



# CONSERVATION THROUGH COMMUNITY

**2014 ANNUAL REPORT**

Photo by Nate Simms

Rensselaer Plateau Alliance



## Mission Statement

**T**he Rensselaer Plateau Alliance works with the community to promote and facilitate the conservation of the Rensselaer Plateau's undeveloped and unfragmented forests and other ecologically important areas. These possess many significant natural features and provide many benefits including natural habitats for plants and animals; forest products, recreation and most important, water and air quality.

## Alliance Members

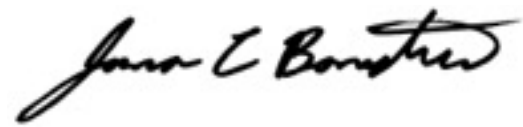
Rensselaer Land Trust  
Friends of the Dyken Pond Center  
Friends of the Grafton Lake State Park  
Grafton Trail Riders  
Mohawk-Hudson Cycling Club  
The Nature Conservancy  
The Conservation Fund  
Babcock Lake Estates  
The Trust for Public Land  
The Village of East Nassau  
Berlin Mountain Fish & Game Club  
New York Forest Owners Association (CDC)  
Audubon New York  
Black River Raiders  
Spring Lake Association  
Trout Unlimited (Home-Waters Chapter)  
Northeastern Cave Conservancy  
New York Flora Association  
Agricultural Stewardship Association  
Taconic Hiking Club  
Friends of Cherry Plain State Park  
Capital Region Nordic Alliance  
Saratoga Mountain Bike Association  
Greater Stockport Creek Watershed Alliance  
SKYHIGH Adventures  
Sidney Albert Albany JCC  
Regional Plan Association  
Albany Area Amateur Astronomers  
Wyomanock Center  
Graftonondack Outfitters  
Dynamic Sports Adventure



October 2014 marked RPA's 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We have accomplished so much in those 6 years. We have laid the foundation for conservation on the Rensselaer Plateau by developing the Rensselaer Plateau Regional Conservation Plan and engaging the many stakeholders of the region. This engagement has included numerous workshops for landowners, events for the general public and regular contact with our town and village representatives and other elected officials. We move forward now guided by a brand new 5 year strategic plan.

We have been working toward conservation for what seems to us like a long time but in 2014 we reached the important milestone of conserving our own land. In November we closed on the purchase of the 350 acre Rensselaer Plateau Community Forest. With a very active volunteer committee of community members and a wide range of partners this acquisition has the potential to bring so much to the community; public recreation including trail networks and a mountain bike skills course and a demonstration forest for best practices for sustainable forestry with onsite training for landowners and forest products professionals. Look for a variety of educational programs for children and adults as we work with our partners to implement our five year Community Forest Plan.

In another watershed milestone; this year in partnership with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Hudson River Estuary Program, Rensselaer Land Trust, Agricultural Stewardship Association and 15 landowners we submitted a grant to the Forest Legacy Program of the US Forest Service. The application, (which at the time of this writing has been recommended for funding in the federal budget and has ranked #5 nationally), requested \$5,455,000 to protect 12,348 acres of forest that link the State Capital District Wildlife Management Area, County Dyken Pond Environmental Education Center, and our new Community Forest, increasing protected land on the 118,000-acre plateau by 145%. The program requires a state match of about 25%, which will be met by the State Environmental Protection Fund making for a total project of almost \$8 million. We look forward to Congress funding this program in the fiscal year 2016 budget as they have done consistently for many years.



Jim Bonesteel  
President

I want to thank our amazing volunteer board of directors that has put in countless hours to make these successes happen. I also want to thank all of our supporters, partners and donors without which we could not have done what we have done.



Board of Directors

- Rachel Riemann Akera
- Jim Bonesteel - President
- Fred DeMay - Vice President
- Francille Egbert
- Richard Gibbs
- Shari Gibbs
- Alice Howard
- Lawrence Howard
- Lisa Hoyt
- David Hunt
- Walter Kersch - Treasurer
- Sarah Parks - Secretary
- Rik Scarce

Photo by Nate Simms





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“Glad to support such a beautiful,  
local resource”  
- Ira Baumgarten

Vision Statement

The Rensselaer Plateau Alliance envisions all human activities on the Plateau guided by consideration for the Plateau as a whole. The Alliance, a coalition of organizations and individuals, recognizes that the Plateau is greater than the sum of its parts. Our members will foster communication about the value of natural resources and other common values held by the communities of the region and, in concert, help to advance those values on a regional scale. Our vision will be realized when each of the wide range of human activities that occurs on the Plateau leaves the Plateau in better harmony with the ecological whole.

