests facing a new threat: the invasive Hemlock Wolly Adelgid (HWA), which was recently discovered along the Hudson River, bordering Moreau Lake State Park. Hemlock groves are sanctuaries for local wildlife and stabilize soil, helping to prevent erosion and keeping headwater streams cool and shaded for aquatic species. Losing hemlocks in Saratoga County would threaten the survival of the very species that depend on it. Equipped with warm layers and micro spikes, PLAN volunteers accompanied stewardship specialists from OPRHP to scout for HWA. Luckily, no new infestations were discovered in the scouted areas.

Congressman Paul Tonko
attended Feast of the
Fields to celebrate PLAN's
conservation successes!

FEAST OF THE FIELDS RETURNS

After a year hiatus, Feast of the Fields was sweeter than ever before. We spent a rainbow-filled evening celebrating conservation and community at Old Tavern Farm overlooking Saratoga Lake, hosted by the Borisenok family. Eight chefs and 21 farms teamed up to make delicious picnic-style dishes that were enjoyed by over 300 guests who feasted in person or picked up their meals to-go.





The Palmertown Range Update

The Palmertown Range project area is located in Saratoga County and covers 40,500 acres within the southern portion of the Palmertown Mountain range, in the foothills of the Adirondack Mountains. The vision for the Palmertown Range is to conserve its climate-resilient forest habitats and headwaters by establishing the area as a regional destination for outdoor recreation and bolstering its economic development potential. We're pleased with all the progress made in 2021 and look forward to what's in store for 2022.

The Saratoga Shredders, an all-girl mountain biking group in Saratoga, are looking forward to expanded mountain biking opportunities. Anna Loloe, founder of the Shredders, sits on the community forest management team.

Photo: North Country MTB



Highlights

MASTER TRAIL PLAN COMPLETE

In 2021, The Sarah B. Foulke Friendship Trails Master Trail Plan was completed. You can view the Master Trail Plan at www.saratogaplan.org/friends

ABOUT THE FRIENDSHIP TRAILS

The Friendship Trails are envisioned as a network of 50+ miles of trails for a variety of uses traversing the Palmertown Range. The Master Plan outlines a "Core Trail" linking the entire region and a series of localized trail networks located within the Palmertown Range. The Friendship Trails are unique in their emphasis on friendship, building community, and connecting people from all walks of life to nature and to each other, and accommodating the full spectrum of visitor abilities and interests.

SITE SPECIFIC UPDATES

Six trail specific Friendship Trail designs are already in the works; see map at right.

1a, 1b Trails have been designed for Skidmore's Palmertown properties.

2 Saratoga County Community Forest's trail designs will be shovel ready this summer 2022.

3 Tupelo Community Forest and its 2.5 miles of trails are expected to open this spring.

4 The parking lot for Lake Bonita's trailhead in Moreau Lake State Park will be expanded.

5 A new parking lot at Big Bend, a new 900-acre addition to Moreau Lake State Park, will accommodate cars and horse trailers.

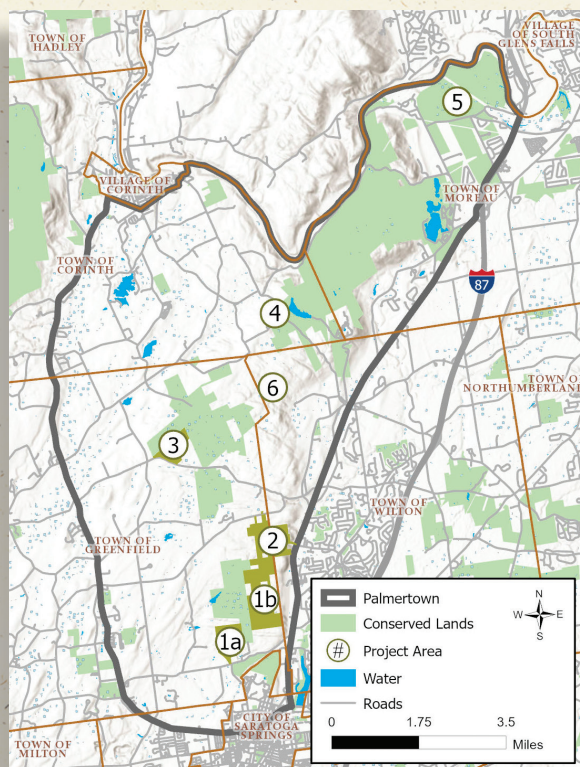
6 A developer is donating a trail corridor that will connect the terminus of Woodard Road with Moreau Lake State Park.

