



**CONSERVATION  
TRUST** FOR NORTH  
CAROLINA

**LAND WITH PURPOSE**

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There's still time to make an impact this year – by funding conservation that meets community needs. Make a secure donation online or return the enclosed envelope.

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# CONSERVATION VOICES



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FALL 2022



## DEAR CTNC COMMUNITY,

Thanks to all of you for your ongoing support of CTNC's conservation mission, and for helping us achieve program goals as this fall's newsletter describes. In large part because of your financial support, attendance at our events, and regular engagement with our board and staff, CTNC's progress in conserving land with purpose and equity has gone uninterrupted during the Covid-19 pandemic. A nonprofit organization comprises not only its staff, leadership and board, but also its larger village of supporters based on mutual values and interests. Through a global public health crisis, economic uncertainties, and political and social unrest in America's public squares, CTNC continues to punch above its weight, remaining both viable and strong. We thank you for that.

In this issue, you will read about CTNC's engagement with federal and state policymakers in the conservation space, as well as our ongoing climate resilience work in the historic town of Princeville--North Carolina's first incorporated town founded by newly-freed slaves. Our staff deserve strong commendation, not only in implementing our strategic goals, but doing so in a manner that more equitably benefits North Carolina communities of all backgrounds.

I hope that the fall of 2022 will be safe, healthy, rewarding and edifying to all of you, and that you will continue to support CTNC in your charitable giving. We look forward to sharing more updates with you soon. In the meantime, thank you for all that you have done for the North Carolina conservation movement.

Warmly,

**Brandon A. Robinson**  
President, CTNC



## Supporters Celebrate Conservation

This year's Conservation Celebration at Gideon Ridge raised more than \$22,000 dollars in support of our mission to build resilient communities from the Parkway to Princeville. We had the largest number of event sponsors with more than 29 total couples supporting the event and our work. We extend deep gratitude to Cobb and Cindy Milner, owners of the beautiful Gideon Ridge Inn, who generously donated the food and beverage, staff, and the incredible location for this year's fundraiser.

See more photos from the event at  
[ctnc.org/gideonridge-2022](https://ctnc.org/gideonridge-2022).







## Create Your Conservation Legacy

**T**here are numerous ways you can invest in and increase the impact of CTNC's mission. Gifts you make today are immediately put to use in building resilient communities across North Carolina. Gifts included in your end-of-life plans will also make an impact and increase CTNC's capacity to deliver conservation across the state. Best of all, your commitment to conservation may inspire your friends and family to make their own investment.

If you would like to include CTNC in your end-of-life plans or if you have already added CTNC to your estate plans, please contact the CTNC Philanthropy Department at (919) 828 - 4199. Planning gifts are an amazing testament to the trust you place in CTNC and our mission and we want to celebrate you and your generosity! What an incredible gift to leave to North Carolina and future generations.

**Learn more about estate investing at [ctnc.org/planned-giving](https://ctnc.org/planned-giving).**



## Conservation Youth Crews Support Heritage Park Transformation

**S**ummer is the perfect time to accomplish work that builds a more resilient state. Embarking on Phase II of the Princeville project, CTNC worked with Conservation Corps NC and the Town of Princeville to hire summer youth crews for conservation and maintenance projects. The youth spent the majority of their summer at Heritage Park, along the Tar River. They installed exercise stations, pollinator gardens, benches and trash receptacles, and walking paths, and re-mulched the playground. They also installed trail signs that will serve as educational tools for parkgoers about the importance of pollinator plants, wildlife habitat, and stormwater management.

The park is an important piece of Princeville's resilient future. By claiming it for public use, the park offers much-needed overflow for river flooding and runoff. It will also be the future site of a permanent Farmer's Market and an accessible walking trail. The crew's efforts this summer have complemented the current use of the park while supporting future goals slated by leaders and community members. Thank you to the young adults from Tarboro High School who worked for six weeks to complete this project. We couldn't have done it without them!

**Read more at [ctnc.org/crews-work-to- conserve-and-protect-princeville](https://ctnc.org/crews-work-to- conserve-and-protect-princeville).**





## Resilience Corps NC Members to Assist Community Partners Statewide

The Resilience Corps NC program recently launched its next cohort of service members who will work in communities to deliver climate change, community resilience, capacity building, and environmental education services to host sites across the state. CTNC staff welcomed 17 members, four who have returned for their second year of service, during an orientation at Haw River State Park. As part of our commitment to working alongside community partners to achieve resilience, CTNC and the Environmental Defense Fund will sponsor three additional members to work with community leaders with the Town of Princeville, the Lumbee Indian Tribal Council in Lumberton, and The Orchard at Altapass in Little Switzerland. These members will be focused on increasing community capacity, supporting local food systems through community gardening, and engaging in community outreach through a lens of climate change and land stewardship.

Learn more about our Resilience Corps NC members at [ctnc.org/ameriCorps-23](https://ctnc.org/ameriCorps-23).



## Advancing Conservation At Home and Abroad

Chris Canfield and Mary Alice Holley met with EPA Administrator Michael Regan in Merida, Mexico.

At home, our state leaders heard your voice and expressed support for conservation policies and funding initiatives. The legislature passed a budget with the Governor's signature that made significant increases to our state's conservation trust funds. As a result, annual recurring funding of \$48.4 million to the state's conservation trust funds will increase resources for CTNC and other organizations to advance conservation in communities statewide.

Abroad, CTNC's community-led projects are inspiring the nation to build stronger communities in the face of climate change. As a recipient of the EJ4Climate grant fund, CTNC staff were invited to Mexico to discuss the accomplishments and plans of the Princeville Collaborative with government leaders from Mexico, Canada, and the United States. The invite-only forum was attended by the top environmental officials from the three North American countries, as well as youth, Indigenous groups, and local communities.

Thank you for moving our state forward to enable people to build resilient communities. We look forward to continuing to advocate for strong conservation policies on behalf of our community partners and advocates like you.

Read more about our legislative success at [ctnc.org/big-budget-win-for-conservation](https://ctnc.org/big-budget-win-for-conservation).