

# *The View*

*Foothills Land Conservancy's*

*2018 Spring Newsletter & 2017 Annual Report*

*View of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park from a recently preserved property on English Mountain in Sevier County, TN.*

# The View

FLC's 2018 Spring Newsletter &  
2017 Annual Report



## A Letter from FLC's Board President

Dear Friends of the Foothills,

### 2017 was a year full of milestones for the Conservancy!

Foothills celebrated the completion of 46 land projects totaling over 15,500 acres, added two new staff members to the team, and relocated our office headquarters to a 300 acre working farm in the Blount County, TN community of Rockford. On behalf of FLC's Board of Directors and staff, we are thrilled and so appreciative to Gail Harris for the donation of her farm to the Conservancy, ensuring that our organization has a permanent home to carry out our mission and programs.

In addition to our land preservation efforts, the Foothills team continues our focus on building a permanent endowment to support FLC's land acquisition projects, stewardship programs, and other future conservation partnership opportunities. The FLC Properties Foundation, a supporting organization for FLC, is assisting with these efforts.

By all accounts 2018 is also shaping up to become another record year for our land preservation efforts and we look forward to keeping you apprised of our projects and programs throughout the year. We are also looking forward to seeing you at our Annual Summer Celebration on Saturday, August 18, 2018. Our event location will once again be the beautiful and scenic RiverView Family Farm. This family-owned farm is a working farm, producing hay and beef, and has also been designated a Tennessee Century Farm.

Please know that our door is always open to our Friends. We welcome your ideas, feedback and resources to help fulfill our mission of promoting, protecting and enhancing the lands of the Southern Appalachian region.

Thank you for being a valued Friend of the Foothills!

- Madge Cleveland  
FLC Board President



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*Mission Statement - FLC is dedicated to promoting, protecting, and enhancing the lands and environment of the Southern Appalachian region and promoting the character of the land for the general public, now and in the future.*

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# Letter from the Director

Hello Friends,

2017 was another banner year for FLC's land preservation efforts! We worked with land owners to partner on 42 conservation easement projects and 4 land donations totaling close to 15,770 acres! The organization now has over 250 land preservation partnerships and has assisted in over 100,000 regional acres being preserved. This cumulative number includes conservation easement partnerships, fee simple properties, and additional land projects that FLC was involved in since the organization's beginnings in 1985.

Here is a brief overview of where these 42 land preservation projects and 4 land donations in 2017 occurred:

- **Tennessee** - 20 land preservation projects totaling 9,697 acres within the 15 counties of Bradley, Bledsoe, Blount, Cocke, Gibson, Hamilton, Hardin, Humphreys, Knox, Perry, Rhea, Scott, Sequatchie, Van Buren, and Warren, and 3 land donations totaling 1,086 acres in the counties of Hamilton, Loudon and Roane
- **Alabama** - 7 land preservation projects totaling 903 acres in the 6 counties of Cherokee, Coosa, Elmore, Jackson, Montgomery and Talladega
- **Georgia** - 12 land preservation projects totaling 2,640 acres in the 5 counties of Elbert, Floyd, Madison, Pickens, and Taylor
- **Kentucky** - 1 land preservation project totaling 1,012 acres that lies within both counties of Warren & Simpson
- **North Carolina** - 1 land preservation project totaling 120 acres in Cherokee county and one land donation in Chatham Co. totaling 101 acres
- **Virginia** - 1 land preservation project totaling 207 acres in Chesterfield County

You can find our 2017 land project highlights in this newsletter beginning on the next page. There are also additional pictures and descriptions of several projects at FLC's website, [www.foothillsland.org](http://www.foothillsland.org).