FUNDS AWARDED FOR COMMUNITY FOREST

The Saratoga County Community Forest, a 200-acre property in the towns of Wilton and Greenfield and site of a future community-managed forest and gateway into the Friendship Trails, was awarded \$391,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Community Forest Program, a highly competitive federal grant. Saratoga County will use the grant to purchase the land in the coming year.

A fundraising campaign is underway

to raise the needed balance for the initial acquisition and trail construction. In addition, the county awarded the two towns funds to purchase gravel for their highway departments to build parking lots at trailheads. A Community Forest Management Team, composed of local residents, foresters, mountain bikers, volunteer stewards, educators, business owners, and community leaders is assisting the County with developing plans and recommendations for management of the site.



**MORE ABOUT PALMERTOWN AND FRIENDSHIP TRAILS
AT WWW.SARATOGAPLAN.ORG.**

People

In 2021, we welcomed two new incredible staff members and had the pleasure of working with three summer interns.



AMY PRESSLY

As Community Engagement Program Assistant, Amy will manage the organization's constituent database and reporting needs. In addition, she will play a supporting role in donor relations and community engagement programs. Amy most recently worked for Momenite in Product Stewardship, ensuring that products are safe for people and the environment. She has experience in project management and process improvement/Six Sigma and has a strong customer focus.



TORI ROBERTS

As Conservation Project Manager, Tori will work on land protection projects, partnering with landowners and funding agencies to protect natural habitats and working farmland. She will also help with stewardship of PLAN's conserved lands. Tori recently worked for NYS Parks and Recreation as a GIS Technician. She holds a BA in Geography from SUNY Geneseo and is pursuing a Masters in Environmental & Land Use Planning at SUNY Albany.

“Interning with Saratoga PLAN was such a fantastic opportunity. I learned so much more about Saratoga County through monitoring conserved properties. It become even more apparent how vital organizations like PLAN are to conserving land and habitats and altered the way I move through this world.”

YASMINE PEREZ, STEWARDSHIP INTERN



SUMMER INTERNS

Yasmine, Drake and Eliza, our hard-working summer interns assisted our team in areas ranging from communications, to stewardship, and research. Thank you for helping us expand our reach in the community and along our trails!

Our truly remarkable community is the heart-beat of Saratoga PLAN. Without it, we couldn't make the lasting impact that preserves land and nature for all of us.

LEGACY CIRCLE

(planned bequests)

Tim Barnett
Allen David
Barbara Faraone
Karen Flewelling
Barbara L. Glaser
Sally Hart
Barbara Hennig
Richard Higgins
Field Horne
Merry Huber
Barbara Jefts
Gina Johnson
Robin Kaska
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Light Rain Foundation
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Newkirk Foundation, Inc.
Nordlys Foundation
River Farm America Foundation
The Martin Family Foundation
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Partnership Program
(NYSCPP)
New York State Department
of Agriculture and Markets
(NYSDAM)
Saratoga County
Town of Ballston
Village of Corinth

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Barbara and Charles Hanehan
Clifford and Kathleen Hanehan
Michele Peters & the late
June Corbett
Smassanow Family

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Clifford and Kathleen Hanehan
Richard Higgins
Michele Peters
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 Shirley and Roy Lerman
 Patricia Rubio and Juan Lertora
 Johanna Garrison and
 Bob Lippman
 David Lundeen
 Terri McAuliffe
 Kristen McComb
 Carol and Peter Meisel
 John and Sharen Michalec
 Matthew Miczek
 Mary Ann Miller
 Doretta Miller
 Mary Miner
 Vincent and Jacqueline Morrell
 Patricia Morrison
 Emily and Brien Muller
 Network for Good
 Bonnie Nightingale
 Kristen O'Brien
 Old World Farm
 Kevin Oldham

O'Leary Overhead Door
 Ronald Owen
 Owl Wood Farm
 Inge-Lise Pangburn
 Grace Paster
 Edward Peck
 Laura Goodwin and
 Adrienne Pierce
 Helen Porter
 Joan Pott
 Arnold and Gwen Prudhomme
 Leeanne and Gary Raga
 Todd Raymond
 Grant Resick
 Emily Rieffel
 Shelley and Stephen Riley
 Cory Rinella
 Anthony Rodriguez
 JoAnn Cote-Round and
 Benjamin Round
 Helmut and Erika Samide
 Virginia Sawicki
 Timothy Scherbatskoy
 Nancy Roberts and
 John Schmidt
 John and Eileen Schneider
 Schuylerville Garden Club
 Stacie and Chris Sevinsky
 Silverado Jewelry Gallery
 Beth and Mark Smisloff
 Norman and Natalie Smith
 Toni Sturm
 Valerie Muratori and
 William Sullivan
 John and Jennifer Sutliff
 The Children's Museum of
 Saratoga
 Brooke Thivierge
 David and Annie Townsend
 Trek Bikes of Saratoga
 Patricia Tuz
 Deborah Mull and Lois Tyler
 Barbara Ungar
 Matthew and Stephanie Veitch
 Mark Ventra
 Suzanne Carreker-Voigt and
 Jeff Voigt
 Michelle Ward
 Bonnie Wasson
 Lorraine Waterhouse
 Greg and Sallie Way
 Roz and Jeff Wecksler
 Laura Welles

