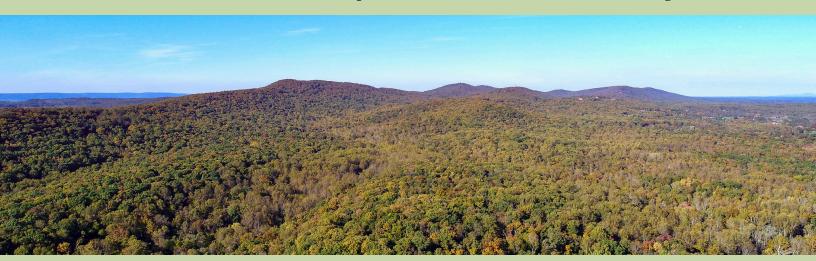


ABOUT THE VIRGINIA OUTDOORS FOUNDATION



The Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF) was created in 1966 by Virginia legislature "to promote the preservation of open-space lands and to encourage private gifts of money, securities, land or other property to preserve the natural, scenic, historic, scientific, open-space and recreational areas of the Commonwealth." VOF now protects more than 910,000 acres across Virginia.



ABOUT BULL RUN MOUNTAINS NATURAL AREA PRESERVE

The Bull Run Mountains are the eastern-most mountains in Virginia. VOF's Bull Run Mountains Natural Area Preserve is approximately 2,350 acres that serves as a living laboratory and openair museum in the backyard of our nation's capital. The preserve contains 10 different plant community types and a plethora of regionally uncommon and threatened plant and animal species. In addition to the biodiversity, this land holding permanently protects dozens of regionally important cultural history sites that tell the story of the preserve's diversely peopled past. In 2002, this land was dedicated by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation as a Natural Area Preserve to protect the unique ecosystems and cultural resources found here. As the owner and manager of the preserve, VOF is committed to protecting the mountain's significance and sharing it with the public through managed access. The Bull Run Mountains were an early hotbed of scientific activity, and the Bull Run Mountains Natural Area Preserve continues to serve as an important site for scientific research. We have a data-driven approach that is critical for our ability to effectively balance public use with our duty to preserve a healthy, natural ecosystem. With three different sections, the preserve is an active and dynamic resource as a living laboratory, hosting K-12 school groups, university students, and researchers throughout the year.

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

At VOF, we take great pride in conserving landscapes that strengthen communities and connect people to place. Nowhere is this truer than the Bull Run Mountains of Northern Virginia. Spanning Fauquier and Prince William counties, the mountains serve as the background for tens of thousands of homes and businesses, and they offer refuge to countless plants and animals in a rapidly developing region. Our preserve ensures that there will always be a place for Virginians to enjoy natural beauty.

In this report, you will read about the many ways VOF is connecting the preserve to the public, whether leading educational activities for schoolchildren, documenting the rich natural and cultural history, or developing hiking trails that offer a place to get outside and stay healthy.



Our work at the preserve could not be possible without our many volunteers, donors, and partners. On behalf of VOF's staff and board, I offer our deep appreciation for your continued support.

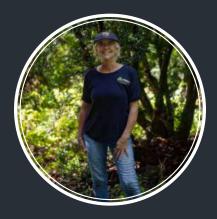
Brett Glymph

Brett C. Blyngh

MEET THE PRESERVE TEAM



DENEITH REIFCONSERVATION
ASSISTANT



LESLIE GRAYSON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR



JOHN LENOX CONSERVATION ASSISTANT



JOE VILLARI PRESERVE MANAGER



BARINAALE DUBE CULTURAL HISTORY INTERPRETER

RESEARCH



SNAKE SCIENCE

Natural Science Fellow Lauren Fuchs was out this field season documenting Ophidiomyces ophiodiicola (formerly known as snake fungal disease) in our resident snake populations. In the course of her efforts, she found something unexpected: the first official sighting of a Dekay's brown snake (Storeria dekayi, pictured) in Fauquier County. The finding was featured in Volume 42 of the Virginia Herpetological Society's journal, Catesbeiana.

