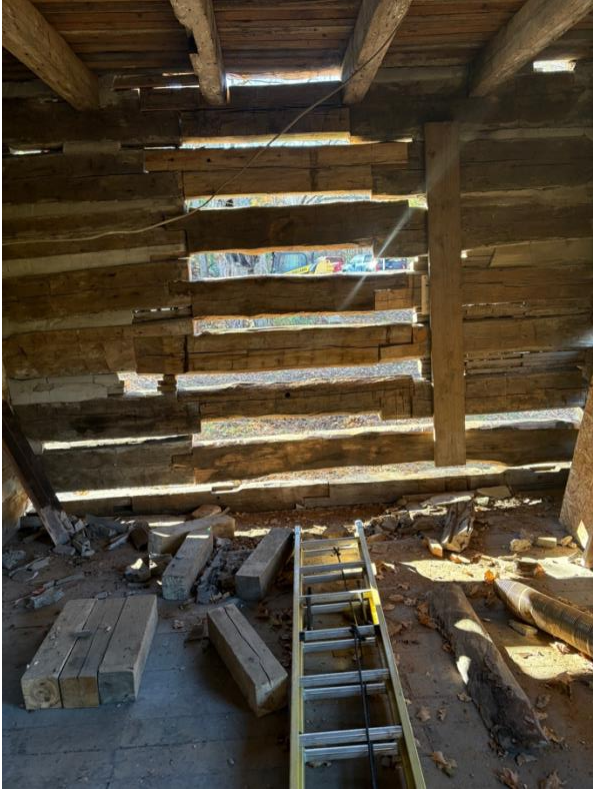


Updates on the Logan County Land Trust for 2024

2024 Land Trust Highlights : For starters the leadership has changed Renee Winner is now the president of the Land Trust and Linda Vernon is the vice-president. Greg Knight continues to be the treasurer and April King is taking over as secretary (Lindsay Smith is taking time off with her new baby)

The Land Trust closed on 2 Agricultural Easements earlier this year, adding an additional 250 acres that is now under protection in Logan County.

The team of Bruce Smith, Catherine Carter and Bob Stoll worked many hours with the group from Kirkmont Center Inc during the winter and through the summer to complete an application to the Ohio Public Works Commission and the Clean Ohio Green Space program. This application's intent was to establish a Conservation Easement on 225 acres of Kirkmont's woodland. The Logan County Land Trust is awaiting news on this application. This is the first Clean Ohio application that has been completed by the Logan County Land Trust so we are hopeful of success. The Logan County Land Trust also has been making progress on the restoration of the historic log cabin at Myeerah Preserve. The log repair work has been done and a new roof will be installed in the next few months. This will complete phase I of the restoration. Hopefully funding will be available in 2025 to begin Phase II which is outer covering of the logs, windows and chinking and daubing between the logs.



Under the direction of Greg Knight and a couple other directors there is work beginning on a “Long Range” plan for the Logan County Land Trust. This will be a living document but will provide guidance for the organization for future planning and programming.

The following narrative and photos were part of a summary that we submitted to the Milroy Foundation, which has provided funding for educational events for both youth and adults. The following description helps you all understand how the Land Trusts utilizes those funds.

Please visit our website and if you so desire please support the Logan County Land Trust through a cash donation on the website or offer to volunteer your services to strengthen our program and mission.

Logancountylandtrust.org and follow us on facebook

Summary of Accomplishments by the Logan County Land Trust as a Result of Utilizing Funds Presented by the James Forsythe Milroy Foundation for 2023-24

On behalf of the Logan County Land Trust, we wanted to give a brief overview of adult and youth education programs made available by the funds presented to the Logan County Land Trust by the James Forsythe Milroy Foundation for the year 2024.

After school program at Benjamin Logan Schools sponsored by the Logan County Land Trust. Below this year's group spent the first session learning about the Land Lab on Ben Logan's School campus. Students cleaned Purple Martin Houses, cleaned and maintained bluebird houses and documented use on the bluebird trail, introduced the concept of the Chimney Swift House, evaluated success of the school garden plots and the campus Honey Bee Hive.



The following week the group took a road trip to a nearby family farm market and discovered the art of making fresh apple cider. Washing, selecting a variety of apples, crushing the apples and collecting the juicy cider. The kids also practice their artistic skills by adding imaginative paintings onto a farm raised pumpkin. See pictures below. These sessions are every Wednesday evening during the school year and each one carries a different emphasis all dealing with history, natural resources and our environment.



This summer 2024 there were 18 students that attended the weeklong Enviro Camp that was in partnership with Kirkmont Center Inc. The students learned about the importance of pollinators and built pollinator boxes. They also were enriched by the teachings of a geologist and how Logan County topography was formed. Journaling and expression through art and the outdoors was day session. Birding with Professor Blake Mathews and preparing a healthy foil dinner over a campfire and much more filled this week of outdoor experience. Pictures below are from Enviro Camp 2024 held in partnership with Kirkmont Center Inc.



Also, in late July 2024 an all-day bus trip was organized to expand the knowledge of history and our natural resources outside of Logan County. The group of 32 was a mix of adults and youth (families mostly) and our destinations were Flint Ridge, Licking County; The Wilds - Muskingum County and Hocking Hills- Old Mans Cave, Hocking County.

Indian heritage, reclaimed strip mines, and geological wonders were the topics at each stop, guided by experts in the field.





The spring of 2024 was the completion and installation of a chimney swift house on the Benjamin Logan School campus. This adds another degree of study for students at Benjamin Logan School and provides examples that can be duplicated on other school campuses.

See below:





2 local naturalist (Rhonda Farley and Judy Semroc) along with Doctor Smith (Freshwater Farms) were brought in or visited to share with our students; environmental issues, insects, furbearers, fisheries, nutrient cycling, water cycles and much more. These speakers shared knowledge as a naturalist how our environment works and the many benefits of learning more how both students and adults can improve our natural resources.



The Logan County Land Trust has partnered with Logan County Solid Waste District, Benjamin Logan School and Logan Soil and Water

Conservation District to present an on-going field demonstration at Benjamin Logan School farm. This project will demonstrate the benefits of Regenerative Agricultural practices vs standard Agricultural systems. Students were involved in the in-field production model and were also given in classroom instruction. The hope is to expand this demonstration education to other surrounding Vocational Agricultural programs.





All these projects were the result of the financial assistance that the James Forsythe Milroy Foundation has provided to the Logan County Land Trust. Many youths and adults have gained knowledge and experiences through the programs and efforts that have been made through the generous contributions from the Foundation. We appreciate the ongoing partnership and hope that this relationship continues. If there are further questions, please feel free to reach out

to myself. We will be submitting our 2025 proposal soon and would appreciate consideration for the programs submitted. Thank you

Respectfully

Bob Stoll

Logan County Land Trust