

# CATAWBA LANDS CONSERVANCY

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## MOVING A FENCE TO SAVE A COMMUNITY TREASURE



*A pond on the historic McCoy Farm in Mecklenburg County. Thanks to the good efforts of Piedmont Natural Gas, an additional 23-acres beyond this pond will be permanently conserved forever.*

*When big companies work closely with residents to do good in the community, they usually use every available resource to let the public know about it. Surprisingly and thankfully, that's not always the case. So, Catawba Lands Conservancy (CLC) will do it for Piedmont Natural Gas (PNG) to thank the company for being a good community partner and supporting conservation throughout our region. Here's a wonderful story that highlights the company's strong commitment to conservation.*

In early April, CLC Landowner and Board Member Dr. Tom McCoy awoke to the grinding engines of tractors and bull dozers near his property in Mecklenburg County. Contractors, working for PNG, were about to start installing a federally required security fence to protect the company's natural gas storage facility.

With the necessary permits already obtained, PNG was ready to erect an eight-foot tall fence along Tom's family farm and pond along McCoy Road. A portion of his property, the 50-acre McCoy Farm, is currently permanently conserved via a conservation easement with CLC. The easement protects this working farm - one of only a few that remain in

Mecklenburg County - which has been continually farmed by the McCoy family since 1770.

The farm also includes the homestead and outbuildings of Albert McCoy (Tom's great-grandfather) which were built in 1886 by locally renowned builder John Ellis McCauley. This property is listed on the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Register of Historic Places, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission's registry and is designated as a Century Farm by the state. Gar Creek - which flows into the Charlotte region's primary drinking water source, Mountain Island Lake - runs through the farm.

The proposed location of the fence could have jeopardized the federal historic designation of the farm, hindered sensitive pond and creek water quality areas, and obstructed the property's scenic views. So, the McCoy family took action to request the fence be rerouted just 200 feet west of the pond and historic homes. They talked to the contractor, reached out to PNG officials, took

photos, wrote letters, made phone calls and sent emails to family, friends and Huntersville's elected officials to help sustain the farm's conservation values.

"We reached out to everyone we could think of that could help convince PNG to relocate its fence. Our goal was to make every effort to inform PNG of our farm's significance and importance, not just to our family, but to this region," said Tom. "PNG has been a good neighbor to us for years. I just think they didn't fully realize how their fence, right at our property line, could have greatly affected the historic and natural qualities of our property."

U.S. Congressman Robert Pittenger, Huntersville Mayor Jill Swain and CLC's Tom Okel agreed and were among those who contacted PNG.

Within few weeks, Tom McCoy received a call from Victor Gaglio, senior vice president and chief utility operations officer for PNG, who agreed to meet, toured the farm with Tom, and decided his company would relocate the fence and sell a portion of its property

(a 23-acre tract where the fence was going to be located) to the McCoy family. Victor and Jim Adkins, who is in charge of the company's real estate department, worked closely with Tom and his family to complete the relocation and property sale.

"It was wonderful to work with them, because they also valued and appreciated our farm and this historic land. We're extremely thankful to everyone who helped and PNG for its commitment to conservation and working with landowners to do the right thing. They didn't have to sell the property or relocate the fence, but they did it anyway. We're so grateful they did."

Mayor Swain, whose planning staff worked closely with the McCoys and PNG on this project, said the town is proud of this result.

"I am very appreciative of Piedmont for showing their appreciation of the value Huntersville puts in historical and rural sites," she said. "The fact that we were all able to have open communications with Piedmont speaks volumes to their commitment to working with all of us who are concerned about conservation issues."

The property sale is now complete and the installation of the security fence is underway. The fence will be relocated more than 200 feet from the McCoy Farm property line, helping to keep the conservation values of the farm permanently intact. And, the additional 23 acres added to the farm will soon also be preserved forever. ■

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# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Tom Okel at Redlair Farm and Forest with CLC Supporter and Donor Candi Samples.

For the last several months, we've been closely monitoring our state's legislative session in Raleigh. With the adoption of a 2013-15 operating budget and changes to the tax code for North Carolina, land trusts across the state now know the reality of the funding challenges and limitations that we'll face in order to continue conserving quality lands.

We're pleased, however, that dedicated state funding sources, like the Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF), which has been so critical to our work of protecting local drinking water and wildlife habitat, will remain intact. The CWMTF, an important investment in North Carolina's future and a vital funding source for land trusts across the state, has awarded \$5.8 million to CLC since 2010 to preserve 2,336 acres of land and several miles of trail for the Carolina Thread Trail. Like many other conservation funding sources, this fund has experienced significant reductions over the past five years.