JURASSIC-TRIASSIC DISCOVERIES

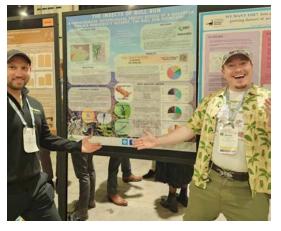
Dr. Ben Kligman is a Peter Buck Fellow at Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, and Dr. Paul E. Olsen is a professor at Columbia University. These two paleontologists and VOF research associates presented their research at the Society for Vertebrate Paleontology's 2023 international conference. Dr. Kligman was primary investigator of "A new marginal lacustrine vertebrate assemblage from the Early Jurassic Waterfall Formation of Virginia, U.S.A." and Dr. Olsen, for "Latest Triassic and Early Jurassic Continental Vertebrate Assemblages of the Culpeper Rift Basin (Virginia, USA) in High-Resolution Temporal and Environmental Perspectives." Together, these paleontological works provide an ecological and geological portrait of what the Bull Run Mountains were like 200 million years ago – the South Section's landscape held a large lake with a much taller mountain than is there today jutting above it to the North, appearing much like the African rift valley's Mount Mulanje and Lake Malawi do today.





ODONATA SURVEY

A collaboration that the preserve team at Bull Run Mountains looks forward to every year is participating in Clifton Research Institute's annual dragonfly and damselfly count. The data gathered and shared among all citizen scientists provides information on which species are present on preserve land. Two special members of Odonata were found in the Bull Run Mountains at our Jackson Hollow site in 2023, one for the first time since the counts began. The sphagnum sprite (Nehalennia gracilis), a locally rare damsel fly, requires ponds ringed with sphagnum moss. The sable clubtail dragonfly (Stenogomphurus rogersi) was the first individual found at one of the trout release sites.



ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Michael J.W. Carr, sustainability specialist for Santa Fe County and VOF research associate, presented an exciting symposium talk on the state of giant stag beetle (Lucanus elaphus) science and conservation within the Commonwealth of Virginia at the Entomological Society of America. Carr then joined Preserve Manager Joe Villari in presenting on foundational efforts to establish a comprehensive list of insect species of the Bull Run Mountains, entitled "The Insects of Bull Run: A comprehensive species review of a Northern

Virginia biodiversity hotspot, the Bull Run Mountains.'

This ongoing project was once ushered along by the inaugural VOF Natural Science Fellow (now a Ph.D. student at Rutgers University) Meredith June Wilmott, who began it in 2019. Serendipitously, Meredith happened to be at the ESA symposium presenting her study, "Insect biodiversity of Yucca glauca across an urban gradient in the Chihuahuan desert" with her advisor, Dr. Amy Savage.

AMERICAN CHESTNUT SURVIVORSHIP

Preserve staff collaborated with the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute's Dr. Bill McShea, his team of ecological interns, and the American Chestnut Foundation's John Scrivani and Anna Sproul-Latimer to complete a follow-up survey on an experimental American chestnut sapling hybrid planting that occurred in 2011. Survivors from the 2011 plantings were located, and the survivorship data is anticipated to be published along with any potential next steps.





FORENSIC ARCHEOLOGY

Ground penetrating radar, or GPR, is a nonintrusive method to study what is below the soil using electromagnetic waves. This technology is popular in archeological work as it does not require any ground disturbance. Jordan Mullikin of George Mason University's forensic science department graciously brought this GPR technology to our Feagan Cemetery. GPR gives us the ability to detect unmarked graves that could otherwise be missed by other detection methods and ensures our historic cemeteries will be properly understood and protected as the sacred spaces they are.

RESEARCH



AFRICAN-AMERICAN QUARRY NEIGHBORHOOD

Patrick O'Neil, a long-time volunteer and vice president of the Archeological Society of Virginia, has been piecing together the past land use of the Bull Run Mountains. Here, Patrick can be seen at one of the quarries found while surveying with a group of volunteers from the Archeological Society of Virginia. Volunteers walked transects in an area of the preserve that was thought to have multiple quarries based on lidar data. Now that we know where these quarries are, we can look at land records to see who was doing this quarrying.

Patrick O'Neil's main area of research focuses on the African American neighborhood that erupted post-Civil War along Catlett's branch running through the preserve. Twelve parcels of land were purchased between 1856 and 1924, all but one by a black man. The families that settled here quarried the same rock formation used to build the Chapman Mill to the south. This land-use data was corroborated with on-the-ground archeological work to determine the extent of the quarrying neighborhood.

