

2025 Impact Report



**Appalachian Trail
Conservancy**

THANK YOU

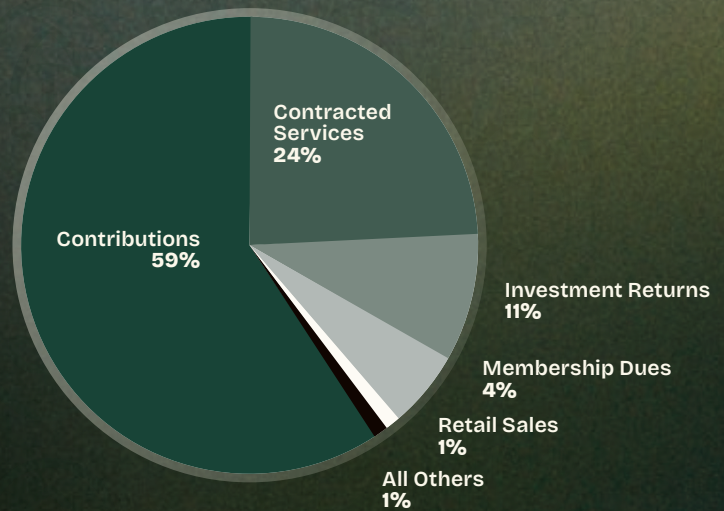
to the thousands of generous members, donors, volunteers, partners, and supporters who made the work of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy possible in 2025. Because of your ongoing investment in our mission, we were able to protect, manage, and advocate for the A.T. in 2025, and continue to work tirelessly on behalf of the Trail in 2026. Millions of visitors enjoy the A.T. every year, and you are part of making that possible.

We hope the stories in this magazine demonstrate that impact in every issue. In the following pages, you'll find more information about our 2025 financials as well as a listing of our most generous supporters.

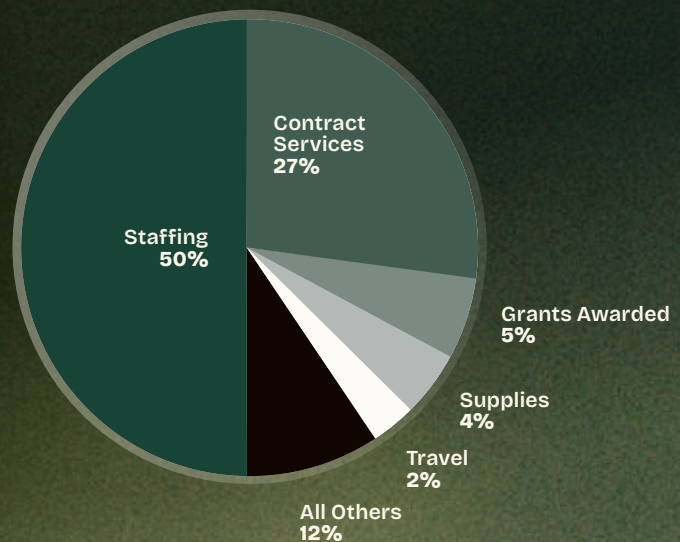
One of the most important gifts our members and supporters bestow upon us is their trust in managing the funds they donate. We take this responsibility very seriously and hold ourselves to the highest standards of financial accountability and transparency.

You can view our full audited financial statements on our website at appalachiantrail.org/transparency.