In this year's budget, \$10.4 million is allocated for the CWMTF, with \$13.7 million appropriated for 2014-15. Restrictions on acquisitions will be lifted and the fund's role has been expanded to include protecting important natural and cultural sites, as well as the

state's ecological diversity. Our work will also be impacted by the now repealed NC Conservation Tax Credit. Unfortunately, landowners will no longer benefit from this important financial incentive to conserve their land after this year.

While these funding challenges and incentive changes will force us to rethink our approach to land conservation, the urgency of our mission remains unchanged. In fact, conservation of our natural assets today is more important than ever. Our region is growing faster than any other area in the country, so time is limited to protect those remaining natural lands that are so important to the quality of our region.

Open spaces, natural resources, large trees, working farms, clean air, trails and wildlife – all so critical to our long-term economic growth and health – are threatened by the very growth they help attract. Thanks to your support, Catawba Lands Conservancy is helping to drive smart growth by providing landowners with a viable option to protect important land forever while encouraging our region's growth and development.

As public policy, funding and market opportunities continue to change, we will continue

adjusting and assessing our approach. We're already working to identify, analyze and prioritize the locations of available natural areas to add to existing conservation corridors, while working closely with local communities, landowners and developers to find ways to save our region's most valuable natural assets.

This process has positioned us well, with prospective conservation projects that total nearly 2,000 acres of land. This includes a mix of significant additions to existing conservations corridors, as well as new areas of priority farm, wildlife and water quality protection. Your support of these important efforts today will no doubt have a profound impact on the future of our region.

In appreciation of your support,

Tom Okel  
Executive Director  
Catawba Lands Conservancy and  
Carolina Thread Trail

Donate online at  
[catawbalands.org](http://catawbalands.org)



# CONSERVATION TAX INCENTIVES EXPIRE DECEMBER 31

## MAXIMIZE YOUR LAND CONSERVATION EFFORTS WITH CLC

The NC conservation tax credit and enhanced federal income tax deduction for conservation easement incentives are both scheduled to expire on Dec. 31, 2013.

If you ever thought about conserving your land...the time is now. These incentives make it easier for some landowners to conserve their property. Landowners who place a conservation easement on their land will preserve it in perpetuity and benefit from tax incentives due to limiting certain development rights on the land.

Both these laws have specific requirements and conditions in order for landowners to qualify. If you are interested in exploring conservation options and learning more about these incentives, please contact Land Acquisition Director George Kimberly at 704.342.3330 (x 212) or [george@catawbalands.org](mailto:george@catawbalands.org) as soon as possible.

### HOW DOES CLC CONSERVE LAND?

Land trusts like CLC have various options available to them in order to conserve land. Two of

the most popular options are fee simple and through conservation easements.

### Fee Simple

CLC can conserve land through an outright purchase or donation, in which the landowner sells or grants all rights, title and interest in the property to CLC. Through this type of transaction, CLC will own the land, maintain stewardship responsibilities and can grant conservation easements on the land to other land trusts, conservation agencies and government entities.

### Conservation Easement

This legal agreement between a landowner and CLC permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect the land's conservation values. An easement allows the landowner to continue to own (retain title) and use the land, sell it or pass it on to heirs. However, the conservation easement will endure forever, insuring that the landowner's vision for preserving the land and conservation values remain intact. ■

## TASTE FOR THE LAND AND OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS!



### TASTE FOR THE LAND: OCT. 24, 6:30 P.M.

Following the heels of last year's success, the Catawba Corps is hosting the 2nd annual *Taste for the Land* fundraiser at Dressler's Restaurant on Oct. 24!

The planning committee has been working hard to create an evening perfect for gathering together and celebrating our region's conservation work. Food and drinks will have a local flare, highlighting North Carolina's local farms and efforts CLC makes to conserve them. The popular band, The Bad Daddies, will provide live music and entertainment. Dressler's is located along Little Sugar Creek

Greenway, a key trail segment of The Thread in Mecklenburg County.

The Catawba Corps is an important affiliate group that is dedicated to promoting awareness, volunteerism and support for CLC. One year memberships can be purchased at three giving levels starting at \$250. Tickets to *Taste for the Land* and other member benefits will be provided to those who purchase memberships and sponsorships.

