



ANNUAL REPORT 2024



President's Letter



Dearest Friends,
What you are holding in your hands – or reading on your screen – is a summation of the impact that your support had on the DLC's work in 2024. Tremendous thanks for ensuring we met so many goals!

Through the foresight of six landowners, 900 acres of working farmland, precious forests, wetlands, ecosystems, and scenic vistas were protected, bringing the DLC's total conserved acres

to more than 47,000! That's an area larger than three Manhattan Islands! Since land and its resources are finite, we are consistently working to do more. Our next goal – 50,000 acres forever protected!

In 2024 your support helped us officially open the Jesse and Gayle Bontecou Wildlife Conservation Preserve with more than three miles of trails built for people to enjoy. The Preserve has become a learning landscape and many new information-filled public and volunteer activities were hosted as the community was welcomed in to learn about this amazing wildlife sanctuary and farm. We are so grateful to so many of you who contributed to the Preserve Fund and helped make this dream a reality.

More than 2,000 people, young and old, joined us to clear invasive plants,

improve trails at the Seven Wells Preserve, and to learn about a wide selection of topics from bats to trees and forests, to grass fed dairy cattle. The can-do spirit, inquisitive natures, and smiling faces of the many people who attended these events were more than ample reward for our efforts.

With the help of our more than 450 easement landowners who share our long-standing commitment to steward and care for their protected properties, we walked more than 230 miles and flew over tens of thousands of acres to monitor the conservation easements that we promised to oversee in perpetuity, tasks that we undertake each and every year.

And on top of all of this, it was time for us to go through the rigorous process of applying for Land Trust Accreditation renewal. We expect to hear back in 2025, so fingers crossed!

These remarkable achievements are shared by us all. Thank you so much for your continued dedication and commitment to the DLC, and to keeping Dutchess County a vibrant, healthy, beautiful, and special place to live and work.

With appreciation,


Becky Thornton
President

Our next goal – 50,000 acres forever protected!

New Properties Preserved in 2024

The Dutchess Land Conservancy has protected more than 47,000 acres since 1985.



We reached a new milestone of over 47,000 acres protected!

Land conservation is transformative in its ability to ensure fertile farmland, biodiversity, habitats, healthy ecosystems, natural resources, outdoor recreation, and enhance people’s quality of life. These six landowners made a tremendous impact on the Hudson Valley through their desire to protect their land for the benefit of us all.



West Mountain Woods
152 acres, Pawling

CONSERVATION CHARACTERISTICS:

- Almost entirely wooded with forest ranked in the top 5% of all Hudson Valley forests and is part of a larger contiguous forest
- Swamp River flows through the property
- Varied topography includes ridgeline, steep slopes, and moderate hills
- Federal wetlands
- Important habitat and wildlife corridor for forest birds, reptiles, amphibians, bats, and larger mammals
- Close proximity to the Appalachian Trail
- Borders town-owned recreational park



Cedar Ridge Farm
247 acres, Pine Plains

CONSERVATION CHARACTERISTICS:

- Working horse farm and foaling operation
- Expansive scenic views of the farm from NYS Route 82
- Important grassland habitat for birds and butterflies
- Large tracts of woodland which are part of a larger contiguous forest
- Cold water streams
- Borders properties under DLC protection



Meadowland Farm
117 acres, Clinton

CONSERVATION CHARACTERISTICS:

- Working farm including livestock, orchards, and vegetables
- Frontage along two tributaries to the Wappinger Creek
- Riparian corridors and buffers important to a variety of plants and animals
- Grassland and hedgerows that serve as habitat for multiple bird and small mammal species
- Scenic views of the farm from Salt Point Turnpike and Schultsville Road
- Historic homestead farm dating back to 18th century



Bain Farm
152 acres, Copake

CONSERVATION CHARACTERISTICS:

- Active agriculture including soy and corn production
- Federally designated wetland complex providing rare habitat for threatened plant and animal species
- Expansive scenic views of the farm from Route 22 and South Taconic Mountains
- Frontage on a tributary to the Bash Bish Brook, an important cold-water fish habitat
- Fertile farmland soils



Obercreek Farm
143 acres, Wappinger

CONSERVATION CHARACTERISTICS:

- Active urban farmland growing organic produce
- High biological and geological diversity
- Important grassland habitat for birds and butterflies
- Lies near the banks of the Wappinger Creek
- Abuts town-owned nature preserve
- Fertile farmland soils
- Scenic views of the farm from New Hamburg Road