*Working cooperatively with groups & individuals,  
RPA listens, inspires, leads & gets results.*

Our Vision for the Plateau... 100 years from today

The Rensselaer Plateau remains a large unfragmented forest with abundant lakes, wetlands and streams that run with high quality water which helps provide the entire County with drinking water. The land consists of a patchwork of private and public properties that has been voluntarily protected by landowners and municipalities that are fully aware of the benefits of forested land and open space. The local economy thrives with recreation based businesses, tourism and locally grown forest products. People can hike, ski, bike, horseback ride and snowmobile on a trail system that connects the far corners of the Plateau. Wildlife abounds. There are healthy populations of large mammals such as moose, black bear, bobcat, forest interior bird species and an abundance of native fish such as brook trout. Native plant and animal species that existed on the Plateau in 2010 still thrive.

People visit the Plateau not only for its recreation and scenic beauty but to enjoy the hunting and fishing which have seen resurgence in popularity. A large percentage of the Plateau remains working forest providing valuable timber resources. There are core areas that have been left as wildlands and are now old growth forests supporting species such as Northern Goshawks. Visitors marvel at the large trees and undisturbed surroundings. Well-planned development on the Plateau has resulted in a high quality of life and higher property values. It has minimized the cost of municipal services resulting in lower residential property taxes. Children have natural areas where they can play and explore freely, feeling as comfortable in the woods as anywhere. The residents that live on or near the Plateau share a special community and are proud of their forests, lakes and streams. Residents have excellent sources of information about tools that help them keep their land in forest and understand the ways they can live that minimize their impact on the ecological resources of the Plateau. The communities on the Plateau support land owners and are fully aware of the benefits of forested land and open space. The surrounding cities and towns are proud to have the Rensselaer Plateau nearby and continue to find more ways to make green connections, wildlife and recreation corridors between the Plateau and other existing protected areas. The Plateau is an intact, functioning, unstressed ecosystem with the dynamic buffering capacity to sustain itself in the face of large scale natural disturbances.

## Accomplishments in 2014

This year has been an exceptionally successful year for the Rensselaer Plateau Alliance. From becoming the owners of the Rensselaer Plateau Community Forest (350-acre parcel in Poestenkill) to submitting a Forest Legacy grant application to conserve over 12,000 acres to gathering input from stakeholders for a Trail Vision Plan to countless educational programs, we have accomplished a great deal!



### Community Forest

RPA became the proud new owners of the Rensselaer Plateau Community Forest, a 350-acre parcel located in the town of Poestenkill. This was possible through a major grant from the US Forest Service and a generous donation from Callanan Industries... *See Page 9*



### Forest Legacy

Working with multiple landowners, we again applied for the Forest Legacy Grant to provide federal funds for the purchase of development rights on over 12,000 acres – a substantial increase from our submission of 2,600 acres last year... *See Page 11*



### Educational & Recreational Programs

The RPA ran numerous educational and recreational programs this year, providing opportunities for community members with varied interests, including a Woods Forums, Estate Planning Workshops, our annual Traverse Hike and more... *See Page 11*



### Trail Vision

The Rensselaer Plateau Alliance is leading the effort to develop a Trail Vision Plan for the Rensselaer Plateau. This project brings together Plateau municipalities, landowners, recreation organizations, local business and other community members to create a vision for a future network of trails... *See Page 13*



### Public Awareness

This was an exceptional year in raising the public awareness of the Rensselaer Plateau Alliance. We developed a new brochure, website, general case statement and a community forest case statement... *See Page 14*



### Organizational Capacity

We have developed a Strategic Plan, a Comprehensive Development Plan and a Community Forest Plan.... *See Page 14*



### Town Engagement

This year, through meetings, presentations and workshops, we engaged with the Plateau towns to provide information about the Plateau to municipal officials, including collaborative Land Use Planning Workshops and presentations on the Rensselaer Plateau Conservation Plan and the accompanying User Guides... *See Page 14*



## Community Forest

In November 2014, the RPA became the proud new owners of the Rensselaer Plateau Community Forest. Our Community Forest, a 350-acre parcel located in the town of Poestenkill, will provide educational, recreational, environmental and economic benefits to the community. The Community Forest Committee, a committee comprised of community members and RPA board members, meets regularly to discuss and make decisions about the Community Forest.

