

2004 ANNUAL REPORT

Year in Pictures





**Cover:
Ohiopyle State Park**

In Southeastern Fayette County, the Youghiogheny River cuts dramatically through Laurel Mountain, creating a steep-walled valley of rich hillsides and rocky riverbank.

During the 1960s Western Pennsylvania Conservancy acquired, through gifts and purchases, 10,000 acres of land in the Youghiogheny River gorge. This land was conveyed to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1968 for creation of Ohiopyle State Park



2004 marked Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's 73rd year as a conservation organization.

As we look back on 2004, our list of accomplishments is significant. Our many partners and supporters joined us in adding more than 1,800 acres to our extensive list of ecologically valuable landscapes. Our watershed restoration and protection expanded as we began to link our land and watershed preservation strategies. Our science-driven conservation work has reached into 35 western Pennsylvania counties. Our 228 community conservation projects continue to engage more than 5,000 community volunteers in 58 towns and cities to plant, rejuvenate and cultivate community gardens...and community relationships. And at Fallingwater, our commitment to excellence in the preservation and presentation of this world-renowned landmark enables us to share the Fallingwater experience with about 140,000 visitors annually and engage more than 3,600 individuals in our education programs and exhibits.

But even as we reflect back on 2004, our sights are set on the future. We continue to see a region with abundant forestland, protected riversides and watersheds, open lands and parks, and sustainable community green space. We are aggressively pursuing strategies focused on science-driven land and water conservation, which include the strong engagement of communities, businesses and government partners.

The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy is a recognized conservation leader. Our continued focus on continuity of purpose and clear direction of our mission will serve this organization well as we transition from one administration to the next. We will concentrate our resources on developing a clear roadmap for advancing our work matched with a commitment to producing conservation outcomes that will benefit the Commonwealth for the years ahead.

We have already begun to significantly increase our efforts to preserve our rich forestland resources and to improve the water quality of the vast Ohio River watershed. We look forward to sharing more about these exciting projects with you and working with our many partners in the public and private sectors on these initiatives.

We deeply appreciate your commitment to and your support of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Looking forward, we will continue working in partnership with our many supporters and volunteers to achieve even greater successes in conserving and enhancing the rich natural resources and beauty of our region.



Dennis McGrath
President and CEO



E. Michael Boyle
Chairman



Year in Pictures



Enlow Fork, Washington County



Blue-eyed Mary at Enlow Fork, Washington County

1,800 Acres Added to Conservation Lands

In 2004, WPC added more than 1,800 acres to the long list of ecologically valuable landscapes we have permanently preserved. Areas of concentrated efforts in 2004 included: Wattsburg Fen in French Creek, Enlow Fork, Sideling Hill Creek, Clarion River, Ligonier Valley, state game lands in Erie and Washington counties, and Erie Bluffs and Prince Galitzin state parks. Since 1932, WPC has preserved more than 216,000 acres to protect natural lands, and provide scenic and recreational opportunities to the public.

French Creek State of the Stream Report

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy has had a long-term commitment to preserving the water quality, habitats, and aquatic communities in the French Creek watershed. After extensive scientific inventory, WPC published the First Annual State of the Stream Report for French Creek in 2004. This first annual report documents the results of our water quality testing at more than 100 sites and studies of aquatic insects sampled at 50 locations. Our report is the first to tell the story of the most important places in the stream where rare fish and freshwater mussels are thriving. Through our work we are also beginning to understand places in the watershed where activities on the land are creating the greatest threats to what's living in the stream. The report will help local communities, public agencies and conservation organizations focus on specific threats and help prioritize restoration and protection efforts in the watershed, thereby preserving its natural beauty and biological diversity.



The hellbender, 29 inches long and a resident of French Creek

French Creek, near the New York State border



Huntingdon County Natural Heritage Inventory

Ecological Assessments Aid 25 Counties in Community Planning

In 2004, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy completed an inventory of important ecological information in Clearfield County, our 14th inventory since 1990. A record number of 11 county-wide biological inventories are in process in Somerset, Blair, Cambria, Greene, Elk, Warren, Potter, Jefferson, McKean, Forrest and Crawford counties. Through

this work, WPC ecologists provide information and maps on the most important natural resources in each county. These inventories are part of a statewide program to identify unique plants, animals, natural ecological communities, and other important natural resources in Western Pennsylvania. The information is used to advance community planning that supports the economies of local communities while at the same time protecting natural resources. Our goal is to complete 33 county biological inventories by 2006.