Ticket prices for individual and couples are \$75 and \$130, respectively. For more information on Catawba Corps or *Taste for the Land*, please

visit our website, [catawbalands.org](http://catawbalands.org), or contact CLC Development Director Margaret Brantley at 704.342.3330 (x218) or [margaret@catawbalands.org](mailto:margaret@catawbalands.org).

### PARTNERS ART SHOW: OCT. 11, 6 P.M.

RedSky Gallery owner, Kellie Scott, is a huge advocate of the greenway system. So moved by her time walking on the greenways, she decided to organize a group of local artists to paint the greenways in a way that inspired them. The group of nine artists, called pARTners, will have its first show in Charlotte on Oct. 11. The artwork highlights the enormous beauty and vitality of the greenways in and around the city in a collection of close to 70 pieces of artwork. The opening reception will be held from 6-8:30 p.m. at RedSky Gallery, located at 1523 Elizabeth Avenue, suite 120. Proceeds from the art sale, which will run through Nov. 9, will benefit The Thread in Mecklenburg County. Contact CLC Development Assistant Anna Simpson at 704.342.3330 (x214)

or [anna@catawbalands.org](mailto:anna@catawbalands.org) for more information.

### TRAILHEADS CELEBRATION: OCT. 3, 6 P.M.

Mark your calendars for a special event that brings The Thread's Trailheads supporters together for food, fun and entertainment to celebrate the group's new corporate sponsor, Jesse Brown's Outdoors. The event will be held on Oct. 3 from 6-8:30 p.m. at the store (near the South Park Mall) and will feature local beer and delicious food from Whole Foods Market. Tickets to the event are just \$25, which is the cost of a yearly membership for Trailheads. For existing members, the ticket cost will cover membership renewal. Trailheads is a special group of trail enthusiasts who purchase yearly memberships, volunteer to support The Thread and receive special discounts and info. Contact The Thread's Outreach Coordinator Vanessa Gorr at 704.376.2556 (x215) or [vanessa@carolinathreadtrail.org](mailto:vanessa@carolinathreadtrail.org) for more info on this event! ■

# CAROLINA THREAD TRAIL UPDATE



*Good Luck and  
Thanks, Ann!  
We'll Miss You!*

## ANN HAYES BROWNING STEPS DOWN AS THE THREAD'S PROJECT DIRECTOR

"One of the greatest things about my experience with the Carolina Thread Trail has been meeting inspirational team members, partners and community leaders who share a common vision. It's been such a privilege to work with so many energetic individuals who are committed to making this big idea a reality, community

by community." said Ann Hayes Browning, former project director for The Thread.

Ann brought her passion for trails, conservation and the outdoors to the Carolina Thread Trail in 2006 when the 15-county, two-state initiative was in its infancy. As project director for The Thread for the

past seven years, Ann has been at the forefront of building community and philanthropic support for this collaborative initiative.

Creating opportunities to spur regional collaboration and community engagement, lobbying for funding, and developing the grant program are a few examples of Ann's important role in The Thread, says Tom Okel. She was also awarded the 2012 Community Sustainability Award for Parks and Green Space by Sustainable Charlotte.

"Under Ann's leadership, The Thread has evolved from a concept to a reality that has been embraced by local communities, residents and fitness enthusiasts throughout our region," said Tom. "With more than 1,400

miles of trail now planned and 119 miles on the ground, what Ann and her team have been able to accomplish is truly impactful in making our towns and cities more livable and healthier. We'll greatly miss her passion, dedication and leadership to this effort."

Although Ann stepped down from a full time role on July 19, she'll remain on a part-time basis until the transition to a new director is complete. She says she'll continue to be an advocate for The Thread and remain active in efforts important to the Charlotte region. But before committing to anything new, she'll take time to relax and enjoy biking, paddling and hiking, of course, on The Thread. ■

Find trails on  
The Thread!



119 miles open  
and growing!

## THANK YOU, RODGERS BUILDERS, INC.!

### RODGERS SUPPORTS THE THREAD AND GIVES BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

In celebration of its 50th anniversary, Rodgers Builders, Inc.'s employees helped advance

Rodgers provided all of the bridge materials and manpower at no cost to CLC or The Thread. Its employees built the bridges in two days in late June, having laid the concrete foundations and bridge footings a month prior.

provides." Once the trail is complete this fall, it will connect to other trails within the Garden and provide scenic views of Lake Wylie and many natural areas throughout the preserve.