Joyce Wickizer
 Mary Ellen Williams
 Keith and Mary Wozniak
 Joanne Yepsen
 Renee Zaleski
 David Zon
 Janice Zurbrugg

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Adirondack Mountain
Club Glens Falls-Saratoga
Chapter

James Schneider and
 Jan Carlson

Phyllis Aldrich

Carol and Patrick Carroll
 Nancy Fairbanks
 Field Horne
 Gwynneth Smith
 Shane and James
 Williams-Ness

Phyllis Aldrich, Martha
Strohl, Diane Denny, Jenny
Mirling
 Cynthia Spence

Jay Arnold

Duane and Cynthia Ball

Bob Bouyea

Joyce Hunt Bouyea

Alan Breitbart

Sophie Breitbart

Beckett, Grayson, and
Iley Centea
 Scott Centea

David Cotter

Amy and Bruce Aldrich

Liam Fingar

Beth and Mark Smisloff

Barbara L. Glaser

Roy and Gayle Rotheim
 Nancy Fairbanks
 Linda Motzkin and
 Jonathan Rubenstein
 Temple Sinai

Bob Goodwin

Laura Goodwin and
 Adrienne Pierce

William and Joanna Lasher
 R. Thomas and Donna Ward

Ben and Jenny Mirling
 Henry Lord

Katie Petronis

Connie and Martin Stone

PLAN's leadership and
accomplishments

Raymond and Linda Seymour

Simon Rieffel

Emily Rieffel

Neil and Cathy Roberts

A. John Popp and
 Margaret Vosburgh
 Anonymous

Karen Ross

Elisa and David Ross

Jim Sevinsky

Stacie and Chris Sevinsky

Julia S. Stokes

Barbara L. Glaser and
 Paul Zachos
 Laura Lee

Julie and Bob Stokes

Linda and Michael Toohey

Karen Totino

Alexander Monticello
 Monticello Licensed
 Real Estate

Maria Trabka

Samantha Bosshart
 John and Chrissy Colley
 John and Mary Lou Collyer
 George and Tamie Ehinger
 Margaret and Raoul Gagne
 Raymond and Linda Seymour

Maisie Wright

Jessie Ahlgren

IN MEMORY OF
Sam Aldrich
 Carol and Patrick Carroll

Robert Baran

Joel Chalfin

Jacki Bave

Daniel Dolan

Nancy Berlin

Frank Berlin

A. James Bold

Shirley Bold

Fran Burnett
Glenville Hills Garden Club
of Saratoga County

John DeCamp
Paul Evans

George Floyd
Emilie Gould

Sarah B. Foulke
Annie Jurcsak

Harold Green
Harry Moran

Judith Kay
Bradford Oswald

Edgar King
Carolyn King
Julia and Robert Stokes

Ken Klein
Loretta Klein

Lola
Eric and Danica Andersen

Mary Lynn Kopper
Glenville Hills Garden Club
of Saratoga County

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Ethan and Anne Winter

**Barbara Oswald and
Eleanor Fernau**
Edward Fernau

John L. Reed
Doretta Miller

John Vincek
Vincek Farms

Douglas Ward
James and Robin Sevinsky
Cory Ward

Rev. Dr. Donald Wasburn
Grace Paster
Julie Burnetter
Claudia Carman
Robert and Carol Cook
Kathleen Ennis
Holly Grande
James and Joanne Grande
Janice Harrington
Thomas and Anita Harris
Elsie Hunt
Carolyn King

Mary and Roy Knutson
Robert and Rosalyn
Lamparello
William and Joanna Lasher
Paula Miller and Donald
Isaacson
Vincent and Jacqueline
Morrell
Ann Myers and Ed
Hallenbeck
Thomas Nelson and Ann
Henderson
Mary Alice Nyhan
Clifford Samson
James and Robin Sevinsky
Patrick Stephan
Peter and Patricia Van Keuren
Willard Washburn and
Renee Silber
Greg and Sallie Way