Improved Water Quality and Community Stewardship of Natural Resources Achieved through Watershed Conservation Plans

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's Watershed Assistance Center was instrumental in the development of a watershed conservation plan for the lower Crooked Creek in Armstrong County. Working with the Crooked Creek Watershed Association and other community partners, WPC helped identify and prioritize nearly 170 watershed management recommendations to help promote conservation practices and improve the quality of life of residents in the lower Crooked Creek watershed and the surrounding region. The Watershed Assistance Center has provided a wide range of assistance to local watershed organizations. All of the center's program and services revolve around engaging the local community in implementing changes that promote watershed conservation.



Crooked Creek in Armstrong County

Sustaining Conservation Value of WPC Lands Achieved with Help of Volunteer Land Stewards

With responsibility for monitoring 38,000 acres of Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's land holdings in 32 counties to ensure their conservation value is sustained, WPC actively involves volunteer land stewards to serve as our eyes, ears and voice. In 2004, 76 volunteers were serving as WPC ambassadors in helping to monitor and manage conserved lands.



Land Steward Volunteer Jim Sprows at Bear Run Nature Reserve

Year in Pictures

400,000 Square Feet of Beautified Community Greenspace

With the addition of three new community gateway gardens in Mercer County, WPC is helping to beautify more than 400,000 square feet of public open space with annual flowers and perennial shrubs and plants. Vibrant public greenspaces brighten urban and suburban communities, small town neighborhoods, business districts, schools and roadsides in 20 counties across western Pennsylvania.



A community garden on Pittsburgh's Southside

Community Garden Partners

During May, about 5,000 community volunteers, ages 8-80, join WPC in planting 200 community gardens throughout 20 western Pennsylvania counties. More than 100 community and corporate volunteer groups joined us in 2004 to preserve open space in their communities. Among these volunteers were 59 youth groups who are connecting with the natural world through gardening.



Community partners garden on the Southside of Pittsburgh



Community Partners at a Northside community garden

Year in Pictures



Fallingwater Steps to the Stream



Removing Formwork at Fallingwater

Preservation and Public Presentation of Fallingwater Requires Diligent Stewardship

Reinforcement to the steps from the Fallingwater house to the stream and reconfiguration of the entrance to the complex were among the most recent projects to preserve and sustain Fallingwater as a public museum. The new entrance is part of a multi-year Fallingwater Landscape Master Plan. The plan included widening the entrance road to the campus to improve sight lines and provide easier turning for buses and other larger vehicles. The adjoining hillside was planted with native trees, shrubs and plants. Nearly 4 million people have experienced Wright's architectural genius in harmoniously blending architecture, art and nature.

The Barn at Fallingwater Expands Opportunities for Education Programs and Exhibitions

The newly renovated Barn at Fallingwater, designed to accommodate a wide range of education programs and exhibitions, hosted its first exhibition, *A Fallingwater Homecoming*. Created from oral history interviews with many local community members, *A Fallingwater Homecoming* offered a fresh look at the construction of Fallingwater and featured many of the people who built the house, stone by stone, wheelbarrow by wheelbarrow, from 1936-39. The Barn at Fallingwater also provides classroom and working space for



Summer program students study architectural and landscape design.



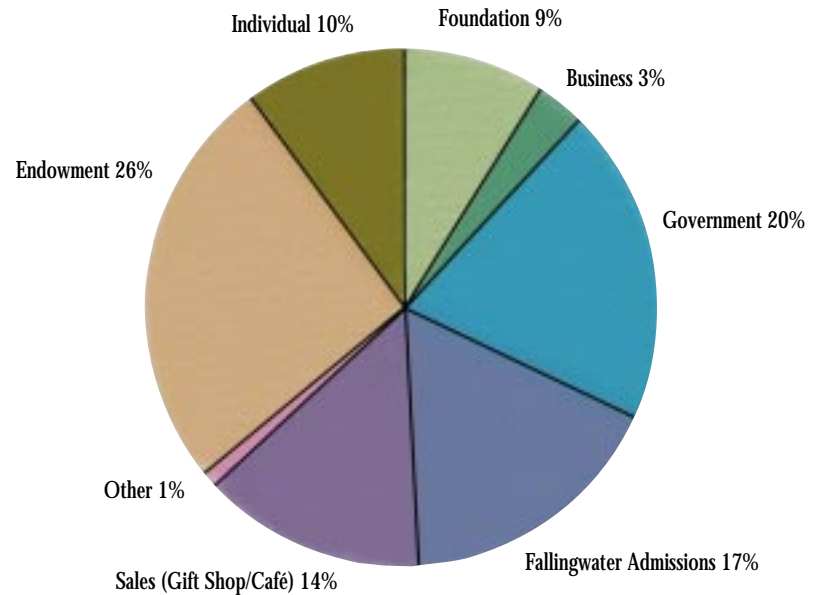
Fallingwater's summer program for architecture students

Fallingwater's national student residency program and teacher education workshops as well as our participation in the Elderhostel program. More than 3,600 individuals, including students, teachers and senior citizens attended Fallingwater's exhibitions and education programs this year.

