

FRIENDS OF DUPONT FOREST

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear friends,

As I reflect on this past year, I am filled with immense gratitude for the unwavering support and dedication of our Friends of DuPont Forest community. Your passion for this extraordinary place has helped us achieve significant milestones, and I am excited to share our progress with you.

This year, we continued our commitment to preserving and protecting the trails, waterfalls, and natural beauty that make DuPont State Recreational Forest a treasured destination. Thanks to your generosity, we funded critical trail maintenance projects, supported volunteer-led initiatives, and collaborated closely with our partners at the N.C. Forest Service to enhance every visitor experience.

The impact of our collective efforts was especially evident following Hurricane Helene. The storm caused significant damage to trails and infrastructure, but together, we rose to the challenge of recovery. Your donations and volunteer hours allowed us to respond swiftly, ensuring the Forest was safely reopened for all to enjoy. It was a true testament to the strength of our community.

In addition to our restoration work, we launched new educational programs and community events, fostering a deeper connection between people and nature. From guided hikes to stewardship workshops, we saw firsthand how shared experiences in the Forest inspire lasting memories and a stronger commitment to conservation.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to preserving the natural beauty and ecological integrity of DuPont Forest. With your continued support, we will advance sustainable trail improvements, expand our educational outreach, and champion policies that protect this cherished landscape for generations to come.

Thank you for standing with us. Together, we are ensuring that DuPont Forest remains a place of wonder, adventure, and inspiration.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Al Beers

President, Friends of DuPont Forest



OUR MISSION

We CARE for the trails, PROTECT the natural resources, and INSPIRE love for DuPont State Recreational Forest.

Friends of DuPont Forest is a nonprofit, membership organization that provides a unified voice for DuPont State Recreational Forest. We advocate on behalf of the Forest, renowned for its world class trail system and vibrant waterfalls — natural beauty that provides many opportunities for hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, anglers, naturalists and families.

MASTER REC PLAN

The Forest currently attracts more than 1 million visitors per year—and DuPont’s trails were not designed for such heavy use. The plan suggests capital improvements to enhance the visitor experience while protecting natural resources, along with management recommendations and annual funding requirements.

These proposed changes arose from a thorough trail evaluation, community feedback, and insights from consultants and N.C. Forest Service personnel.

Some trails will become directional, while some others will become designated to specific user groups. We will also build brand-new trails.

The MRP will help prioritize maintaining a sustainable trail system that can accommodate high visitation while protecting the forest’s unique ecology.

The public was overwhelmingly supportive of making some changes to help protect the ecology of the forest and keep the majority of trails multi-use. Some trails will become designated and/or directional in high-traffic areas where safety is a concern to protect natural resources and wildlife to enhance the user experience.

***~10 miles of trail will be designated as equestrian/hiker trails
~5.6 miles of trail will be designated as biker/hiker trails
Hikers will continue to have access to all trails***