FLC has also experienced the expansion of our programs in other ways too. The Conservancy's relocation to the Harris Farm has allowed FLC to have a permanent home on a working farm and with the available space to hire additional staff members. Biologists Matt Moore and Shelby Lyn Sanders joined the staff during the summer of 2017 and they have been an integral part of the team ever since. Both Matt and Shelby Lyn's extensive background in forestry, ecology and mapping has been a great resource to FLC. Along with FLC Land Director and Biologist, Meredith Clebsch, and Biologist, Tom Howe, Matt and Shelby Lyn also prepare a supporting document, called a Baseline Documentation Report (BDR). The BDR is included in the formal agreement between the landowner and the land trust, providing a detailed analysis of the property's natural features, noted wildlife, and other conservation values.

Foothills is poised to have another amazing year and we couldn't have come this far without the ongoing and generous support of our Friends! Thank you for your time, resources and contributions to our organization, helping us expand our reach across the region! We look forward to seeing you at this year's Summer Celebration on Saturday, August 18th!



- Bill Clabough, FLC Executive Director



FLC welcomed new team members Matthew Moore, pictured with daughter Iris, and Shelby Lyn Sanders during the summer of 2017.

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# FLC's 2017 Land Conservation Projects

## TENNESSEE

In 2017, the Foothills staff completed 20 land preservation partnerships totaling 9,697 acres within the 15 counties of Bradley, Bledsoe, Blount, Cocke, Gibson, Hamilton, Hardin, Humphreys, Knox, Perry, Rhea, Scott, Sequatchie, Van Buren, and Warren. 3 land donations were provided to FLC totaling 1,086 acres in the counties of Hamilton, Loudon and Roane. Below are a few highlights from these diverse projects.

### TENNESSEE - Roane County | 1,000 acre Land Donation

Foothills Land Conservancy is excited to announce the transfer of the 1,000 acre Fourman tract, donated to FLC by Don Fourman back in early 2017, to the State of Tennessee's Wildlife Resources Agency. This beautiful property offers creeks, woodlands, and scenic views along with a unique history. One of the tract's borders adjoins the 11,000 acre Mount Roosevelt State Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Plans for the property include Foothills placing a permanent land preservation agreement, also known as a conservation easement, before it is conveyed to the State of Tennessee. The property is being preserved by FLC for its scenic open space forest, escarpment outcrops, and the protection of the relatively natural habitat corridor for the terrestrial and aquatic wildlife and rich plant life it supports. A portion of Piney Creek and White's Creek are located inside the property boundaries and are considered a high priority conservation area by the Tennessee State Wildlife Action Plan. TWRA plans to manage and steward the property as part of the adjacent Mount Roosevelt State WMA.

Other natural areas located near the property include: White's Creek Gorge, Ozone Falls State Natural Area, Piney Falls SNA, Stinging Fork Falls Pocket Wilderness, and Luper Mountain WMA. In addition, other nearby private easements held or co-held by FLC include approximately 2,745 acres in Roane County alone.



TENNESSEE (Land Donation) - Roane County | 1,000 acres



(Above Images) - (Top Left) FLC's Exec. Dir., Bill Clabough, and FLC Board Member, Billy Minser, visit the Fourman property. (Top Middle) Rock formations along Piney Creek, located inside the preserved tract. (Top Right) Eleven butterfly species were also observed on the property including this rare golden-banded skipper. According to the TN Dept. of Environmental Conservation, this species is ranked as rare and uncommon in the state. (Bottom Left) Whorled horsebalm was found towards the top of the property's escarpment. (Bottom Middle) Another image of Piney Creek. A portion of Piney Creek is considered a high priority conservation area by the TN State Wildlife Action Plan. (Bottom Right) Sandstone rock outcrops play host to a variety of plant species, including this mountain spleenwort.