MUSICAL HISTORY

Local naturalist and historian Ianis Stone is affiliated with VOF as a research associate and has volunteered on a number of projects here and beyond over the decades. This year, Janis authored an independent scholarly research paper, "The Origins of Songs from Bull Run Mountains in Works Progress Administration of Virginia Reports." In it, she delves deep into archives to uncover the history behind the music Works Progress Administration worker Susan R. Morton documented while traveling through the Bull Run Mountains collecting oral history accounts during the 1930s.

This research provides our community with a better understanding of our diversely peopled past, while empowering a new generation of musicians with context necessary to revive these sounds.

CALL OF THE WHIP-POOR-WILLS

Ornithologist Jacob Saucier, based at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, sees the value of the preserve as a living laboratory in the backyard of the nation's capital and partnered with us as a VOF research associate to build a local sound library of the mountains' native birds and amphibians.

In recent years, Jacob has been documenting the movements and behaviors of our resident whip-poorwills (Antrostomus vociferus) within our Jackson Hollow Section—a species of nightjar who is onomatopoeically named after its repetitive nocturnal song.



This bird species has been in decline throughout its range and is under notable pressure within Northern Virginia. A better understanding of this cryptic bird's population within the preserve will ensure that VOF can make informed land management decisions to ensure their strange calls are heard through the mountain range for generations to come.

INATURALIST YEAR IN REVIEW









An advocate for community science, VOF research associate Michael J.W. Carr maintains several active iNaturalist projects for his favorite natural areas, including the Bull Run Mountains Natural Area Preserve. This iNaturalist project is our largest community science project and is a great way for our visitors to stretch their scientific muscles by contributing species observations of our flora and fauna. These observations provide data on the preserve's natural populations and are one of the easiest and most meaningful ways visitors can contribute to our scientific understanding of this mountain range. This user-generated data is valuable to a variety of ongoing and future research projects that incorporate species data, while insuring that decisions makers at VOF and the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation are able to make the most informed management decisions possible.

Please visit the Bull Run Mountains Natural Area Preserve project using the QR code below to see the full year-in-review article and consider joining the more than 450 people who contributed to this ongoing project. It is free and as easy to contribute as downloading the iNaturalist app, taking a photo with your smart phone, and submitting it to our project while out on your next hike in the preserve.

2023 STATS

- 2,589 observations
- 1,233 research-grade observations
- 547–1,030 species recorded
- 44 observers
- 422 identifiers

TOP OBSERVERS FOR 2023

- @saucierj 652 observations / 361 species
- @izafarr475 observations / 242 species
- @jeffdc 315 observations / 157 species
- @jvillari 253 observations / 162 species
- @mjwcarr 194 observations / 90 species

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LANDSCAPE INTERPRETATION

Historical ecologist Michael Gaige returned in 2023 with Oak Spring Garden Foundation's "Reading the Landscape" students for an exploration of our North Section. During this week-long professional workshop,

students develop the skills to forensically analyze the vegetation, topography, and forest growth patterns that enable them to decipher historic human uses of a now wild landscape.

CEMETERY NIGHT HIKE

Late in October, preserve staff led a two-mile hike after sundown to visit the preserve's cemeteries. Along the way they recounted mountain folklore and anecdotes of cultural history. Partic-

ipants discussed the macabre realities of burial techniques and the diversity of spiritual practices known from the mountain and beyond. Much of this local history is still unknown, but each year more stories and information from the





GRATITUDE HIKE

Visitors took to the trails on a guided four-mile hike in the brisk fall weather. Starting with the Mill Overlook, hikers learned about the history of the people in the mountains and the challenges they faced living off the land. Visitors were encouraged to share what they were grateful for and left with a greater appreciation for the mountains that gave people what they needed.

MYCOLOGY HIKE

Heavy rain in the week leading up to this hike brought relief from the long drought of the summer and an opportunity for the fungus inside the præserve to finally fruit. This

year's mycology hike was the autumn version of an egg hunt, with bright, colorful mushrooms hiding everywhere in plain sight, from the chunky boletes to the poisonous amanitas to the bright orange sulfur shelves.

BOB LEE HIKE

VOF's former executive director, Bob Lee, brought out a group of local leadership cohorts to explore our South Section. Along this hike, former VOF trustee, Childs Burden, is seen here regaling everyone with direct written accounts by soldiers as they passed through the area during the Battle of Thoroughfare Gap.