David A. Wasser
Lynne Gelber

**ON BEHALF OF
Auerbach Family**
Alan Auerbach

Glens Falls Saratoga ADK
Paul Dietershagen

IN-KIND
4imprint
Adirondack Sign
Scott and Amy Agan
Alpine Sport Shop
Boulder Brook Farm
Brittany Cummings
Photography
Brookside Nursery
Common Roots Brewing
Company
Community Consultants
DeCrescente Distributing Co.
Ellms Family Farm
Featherbed Lane Farm
Fil Fina III
G. Willikers
Barbara L. Glaser and
Paul Zachos
Greenfield's Forever
Grey Ghost Bicycles

Sally Hart
Hotel Saranac
Melissa Kahl
Kayak Shak
Clancy King
King Brothers Dairy
Lorraine Skibo and
Daniel Chernoff
Old Tavern Farm
Old World Farm
O'Leary Overhead Door
Jeff and Margo Olson
Will and Tabitha Orthwein
Owl Wood Farm
Marion Preston and
Russell Cecil
Prime at Saratoga National Inc
Putnam Market
Rain or Shine Event Services
Reds Roll Offs
Roohan Realty
Saratoga Olive Oil
Saratoga Performing Arts
Center
Saratoga Tea and Honey
Jessica and Yli Schwartzman
Silverado Jewelry Gallery
Julia and Robert Stokes
Stone Industries
Jean Tarrant
The Children's Museum of
Saratoga
The Cock 'N Bull
The Top Floor, LTD.
Brooke Thivierge
Karen and Rich Totino
Trek Bikes of Saratoga
Takeyce Walter
Greg and Sallie Way
Wild Birds Unlimited
Saratoga Springs

Volunteers

Thank you to all who
gave their time and
talents to Saratoga
PLAN's mission! Your
efforts and enthusiasm
are so appreciated.

Mohammed Alwuhail
Tom Ambrosian
Jessica Anderson
Alicia Aragosa
Andy Behan
Geoff Bornemann
Nancy Brandi
Camilla Brown
Claudia Carmen
Suzanne Carreker-Voigt
John Celeri
Kathy Celeri
Alyson Chapman
Emilios Christodoulou
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Bob Cooley
Hannah Coppola
Bruce Cranston
Kevin Curtin
Suzanne C-Voigt
Brendan Dailey
Andy Damon
Taryn Dausman
Pandora Davis
Kim Dellis
Michele DeRossi-Vidarte
Sue D'Isabel
Sarah Dupras
Taber Ellsworth
Casey Esler
Jack Henry Esler
Malcolm Eustis
Larry Felpel
Jen Ferris
Bobbi Fitzgerald
Pat Flinton
Emily Flores
Nicolina Foti
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Ralph Keating
David Kelly
Mogie Kinonian
Hank Kinonian
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Mary Knutson
Jen Koval
Sean Kusche
Isabelle Kuzmich
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Randy Lee
Jean Lowenstein
Shea Lynch
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Jerry Meehan
Ryan Meisner
Alex Milton
Cami Milton
Alexandra Morgan
Debra Mulry
Tom Nelson
Joshua Nickels
Mary Alice Nyhan
Tom O'Brien
Luke Ostrander
Tina Palmero
Jacqueline Parker
Yasmine Perez
Cindy Peterson
Dave Post
Neil Roberts
Mary Rosenstein
Mike Ruhm
Dan Russell
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Bob Sack
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Connor Shapiro
Lorraine Skibo
Lorraine Skibo
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Drake Stasyshyn
Pat Stephan
Terri Stripling
Mike Tamer
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Luiza Trabka
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Jeff Voigt
Anne Van Vorst
Greg Way
Cindy Wian
Alayna Wian
Kris Williams
Karen Willmott
Erika Winkler
Maisie Wright
Emily Yolleck