**EAST TENNESSEE REGION | 11 projects totaling 3,650.62 acres**

(Counties: Blount, Bradley, Cocke, Hamilton, Knox, Rhea, Scott, and Sequatchie)



**Blount County, TN | 19.64 acres**



**Blount County, TN | 13.45 acres**

Close to 20 acres in Blount County is being preserved for its scenic open space, forest and pastures, views to and from the Chilhowee Mountains (pictured), and the protection of its natural habitat for the wildlife. The tract is adjacent to 62 acres of land previously put under easement by the same owner. The property is located within the viewshed of both the Foothills Parkway and the TWRA's Foothills Wildlife Management Area.

Close to 13.5 acres of pasture and woodland in Blount County, TN has recently been preserved. Agriculture has been the historical use of the property and the pastures currently serve as a hay source. The forest is quite diverse for its size with 26 tree species observed plus 33 other shrubs and herbs. The predominance of oaks provides mast for the consistent presence of wild turkey, white-tailed deer and other wildlife.

**Cocke County, TN | 494.68 acres**

Close to 500 acres on English Mountain has now been protected. Pictured right is a view from the property looking out at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP). The property is being preserved for its scenic open space forests, rock outcrops, and the protection of the relatively natural habitat corridor for wildlife. FLC staff noted the rich plant diversity, that included 39 tree and 98 other woody and herb species.

English Mountain is a geologically unique formation that stretches for about 13 miles across the center of Cocke and Sevier Counties and into the southern portion of Jefferson County. Located within 10 miles of the property are preserved lands like the North Cherokee Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Rankin Bottoms WMA, GSMNP, TVA land on Douglas Lake, and others totaling approximately 525,000 acres.



**Cocke County, TN | 494.68 acres**

**Bradley & Hamilton Counties, TN | 231.44 acres**

This beautiful property has a balance of forested bottomlands and woodlands on both dry west-facing and east-facing slopes, providing an ideal habitat for diverse mammal species, amphibians, breeding birds, and migrating songbirds.

Evidence of wildlife on the property during the site visit consisted of deer tracks and scat, crayfish burrows, and gray squirrel chatter. Red-bellied woodpecker, pine warbler, and American crow were heard or seen. Dragonflies and butterflies were also observed utilizing the property.

*(Right) Water for wildlife is abundant on the property and of good quality. Lewis Branch runs through the property and into Long Savannah Creek. (Far right) Beechdrops were noted during a site visit to the property. This plant is often spotted in dry woodlands where American beech trees are prominent.*



**Bradley County & Hamilton County, TN | 231.44 acres**



**Knox County, TN | 104 acres**

Water for wildlife is abundant and of good quality on this property. There are two ponds and three streams which drain directly into Bull Run Creek (pictured). (Left) Little brown jug plants were spotted during a field visit. The FLC team determined plant life to be quite diverse with 111 vascular plant species observed. A survey by the TN Division of Archaeology indicate a cave used by prehistoric humans is on the property.



**Knox County, TN | 77.97 acres**

This Knox County property is also located along Bull Run Creek and is adjacent to three tracts previously put under easement by the same landowner. The FLC team determined the plant life to be quite diverse and supportive of Field Sparrow habitat. 92 forb species were identified including the endangered American ginseng. There were 203 vascular plant species observed, which included 50 species of trees.



**Rhea County, TN | 139.1 acres**

This working farm consists of cultivated farmland, bottomland hardwood forest, and rocky outcrop, which is an important habitat for many native species. Limestone on these properties will be forever protected from mining. The Tennessee River is only 150 feet from the boundary, across TWRA land. Evidence of wildlife on the property included white-tailed deer, gray squirrel, and turkey. Sandhill Crane sightings have been noted.



**Rhea County, TN | 56.52 acres**

The property abuts Tennessee Valley Authority protected land along Watts Bar Lake and is within 4-19 miles of several other government and private protected sites. These include Piney Falls State Natural Area (SNA), Singing Fork Falls Pocket Wilderness SNA, and Laurel Snow Pocket Wilderness. The property is being preserved for its scenic open space, natural habitat for wildlife, and both migrating and breeding birds.