In February 2014, on behalf of the Community Forest Committee, the RPA submitted a Community Forest grant to the US Forest Service for acquisition of the 350-acre parcel. The RPA was awarded the grant, and was, in fact, ranked #1 nationally! The grant provides 50% of the funds needed for acquisition. Callanan Industries, Inc. a leading supplier of paving materials and construction services in New York to government, commercial and private customers, and the seller of the land, generously donated \$100,000 toward the acquisition. The RPA closed on the parcel on November 19, 2014 and has embarked on a capital campaign to raise the remaining funds for acquisition, start-up and operation costs.

Our active Community Forest Committee kept busy this year with developing the Community Forest Plan, and with planning events and programs for 2015, among other items. The Community Forest Plan covers topics such as objectives, community benefits, community partnerships, strategies for obtaining goals (including financial), and includes a 5-year plan. Many events and programs have also been planned for 2015 such as: the Ribbon Cutting on Earth Day, Forest Investigation for Families, Learning Bird Calls, Identifying Mushrooms, the First Annual Community Forest Run/Walk, and much more!

**There are four main objectives for the Community Forest: (1) Experiential Education, (2) Recreation, (3) Economic Development, and (4) Protection of Natural Resources.**

### Experiential Education

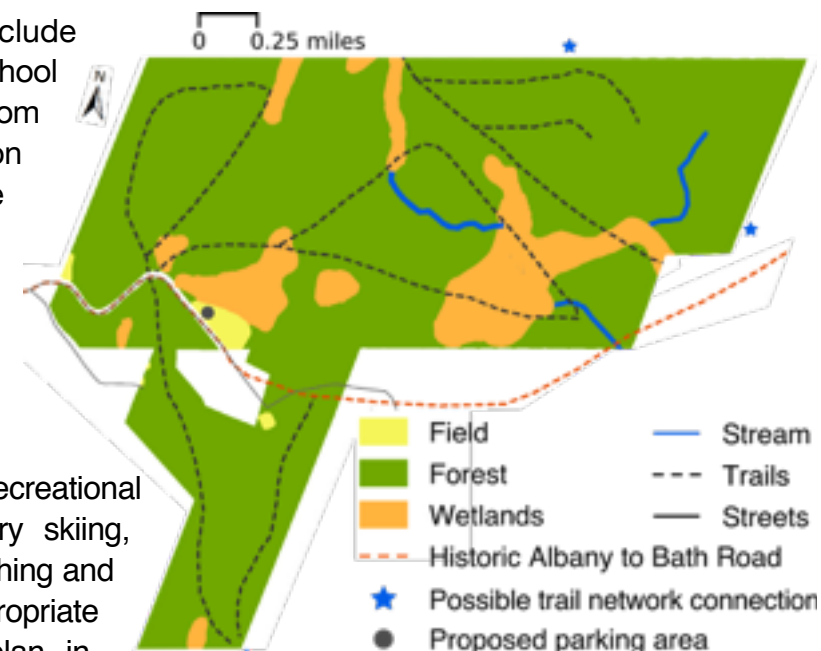
The Community Forest will be used as a demonstration forest in that it will exhibit best management practices and will serve as a replicable model of effective forest stewardship for private landowners. Various programs will provide education on topics such as the development of stewardship plans, timber harvesting, and invasive species management. Landowners will be able to participate in the timber stand improvement and harvesting process from start to finish. The Community Forest will also offer forest-based experiential learning, serving as a center of education for community members and offering programs for both children and adults.



Children's educational programs will include hands-on learning workshops, as well as school field trips. Topics of education will range from education about flora and fauna to education about the values of forested areas. Here are some of the programs that will be offered: Vocational Training, Educational Woods Walks, Historic Hikes, Service Learning and Citizen Science Projects.

### Recreation

The Community Forest will offer various recreational opportunities, including hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, orienteering, snowmobiling, fishing and hunting (coordinated during seasonally appropriate times, as part of a deer management plan in cooperation with the New York Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources). A trail network will be established within the Community Forest and there may be opportunities to link to other nearby trails.