DESCENDANT'S DAY

In April, members of the Robinson-Corum family—one of the last families to live out on the preserve—joined staff from VOF and the Afro-American Historical Association to record oral histories of their families' histories. In October, we welcomed them back for our 2nd Annual Robinson-Corum Descendant's Day at the preserve, where several generations made a meaningful annual sojourn to the location of their historic homestead and

family cemetery.



This spring, the preserve hosted the Girl Scouts of America to hike, learn about the natural environment, and employ new skills to earn their badges. The 135 girl scouts and parents ventured out over two weekends in April to earn their Eco Learner badges (Daisies,) Outdoor Adventurer badges (Brownies,) Flower badges (Juniors,) and Tree badges (Cadettes.)

We also welcomed frequent volunteer and visitor of the preserve, Scout Master Tom Dragone, who brought seven Boy Scouts to earn their Environmental Science Merit badges on May 13th. They learned about stream erosion, surveyed and calculated plant diversity at two different sites, and volunteered with preserve staff to remove invasive plants from around a preserve cemetery.

POKÉMON GO DAY

Satoshi Tajiri, creator
of the popular Japanese
video game Pokémon, was
a hobbyist entomologist in
his youth, and he invented
Pokémon to instill a naturalist's love of finding critters
and learning about them. The

Pokémon Go Community Day at the preserve was complete with a picture scavenger hunt, a matching game to compare

Pokémon to their real-life natural equivalents, and a table to learn more about plants, fungi, and insects.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

NATIVE SEED CONFERENCE

The Institute for Applied Ecology and the Native Seed Network held an international conference in Washington, D.C. where ecologists and seed experts gathered to discuss the status of native seed research globally. Field trips were offered as a part of the conference to botanically significant locations, and some participants came from around the world to experience the

wonder and ecology of the Bull Run Mountains Natural Area Preserve.

INSECT BLACKLIGHTING

Visitors gathered for a latenight event in the preserve to see what kind of insects a black light will bring. Highlights included the elusive mantidfly and the Hercules beetle.



SALAMANDER MIGRATION

After sundown on February
19th, the conditions were rainy
and just above freezing, ideal
for the large spotted salamanders
(Ambystoma maculatum) to emerge
from underground. For a few short
nights every year, the spotted salamanders inhabit the vernal pools and
ditches to breed, laying their clutches of
eggs in jelly-like sacs. Even at a shortnotice invitation from the preserve's social
media, 35 participants came out in the chilly,
wet weather to see one of the most amazing yearly
occurrences at the preserve.

WINEBERRY REMOVAL

This volunteer outreach event in July was centered around inviting the public to harvest an edible resource (something one isn't normally permitted to do at a natural area preserve) just before destroying the invasive plant itself. Wineberry (Rubus phoenicolasius) is an invasive bramble that competes with native plants. Wineberry Day allowed participants to collect the fruit, which helps prevent seed dispersal. Preserve staff provided a wineberry cobbler recipe.

NEW YEAR'S EVE HIKE

To close out 2023, a group of hikers ventured into the pristine, facilitated-access. North Section trails.

Together, with preserve staff leading the way, they discovered the cultural history in the walls, springs, cemeteries, and house foundations of families who previously lived in the Bull Run

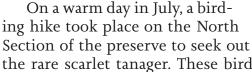
Mountains and learned how those inhabitants once used the land.



We proudly collaborated with Prince William County's Department of Historic Preservation on a September cemetery hike. Special thanks to PWC's Cemetery Preservation Coordinator Emma Dietrich and Historic Communities

Coordinator Lauren Maloy for making this

for making possible.



BIRD OUTING

the rare scarlet tanager. These birders took to the scenic trails to see forest interior dwelling species, like the wood thrush and Acadian flycatchers, as well as edge habitat species like the eastern towhee.

DCR STAFF VISIT

The Virginia Department of
Conservation and Recreation's newly
appointed director, Matthew Wells, and
deputy director of operations, Frank Stovall,
visited the preserve along with Mike Lott, DCR's
regional manager of our sister preserve, Crow's Nest
Natural Area Preserve, to discuss future plans for the
Bull Run Mountains preserve.