**Scott County, TN | 2 projects totaling 2,032.12 acres**

These two adjacent tracts consist of over 2,000 acres of forested land, including small amounts of hemlock forest. Formerly mined areas are dominated by shrubs and small trees, some of them with wetlands. These tracts are within the South Fork Cumberland River Watershed, which is designated as a priority conservation terrestrial area by The Nature Conservancy. Nearby government and private protected areas, used by 6 migrating elk, are within 20 miles and encompass 199,000 acres.



**Sequachie County, TN | 481.7 acres**

Reclamation work has been performed on the property with most of the land in ruderal vegetation of early to mid-successional stages with a mix of saplings, shrubs, grasses, and forbs. This habitat supports the Henslow's Sparrow, a species of high priority for grassland conservation. A few man-made wetlands supply year-round water for wildlife. A number of ecologically important natural areas are within ten miles of the tract, including 7 FLC conservation easements totaling 5,400 acres.

## MIDDLE TENNESSEE REGION | 5 projects totaling 3,165.88 acres

(Counties: Bledsoe, Van Buren, and Warren)

**Bledsoe County** - These 3 projects, totaling over 1,500 acres, all share diverse wildlife and similar topography which includes rocky escarpments, forested slopes, rich wetlands and drainages. One of the properties has 2 miles of The Trail of Tears National Historic Trail crossing the property. This trail is a historically important land area and ensures this important piece of Native American and American history is not lost to development.

**Van Buren & Warren Counties (1,607.49 acres)** - This beautiful property is likewise being preserved for its 1 mile of the historically important Trail of Tears, its views of the Plateau Escarpment from the nearby valley, as well as its plethora of streams, wetlands and ponds ideal for wildlife habitat. The diverse landscape provides varied habitats in a rural setting - ideal for a variety of mammal species, breeding birds, and migrating songbirds.

**Warren County (46.06 acres)** - This property is located about 10 miles southeast of McMinnville and a few miles from Hubbard's Cave, a designated State Natural Area owned by The Nature Conservancy. The tract is being preserved for its scenic open space forest, its views to and from the Sequatchie Valley to the north, and natural habitat for wildlife.

*Images - The 347 acre tract in Bledsoe County, TN, is being preserved for its scenic open space forest and its view from the Sequatchie Valley. (Clockwise) Typical escarpment outcrop found on property. A beautiful pink lady's slipper is noted during a spring site visit. Stunning view of Sequatchie Valley taken from the property.*



Bledsoe County, TN | 347.83 acres



## WEST TENNESSEE REGION | 4 projects totaling 2,881.06 acres

(Counties: Gibson, Hardin, Humphreys and Perry)

**Gibson County (291.37 acres)** - This working farm consists of pasture and woodlands. Agriculture has been the historical use of the property with current fields planted seasonally in cotton, soybeans, and winter rye.

**Hardin County (217.61 acres)** - This property is situated along the Tennessee River, nearly equidistant from Nashville and Memphis. Evidence of wildlife included white-tailed deer, gray squirrel, chickadees, and swamp sparrows. The FLC team noted 84 plant species.

**Humphreys County (1,403.52 acres)** - This property contains over 33,000 feet of linear feet of streams, mostly ephemeral. The waters from this tract ultimately flow into Kentucky Lake, the largest reservoir in the Eastern United States.

**Perry County (968.56 acres)** - 16 animal species and 126 plant species were detected on this diverse property. Spring peeper frogs and spotted dusky salamander were noted on the property and bats were visible in road corridors at dusk. This land preservation partnership will also protect the property's waters which feed into the Kentucky Lake reservoir.



Humphreys County, TN | 1,403.52 acres

*(Image above) - A sycamore-sweetgum streambottom forest on a newly preserved property in Humphreys County. During a site visit, 22 animal species and 138 plants were detected, including an uncommon migrant bird, the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.*

## Project highlights from properties in Alabama!

In 2017, the Foothills staff completed 7 land preservation projects in Alabama totaling 903 acres in the 6 counties of Cherokee, Coosa, Elmore, Jackson, Montgomery and Talladega.



