

# Trail Protection: Engaging Your Local Land Trust

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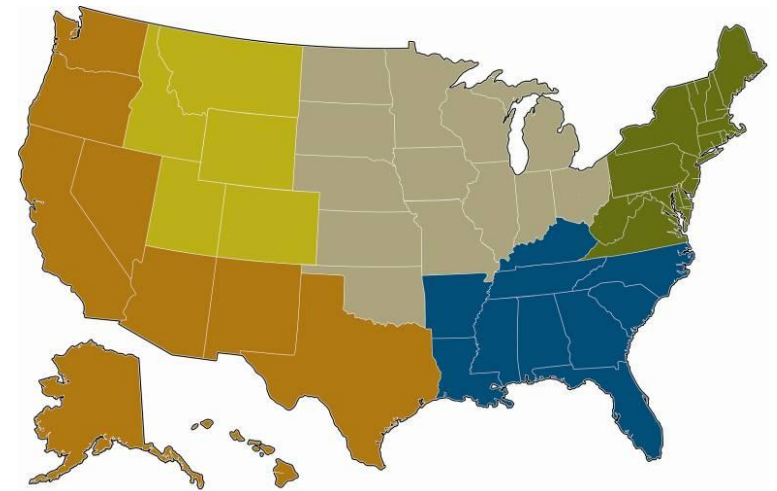
The Conservation Fund forges partnerships to conserve America's legacy of land and water resources. Through land acquisition, community and economic development, and training and education, the Fund and its partners demonstrate balanced conservation solutions that emphasize the integration of economic and environmental goals.

**RESULTS**

Acres Protected to Date	6 million
Fair Market Value	\$3.7 billion
Conservation Programs	97%
Fundraising Costs	1%

**RECOGNITION**

A+ Rating	American Institute of Philanthropy
Four Star Rating	Charity Navigator



# THE CONSERVATION FUND

*America's Partner in Conservation*

**State and  
Federal  
Agencies**



**Local Land  
Trusts**



**Corporations  
and  
Foundations**



**Community  
Planners**



**Elected  
Officials**



**Private  
Landowners**



*Our Partners*

**Wildlife  
Habitat**



**Rivers &  
Watersheds**



**Working  
Landscapes**



**Historic  
Places**



**Parks &  
Green  
Space**



**American  
Icons**





- 68 Projects
- 44,264 acres fee
- 12,362 easement
- Projects Examples
  - Ice Age Trail
  - Buckeye Trail
  - Pinhoti Trail
  - Santa Fe Trail
  - Appalachian Trail

- Introduction to Land Trusts
- What you can expect from land trusts
- Types of land acquisition
- Volunteer Role
- Your questions

- A land trust is a nonprofit organization that, as all or part of its mission, actively works to conserve land by undertaking or assisting in land or conservation easement acquisition, or by its stewardship of such land or easements.
- 1700 Nationwide
- Missions variable-small all volunteer to 4000 employees



- Local-29 in Ohio
- National-10 in Ohio
- Role
  - Acquire land for other agencies
  - Acquire, hold and manage land
  - Loans to acquisition

- Wausau Timber
- 915 acres
- 2.5 miles
- Funding
  - Wisconsin Stewardship Program
- Management
  - NPS
  - Ice Age park and Trail Foundation