CONSERVATION

DCR RESILIENCY

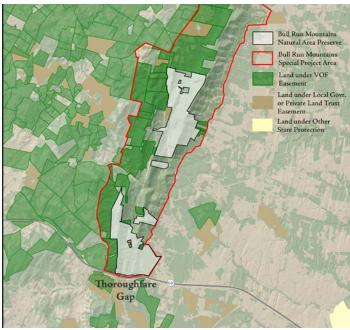
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's Dan Hannon, Rob Evans, James Watling, and Mike Lott kindly ventured up from DCR's Richmond office and Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve to join VOF Deputy Director Leslie Grayson and Preserve Manager Joe Villari to develop an interagency resiliency plan for Bull Run Mountains Natural Area Preserve and surrounding lands.

DCR and VOF look at surrounding non-preserve property within the Bull Run Mountains as just as critical to the conservation of our region as those within our boundaries. These properties provide essential buffer lands and natural corridors that equally protect the resources, spirit, and feel of this rugged Northern Virginia mountain range.

If you have a property within the Bull Run Mountains that you might consider selling, donating, or placing within a tax-advantaged conservation easement, please reach out to Joe Villari at jvillari@vof.org or Leslie Grayson at lgrayson@vof.org.

These mountains' conservation legacy is one built upon a history of private-public partnerships, and there is still much work to be done.







BUTTERNUT TREE SEARCH

Butternut trees are a species within the Juglans genus (a relative of the black walnut) that have had their populations severely devastated by a fungal blight. Naturalist and VOF volunteer Sam Cragun has been searching around Fauquier County for butternut survivors. Historic populations were noted by DCR-DNH vegetative ecologist Gary Fleming in a 2002 report, and we are happy to announce that both of those examples still appear to be thriving and producing butternuts. A third, previously unknown population was also mapped and will be monitored as we continue to search for further remnants of an uncommon and pressured native tree species.



A TORTOISE IN OUR HAIR

Late this past summer, preserve staff came across this box turtle-sized oddball with a duller shell and a plastron without a hinge. Much to our surprise, it was not a box turtle at all!

The Afghan (or Russian) tortoise is popular in the pet trade. This desert dweller is far from home here in the Bull Run Mountains, where our native box turtles thrive and are adapted to this more humid environment and colder winters.

Whether this individual was an escaped pet or a misguided release, this poor creature was doomed unless rescued and a good reminder to never release non-native species into the

local environment.

Happily, once retrieved, Taryn Bromser-Kloeden—our former preserve specialist, current professor with Purdue Global, and friend to all animals—was equipped to take in our lost tortoise and foster it until a more permanent home could be found.

RARE LICHEN DISCOVERY

Preserve Manager Joe Villari joined Clifton Institute Executive Director Dr. Bert Harris to scour the Bull Run Mountains for a previously unrecorded, globally rare lichen, Canoparmelia alabamensis. It took significant searching, but we are thrilled to report that a population comprising at least 400 individuals was discovered. Dr. Harris is helping collect data for an upcoming IUCN red list report, and there are plans to use this data to work with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation to establish a state ranking as it is currently too mysterious to yet have a proper state conservation status.



LAMBERT PARCEL SUPPORTS PRESERVE

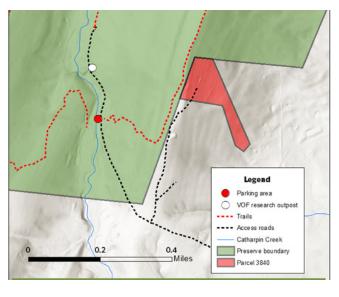
In 2021 the Gerard B. Lambert Foundation offered its remaining parcel of Fauquier County real estate to VOF. The other real estate that it acquired via the will of Rachel Lambert Mellon had either been sold or transferred to the Oak Spring Garden Foundation.

VOF accepted the gift, and after a determination as to how best to protect the property, we made a public offering of it for sale subject to an enhanced and very restrictive open space easement. VOF's Board of Trustees also authorized the dedication of the proceeds to support and benefit work at the Bull Run Mountains Natural Area Preserve.

The property sold in 2023 and resulted in a significant contribution of \$1.7 million to the Bull Run Mountains Fund held by VOF for the preserve.

Philanthropic acts such as this have been the primary reason for the original land acquisitions, the creation of the Natural Area Preserve, and its continued expansion and enhancement.

