

From the Executive Director

Dear Members, Volunteers and Friends,

2022 was a year of transition for Delaware Nature Society, with new leadership, new staff, and new norms for how we work and deliver programs post-pandemic. Although all this transition was challenging, it was also an opportunity to thrive.

In 2022, we leaned into our strengths, particularly our long and successful history of delivering high quality nature education programs. Post-pandemic children and families were hungry for outdoor experiences and we delivered with over 2,000 summer campers and a 68% increase in school and group participants over 2021.

We also leaned on each other, working together across sites and departments to regain capacity lost during the pandemic, sharing resources and filling critical gaps to bring back popular programs like Music at the Mill, and start new ones like First Fridays at the Farm. We ramped up vegetable production at Coverdale Farm, opened The Market and U-Pick fields up to the public, and increased sales at the fall native plant sale by 22%.

We leaned into partnership, developing new ones and strengthening existing ones. In Wilmington, we collaborated with local communities and the National Wildlife Federation on a new program of creating green spaces in the city for people and pollinators. With the Delaware Environmental Accountability Coalition we worked on a bill to address the cumulative impacts of pollution and with the Delaware Land Protection Coalition succeeded in doubling funding for the state's Open Space Program.

These are just a few of our proudest accomplishments in 2022. You can read about these and others in this 2022 Annual Report, along with the financial support that made this work possible. Thriving through so much transition is a remarkable accomplishment that would not be possible without the generosity of so many, including almost 7,000 hours of volunteer time in 2022.

Strength Coordination Partnership

Thank you!

Jen Adkins Executive Director Delaware Nature Society envisions a healthy and sustainable environment for all.

Our mission is to connect people with the natural world to improve our environment through education, advocacy, and conservation.

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2022 HIGHLIGHTS





RENEW Expanded Outdoor Experiences for Wilmington Youth

Reaching and Engaging Through Nature to Empower Wilmington (RENEW) program reached new heights in 2022.

Thanks to supplemental funding, the Neighborhood Naturalist program expanded to include three preschool classes at Kingswood Community Center Early Learning Academy. This is in addition to the existing programs at Kingswood Community Center, Serviam Girls Academy, and Southbridge Neighborhood House.

Trail Ambassadors, our year-round environmentally fo-cused, work-study program for teens, began their workforce with eight teens. These youth engaged the Wilmington community in outdoor activities.

Ten New Pollinator Habitat Gardens Created With Sacred Grounds

10 new native plant gardens were established in Wilmington through Sacred Grounds, a National Wildlife Federation (NWF) program.

This effort partners with faithbased communities connecting people to nature and providing access to nature for all.

Alongside NWF, support and resources where given by:

- Delaware Nature Society
- Delaware Interfaith Power & Light (DeIPL)
- Delaware Center for Horticulture (DCH)

These resources and support helped communities implement their pollinator gardens and engaging their community members.









Volunteers Transform **Butterfly House**

Meet the Ashland Butterfly House Volunteer team:

Delaware Master Naturalists Deborah Vickery, Margaretta Frederick, Mary Pro, Suzanne Herel, Melody Kasprzak and her Granddaughter Avery Kasprzak, and Catherine Woodfield.

This team rejuvenated the Butterfly House and the gardens around it.

To transform this habitat, they:

- Planted native plants used by butterflies
- · Created educational brochures and programs
- Cared for the Butterfly House

Thanks to our Butterfly House

Southbridge Wilmington Wetland Park Opens

October brought the grand opening of the Southbridge Wilmington Wetland Park. We celebrated its purposes:

- Create a stormwater management facility to reduce flooding in Southbridge
- Restore and enhance existing wetlands
- Add a new park for the community

Thanks to a grant from AARP, DelNature was able to provide educational signs about wetlands and habitat value, benches and trees to help make the park more attractive to people and connecting them to nature.

Introducing Our New Farm Assistants

2022 kicked off the Inaugural season of the Coverdale Farm Assistant program.

This program trains and inspires the next generation of Farmers and Educators to Coverdale Farm's key enterprises:

- · Vegetable production
- Animal husbandry
- Community engagement
- Education

Three Assistants were hired for the season which will expand to 5 in 2023.





Coverdale's New Flower & Herb Garden

The Coverdale 1.25-acre teaching garden was re-purposed into a diverse flower and herb garden serving the community and wildlife in multiple ways:

- Pick-Your-Own garden
- Classroom for camps and seasonal programs
- A hub for pollinators



153 Volunteer Hours Supported Horseshoe Crab Conservation

Over 153 hours were devoted by 18 volunteers to counting spawning horseshoe crabs. This took place on Delaware's Slaughter Beach during the months of May and June.