*Cherokee County, AL | 116 acres*

(Picutred) The property's water resources drain to the Chattooga River (Lake Weiss). This tract is also in close proximity to other conservation easements and the Little River Canyon National Preserve. It's being preserved for its scenic open space, forest, lake views, and natural habitat.



*Coosa County, AL | 71.35 acres*

This tract is located northeast of Equality, Alabama, and includes gneiss outcrops (pictured), a seepage spring, and stream corridors. Conservation values include the presence of glades, prairies, prime farmland soil, and headwater streams draining to the Tallapoosa River.



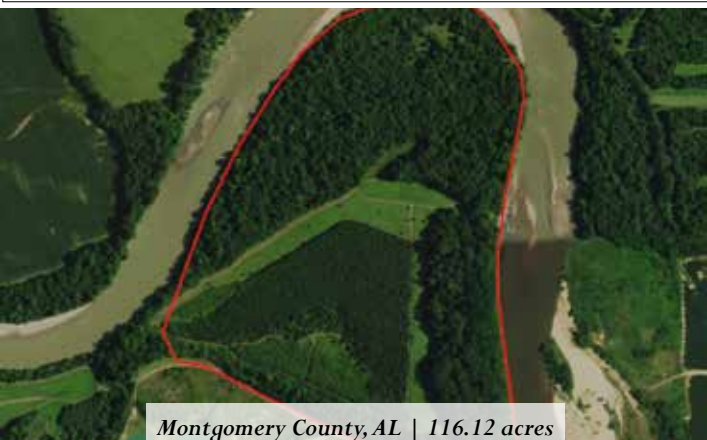
*Elmore County, AL | 2 projects: 157.39 acres & 113.43 acres*

Both tracts in Elmore County have a portion of the land in planted pine. Both are biologically diverse with several different natural communities. According to the Alabama Natural Heritage Program, Elmore County is home to 65 rare species or natural communities for the state of Alabama.



*Jackson County, AL | 72.2 acres*

This property consists of a slightly rolling tract of land southwest of Scottsboro, Alabama. It is comprised of planted pine and hardwood woodlands, with low wetland areas, small streams, and a beaver pond. This orange-striped oak moth was photographed during a site visit.



*Montgomery County, AL | 116.12 acres*

This tract consists of bottomland riverine, comprised of Tallapoosa River frontage, riverine floodplain forest, embedded swamp, planted pine, and ag fields. Nearby is an area of the Bartram Trail, where naturalist William Bartram conducted biological surveys in the southeast in the late 1700's and walked the south banks of the Tallapoosa River.



*Talladega County, AL | 257.17 acres*

The property lies close to other preserved areas including Talladega National Forest, Cheaha Mountain State Park, and the Mtn. Longleaf National Wildlife Refuge. This tract is being preserved for its scenic open space, wildlife habitat, upland forests, bottomland swamp, watershed protection for Chococco Creek, and prime farmland soils.



## Project highlights from properties in Georgia!

In 2017, the Foothills staff completed 12 land preservation projects totaling 2,640 acres within the 5 counties of Elbert, Floyd, Madison, Pickens, and Taylor



Madison County, GA | 85 acres



Taylor County, GA | 420 acres



Pickens County, GA | 722 acres



Floyd County, GA | 90 acres

Images - (Top left) Site of a former granite quarry, which is now permanently protected from mining. The tract contains a large exposure of the Elberton Granite Deposit, also known as the Lexington-Oglesby Blue Granite Belt, in Madison County, GA. (Top right - clockwise) Open field at a preserved property in Taylor County, GA. This property has a natural habitat of longleaf pine. (Bottom right) Wetland drains into a clearing at a property in Floyd County, GA. (Bottom left) Fritillary butterflies on butterflyweed in Pickens County, GA.