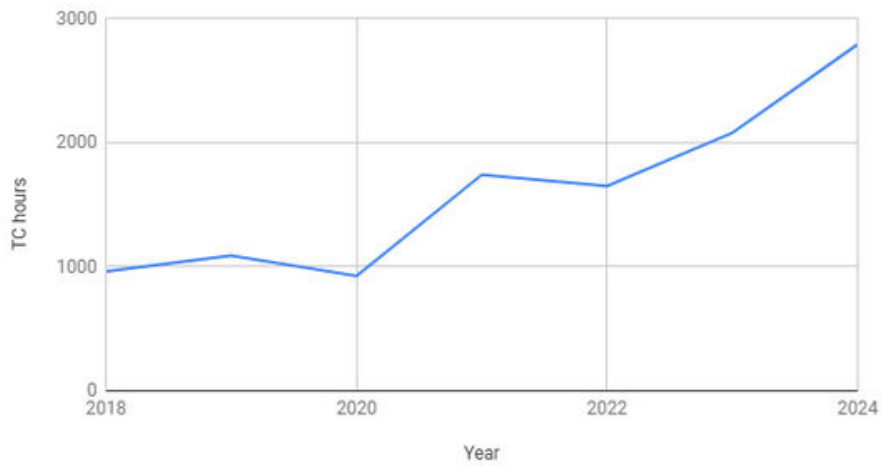


2024 TRAIL CREW PROJECTS

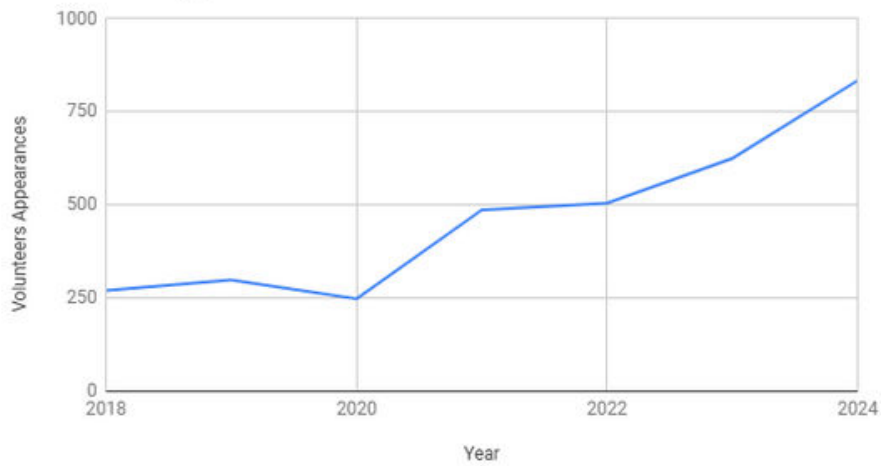
Hilltop	Twin Oaks	Rocky Ridge
Jim Branch	Tarkiln Branch Rd	Three Lakes
Ruffed Grouse	Ridgeline	Stone Mountain
Thomas Cemetery	Turkey Knob	Longside
Isaac Heath	Cascade Loop	Twixt
Micajah	Wilkie	Corn Mill Shoals
Laurel Ridge	Cart	Shelter Rock
Big Rock	Airstrip	Nooks
Burnt Mountain	Flat Rock	Farmhouse
Shoal Creek	Hooker Creek	Jim Branch
Mine Mountain	Cedar Rock	Reasonover Creek

Trail Crew stats over the years

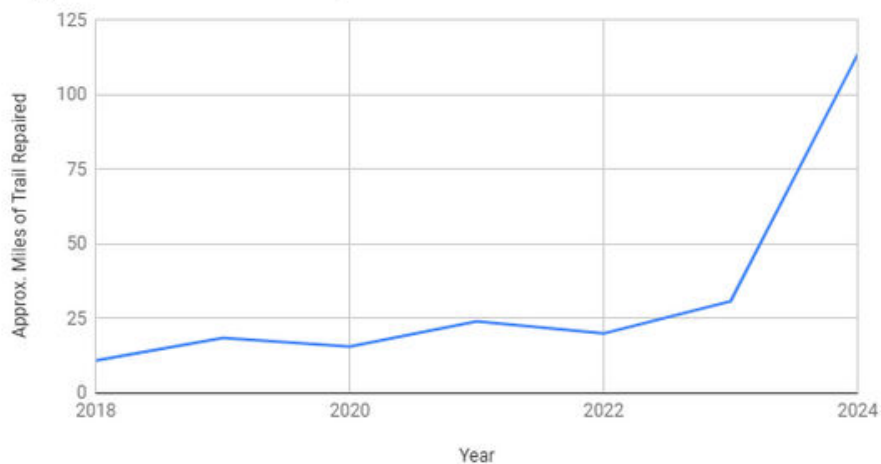
TC hours vs. Year



Volunteers Appearances vs. Year



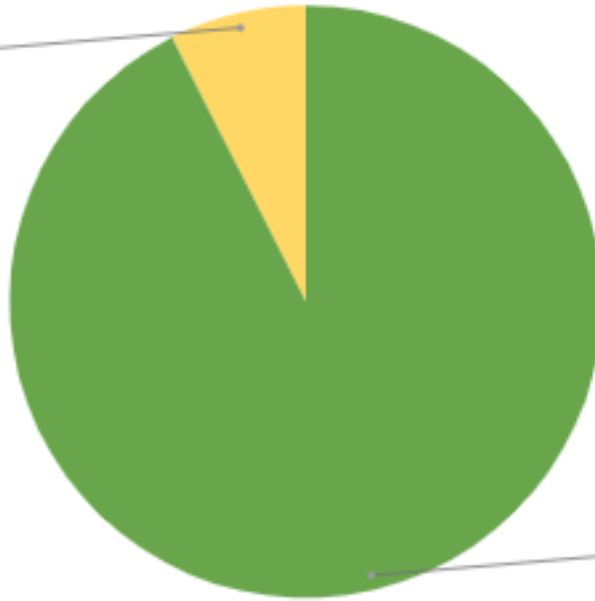
Approx. Miles of Trail Repaired vs. Year