### Economic Development

The Community Forest will act as a stimulus for local economic development and community collaboration. There will be economic development opportunities through tourism, as the Community Forest will act as part of a broader initiative to increase recreational tourism on the Rensselaer Plateau, thereby bringing economic development opportunities, such as expansion of lodging, food and recreation, to the local community. Already, the nearby cross-country ski area hosts 5,500 people each year. Because many are not local, the skiers generate 82% of the Plateau's overnight visitors, who have a greater impact than local visitors (Rensselaer Plateau Economic Study 2012). Additionally, the Community Forest will raise awareness of the importance of the local forest products industry by providing information at kiosks, educational programming and through a partnership with Empire State Forest Products Association. This will help to increase business for the various existing sawmills in the county.

### Protection of Natural Resources

The Community Forest aids in protecting high quality natural communities and the ecosystem services they provide, such as clean water, clean air, stormwater management/flood resiliency and wildlife habitat. It is located within the Poesten Kill watershed and is within the watershed ranked 10th most important for drinking water and most threatened by development among 540 watersheds in the 20-state Northeastern Area. The Poesten Kill is a New York State designated native brook trout stream and cold-water fishery, and is listed in the National Park Service's Nationwide Rivers Inventory. The parcel protects intact headwater reaches of the watershed, including a substantive proportion of a wetland complex containing several state-significant communities. The Community Forest parcel overlaps with an important forest-interior block providing valuable wildlife habitat and facilitating species movement. Audubon's Eastern Forest Project identified the Rensselaer Plateau as a priority along the Atlantic Flyway for supporting a high diversity of forest birds of regional concern. The parcel is within a New York State Breeding Bird Atlas block with records of three raptor species listed of Special Concern by New York State: Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Northern Goshawk. The site possibly provides habitat for ten bird species of Greatest Conservation Need.



## Forest Legacy

Working with multiple landowners, we again applied for the Forest Legacy Grant to provide federal funds for the purchase of development rights on 12,348 acres – a substantial increase from our submission of 2,600 acres last year. The Forest Legacy Program is a program of the United States Forest Service (part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture) that seeks to conserve “working forests that protect water quality, provide habitat, forest products, opportunities for recreation and other public benefits.” This joint effort with the Rensselaer Land Trust and the Agricultural Stewardship Association hopes to hear good news in early 2015. If funded, this would create an almost entirely contiguous stretch from the power lines in Stephentown, connecting Cherry Plains State Park and the Capital District Wildlife Management Area, the new Community Forest, up to the Dyken Pond Environmental Education Center.



## Educational and Recreational Programs

The RPA ran numerous educational and recreational programs this year, providing opportunities for community members with varied interests.

### *Woods Forums*

We had a great turnout this year at our Woods Forums, with over 100 landowners participating in facilitated workshops in which landowners came together for a discussion on how to maintain the value of their woods for timber harvesting, recreation, wildlife and for future generations.

### *Estate Planning Workshops*

Landowners who attended the estate planning workshop learned about conservation strategies, such as easements, life estates, purchase of development rights and bargain sales. These landowners also had the opportunity to sign up for a free consultation with an estate planning attorney.

### *Landowners Considering a Cut*

Landowners had the opportunity to attend a hands-on workshop, lead by Master Forest Owner Walter Kersch, in which landowners visited a forested plot marked for a timber stand improvement (TSI) cut, learned how to measure trees to estimate the board feet or cords of woods, and discussed tree conditions for pulp or saw timber. Participants gained a better understanding of how to figure out potential returns and when a tree is of most value.

### *Rensselaer Plateau Traverse Hike*

This year 15 of hearty hikers set out on the annual 33-mile traverse across the Plateau from Tibbits Forest to Stephentown with the encouragement and support of ## private landowners who permitted us to cross their fields and forests.

### *Rensselaer Plateau Birding*

Ten of us birded a beautiful few hours at the Dyken Pond Environmental Education Center of Rensselaer County. Forty-one species, including nine Wood Warblers, were seen or heard, and the event was highlighted by a mother Wood Duck with eight youngsters and a male Purple Finch fluttering its wings on the gravel road in front of the group.

### *Holiday Wreath Making Workshop*

In celebration of the beauty of the winter season, community members joined us to learn to make a balsam wreath from a variety of local greens and cones. We all enjoyed good company, warm drinks, and learned a great new skill.

