CONSERVATION VISION
WHY WE SAVE LAND
MORE THAN 15,500 ACRES OF LAND CONSERVED TO DATE!

LOCAL FARMS
Creating conservation easements on local farms sustains our rural economies, reduces environmental and transport costs, and allows access to farm-to-table eating where we know exactly where our food is coming from.

Successes
• Conserved 67 local farms covering 3,500 acres

CLEAN WATER
Preserving land along waterways is the most effective and cost efficient means of safeguarding our water supply. Natural land buffers filter pollutants and sediment, prevent flooding and erosion, and provide clean streams, lakes and drinking water for your family and our fragile ecosystem.

Successes
• Over 6,500 acres protected along 143 miles of streams and lakes
• $9.9 million in grant funding from the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund

WILDLIFE HABITAT
Our work protects wildlife and plants including rare and endangered species in partnership with the Natural Heritage Program and advances education and scientific understanding.

Successes
• 11,750 acres of protected habitat
• Protected 4,128 acres of significant Natural Heritage Area at 47 sites
• 4 Federally protected species live on our preserved land

CONNECT TO NATURE
We strive to connect people with the natural world through our protected land and hundreds of miles of the Carolina Thread Trail throughout our surrounding 15-county region. It advances urban conservation and instills the value of nature in future generations.

Successes
• Adopted master plans in 15 counties with more than 1,500 miles of trail planned linking 2.3 million people
• $5.4 million in privately funded grants awarded to local community partners to build trails
• 260+ miles of trail and 170+ miles of blueway open
• 8 nature preserves and public programs
The work Catawba Lands Conservancy is doing NOW will make a lasting impact for generations. Due to the desirability of our region, development is progressing at an incredible rate and our green space is diminishing rapidly, and our window of opportunity is limited. We only have the next 10 to 15 years to make a difference.

The time is now to preserve green space and working farms in perpetuity so our children and grandchildren can enjoy the quality of life we love so much in the Southern Piedmont of NC.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**WHAT TYPE OF LAND DO YOU CONSERVE?**
More than 15,500 acres of land, including 143 miles of stream and lake frontage. Through the Carolina Thread Trail, 86,000 acres of land has been preserved.

**HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO SAVE AN ACRE IN OUR COMMUNITY?**
On average, the market value for one acre of local protected land exceeds $5,000. The Conservancy is able to protect land for an average of $495 per acre. In other words, we leverage each $1 donation ten times. The result: each $1 gift results in $13 of conserved land.

So a $500 donation conserves about an acre; a $6,500 donation conserves 10 acres.

**HOW CAN I BE SURE THAT THE CONSERVANCY IS AN EFFICIENTLY RUN NONPROFIT?**
We were one of the first land trusts in the country to be accredited by the Land Trust Alliance, and were recently reaccredited in 2015. Accreditation means that the organization operates at the highest standards of transparency, efficacy and efficiency.

**HOW DO I KNOW MY DONATION WILL BE INVESTED WISELY?**
The Conservancy’s Board of Directors has fiduciary oversight of the organization, including budgeting, strategy and approval of all land projects. Every year the Conservancy undergoes a comprehensive audit, and all recent audits, tax reporting forms and financial summaries are available on the website (catawbalands.org).

**HOW IS THE CONSERVANCY DIFFERENT FROM THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OR THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND?**
The Nature Conservancy and the Trust for Public Land are national organizations. CLC is the only organization solely focused on saving local land in the lower Catawba River basin. Established in 1991, the Conservancy has permanent roots in the community with a long term commitment to conservation and stewarding land here in our Southern Piedmont home.

Source: Center for Applied GIS and the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute

www.catawbalands.org