### GEORGIA - Elbert County | 4 projects totaling 369.066 acres

These four land preservation projects are all located within close proximity to each other with tributaries from each tract draining into Beaverdam Creek and then onto the Savannah River Basin. This basin is ranked as a freshwater region for At-Risk Fish & Mussel Species in the U.S. according to The Nature Conservancy. The Savannah River is also a priority for the state of Georgia's State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP).

Some of the Piedmont Ecoregion high-priority areas and diverse habitats found among these properties include Oak-Hickory-Pine Forest, Freshwater Marsh, and Beaver Ponds. All properties have exposed granite boulders of the Elberton Granite Deposit, also known as the Lexington-Oglesby Blue Granite Belt, with two of them having been the site of a former granite quarry. These sites are now permanently protected from any mining.

All of these properties are within close proximity of preserved private, state and federal lands, including: Elbert County Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge, Hart County WMA, Watson Mill Bridge State Park, and private conservation easements.

### GEORGIA - Floyd County | 2 projects totaling 1,273.12 acres

Both tracts include 40-60 acres of wetlands, riverfront along the Coosa River, and each property was found to have a Silver Maple - Elm Forest natural community. Other natural community types included good-quality examples of Black Willow Riparian Forest, Southern Buttonbush Pond, and a Beaver Pond. One of the properties had a good-quality example of a rare Willow Oak Bottomland Flatwoods Forest natural community, which occurs within a wetland depression.

### GEORGIA - Pickens County | 2 projects totaling 173.98 acres

Both of these recently preserved properties are close in size - between 80-90 acres. Natural communities at one of the properties was found to be quite diverse, ranging from aquatic habitats to mixed pine-hardwoods to dry rock outcrops. A variety of trilliums were noted including toadshade, sweet trillium, and Catesby's trillium, and herbs such as wild ginger, rue anemone, and bloodroot. Large-flower heartleaf and galax were noted during a site visit.

### GEORGIA - Madison County | 3 projects totaling 403.417

These projects are all located within close proximity to each other and are located at the site of a former granite quarry, now permanently preserved from mining. These tracts contain a large exposure of the Elberton Granite Deposit. Their water resources drain to the Broad River, which is part of the Savannah River Basin and a priority freshwater conservation area. Some of the species noted on these properties include the Eastern Phoebe, Pileated Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Carolina Wren, Belted Kingfisher, and Field Sparrow. Other species noted include the armadillo, beaver, white-tailed deer, and coyote.

### GEORGIA - Taylor County | 1 project totaling 420.881 acres

This property is being preserved for its rare natural communities of longleaf pine and Atlantic white cedar streams as well as for its open space, scenic views, and the relatively natural habitat for rich plant life and wildlife. It is home of the state-threatened gopher tortoise. This land lies within close proximity of already preserved private, state and federal lands, including a few Natural Resource Conservation Service conservation easements, a Georgia Department of Natural Resources conservation easement, private conservation easements, Sandhills Wildlife Management Area, the Chattahoochee Fall Line WMA, and areas around the Fort Benning military installation.

## Project highlights from properties in Kentucky, North Carolina and Virginia!

### **KENTUCKY – Simpson County & Warren County | 1,012 acres**

This working farm is located within 20 miles of the Tennessee state line and the town of Bowling Green, Kentucky. The property is being preserved for its scenic open space, agricultural land, forest, and for the protection of its natural habitat for wildlife. Approximately 93% of Kentucky is privately owned, so the successful stewardship of the state's plants and animals falls largely on private landowners.

Agriculture has been the historical use of the property and currently the fields are planted in wheat and soybeans. The property's forests, while small in regards to total acreage, was nonetheless quite diverse, with 30 tree species observed plus 48 shrubs and herbs. The property's location is also within an area of high potential for karst as evidenced by the number of karst openings identified during a site visit (image below). Karst topography forms where the underlying limestone (or sometimes dolostone) dissolves near the surface. Karst plays an important role in the landscape of the region, forming sinkholes, caves and springs. These features provide important sources of habitat for a variety of species, including bats.

