

Nature nourishes our community. With your help, thousands were connected to nature in new and meaningful ways.



PHOTO: RICHARD ORR

2021 HIGHLIGHTS



Howard County's first Nature Preschool opened at the Conservancy in March! Each day, *26 little naturalists* explore the meadows, streams and woods where bugs become family and plants become friends. From counting acorns to investigating feathers, seeds and leaves, *nature brings learning alive!*

A new, first in the region, climate education program launched this year! Thanks to a grant from NOAA, *hands-on climate education is coming to every Howard County Public School 6th-grade classroom.* Weaving together environmental justice, STEM and real world data, this project directly addresses one of the biggest challenges facing future generations.



PHOTO: EMILY CAULKINS

"We had never seen that many butterflies at one time."

Julie, guided hike participant



More in-person programs have returned! Cicada walks, building fairy houses, a winter activity challenge and more *brought communities together at the Conservancy!* Virtual programs reached well beyond our nature centers with topics ranging from the spotted lanternfly to zero-waste living and animal yoga!



PHOTO: BONNIE OTT

Our grounds, trails and gardens saw more visitors than ever before! Thousands turned to nature, enjoying our 232 acres of preserved green space. Our new barn and renovated carriage house meld history with green elements – helping us maintain our trails and educate students – young and old – for years to come.

For the first time in two years, we welcomed school buses brimming with excited students back for our nature field trips. To address in-person learning gaps, we took our interactive nature discovery programs into communities and schoolyards, reaching over 12,000 people.



“I wish we could do this everyday!”

5th grade student during field experience



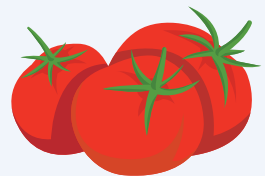
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Native plants distributed in the community



12,003

Students connected to nature



3,700

Pounds of produce donated



788

Volunteers cared for our grounds



160

Scholarships provided to students



67

Species of butterflies call Mt. Pleasant home

Join us in 2022 for a hike, family program and more! *Your support helps enrich our community* by keeping our trails free and open, and our programs growing!



Howard County Conservancy
connecting people to nature

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More than 500 corporations, foundations, and individuals contributed to the Conservancy's general fund in 2021. We gratefully acknowledge these donations. Every effort has been made to properly acknowledge all contributors; please contact us if a listing is in error.

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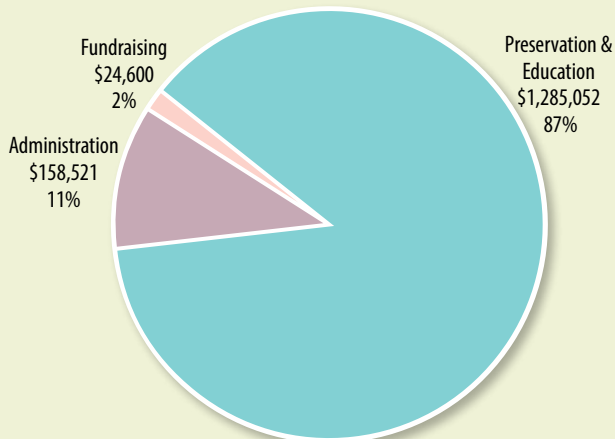
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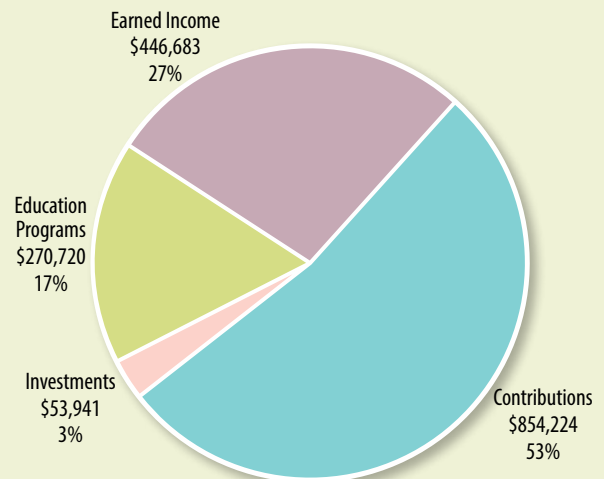
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