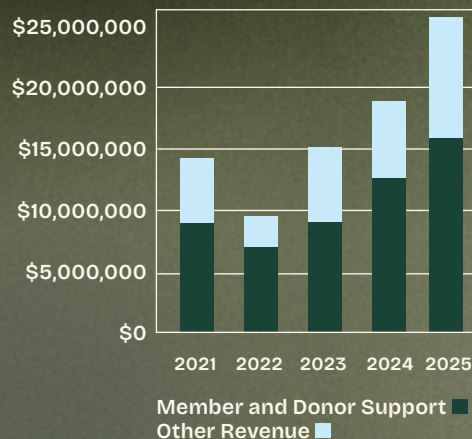
2025 TOTAL REVENUE \$24,825,149



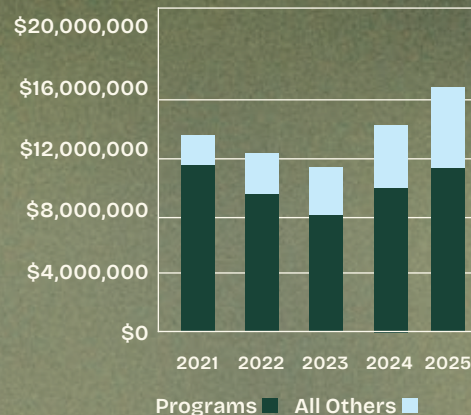
2025 TOTAL EXPENSES \$16,475,900



TOTAL REVENUE



TOTAL EXPENSES





Thanking our 2025 Donors

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy is grateful to the following individuals, foundations, and organizations whose generosity made our work possible in 2025.

HUMP MOUNTAIN RISING HIGH ABOVE BRADLEY GAP. PHOTO BY EDDIE O'LEARY

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“Thanks to the Dunleavy Foundation’s tremendous support, the Wild East Action Fund will continue to be a critical tool in the greater Appalachian Trail Landscape Partnership’s collaborative efforts to connect the wild, scenic, and cultural wonders of the A.T. and its surrounding lands.”

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We recognize with heartfelt thanks, supporters who have included the Appalachian Trail Conservancy in their estate plans, providing enduring support for the stewardship of the Trail.

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Estate Gifts

With deep appreciation, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy honors those whose estate gifts were realized in 2025, leaving a legacy that will have a lasting impact on the future of the A.T.

Estate of Barbara Boyd
 Estate of Jane Christiansen
 Estate of John Giuffrida
 Estate of Nancy Julian
 Estate of Kathie Laug
 Estate of Kenneth Ostermann
 Estate of John K. Magullian
 Estate of Don Paquette
 Estate of Sarah Picton
 Estate of Sheridan Risley
 Estate of Charles Wettling
 Estate of Joan Wissmann

^aBoard of Directors Member as of 12.31.25, ^cCampaign Advisory Council Member, ^dStaff Member, ^eLife Member, ^f2,000 Milers

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We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of our records and recognize each of our generous supporters as they wish to be acknowledged. If we have made an error or omission, please accept our sincere apologies and contact us at philanthropy@appalachiantrail.org so we may correct our records.



100

In 2025, We Celebrated a Historic Milestone ...

THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY.

As we honor a century of protecting, managing, and advocating for the Appalachian Trail, we also step boldly into our next hundred years of stewardship. With renewed grit and determination, and with your support, the ATC is rising to meet the challenges and opportunities ahead so that this irreplaceable landscape and national treasure endure for generations to come.



PROTECT

We safeguard a conserved and connected Appalachian Trail landscape, ensuring both people and nature can thrive.



EXPERIENCE

We sustainably manage the Trail and its infrastructure so millions of annual visitors can enjoy a world-class experience while witnessing conservation in action.



BELONG

We foster an engaged and expanding community of Trail stewards, volunteers, and supporters who share our passion for the Appalachian Trail.

Protecting the Trail and Surrounding Landscape

Tennessee Following Hurricane Helene, the ATC coordinated a 25-acre wildfire fuel mitigation project atop Roan Mountain to reduce post-storm fire risk across 2,000 acres of high-elevation spruce-fir forest. In partnership with the USDA Forest Service and local conservation groups, this proactive work addresses hazardous debris left by the storm.

North Carolina At Max Patch, the ATC and partners planted more than 8,000 native wildflower and grass plugs across 1.6 acres to restore degraded habitat for pollinators and songbirds. The site is an Important Bird Area and home to the near threatened golden-winged warbler, making restoration efforts especially significant. This rewilding work reduces visitor impacts, enhances biodiversity, and restores balance between recreation and habitat health.