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy 2004 Financial Summary

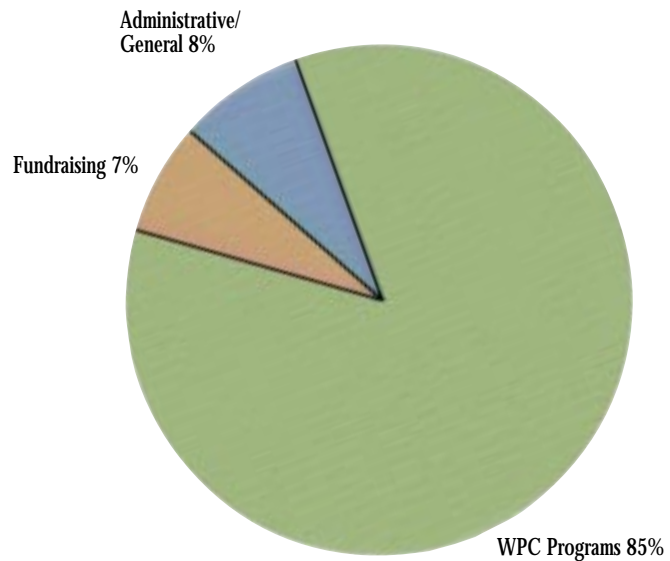
OPERATING SUPPORT

Contributions/Grants & Memberships	Millions	%
Individual	\$ 1.1	10%
Foundation	1.0	9%
Business	0.3	3%
Government	<u>2.3</u>	<u>20%</u>
	4.7	42%
Earned Income		
Fallingwater Admissions	1.8	17%
Sales (Gift Shop/Café)	1.6	14%
Other	<u>0.1</u>	<u>1%</u>
	3.5	32%
Internal Income		
Endowment	<u>2.9</u>	<u>26%</u>
	\$ 11.1	100%



OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Programs	Millions	%
Natural Resource Conservation	\$ 2.8	25%
Fallingwater	4.1	37%
Community Conservation	1.2	11%
Constituent Programs	0.3	3%
Outreach & Education	0.4	4%
Depreciation (principally programs)	<u>0.5</u>	<u>5%</u>
	9.3	85%
Program Support		
Fundraising	0.8	7%
Administrative/General	0.9	8%
	\$11.0	100%



This report highlights the 2004 financial activity for the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. This report is based on WPC's audited financial statements, of which a clean opinion dated March 18, 2005 is provided by Schneider Downs & Company, CPAs. Please note, 85 cents on every dollar is spent on Conservancy programs.



Volunteers participate in the annual Fall pull-out of WPC's community gardens.

Thanks to Our Partners

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's work could not be accomplished without the support and involvement of many partners. One very important community of partners ... WPC's donors ... makes our very existence and the work that we do possible. The pages that follow recognize this very important group and the support they have demonstrated.

We're indebted to the thousands of members who every year demonstrate their dedication by giving generously. Through your gifts, you...our partners and supporters...play a vitally important role in protecting natural lands, promoting healthy and attractive communities, and preserving Fallingwater®. The fact that 42 percent of our operating income in 2004 came from your memberships, gifts and grants shows just how important you are.

To our community of donors...everyone listed here and the thousands of others who have helped us advance our mission...please accept our most sincere gratitude and thanks. Your generosity will significantly help us accomplish what we all want...saving the places we care about!

How You Can Help

There are many ways you can help WPC save the places we care about. For more information on any of the following programs, please contact Susan Neszpaul, Vice President, Constituent Programs, WPC, 209 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, 412-288-2777, sneszpaul@paconserve.org.

Leadership Circles

Members who provide annual support of \$1,000 or more ensure that WPC continues doing the work we do on the scale we need to do it.

Membership

Membership support provides WPC with the critical resources necessary to carrying out our mission. On-line memberships are also available.

Conservation Champions

Monthly gifts via credit card make giving easier for many WPC members and provide dependable income to support many programs.

Employee Matching Gift Program

Many companies will match employee contributions, greatly increasing the impact of your gift.

Heritage Circle

Charitable gift annuities, trusts and bequests provide meaningful support to WPC, while also benefiting donors and their families.

Volunteer

More than 5,000 people volunteer their time and energies every year to helping WPC save the places we all care about.



Fercliff Peninsula



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