### *Annual Celebration/Gala*

Our annual gala was a roaring success! We started the evening with wine and appetizers and silent auction bidding to music provided by Doug Williams. The Arlington House catered dinner was followed with remarks from our esteemed guests, Congressman Chris Gibson, Rensselaer County Executive Kathy Jimino, and Hudson River Estuary Coordinator at NYSDEC Fran Dunwell. The 24 auction items and the donations that evening raised over \$3,000.

### *“Wild Grafton! Natural Diversity in Our Backyard”*

In September at Grafton Community Library, local experts David Hunt & Rachel Riemann demonstrated their recently completed, multi-year GIS mapping project that provides an in-depth look at the ecological communities of Grafton and other towns on the Rensselaer Plateau. Attendees learned about Grafton's ecological features such as stream systems and forest interiors that are home to populations of fisher, bobcat, bear, moose, porcupine, hermit thrush, and black-throated blue warbler, as well as many rare plants.





## Trail Vision Plan

The Rensselaer Plateau Alliance is leading the effort to develop a Trail Vision Plan for the Rensselaer Plateau. This project brings together Plateau municipalities, landowners, recreation organizations, local business and other community members to create a vision for a future network of trails. Together, the community is addressing important questions and concerns, such as landowner rights, liability, trail management and maintenance, which will lead to the realization of the Trail Vision. The project is being managed in two phases. This year, we have begun taking steps in Phase I.

Phase I consists of: (1) the development of a map of all existing public trails in and surrounding the Rensselaer Plateau, and (2) public engagement process to gather ideas and concerns. This year, the RPA developed a preliminary map of all existing public trails and has begun the public engagement process. During the Fall, the RPA organized three stakeholder meetings with: (1) RPA Alliance members, (2) Town Open Space, Recreation or Environmental Committees, and (3) Business Associations and Local Businesses. The RPA Alliance member meeting was very well attended, with over ## people in attendance, and generated lots of important feedback regarding possible trail connections, potential concerns, and other ideas, such as locations for trail heads. The following two meetings brought in less people, but nonetheless, provided the RPA with important information. At the start of 2015, public meetings will be held to allow the general community to provide their input. The maps and information gathered from the stakeholder and public meetings will be condensed into a final report.

Phase II, which is contingent on funding, will allow for the development of the Trail Vision Plan, illustrating the envisioned trail network (as well as viable alternatives). In this plan, next steps would need to be identified and prioritized, and details about how the project would be accomplished, including responsibilities, partnerships and sources of funding, would also be included.



## Public Awareness

This was an exceptional year in raising the public awareness of the Rensselaer Plateau Alliance. We developed a new brochure, website, general case statement and a community forest case statement. Additionally, we had dozens of press releases on a variety of topics and events.

## Organizational Capacity

We have made great strides this year in terms of our organizational capacity. We have developed a Strategic Plan, a Comprehensive Development Plan and a Community Forest Plan. Additionally, many of our board members worked through a Capital Campaign training program, readying us for our ongoing Community Forest Capital Campaign.

## Town Engagement

This year, through several meetings, presentations and workshops, we worked to engage with the Plateau towns to provide information about the Plateau to municipal officials.

This Fall, the RPA collaborated with several organizations, including Hudsonia and the Hudson River Estuary Program, to run two Land Use Planning Workshops, in which municipal officials had hands-on experience with understanding and applying the new ecological community maps. These programs were a great success, with attendees commenting, "Phenomenal! I will share this information with my fellow Planning Board members to guide us in the future," and "The map is great! I'm sure our board will refer to the map for all our subdivisions."

Additionally, the RPA met individually with numerous town supervisors to inform them about the Rensselaer Plateau Conservation Plan and the accompanying User Guides. Following these meetings, the RPA made presentations to several Town Boards providing them with an overview of the Plan and the User Guides. Finally, the RPA hosted quarterly town engagement meetings, in which officials from various towns got together for a dinner followed by a short presentation and discussion on a particular topic such as the Trail Vision Plan and the Community Forest.





Donor Acknowledgement

Thank you to everyone who made contributions in 2014. Reflected below are contributions received between January 1st, 2014 and December 31st, 2014. We have made every effort to ensure the accurate listing of our supporters. Please email info@rensselaerplateau.org to note any corrections.