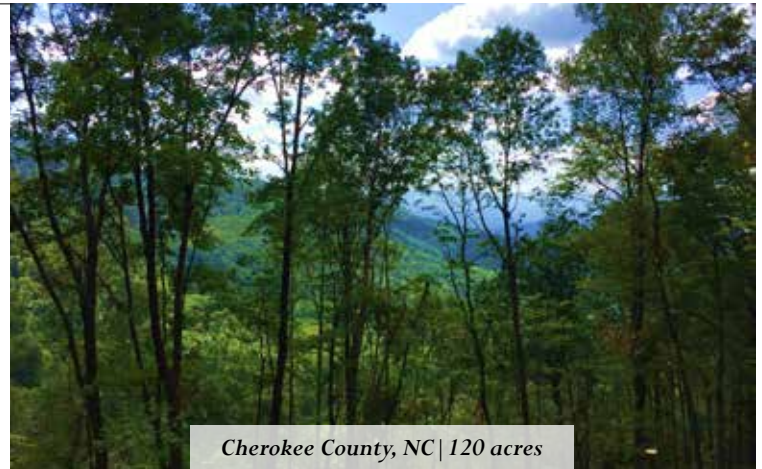
*(Pictured right) -Karst sinking area in oak-hickory forest.*  
*(Pictured far right) One of the many crop fields on the property. The 12 soil types found on the property consist of mostly silty loams, five of which are considered by the USDA to be Prime Farmland and three that are considered Farmland of Statewide Importance. Good agricultural soils are frequently lost permanently to residential and commercial developments since flat, workable ground is easiest to develop.*



*Simpson County & Warren County, KY | 1,012 acres*

### **NORTH CAROLINA - Cherokee County | 120 Acres**

This newly preserved property is nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains and lies within the Southern Appalachian Mountain Range. It is located near the town of Murphy, the westernmost town in North Carolina, and close to the Tennessee state line. This property adjoins approximately 208 acres of existing protected land and is also close to where the Nantahala National Forest (NF) joins the Cherokee NF and Chattahoochee NF. Plant life was found to be diverse with 136 vascular plant species observed, which included 52 woody species (trees, shrubs, and vines) and 84 herbaceous species. A few notable plants from the site visit include galax, bloodroot, southern harebell, horse-gentian, broadleaf phlox, and Canada leaf-cup.



*Cherokee County, NC | 120 acres*



*Chesterfield County, VA | 207 acres*

### **VIRGINIA - Chesterfield County | 207 Acres**

This forested property was once considered as a potential site for mining but is now permanently protected from any mineral extraction. Located south of Richmond, Virginia, the tract consists mainly of pine plantation and hardwoods. This land is being protected to preserve scenic open space, forest, wetlands, undeveloped lands and small tributaries within the important Chesapeake Bay watershed. A number of bird species were found within the property's habitats including the Black-and-white Warbler, Gray Catbird, Northern Flicker, and Yellow-billed Cuckoo. The property is very close to Pocahontas State Park (7,961 acres). This is the largest state park in Virginia, offering 64 miles of trails, nature and history programs.



*Save the Date!*  
**FLC's Summer Celebration**  
**Saturday • August 18, 2018**  
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**A big thank you to FLC's 2017 Summer Celebration  
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For more information please contact Elise Eustace  
 at 865-681-8326 or [eeustace@foothillsland.org](mailto:eeustace@foothillsland.org).