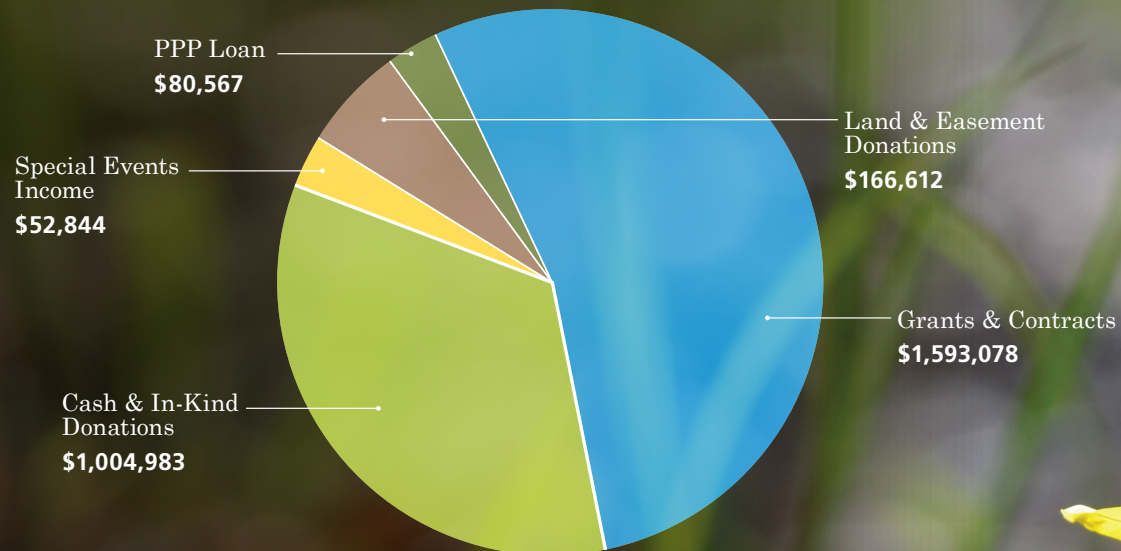
Photography

Brittany Cummings
Photography
Andy Damon
North Country MTB
Alex Fylypovych
Katie Jones
Megan Mumford
Bonnie Nightingale
Dawn Szurek

Thank you for your
commitment to conserva-
tion. Because of your
support, Saratoga PLAN
can continue to conserve
the rural character,
natural habitats, and
scenic beauty of Saratoga
County so that these
irreplaceable assets
are accessible to all and
survive future generations.
YOU have conserved over
7,000 acres to date, PLAN
was just here to help.
We make mistakes no
matter how hard we try
and sincerely apologize
if we missed you or
misspelled your name!
Please let us know.

2021 Financial Report

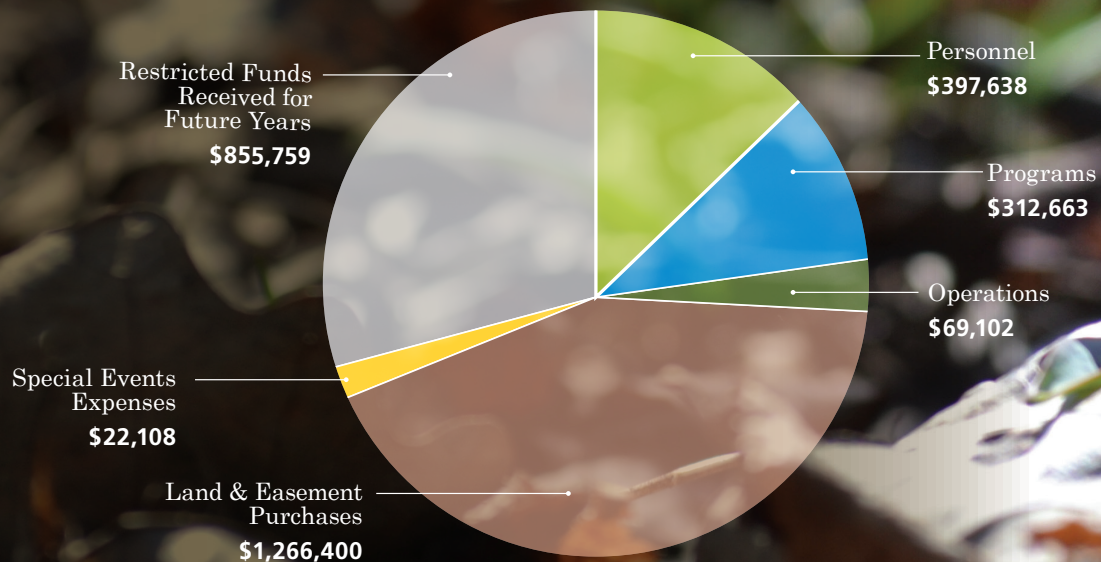
TOTAL REVENUE \$2,898,083



Notes

These preliminary unaudited numbers are accurate reflections of the basic financial picture for Saratoga PLAN over 2021. Investment earnings are not reflected in these results. Audited financial statements for fiscal year 2021 will be completed by mid-summer 2022. Completed audited statements for prior years are available from the NYS Department of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. Saratoga PLAN is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization, a registered NYS charity, and a nationally accredited land trust meeting the highest standards for nonprofit management, land conservation transactions, and land stewardship.

TOTAL EXPENSES \$2,923,669



We'd love to "tag" along on your adventures!



info@saratogaplan.org



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Preserving Land and Nature

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