Grants & Donations from Organizations

Callanan Industries, Inc.  
Farm Credit East  
Highstead Foundation  
New York State Conservation Partnership Program  
Sand Lake Garden Club  
Spring Lake Holding Corp.  
Taconic Hiking Club  
US Forest Service

Donations from Individuals & Families

Plateau Visionary (Greater than \$1,000)

Robert & Sandra Hardt  
Alice & Harold Howard  
Merideth Mueller  
Chester & Karen Opalka  
Susan Poisson-Dollar & Gerard Dollar  
Claire Resnik  
Gary Thomann

Plateau Patron (\$500 - \$999)

Barbara Davis  
Fred & Mona DeMay  
Fran Egbert  
Richard & Shari Gibbs  
Tom Phillips  
Rachel Riemann  
Janet C. Taylor

Catalyst (\$250 - \$499)

Nadine & Ira Baumgarten  
Jim Bonesteel & Jill Rembetski  
Alejandro Gutierrez  
Pat Harrington & George Wilson  
Stanley & June Hmielenski  
Steven & Deborah Pentak  
Brian Petraitis  
David Trickey  
Kristina Younger

Steward (\$100 - \$249)

Robin Andrews  
Donald Anthony  
Wendy Carey  
Ingrid & Stephen Dyott  
Priscilla Fairbank  
Angelo Frascarelli  
Marc Gerstman  
Shirley & Herbert Gordon  
Dave Hintermeier  
Marcia Hopple  
Lawrence Howard  
Ellen & William Jennings  
Robert Juenger  
Sally Lawrence  
Bob Mayo & Linda Maier  
John Meierhoffer  
John Mesch  
Bill Niemi  
Elizabeth Pohlmann  
James Slavin  
Spiro Socaris  
Robert Weber  
Jeanine Wisniewski  
Walter Kersch  
Kay & Bill Valentino

Trail Blazer (\$50 - \$99)

Barbara Ahern  
Gerald Beer  
Christina & Edward Blanchard  
Jean & Jeffrey Briggs  
Kevin Carpenter  
Leslie & Thomas Carroll  
Robert Dawes  
Michael Dirac  
Stephen Fry  
Joan Gross  
Jim Gumaer  
William & Kathryn Hardy  
Lisa Hoyt  
Eugene & Susan McLaren  
Sarah Parks & Jaron Kuppers  
Thomas Pecoraro  
Renee & Robert Phaneuf  
Nancy Reich  
John & Claudia Reinemann  
Laura Ryder  
Freling Smith  
Robert & Eileen Stegemann  
Darrell Welch  
Brian Zweig



Photo by Nate Simms

Ally (Under \$50)

Fred Bockis  
Heather & Rob Bruce  
Geraldine Butkus  
Cheryl Cammer & Howard Traite  
Constance Cooper  
Ryan Day  
Carolyn & John Durnin  
Seth Edelman  
Peter Finn  
Arthur Fontijn  
Daniel Frament  
Linda Gre  
Paul Gregory  
Rebecca Harrison  
Robert Loesch  
Kenneth Mangione  
Alan Opresko  
Cheryl Sarjeant  
Rik Scarce  
Marcy Steinberg  
Carl & Laura Weidemann

In-Kind Donations of Event Spaces

Brunswick Community Center  
Darrow School  
Pineridge XC Ski  
Shulman, Howard & McPherson LLP  
Stephentown Historical Society  
Town of Berlin  
Town of Petersburg  
Town of Sand Lake  
Town of Stephentown

General:

- A professional photographer for photo shoots & events.
- Books for the reference library about local history, ecology, etc.
- New laptop computer
- Large format color printer

In-Kind Donors

Absolute T-Shirts  
Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK)  
Barbara Boughton  
Beer DIVINER Taproom & Market  
Burden Lake Country Club  
David Hunt  
Dick & Shari Gibbs  
Dynamic Sport Adventures  
Flying Deer Nature Center  
Fred & Mona DeMay  
Friends of Dyken Pond  
Highstead Foundation (Technical Support)  
Jim De Waal Malefyt  
Jiminy Peak  
Lloyd Spear  
Lori Rembetski  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (Technical Support)  
Northern Woodlands  
Pineridge Cross Country Ski Area  
R&G Cheese Makers  
Sand Lake Center for the Arts  
Sarah Parks  
Steven Pentak  
Tom & Barb Chesnut  
Tom Curren (Technical Support)  
Uncle Marty's Adirondack Grill  
Wyomanock Center  
Zema's Nursery

Wish List

Community Forest:

- 4-wheel drive tractor (with loader on front)
- Black Locust Logs (for stakes)
- Tools such as pruners, loppers, axes, chain saws, trail maintenance tools
- Composting Toilet/Outhouse



Rensselaer Plateau Alliance, Inc.  
Profit & Loss  
January through December 2014

	Jan - Dec 14
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Community Forest Capital Camp.	11,690.00
Community Forest Loan	9,211.52
Direct Public Support	
Corporate Contributions	500.00
Direct Public Support - Other	6,960.00
Total Direct Public Support	7,460.00
donations	110.00
Land Trust Alliance	
LTA Capacity grant	25,000.00
Land Trust Alliance - Other	15,000.00
Total Land Trust Alliance	40,000.00
NESFA	10,510.03
Other Types of Income	
Miscellaneous Revenue	2,105.65
Total Other Types of Income	2,105.65
Program Income	
Celebration 2014	7,133.00
program reimbursement	164.90
Program Service Fees	95.00
Program Income - Other	289.00
Total Program Income	7,681.90
Total Income	88,769.10
Expense	
Bank Charge	
Credit Card Processing Fee	124.35
Total Bank Charge	124.35
Business Expenses	609.60
Celebration 2014	2,936.58
Celebration 2015	670.00
Community Forest purchase	2,500.00
Total Community Forest	2,500.00
Contract Services	
Accounting Fees	450.00
Outside Contract Services	
Community Forest	7,068.00
GIS Mapping	1,400.00
H R E Grant	1,580.28
Land Trust All/Com.forest	8,816.50
Land Trust All/Woods Forums	2,020.00
Land Trust Alliance/Com. Engage	9,745.50
LTA Capacity	19,385.00
NEFA	8,968.12
Total Outside Contract Services	58,983.40
Total Contract Services	59,433.40
DONATION	100.00
Facilities and Equipment	
Rent, Parking, Utilities	5.00
Total Facilities and Equipment	5.00
Membership	250.00
Operations	
Postage, Mailing Service	
Com. Forest Cap. Camp.	1,941.20
Postage, Mailing Service - Other	515.64

Profit & Loss Continued

	Jan - Dec 14
Total Postage, Mailing Service	2,456.84
Supplies	500.00
Total Operations	2,956.84
Other Types of Expenses	
Insurance - Liability, D and O	460.00
Total Other Types of Expenses	460.00
Programs	
Land Trust All/woodsforums	807.73
Land Trust Alliance/Comm. Engag	1,781.13
LTA Capacity	3,319.81
Northeast Forest Assoc.	1,441.91
Trail Vision	32.40
Total Programs	7,382.98
Rens. Plateau Library	517.75
SMBA	60.00
software	167.82
Travel and Meetings	
Conference, Convention, Meeting	370.95
Travel and Meetings - Other	12.00
Total Travel and Meetings	382.95
Total Expense	78,557.27
Net Ordinary Income	10,211.83
Net Income	10,211.83



Rensselaer Plateau Alliance, Inc.  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of December 31, 2014

	Dec 31, 14
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Checking (First Niagara)	
Fund - Conservation Plan	380.00
Checking (First Niagara) - Other	37,968.84
Total Checking (First Niagara)	38,348.84
Total Checking/Savings	38,348.84
Total Current Assets	38,348.84
Fixed Assets	
Equipment and Software	69.00
Total Fixed Assets	69.00
TOTAL ASSETS	38,417.84
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Unrestricted Net Assets	28,206.01
Net Income	10,211.83
Total Equity	38,417.84
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	38,417.84



## **Take Action... Join Us Today**

We all value our outdoor heritage, traditions, and the character of the landscape. The land, unfortunately, will not protect itself, nor will benign neglect conserve it. Conservation is a shared responsibility.

### **Become a Member:**

**Visit:** [www.rensselaerplateau.org](http://www.rensselaerplateau.org)

**Call:** 518-712-9211

**Email:** [info@rensselaerplateau.org](mailto:info@rensselaerplateau.org)

## **Donations & Estate Planning**

The work of the Rensselaer Plateau Alliance in the future will be made possible through the generosity of individuals who want to assure that this work continues. We welcome gifts of cash, appreciated securities, life insurance, bequests and land.

### **Donations can be sent to:**

Rensselaer Plateau Alliance  
PO Box 790  
Averill Park, NY 12018

### **Or Donate online at:**

[www.rensselaerplateau.org](http://www.rensselaerplateau.org)

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