Maryland A critical three-acre inholding near Weverton Cliffs was permanently protected in partnership with the Trust for Public Land, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and local supporters. The acquisition secured a quarter-mile of the A.T. corridor threatened by private development and fragmentation. This project ensures continuous public access, safeguards wildlife habitat, and reinforces the ATC's long-term landscape conservation strategy.

Pennsylvania The ATC partnered with the University of Delaware and the National Park Service to install monitoring instruments at Cove Mountain fields for bird and pollinator research. The project supports the Eastern Grasslands Restoration Initiative, which protects 30 acres of native fields along the A.T. in the Cumberland Valley. This collaborative work restores one of North America's most imperiled ecosystems and enhances biodiversity along the Trail.

Through the South Mountain Partnership, the ATC and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources awarded competitive grants that fund local conservation and resilience projects. Supported efforts included invasive species management, trail connectivity planning, and youth-led land preservation forums. These community-



driven projects strengthen corridor integrity and expand research and training opportunities for future stewards.

Vermont The ATC's Corridor Stewardship team worked with the Dartmouth Outing Club, Green Mountain Club, and Wilderness Volunteers to maintain 6.36 miles of Trail boundary and 79 survey monuments. Volunteers also removed over a mile of abandoned maple syrup tubing to restore forest health. This essential maintenance protects public lands from encroachment and preserves the clarity and security of the A.T. corridor.

Washington, D.C. In June, the ATC united 23 of 26 A.T. maintaining clubs in a Senate reconciliation advocacy effort opposing public land sales and cuts to conservation funding. This collaboration helped preserve critical Land and Water Conservation Fund appropriations and protect key federal natural resource programs. The ATC continues to lead coordinated advocacy for sustained public investment in the A.T. and its surrounding landscapes.

Trailwide The ATC launched a new three-year phase of the Wild East Action Fund, expanding its focus to include climate resilience projects in Hurricane Helene-impacted regions. In 2025, the fund distributed \$489,000 to 18 projects that will protect over 80,000 acres and advance land-use planning across the Trail corridor. These strategic investments strengthen conservation connectivity and empower local partners to safeguard the A.T. landscape.

Ensuring a Sustainable and Immersive Recreational Experience

Georgia From February through April — peak thru-hiker season — the ATC's Georgia Ridgerunners, engaged nearly 3,800 visitors and monitored trail conditions at Springer Mountain. The team educated 30% of visitors on Leave No Trace principles, removed 81 gallons of trash, and dispersed 177 illegal fire rings. Their on-the-ground work and data collection are helping the ATC and the Georgia A.T. Club better understand visitor trends and strengthen long-term trail sustainability.

North Carolina In Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the ATC's SWEAT and Rocky Top trail crews maintained 35 miles of the A.T., clearing 28 miles of overgrowth, repairing 500 water features, and restoring historic Civilian Conservation Corps structures. The crews also improved iconic viewpoints like Rocky Top and removed over 50 pounds of debris from remote backcountry areas.

North Carolina The ATC partnered with the USDA Forest Service and Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards to host the 14th annual Wilderness Skills Institute, training 268 participants from 20 organizations. Attendees earned certifications in crosscut saw use and wilderness first aid while learning advanced maintenance and backcountry management skills. This collaborative training builds the professional and volunteer capacity needed to steward the Trail's most challenging landscapes.

Virginia The ATC's Konnarock Crew and the Roanoke A.T. Club completed the War Spur relocation in the Mountain Lake Wilderness, replacing a steep, erosion-prone section with a sustainable new route. The project, decades in the making, stabilizes the Trail and enhances the hiker experience through carefully engineered switchbacks. This achievement reflects the persistence and partnership at the heart of the Trail's longevity.

A new 40-foot bridge over Brown Mountain Creek restored a critical crossing near Buena Vista that was lost in 2018. Built in collaboration with the USDA Forest Service, National Park Service, and the Natural Bridge A.T. Club, the project improves safety



and access for thousands of hikers each year. Its completion safeguards continuity through one of the Trail's narrowest and most vulnerable corridors.