Page
93 acres, Pleasant Valley

CONSERVATION CHARACTERISTICS:

- Expansive federally designated wetlands and pond providing rare habitat for threatened plant and animal species
- Diverse woodland that is part of larger contiguous forest
- Crucial bat foraging areas
- Scenic views of the property from Netherwood Road

**DLC Land
Protected Over Time**

1985
250
ACRES

2000
14,450
ACRES

2010
23,175
ACRES

2024
47,400
ACRES

Stewardship

As the number of conservation easements under the DLC’s care grows, so too does our perpetual commitment and responsibility to assist landowners with the ongoing stewardship of their protected properties. We are honored to work with more than 450 environmentally conscious stewards who own land protected by conservation easements.

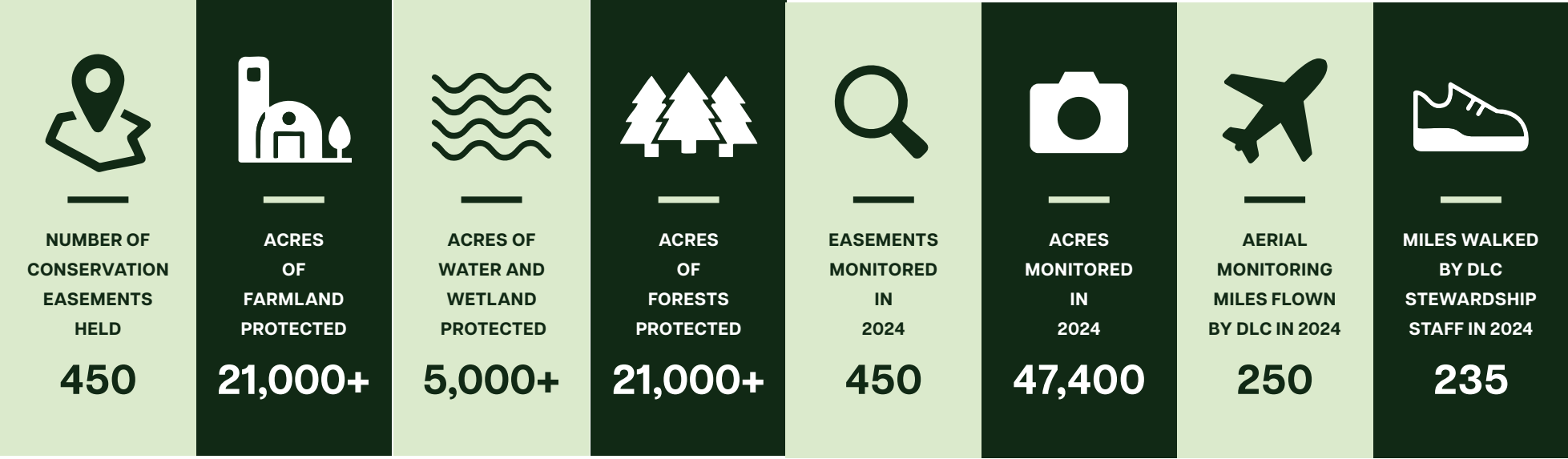
The Jesse and Gayle Bontecou Wildlife Conservation Preserve opened to the public in October 2024 and has already seen hundreds of visitors to both the Lake and Vista trails. Two point seven million of our three-million dollar Preserve Fund goal has been raised thanks to the generosity of our avid supporters.

We continue to refine the management plan based on various new studies, while dedicated volunteers have helped to remove invasive plant species and conducted important community science that will help to make it a vital place for education and sound land management practices far into the future.



▲ DLC Vice President for Conservation and Stewardship Art Collings (c) and DLC Stewardship Associate Chris Chinkin (r) preparing for aerial monitoring

Just one example of the thousands of acres walked by the DLC’s Stewardship team each year in their continued efforts to work with people to steward their land.



Education & Outreach

Community participation in the DLC’s work is the heartbeat of the organization. It is where we come together with people to form relationships centered on the land, to learn about its fascinating mysteries, and work toward preserving its innumerable qualities. We are thrilled to partner with diverse organizations throughout the Hudson Valley to provide the education programs and volunteer

opportunities that engage people based on their interests. Among the many programs offered in 2024 were nature walks to experience our local wildlife, flora, and geology, the continuation of the 4-H scholarship program, our Earth Matters winter webinar series, agricultural learning programs, trail building events, and invasive removal at local preserves.