Delaware Bay is home to the largest population of spawning horseshoe crabs, also known as "living fossils" in the world.

Data gathered helps determine the number of horseshoe crabs that can be harvested for bait to pot for welk

East Coast states currently have strict legislation limiting the number of horseshoe



\$20 Million for Open-space Land Protection

In 2022, an additional \$10 million in funding, for a total of \$20 million, was approved by the Delaware Legislature for open-space protection.

Advocacy to increase protection and funding for the preservation of natural areas and open space is a long-standing DelNature

This effort is best done in partnership. In 2022 we worked with the Delaware Land Protection Coalition. This group of conservation to highlight the need for increased investment in land protection.





Honor Roll List of Donors

We extend sincere thanks to our many friends and donors whose combined commitment and loyalty make possible Delaware Nature Society's ongoing work to connect people with nature and improve the environment through education, conservation, and advocacy. The following contributions reflect donations received by Delaware Nature Society in Fiscal Year 2022 (January 1 through December 31, 2022).

We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of these listings - if you notice any inaccuracies, please contact Marie Graham, Development Manager at 302.239.2334 to update our records.

Endowment Gifts

Endowment Gifts are planned gifts that provide perpetual annual support for DelNature's education programs, conservation stewardship, and advocacy initiatives. The following are endowment gifts received between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022.

Estate of Ethel Sayre

Monarch Legacy Society

The Monarch Legacy Society recognizes individuals who have made long-term provisions for DelNature through an estate planning arrangement. All known members of the Monarch Legacy Society are listed. If you have intentions to plan an estate gift or would like more information, please contact Marie Graham at 302.239.2334 or Marie.Graham@DelNature.org.

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2022 Gifts, Grants & Contributions

Veolia North America

Gifts received during FY 2022, January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022

The Guardians

Guardians provide leadership support of \$1,000 or more to advance organizational priorities in fulfillment of our mission.

Guardians \$100,000+

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Kathy Butler

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Gifts to the Mike Riska Educational Intern Scholarship Fund

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In Kind

Non-cash contributions.

Cropper, Inc.
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Daniel Keith Pettit
Larry & Lisa Strahorn
Nancy Steckel
& Mark Caraccia
Wild Birds Unlimited

Thank you to local artist Joyce Stark for donating a collection of original paintings and prints featuring Delaware native plants.

For sale now at The Market at Coverdale - **DelNature.org/Market**More more information, contact Adam Morgan at Adam.Morgan@DelNature.org.

Thank You

Volunteers

Contributing 20+ hours

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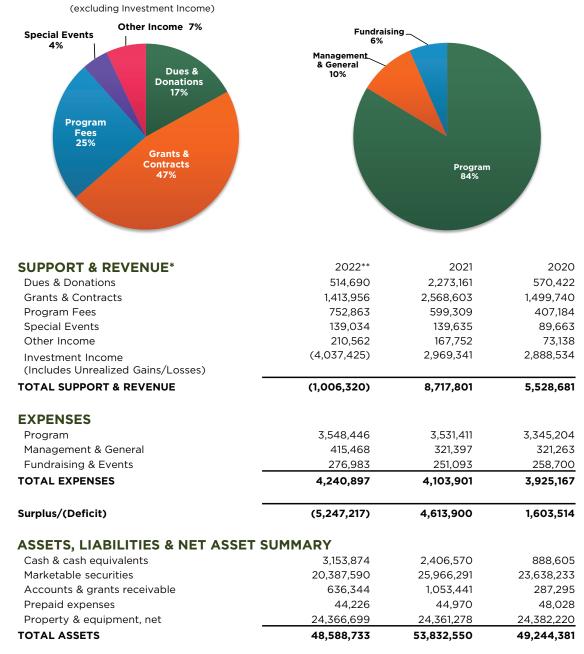
2022 Financial Summary

Income

Total Liabilities

Total Net Assets

Expenses



TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	48,588,733	53,832,550	49,244,381
			-

195,532

48,393,201

191,263

53,641,287

216,994

49,027,387

PPP 499k &

4,002,585 4,258,380 4,553,902 **Operating Revenue Operating Expenses** 3,819,993 3,675,685 3,562,046 Operating Surplus/(Deficit) 182,592 582,695 991,856

PPP 443k Capital Grants **2 Net> 139,988 (85,144)



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Delaware Nature Society

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