New Hampshire In New Hampshire's White Mountains, the ATC, the Appalachian Mountain Club, and the NPS supported 22 weeks of professional trail crew operations to rehabilitate and reroute fragile sections of the Trail. Crews constructed durable new alignments and elevated bog bridges to protect delicate alpine vegetation, stabilize high-elevation wetlands, and safeguard rare peat bogs that store carbon and support unique mountain species.

Maine In the 100-Mile Wilderness, the ATC employed a seasonal Ridgerunner to educate hikers, monitor ecological impacts, and share real-time safety information on stream crossings and conditions. Through patrols and visitor outreach, they promoted low-impact camping and responsible fire practices while supporting hikers approaching Katahdin. Their presence helps preserve fragile ecosystems and ensures a safer, more sustainable wilderness experience.

Trailwide The Sustainable Overnight Site (S.O.S.) Program entered its second year with assessments completed across 60% of the Trail. More than 30% of A.T. Maintaining Clubs now use the ATC's standard evaluation tool, creating consistent data on site use and conditions. This information guides rehabilitation, informs management decisions, and supports a safer, more resilient overnight experience for all hikers.



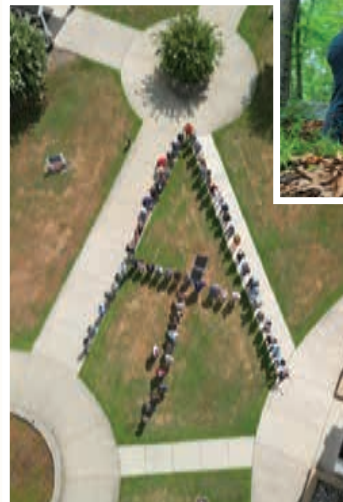
Expanding the Community of Trail Stewards

Maryland The A.T. Volunteer Leadership Meeting (VLM100), held August 15–17, united leaders from 27 Trail Clubs to strengthen collaboration and succession planning. Sessions focused on practical leadership tools and strategies to engage the next generation of stewards. Ninety-three percent of participants reported they are very likely to apply what they learned, leaving inspired and connected to the broader A.T. community.

The ATC and Potomac A.T. Club partnered to provide education to a group of NYC-based students participating in a six-day, first-time backpacking experience with Soul Trak Outdoors. The program deepened their connection to conservation and inspired future advocacy for equitable outdoor access.

Pennsylvania The ATC launched the Appalachian Trail Community Conservation Collaborative (ATCCC), with the goal of empowering municipal teams to lead local conservation and resilience projects through training, planning support, and data tools. The initiative connects communities directly to Trail stewardship while fostering leadership and environmental equity. This model demonstrates how strong conservation begins with strong, connected communities.

A field training hosted with the Blue Mountain Eagle Climbing Club and Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps, supported by Athletic Brewing's Two for the Trails grant, built new capacity for collaborative trail management. Volunteers and crew members strengthened technical skills in assessment, rehabilitation, and teamwork. The program nurtured younger stewards and reinforced ATC's focus on partnership-driven conservation.



New Jersey The ATC's sixth annual Emerging Leaders' Summit empowered 35 young adults from 13 states to become conservation changemakers during the organization's Centennial year. Through workshops, shared storytelling, and hands-on experiences, participants explored how their leadership and voices can shape the future of the A.T. The Summit continues to expand a nationwide network of engaged, next-generation Trail advocates.

Connecticut The ATC collaborated with volunteers from the Massachusetts and Connecticut A.T. Management Committees and youth with Greenagers Trail Crew to assess and address deficiencies along the northern A.T. Together, they evaluated options for targeted repairs and possible relocations to improve sustainability. The project strengthened youth engagement and hands-on learning for regional trail stewardship.



The Appalachian Trail Conservancy relies on the support of dedicated individuals to keep its vast natural and scenic beauty healthy, resilient, and connected, so that everyone can experience its transformative power. If you feel inspired to deepen your impact today, please visit **[APPALACHIANTRAIL.ORG/DONATE](https://www.appalachiantrail.org/donate)**.

**Ensuring the
Appalachian Trail
and its landscape are
protected, resilient,
and connected for all.**



**Appalachian Trail
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CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

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