# *A very special thank you to our Friends of the Foothills for all of your contributions, time, and talents in 2017!*

*Arranged alphabetically by an individual's last name or the business's first name.*

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 (Courtesy of donor Shella Ann Fuhrman)

***A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:***

**Liz Shugart & The 7th grade Sustainable Classroom Business  
 Clayton Bradley Academy - Blount County, TN**

FLC's Executive Director, Bill Clabough and Communications Director, Elise Eustace, stopped by Clayton Bradley Academy to learn about a class project the 7th graders in Liz Shugart's class had worked on. They created a 'Sustainable Classroom Business' by selling products like jewelry made out of aluminum cans, air fresheners using recycled glass jars and essential oils, and even notepads made from scratch paper and cereal boxes. Very creative! Their class provided the proceeds from the sale of their creations to FLC! In return, FLC staff shared with the students how a regional land trust operates and described a few examples of land projects. Many thanks to Clayton Bradley's 7th Grade Class and teachers,  
 14 Liz Shugart and Susan Ehrenclou.



*Students from Clayton Academy present  
 FLC with proceeds from their  
 Sustainable Classroom Business.*

# Become a Friend of the Foothills!

Thanks to the ongoing and generous support of our Friends, FLC continues to expand our land conservation programs throughout the diverse and beautiful Southern Appalachian region. Foothills gladly accepts any and all donations - no gift is too small!

Foothills is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and does not receive any financial support from federal, state, or local government. FLC relies on individual and corporate contributions to sustain our organization, land acquisition, and stewardship programs.



To become a member or to renew your annual contribution please utilize the envelope in this newsletter or visit the 'Donate Now' link at [www.foothillsland.org](http://www.foothillsland.org).

Please contact the FLC office at (865) 681-8326 if there are other ways you prefer to support the organization.

## **FRIENDS - ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM**

FLC's Friends have the satisfaction of helping widen our reach towards the protection and preservation of our region's cherished mountains, rural landscapes and working farms. Visit FLC's website to donate online and learn about our partnerships programs with Amazon Smiles and Kroger's Community Rewards Program. FLC's Friends can give annually, quarterly, monthly or any time they choose. Benefits include:

- *Thank you letter*
- *Acknowledgement in FLC's Spring Newsletter / Annual Report*
- *Invitation to all events*
- *Request FLC staff to speak at your local functions*

## **MAJOR GIFTS - FLC'S CONSERVATION CIRCLE**

As a Friend of the Foothills, we hope you will consider joining our major gifts program, either as an individual or as a business partner. Donors that give annually at \$1,000+ will be included as a member of our Conservation Circle. In addition to the Friend benefits listed above donors will also receive:

- *Tickets to FLC's annual Summer Celebration*
- *Name inclusion on the Celebration invitation and day-of-event banner*
- *Recognition in FLC's August eNews & Celebration Webpage*
- *Personal invitations and access to all FLC events*
- *Request a private tour at one of our preserved properties*

## **LEGACY CIRCLE - PLANNED GIVING**

Planned gifts provide the Conservancy with a permanent foundation for conservation projects including land acquisition and stewardship programs. Donations can be designated as restricted or unrestricted and FLC can work with your financial advisor to facilitate any giving method you choose.

For those whose passion lies in passing on their love of the land to future generations, we hope you will consider supporting FLC through these options:

- *Naming FLC as a beneficiary in a will, trust, insurance policy, or retirement plan*
- *Appreciated assets, securities, or land parcels*
- *Donating land to FLC for the purpose of retaining its agricultural or natural features*



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- \*Sign up for our monthly eNews
- \*Make an online donation
- \*View a short video about FLC

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### Call FLC's Office

To request a presentation for your  
club, organization or group  
(865-681-8326)

## SAVE THE DATES!

**June 2, 2018 - Land Trust Day**  
**Mast General Store - Knoxville**

A portion of store proceeds will go to FLC's  
conservation programs that day!

**August 18, 2018 - FLC's**  
**Summer Celebration**

Located at: RiverView Family Farm



*Image of a pond at recently preserved 56 acre property in Rhea County, TN.*