▼ Volunteers from Drake Real Estate Partners at Seven Wells





▼ DLC Director of Conservation Erin Hoagland (l) and representatives of the NY land trust community at Advocacy Days in Washington, D.C.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE



We are proud to be accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. In 2024, the DLC began the rigorous process of accreditation renewal, with results pending in 2025.

The accreditation seal is a mark of distinction in land conservation and is awarded to land trusts meeting the highest national standards for excellence and conservation permanence. Being accredited demonstrates our commitment to ethical conduct, responsible governance, fiscal accountability, strong organizational leadership, sound transactions, and lasting stewardship of the lands we conserve.

ADVOCACY

We advocate for state, regional, and national initiatives that will benefit the well-being and health of Dutchess County residents now and in the future. We proudly support the below efforts that are working to ensure farms and forests are protected, clean water and air, mitigate the effects of climate change, and allow wildlife to thrive:

- The Federal Farm Bill
- The Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund
- The Federal Forest Legacy Program
- The Federal Highlands Conservation Act
- The New York State Environmental Protection Fund
- The New York State Environmental Bond Act
- The New York State Forest Conservation Easements for Land Trusts Program
- The New York State Farmland Protection Implementation Grants Program
- The New York State Conservation Partnership Program
- The Dutchess County Partnership for Manageable Growth Program
- Funding for Farm and Forestland Protection



2024 REVENUE

45% Grants*
\$4,093,732

28% Non-Operating Revenue/Loss
\$2,581,849

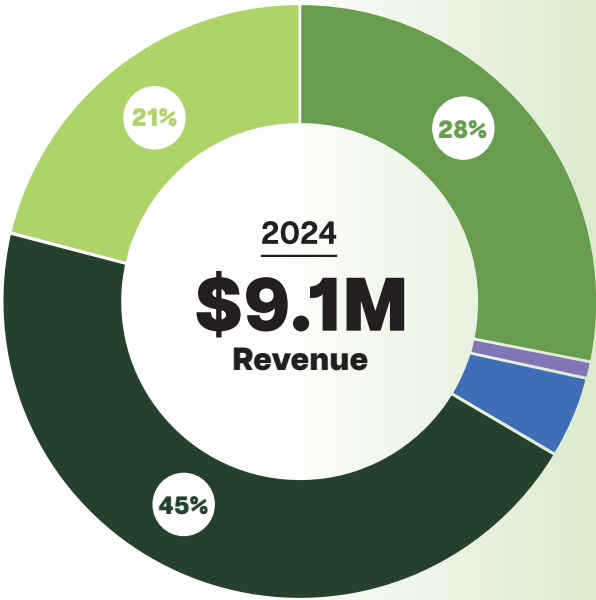
21% Individual Giving
\$1,954,434

4% Special Events
\$397,372

1% Miscellaneous
\$68,293

TOTAL
\$9,095,680

*Includes Purchase of Development Rights



2024 EXPENSES

72% Land Conservation*
\$4,099,106

10% Education
\$548,361

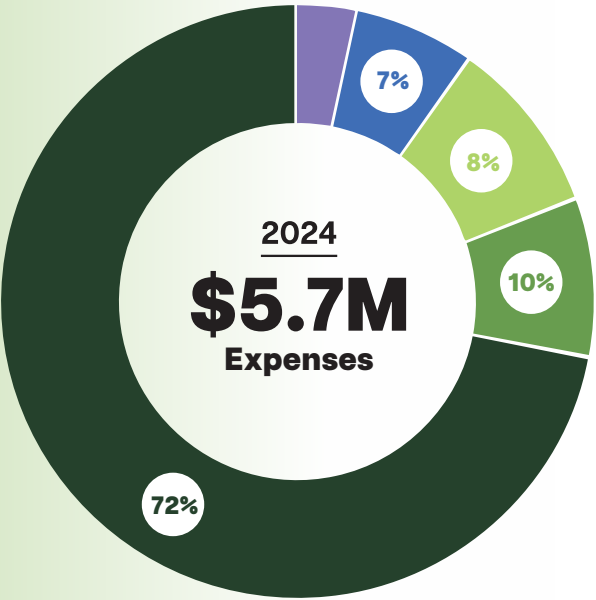
8% Stewardship
\$477,654

7% Administration
\$379,395

3% Marketing & Development
\$180,525

TOTAL
\$5,685,041

*Includes Purchase of Development Rights



Stewards of the Land

Stewards of the land are essential partners of the DLC. They are the ones who manage and steward their protected properties now and into the future.