CONSERVATION



EASTERN OVERLOOK **ACQUISITION**

VOF staff submitted an application in 2022 for a Virginia Land Conservation Fund (VLCF) grant in the Natural Areas category to acquire a threatened parcel adjacent to the Jackson Hollow section of the preserve. The ~10-acre parcel is situated on a high ridge on the edge of the preserve, with a rare view to the east and the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The tract adjoins the preserve and has been assigned a biological management intent score of 1, the highest possible ranking.

This parcel (highlighted in red in the accompanying figure) is identified by ConserveVirginia as

important for natural habitat and ecosystem diversity and protected landscape resilience. Due to its location, it will secure an area that has had recurring trespassing issues by off-road vehicles while also providing a place to observe and do research. Plans are to install a small-footprint MOTUS tower to gather data on bird migrations and other species. MOTUS is an international collaborative research network that uses coordinated automated radio telemetry to facilitate research and education on the ecology and conservation of migratory animals.

We are excited to announce that the application was selected for a grant of up to \$500,000 from VLCF to acquire the parcel, and the property was added this year to the preserve.

TROUT RELEASES

In the fall of 2015, VOF was contacted by Dr. Kirk Smith, who was interested in investigating the streams within the preserve for their potential suitability to hold a brook trout (Salvelinus fontinalis) population. After a review of several potential reintroduction streams, the headwaters of Catharpin Creek were selected as a reintroduction site. In the spring of 2017, we kicked off this collaboration with Trout Unlimited's Trout-in-the-Classroom program with a pioneer population of 50 brook trout fry. Since that inaugural season, between hundreds of brook trout fry have been released each year. During the 2023 trout season, a record-setting 729 additional brook trout have been released by K–12 schools throughout Northern Virginia.









PUBLIC ACCESS & LAND MANAGEMENT







A COMMUNITY PROJECT

In 2023, we had 62 different people volunteer 823 hours of their time. We thank each of you from the bottom of our hearts! Some highlights:

- Potomac Appalachian Trail Club District Manager Mike Custodio invested 238 hours of his time to keeping our trail system in the best shape possible.
- Out Stewardship Committee built footbridges and provided a number of other contributions that allow preserve visitors with better access to cross over and engage with our wetland environments.

Volunteers in 2023

823

62 Volunteers

 Local Hill School of Middleburg educator and VOF volunteer Michael Barreda developed and installed a new brand water system that feeds our VOF Research Outpost in the Jackson Hollow section.

If you are interested in volunteering with us, keep an eye on our MeetUp volunteer page: /bull-run-mountains-natural-area-preserve-volunteers

Hiker Data 2023 Bull Run Mountains Natural Area Preserve					
	Jan 1 - Dec 31	Average Weekend	Peek Day	Peek Count	
South Section Trails	7,578	102	Sun, Oct 22	237	
VOF-Organized Hike Turn-Out	421				

PUBLIC ACCESS & LAND MANAGEMENT

ARTIFACT DISCOVERIES

Bull Run Mountains Natural Area Preserve is a leave no trace property and does not allow collecting. Please help us preserve and share our history by leaving things in place until they can be properly studied in context by professional archaeologists.

If you find something of importance while visiting, please reach out to us with information on its locality and a photograph. We will ensure that you are recorded of the discoverer of the artifact, so we may study it in context before anchoring it within our Bull Run Mountains community archives that aims to preserve these objects and their place within our local history for many generations to come.



- (1) This axe head, found by John Lenox, could have been used by an early Bull Run Mountains homesteader to harvest American chestnut for lumber.
- (2-3) These two arrowheads, one found by Michael Barreda and Leslie Grayson on the North Section and the other by Deneith Reif on the South Section, are remnants of the Manahoac tribe.
- (4) Preserve Manager Joe Villari recently located this 3-ring minie ball bullet that was most likely intended to be fired by a Union soldier's Springfield rifle during the Battle of Thoroughfare Gap.











Invasive Plant Management

500

Hours Spent Removing Invasive Plants in 2023



IMPROVEMENTS TO STONE HOUSE

We are happy to report that the historically renovated stone house, ca. 1810, now has basic electricity. With the completion of a drainage trench around the foundation and a dehumidifier inside, the house is now safe from moisture, which once threatened the integrity of the structure. These improvements are crucial to preserving one of our most beloved buildings and are slowly enabling us to convert this structure into a small community museum where we can showcase artifacts important to these mountains.