"Rodgers Builders has been a friend to The Thread and CLC for many years and its commitment to support our region is reinforced by this donation of significant resources and talent," said Tom Okel. "We are extremely grateful

to Rodgers for its strong support to the community and our efforts of providing trails and preserving our community's natural areas."

Rodgers is headquartered in Charlotte and ranks among the nation's top construction managers. Rodgers offers full service preconstruction and construction services for education, healthcare, cultural, senior living, and commercial market sectors. ■



The Thread by building pedestrian/bicycle bridges along the Seven Oaks Trail in Gaston County as a community service project.

About 45 employees built three wooden bridges for the 2.3-mile trail that is currently under construction on the 77-acre Seven Oaks Preserve near the Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden.

"Our partnership with the Carolina Thread Trail is a perfect match," said Pat Rodgers, president and CEO of Rodgers. "The Trail weaves through many of the communities where we build. Our employees and our clients will be able to enjoy the benefits of the community connections and outdoor enjoyment the Thread Trail



# GOVERNMENT, CORPORATE GRANTS SUPPORT CLC, THE THREAD

## THANK YOU, MECKLENBURG SWCD, FOR SUPPORTING WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

CLC recently received two grants from programs that are a part of the Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District. A \$7,500 grant from the Urban Cost Share Program and a \$1,935 award from the Council on Locally Invasive Plants and Pests will be used to plant native species and restore



Eastover Ridge Preserve in Mecklenburg County

the natural vegetative riparian buffer at the Eastover Ridge Preserve. This 21-acre preserve is located within highly developed Mecklenburg County where the maintenance of riparian buffers are even more critical for filtering pollutants and sediments to help improve our region's water quality. Mecklenburg SWCD is

an important partner to CLC and greatly supports efforts to protect and sustain natural areas.

## REI AND MONSANTO SUPPORT TRAIL WORK IN CABARRUS COUNTY

The Thread also received funding for a variety of projects. In May, REI awarded The Thread \$10,000 to advance the Rocky River blueway in Cabarrus County. Funds will be used to purchase tool kits for The Thread's three head Trail Masters and support

the cost of the volunteer management database program. This grant will also help The Thread further community support and momentum for boat launches along the river and increase interest in the Trail

Masters Program, a training program that certifies volunteers in the latest sustainable trail building and maintenance techniques.

The Thread appreciates the continued partnership and support from REI to help connect more people in our region to the outdoors.



Before a recent nature hike at the Buffalo Creek Preserve, Monsanto representatives Susan MacIsaac, Megan Maurer and Kirsten Skogerson presented a \$12,000 grant-award check to CLC's Anna Simpson and Andy Kane. The next generation of CLC and Thread Trail supporters - Ciara, Justin, Jaylen and Chanel Currence - all smiled for the camera and helped thank Monsanto, too!

The Monsanto Foundation recently awarded a \$12,000 grant to The Thread for trail work in Cabarrus County. The grant, which will help The Thread develop a .66-mile segment of the Upper Rocky River Trail, will fund gravel, trail signs and a bench for trail users.

Once complete, the entire Upper Rocky River Trail will be 3.9 miles and the first cross-county trail within The Thread network, connecting Cabarrus and Mecklenburg counties. The Thread appreciates the Monsanto Foundation's support of efforts to

build and enhance local trails and greenways.

## THE OUTDOOR FOUNDATION AND BAIRD CO. SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to The Outdoor Foundation and Robert W. Baird & Company of Charlotte, \$1,000 went towards snacks, beverages, gloves and tools for two volunteer workdays on National Trails Day. The funding helped make the June 1 workdays, which combined had more than 70 volunteers participate, a great success! ■

# DUKE ENERGY CHALLENGE GRANT: YOUR HELP IS STILL NEEDED



Companies around the Charlotte region are stepping up and investing in the preservation of our region's natural resources and quality of life. Through the

\$50,000 Duke Energy Challenge Grant, the company hopes to inspire even more corporations and businesses to support local preservation efforts by donating to CLC.

Each corporate financial contribution to CLC by Dec. 31 is leveraged to help meet the Duke challenge. If \$50,000 is raised, Duke Energy will match the donations dollar-for-dollar.

CLC is currently at 60 percent in donations towards this challenge grant! So, the corporate community's support is still needed to help protect our region's most environmentally sensitive lands.

We appreciate the support from businesses that have donated so far, as these generous contributions will help move CLC closer to reaching this grant to protect important lands and

advance our local conservation efforts.

To donate and learn more, please contact Margaret Brantley at 704.342.3330 (x218) or [margaret@catawbalands.org](mailto:margaret@catawbalands.org). ■

Donate and help us meet this challenge!