18 Homan Rd LLC
Mr. Stephen Abel & Family - O. Vincent Abel Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Munir Abu-Haidar
Mr. and Mrs. Ramzi Abu-Haidar
Ms. Claire Ackad
Mrs. Binti Ackley
AFarm, LLC
Mr. Armin Brand Allen
Mr. Frederick Allen and Ms. Erica De Mane
Ms. Saralyn Allen
Mr. David Anderson
Anra's Nest, LLC
Mr. James Archer
Mr. and Mrs. Jon Arnason
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Mr. Jonathan Auerbach
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Ms. Stephanie Bernheim
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Ms. Gayten Bouzane and Mr. Charles Buser
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Mr. and Mrs. Hobson Brown
Mr. John Bruno - Oak Summit Vineyard, Inc.

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Mr. Joel Canter
Mr. and Mrs. Richard I. Cantor
Mr. Peter Capell
Mrs. Ava Carberry
Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Caseiras
Casperkill Game Club, Inc.



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Mr. Eliot C.L. Clarke
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Mrs. Cynthia Cogswell
Mr. and Mrs. John Colgate, Jr.



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The Conservation and Preservation Association, L.P.
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Crestcram LLC
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Ms. Sarah M. Curtis
Ms. Catharine Cusack
Mr. and Mrs. John Danilovich
Ms. Sarah Darcy
Mr. David Dase and Ms. Jacqueline Flake

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Mrs. Margot Dembo
Mr. James Devanney and Ms. Christy Parsons
Mr. Willem de Vogel
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Mr. Andrew Dietderich and Ms. Carina Liebeknecht
The Doar Family - John Doar Administrative Trust



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Mrs. R.B. Etherington
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ettinger
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Ewing
Ms. Leslie Farhangi and Mr. John Tuke
Mr. and Mrs. Adolfo Farias
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Farman-Farmaian
Mr. John Feeney and Ms. Shiuan Chen
Ms. Judy Fehlig

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Mr. Michele Ferraro and Ms. Kathleen Weathers
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Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Fisher
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Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Flexner
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Floe
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Franklin-Millbrook LLC
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Ms. Kathleen Gallagher
Mr. Peter Gallagher
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Mr. David Garbasz and Ms. Joanna Barsh
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gardiner
Mr. Phillip Gellert
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffry A. Giardina - CRJ Land Associates
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Mr. Russell Gioiella, Esq.
Ms. Sallie D. Giordanio
Mr. Eral Gokgol-Kline - The Vale Fox Distillery, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Goldsmith
Mr. Max Goodwin - Silvernails LLC
Gopal Farm at Sprout Creek LLC

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Ms. Elizabeth Ely
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Mr. Bruce Grivetti and Mr. Paul Feuerman
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Col. and Mrs. Robert Gunther
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Mr. Thomas Hahn, Sr.
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Mr. Daryl Hall
Mr. Jens Peter Hansen and Ms. Elena Feliciano
Mr. Geoffrey Harrison and Ms. Julie Jones
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Mr. Gary Hatten and Mr. Frazier Holloway
Hay Ho Trust
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Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Heaney
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Heathcote Farm, LLC
Heathcote Real Estate LLC

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Mr. and Mrs. John Hettinger
Mr. and Mrs. William Hettinger - Glen Arden, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. William Hewitt
Highcroft, LLC
Mr. Alan Hilliker and Ms. Vivien Liu
Mr. John Hoffman and Mr. Michael McCalman
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Mr. and Mrs. Mark Honigsberg
Mr. Min Htoo and Ms. Sherene Ng
Mr. and Mrs. James Hunt
Mr. and Mrs. Nicolas Ibanez
Mr. and Mrs. John Ike
Dr. Gerald Imber
Mr. David Itkin and Ms. Valerie Itkin, New Bristol Farm
Mr. Daniel Jackson
Mr. Verne Jackson and Sons