2024 FINANCIALS

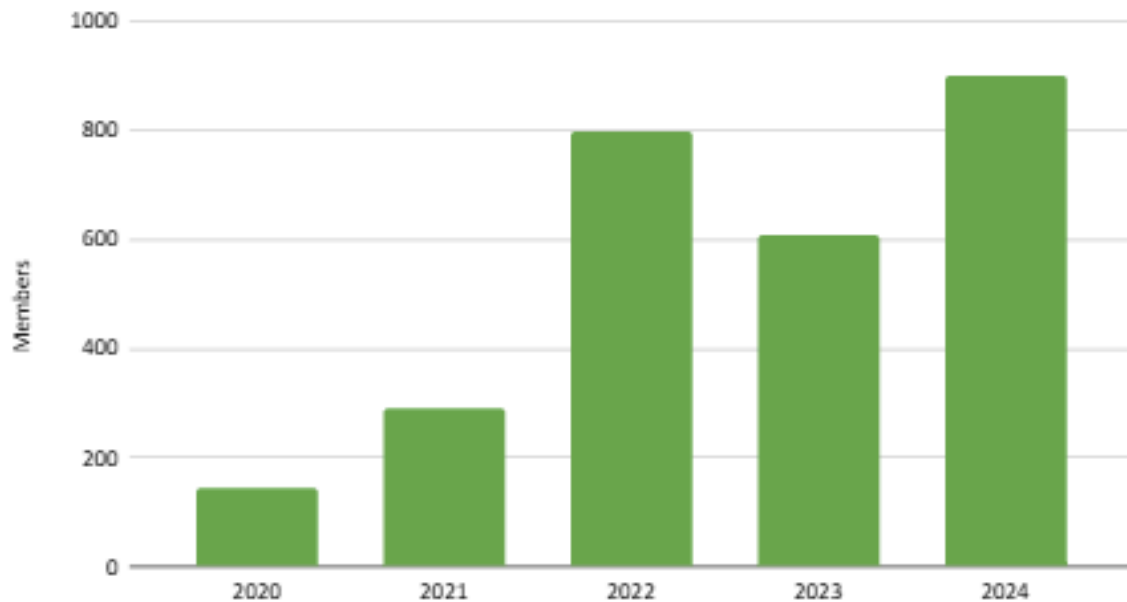
2024 Revenue

Grants
7.5%



Contributions
92.5%

Friends of DuPont Forest Members



2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Al Beers, president

Matt Champion, vice president

Ericka Berg, secretary

Patrick Kennedy, treasurer

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Carolyn Morrisroe

Wes Dickson

Jennifer Nelson

Laura Early

Elizabeth Ruth

Wende Fonvielle

Andrew Schmidt

Amanda Fox-McGlashan

Michael Stewart

Daniel Jessee



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Al Beers

Berry Beyer

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Lyle Burgman

Wes Dickson

Amanda Fox

Randy Jackson

Bev Parlier

Jon Taylor

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Daniel Jessee

Wes Dickson

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Erin Edwards

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Wes Dickson

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Patrick Kennedy,
chair

Al Beers

Michael Stewart

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Jen Nelson, chair

Al Beers

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Wende Fonvielle

Julie Guy

Bev Parlier

Julia Weaver

Eric Young

2024 BUCK FOREST CLUB

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Narsavage

Renee and Todd Broud

Jeff and Elizabeth
Jennings

Marijane Pell

Maghan Cook

Sandra Keffer

Dee Dee Perkins

Edwin and Andrea
Cooper

Kennedy McKay Family

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Greg Seaman

Linda Ellis

Russell Leuthold

Chris and Cynthia
Siemasko

Seth Harrison

Mark Maurer

Nancy Snowden

Mark and Robin Hayes

Amy & Daniel McMorro

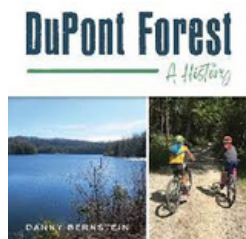
Cindy and Ty Witt

Jim and Pat Houser

Heather McNamara

**The Buck Forest Club is for members who give \$,1000+ annually.*

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



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