# REACCREDITATION PUBLIC NOTICE

## CLC IS APPLYING FOR REACCREDITATION AND YOU CAN PROVIDE COMMENTS



The Land Trust Alliance's Land Trust Accreditation Program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for permanently protecting important natural places and working lands.

In 2009, CLC became accredited and was among the first land trusts in the nation to receive the designation and one of only two land trusts awarded accreditation in North Carolina. Today, there are 207 accredited land trusts nationally, 12 of which are in North Carolina.

CLC is currently in the process of applying for reaccreditation. During this renewal process, Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, will conduct an extensive review of CLC's policies and programs to ensure that operations remain thorough and streamlined for effective land conservation. If CLC's procedures continue to meet national quality standards, CLC will remain an accredited land trust.

"In this time of economic uncertainty, individuals want to be sure their donations are being wisely used and leveraged as effectively as possible," said Tom Okel. "Because we greatly value the public's trust in our organization, the accreditation status helps reassure donors and

stakeholders that we are financially and sustainably accountable in our conservation processes. So, this reaccreditation is very important to our work and we welcome the public's comments."

A comment period is now open and the public can send information, comments and feedback about CLC's reaccreditation application to the Commission. Comments must relate to how CLC complies with indicator standards and practices. These standards address the ethical and technical operations of a land trust.

The Commission can accept electronic and written comments on CLC's pending reaccreditation application. To submit comments electronically, go to the Commission's website:

[landtrustaccreditation.org](http://landtrustaccreditation.org). Select the 'Submit Feedback' button and then select the 'Comment on an Accredited Land Trust or Applicant for Renewal' link.

Comments may also be mailed or faxed to the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, Attn: Public Comments, 36 Phila Street, Suite 2, Saratoga Springs, NY, 12866. The fax number is 518.587.3183. Please submit comments on CLC's application by Jan. 3, 2014. We also have more information on the CLC website at [catawbalands.org](http://catawbalands.org). ■

Submit your comments on our reaccreditation!



## THE AMERICAN CHESTNUT: RETURN OF A MAJESTIC GIANT?

By Bruce Elliott, CLC Outreach and Education Committee Member and Trail Master with *The Thread*



One of the largest surviving American chestnuts in the south, this Jackson County, Tennessee tree has unfortunately been infected by blight (lower center). Photo courtesy of The American Chestnut Foundation.

The American chestnut tree once stood astride the Appalachians like a benevolent giant, white blossoms heralding spring and its tasty nuts providing food for people and wildlife every autumn.

The tree could grow to more than 100 feet in height, while the diameter of its trunk sometimes exceeded 10 feet - earning it the sobriquet 'redwood of the East.' In summers, many Appalachian mountain peaks appeared to be snow-covered, thanks to the profusion of white chestnut caskins.

Chestnut trees anchored the ecosystems of eastern American forests, providing food and shelter to birds, bears, squirrels, deer and a multitude of other species.

Chestnut wood was highly rot-resistant and grew straight and tall. It was prized by settlers for building log cabins and rail fences. With the dawn of the industrial age, demand for the trees grew for use as telegraph poles, railroad ties, shingles, paneling, fine furniture, and musical instruments.

Then in 1904 ecological calamity struck. Diseased chestnut trees were first observed in New York City that year, and by 1950 the American chestnut tree was virtually gone throughout its entire range along the east coast from Maine to Georgia. An Asian fungal blight was the culprit, accidentally brought to the U.S. on ships.

Nearly three quarters of a century have passed since healthy stands of mature American chestnut trees were last seen. But, a dedicated group of 6,000 scientists, foresters and volunteers with The American Chestnut Foundation (TACF) believe they can change the tree's fate. Their efforts of restoring the chestnut tree to eastern forests is



Many American chestnut burrs contain three seeds. Photo courtesy of The American Chestnut Foundation.



A century after blight began to bring down the American chestnut tree - known as the "red-wood of the East," scientists are getting closer to reviving the majestic species. This photo was taken among chestnuts in the Great Smokies, c.1910. Photo courtesy of the Forest History Society.

centered on cross-breeding surviving American chestnut saplings with blight-resistant Chinese chestnut trees. The aim is to find a tree that is resistant to the blight while retaining most of the characteristics of the American variety.

Reviving the species that once made up 25 percent of all hardwood trees in its original range won't be easy or fast. Yet increasingly the question being asked is not if the chestnut can be restored, but when. Breeding programs have created an entire generational line of trees that appears to not only fight off blight, but also root rot disease that can decimate chestnut trees in southern states.