STONE WALL CONSERVATION

The angular and resilient stone in the Bull Run Mountains remains one of its most valuable resources. The remnants of past inhabitants are written in stone, and the skills needed to build dry-stacked stone walls are unfortunately being lost in our modern era. In an effort to enable better care for our historic stone structures, Conservation Assistant John Lenox enrolled in a dry-stack stonewalling course from the Stone Trust in Vermont. Upon his return, a short section of dilapidated wall was carefully selected. Our team collected quantitative and qualitative data on the position, dimensions, build quality, conditions, and current appearance of this stretch before restoration was completed.





PARKING LOT

Bull Run Mountains Natural Area Preserve is on track to finish the biggest site improvement in 2024. The development of this more welcoming parking lot and trailhead will significantly improve how the public will be able to interface with the preserve by increasing visitor safety and confidence, as well improving site security and stewardship potential.

PUBLIC ACCESS & LAND MANAGEMENT



TRAIL CONSTRUCTION

This year, preserve staff and volunteers builts more than 1.8 miles of trails and constructed two new bridges and three new stretches of bog walks. The purpose of the trail construction is to improve access and visitor experience for our hikers by adding a number of natural and cultural features that were previously hidden off trail, moving the trail off of unsustainable old roadbeds and pulling the trails away from the noise of Route 66 traffic. In addition, three cemeteries were released from their overgrown state to honor those spaces and to allow for non-invasive research.

Shoutout to Potomac Appalachian Trail Club volunteer Mike Custodio, who dedicated a tremendous amount of time to helping make this possible. All of this trail construction has set us up to move our trailhead to the new parking area coming in 2024.





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Special Thanks To

ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

Afro-American Museum of Fauquier County Archaeological Society of Virginia Blue Ridge Wildlifé Center **Boy Scouts of America Bull Run Mountains Conservancy** Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund
Department of Conservation and Recreation Division of Natural Heritage Department of Historic Resources Fauquier County Government GMU TWS Student Chapter Howard University Leopold's Preserve and the White House Farm Foundation **Norfolk Southern** Oak Spring Garden Foundation **Outdoor Afro** Piedmont Environmental Council Potomac Appalachian Trail Club Prince William County Government Prince William NAACP Reserva: The Youth Land Trust Roland Farms Ruth E. Lloyd Information Center (RELIC) Sacharuna Foundation Smithsonian Institution The Clifton Institute Trout Unlimited Turn the Mill Around Campaign
Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
Virginia Herpetological Society
Virginia Master Naturalist Virginia Native Plant Society Virginia Natural History Society Virginia Tech Virginia Working Landscapes

K-12 PARTNERS

Deer Park Elementary School
Franklin Sherman Elementary School
George Mason High School
Gro Preschool & Natural Education Space
Hillside Elementary and Burgundy Farm
James Madison High School
Lorien Wood School
Mountainside Montessori
The Hill School of Middleburg
Thomas Jefferson High School

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS

Ben Kligman Bosco Gorske Callie Broaddus Chuck Hoysa Copper Fox Distillery David Shilton Dick Gongaware Dr. Angus Goldberg Dr. Art Evans Dr. Dave Smith Dr. Jonathan Shurberg Dr. Kirk Smith Dr. Mike Johnson Dr. Susan Leopold Emeline Otey Gary Fleming George Kingsley George Paine Fritz Reuter Howard Thompson Jacob Saucier Janis Stone eanann Foster Jim Connal Karen Hughes White Kevin Denham Kim Strader Kirk Johnson Leo & Matt Scolforo Logan Blake Lorenzo Lee Bean Lori Udall Matt Lake Matt Sheedy Michael Barreda Michael J.W. Carr Michael Gaige Michael Lott Mike Custodio Mike Massey, Randy Dasher, and our entire Stewardship Committee Nicholas Carlsen Our many Oral History Project interviewees Our many generous anonymous donors Patrick O'Neill Phyllis Scott Preston Pennington Redmond Manierre

Sarah Causey Shawn Bailey Shawn Smith **Sonnie Cuffey Summers Cleary** The Anastasiou Family The Bowling Family The Corum Family The Currier Family The Feagan Family The Ritter Family The Robinson Family The Washington Family
Theo Grayson
Tim Dunn The Residents of Hungry Run Valerie Huelsman Val Neitzey