Mr. Michael Jacoff and
Ms. Jeanne Vanecko
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Mr. and Mrs. Matthew James
Mr. Andrew Jarecki
Ms. Sara Joannides
Mr. Robert K. Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Johnston
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Jones
Mr. Paul Tudor Jones, II
Ms. Sarah T. Jones
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Mr. and Mrs. William Kahane
Ms. Abbey Kalina Straus and Ms. Lydia Nadel - Kalina Farm, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Karpinsky
Mr. Roger Kass and
Ms. Andrea VanBeuren
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Katz
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen C. Kaye
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Keesee
Ms. Fernanda Kellogg and
Mr. Kirk Henckels
Ms. Florance Nefpel Kelly and
Mr. William Kelly, Jr.
Mr. Daniel Kent and Ms. Jessica Adcock
Ms. Beverley Kerzner
Mr. James Kiggen and Ms. Ani Shaker
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Dr. Neil Khilnani and Ms. Joyce Kim
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Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Kimball, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. John Kimm
Estate of Mrs. Elise Kinkead
Mr. Mark Kirby and Ms. Erin Owens
Mr. Roger W. Kirby
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Klein
Mr. and Mrs. John Klopp - Smithfield Farms, LLC
Klose Family Farm, LLC - Christopher, Kevin, Deborah and Nick Klose
Ms. Kathleen Knight
Ms. Alexandra Koeppel
Mr. and Mrs. William Koff
Mr. Bruce Kraus

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kraus
Mr. and Mrs. Judah Kraushaar
Mr. Henry Kravis
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Kuras
Mr. and Mrs. Neal Kusnetz
Mr. Neil Kutner and Ms. Naomi Grabel
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Estate of Mrs. Christina Lang-Assael
Mr. Robert James Lang-Assael
Ms. Sophia Lang-Assael
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Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Larson
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Lazarus
Ms. Eva Christina Lazarus
Mr. John Lazarus
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Leahy
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Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Leighton
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Ms. Aura Lippincott and
Mr. William M. Cawley, Jr.
Mr. Andrew Lipsky and Ms. Holly Kelly
Mr. Bruce Lisman
Lithgow Land Trust
Ms. Adrienne Lobel
Mr. Douglas Londal
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Mr. Dan Lufkin
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Luke
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Mr. and Mrs. Donald MacLean - Thompson-Finch Farm, LLC
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Dr. and Mrs. Louis J. Maggio
Mrs. Lou Ann Malozzi
Mr. and Mrs. John Mandel, Jr.

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Mr. Peter C. Mann and Ms. Diane Wheeler
Mr. Joseph Manne - ND-4, LLC
Dr. Monte J. Marder
Marist College
Ms. Lenore Maroney and
Ms. Dorothy Distel
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Mr. David Marshall - Marshall's Outback Property, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Marshall - Bos Haven Farms, Inc.
Mr. John Frederick Martin
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Martucci - East Heartland Corp.
Maryherms, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Masters
Mr. and Mrs. James Matthews
Mr. Douglas Maxwell and Mr. Christopher Dierig
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Mayhew
Mr. James McCarthy - Cloverbrook Farm, Inc.
Mrs. Joan McCarthy - Cloverbrook Farm, Inc.
Estate of Ms. Elizabeth McClintock
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas McCorkle - My Favorite Closet, LLC
Ms. Erinn McGurn
Mr. Gaelan McKenna
Mr. and Mrs. Michael McMahon
Mrs. Barbara McNulty
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mead - Mead Orchards, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Mead - Mead Orchards, LLC
MEC, Inc.
Mrs. Christina Megill and Mr. Daniel Zelman
Mr. Hans Joerg Meili
Meili Family - Craig, Joerg, Barbara and Carla - Arrowhead Hills Partnership, LP
Mr. James Melcher - JLAA LLC
Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Menken
Mr. and Mrs. Guy Merison
Mr. Philip Mershon

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton W. Meserve
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Messerich
Mr. William Metzger - WCM Holdings, LLC
Mrs. Barbara Meyer
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Meyer
Bette Midler Family Trust
Mr. Patrick Miglio
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Migliorelli
Mr. Kenneth Migliorelli
Milan Rural Space Group, LLC
Millbrook Land Associates, LLC
Millbrook Rod and Gun Club
Millbrook School
Millbrook Vineyards and Winery, Inc.
Mr. Todd Jay Mitty and Ms. Jung Min Lee
MMS Conservancy
Monell Properties, LLC
Ms. Eileen M. Moore
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Moran
Ms. Kelly A. Morgan
Mr. Joshua Morgenthau - Fishkill Farms Realty Associates, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morgenthau - Fishkill Farms Realty Associates, LLC
Mr. Bernard Morrison and Mr. Leonard Morrison - Silver Mountain Farm Partnership
Mr. Brian Murphy and Mr. Kevin Murphy
Mr. Glenn Murphy
Ms. Lynn Murphy - Deer Hollow Farm, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Murphy
Mr. Ronald Mustello
Mr. Robert Nathan - Federal Square Farm LLC
Mr. James Nederlander - Clarence and Peaches Property LLC
NE Family Holdings, LLC
Mr. Joshua Nelson and Mr. Gray Scott
Ms. Nancy Nesle
Netherwood Orchards, LLC
New Deal Development, Inc.
New Horizon Resources, Inc.
Mr. Ben Nickoll - Route 199 LLC
NML Wilds LLC
North Meadows Associates, Ltd.
North Dutchess Properties, Inc.