Since 2005, TACF has produced potentially blight-resistant American chestnuts. In 2012 they harvested more than 60,000, nearly tripling the 2011 yield.

There is real reason for optimism, says Mila Kirkland, the communications director for TACF. "Successful reintroduction will take

a community effort going well beyond the science - it's a social movement that includes thousands of scientists and volunteers working together in communities to make sure this tree's comeback is successful."

Doug Gillis is one of those volunteers and is the president of the Carolinas Chapter of TACF, one of the foundation's 16 state chapters. He believes the return of the American chestnut tree is inevitable and the critical extensive restoration efforts underway across the Southeast to help restore the tree are paying off.

"There's great scientific and volunteer work underway on our orchards and demonstration sites to help identify blight and root rot resistant trees," says Doug. "Identifying the right hybrid combination and successful cross pollination at TACF orchards and breeding programs is a process that takes time and effort. Working with CLC and looking for locations

to host a demonstration site on conserved property presents a tremendous opportunity for people in the Charlotte region to learn about this tree that was once prevalent within forests around this region."

He says efforts to engage and inform the community must increase, but is encouraged by the local and regional interest. Working with UNC Charlotte professor Dr. Jennifer Weller, students at Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools' Olympic High have contributed to the effort this summer. They traveled to several N.C. forests to see chestnut seedlings and to talk with those on the front lines of field research. Returning home, they extracted DNA, produced copies and separated fragments in the school lab. Perhaps most

importantly, they experienced the power of joining science and a social cause for what may be the greatest ecological comeback story of our time.

If reestablished to any semblance of its former numbers (4 billion trees pre-blight), the American chestnut would restore a dynamic balance and historic importance to eastern forests, benefiting wildlife and human communities alike. Gillis believes we're still decades away from seeing this species once again contribute to the enduring landscapes and ecosystems of the Appalachians.

"We still have much work to do to ensure this tree's success, which will make the story of the American chestnut and its comeback even more compelling, meaningful and revered by future generations." ■



CLC Summer Stewardship Interns Patrick Lyon and Peter Conway are standing beside an estimated four-year-old American chestnut tree in a CLC preserved forest. This chestnut tree appears to be free of blight and rot, and is one of only a few in existence within the Charlotte region!

Learn more about the Carolinas Chapter of TACF.

### CHESTNUT TREE DEMONSTRATION SITE MAY BE COMING TO A PRESERVE NEAR YOU!

One of CLC's preserves may soon be an American chestnut tree demonstration site. We're working with TACF to assess ideal soils and conditions for the successful growth of chestnuts on our conserved land. Details will be forthcoming; but if you'd like to volunteer to assist with this endeavor, please contact CLC Stewardship Associate Andy Kane at [andy@catawalblands.org](mailto:andy@catawalblands.org) or 704.342.3330 (x208).



Catawba Lands Conservancy is part of a network of land trusts that collectively have protected more than 311,000 acres of the places you love in North Carolina.



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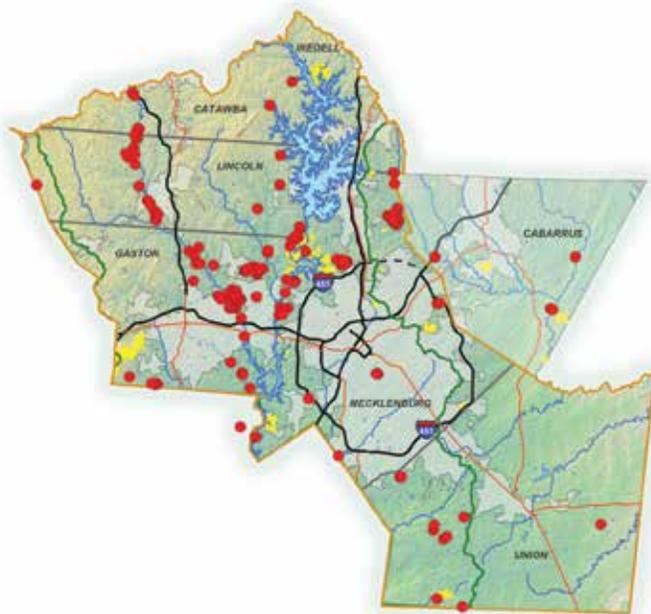
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## CONSERVANCY PROTECTED LANDS CAROLINA THREAD TRAIL



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