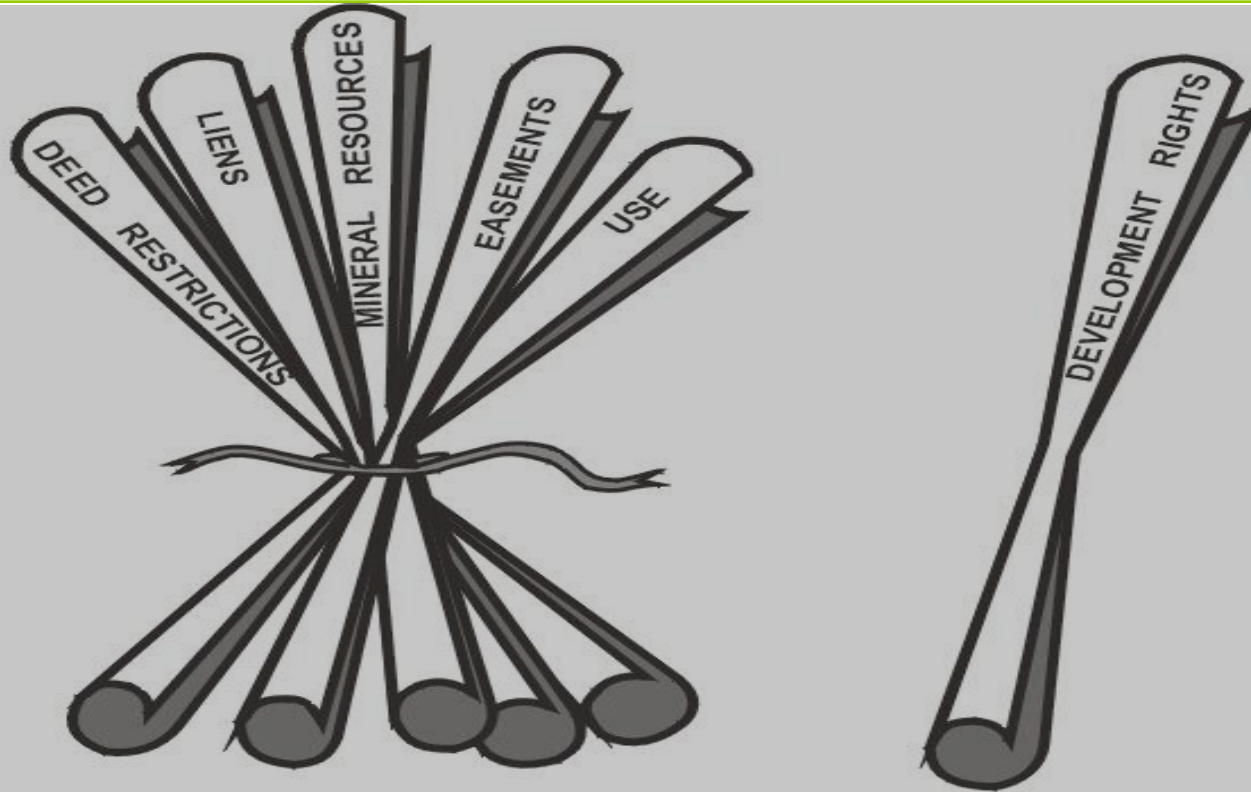
## Buckeye Trail Association loan from The Conservation Fund

- \$200,000 loan on \$385,000 deal
- Pay back
  - Clean Ohio Fund
  - North Country Trail Association
- 190 acres
- 3.5 miles of trail

- Trail Use Agreement
- Trail Access Easement
- Conservation Easement
- Fee Acquisition

- Sample document on North Country Trail Association web site
- Right to use property only for current owner
- Allows trail use, posting
- Liability covered by State Recreational Use Statute
- Construction projects approved by owner

- North Country Trail Website
- Permanent easement
- Trail marking, maintenance, construction
- Limit on size of structures built
- Grantee may terminate but not grantor



**Bundle of Property Rights**



- Easement - A right of use over the property of another.
- Conservation Easement - Legal agreement to limit the type and amount of development on a parcel of land.

- Expiring December 31, 2011
  - Donor may deduct up to 50% of adjusted gross income
  - Donors may carry over deductions for their contribution for as many as 15 years
- January 1, 2012
  - Donor may deduct up to 30% of adjusted gross
  - Donors may carry over deduction up to 7 years

- Donation
- Bargain Sale
- Purchase

- 5% of landowners will donate
- 95% will want to be paid
- 1 deal takes approximately 100 landowner contracts
- Critical to cultivate owners

- Maintain database of potential landowners
- Develop trail newsletters
- Organize dedications
- Work day invitations
- Tax incentives
- Congressional tour participants

- Your cultivation paid off
- Live deal
- Contact your North Country Trail Office for next steps
  - Assistance with funding
  - Acquisition assistance

# Your Questions