Northern Dutchess Properties
Dr. and Mrs. Fernando Nottebohm
Oblong Land Conservancy, Inc.
Oblong Valley, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Dan O'Brien
Mr. Robert O'Brien and Mr. Kevin O'Brien
Mrs. Louise O'Keefe
Mr. Patrick O'Leary - Glenmore Farms, Inc.
Mr. Stuart O'Neill
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Odell
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Mr. Ryan Oksenhendler and
Ms. Lauren Wolfenden
Old Dalton Farm, LLC
The Orvis Co. Inc. - Sandanona
Mr. Randall Oser - Randallo, Inc.
The Osofsky Family - Schultz Hill Farms, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Ottaway
Mr. Ryan Packard and Ms. Elizabeth Owens
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Page
Mr. Barclay Palmer and Ms. Dana Cowin
Pardess Center for Jewish Life, Inc.
Mr. Rodney Paterson and Ms. Susan Heath
Mrs. Ruth Peale

Ms. Carol J. Peden - SB Farms Trust
Mr. Jeremy Peele - Silvernails, LLC and Wiltsie Bridge, LLC
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert Perkins
Mr. Stefan Peter
Mr. and Mrs. Eric C. Petersen
Ms. Florence Peyrelongue
Mr. and Mrs. Guy Peyrelongue
PFORZFARM, LLC
Mr. Bruce Phipps and Ms. Miriam Tannen
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Pickering
Mr. and Mrs. Neil Pierson
Mr. and Mrs. James Pinto
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Mr. Taylor Pyne
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Mr. Paul Quartararo
Ms. Theresa Quartararo
Mr. Robert Quinlan -
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Shekomeko Hill Farm LLC
Mr. Alexander Reese -
Obercreek Development, LLC
Religious of the Sacred Heart
Mr. and Mrs. John N. Regan, Jr.
Mr. Maurice Regan -
Samantha Next Door, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. John Reid
Mr. Michael Rena
Mr. and Mrs. Justin Rebideau
Town of Red Hook

Ms. Joan Redmond and
Ms. Susan Crossley
Riga Property LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Riva
Mr. Eric Roberts
Mr. John Robinson - Red Farmhouse, LLC
Rocky Reef Farm, LLC
Ms. Phyllis Roosa
Mr. and Mrs. Simon Roosevelt
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rose
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rose -
Apple Brook Stables, LLC
Mr. David Rosenberg and Ms. Robyn Cutler
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rosenberger
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Rosenfeld
Mr. Neal Rosenthal and Kerry Madigan
Mr. Daniel Rothvoss, Sr. and Mrs. Rosalie
Rothvoss - H. Rothvoss & Sons, Inc.
Mr. Daniel Rothvoss Jr.
Route 44 Dutchess LLC
Mr. Lawrence Rubin
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Rutherford
Mr. and Mrs. N. Alexander Saint-Amand
Saint Anna Housing
Saint Peters Church
Saint Simeon Foundation, Inc.

Saint Simeon II Housing
Salt Point Advisors, LLC
Mrs. Cynthia Salzhaue
2039 Salt Point Turnpike LLC -
Mr. and Mrs. Nieves
Sam's Place of Millbrook, LLC -
Ann Madden
Samuel F.B. Morse Historic Site
Mr. and Mrs. George Sanderson
Dr. Thomas Sanford
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Santandra
Mr. William Santella
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Sarachek
Mrs. Molly Schaefer
Ms. Nancy Schaefer
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schaefer
Mr. Theodore Schiffman
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Schiller
Mr. and Mrs. Jon Schneidman
Mr. and Mrs. Vern Schrom
Mr. Henry Schwartz and
Ms. Beverly Semmes
Mr. John Schwartz
Scratchy Lane, LLC
Ms. Roseanne Scuola
Mr. and Mrs. Bryant Seaman
Estate of Olive Seaman
146 Seeley Road, LLC
Mr. Philippe Segalot
Mr. and Mrs. Robin Sen
Mr. Ottavio Serena di Lapigio
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