



FORCE for **NATURE**



A Campaign to Protect the
Triangle's Land and Water for All



**Act now to conserve
our wild and working
lands forever.**



The beauty and abundance of open spaces, wild places, and working lands is an important reason why we love to live, work and play in the Triangle. These verdant spaces nourish our spirits, define our community, and embody our legacy.

Open and wild places, like native grasslands and forests, are where birds, bees, and pollinators thrive, and where we walk or bike on a Saturday afternoon. Working lands are farms that provide local food and products that are crucial to our economy.

We are living at a confluence of rapid population growth, skyrocketing land prices, and a climate crisis that is threatening our natural environment. Our beloved farms, forests, and grasslands are disappearing rapidly. Once land is developed, we cannot get it back.

Just as we need land for homes and businesses, we need to protect our open, wild, and working lands so we can all enjoy clean air and water, recreation and respite, wildlife habitat, local food, and climate mitigation.

Triangle Land Conservancy has doubled the pace of conservation in the Triangle, conserving more than 1,000 acres a year since 2018. We cannot slow down and we need your help.

Today, we present a greenprint for a fundraising campaign to accelerate the strategic conservation and stewardship of land, water, and our community – now and for future generations.

Together, we must act boldly and **we must act now**.

We invite you to be a force for nature. Join us in supporting TLC.

Cindy Pacchiana and Sally Edwards
Campaign Co-Chairs

“I love TLC and all that it stands for and does for our community. TLC properties are such great refuges for birds, animals, and people.”

S. Pratt, TLC volunteer and member



The challenges facing us today are too big for any one person.

Exponential Growth and Development

North Carolina is one of the fastest growing states in the nation and the Triangle is predicted to attract 40% of projected growth. In the last decade, one in four new residents moved to Wake County and Johnston County is seeing the fastest percentage growth in the state. The pace of development is forcing land prices to skyrocket throughout the region.

Disappearing Farms

By 2040, North Carolina is expected to develop 11% of its farmland, nearly 1.2 million acres, the second highest rate of conversion in the country. Johnston and Wake are the 19th and 32nd most vulnerable counties in the U.S. Since 2014, Wake County lost 22,964 acres of farm and forest land — that's almost 20%. Historically, land ownership by Black farmers has dropped more than 85% in the US over the last century.

Declining Public Health

Experts recently declared a national emergency in child and adolescent mental health with rates of depression, anxiety, and trauma soaring. Children spend an average of 6.5 hours a day in front of a screen and almost half of adults don't get enough physical activity that is key to preventing chronic conditions like heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and depression.

Inequitable Access to Land and Nature

For generations, people of color were denied access to public parks and beaches. By 2050, people of color will make up 45% of our local population yet nearly 75% of US communities of color lack access to safe and maintained outdoor spaces — compared with 23% of White communities. We must inspire and engage more diverse citizens to advocate for equity in land ownership and promote preservation.

Increase in Natural Disasters

Extreme weather events are increasing in frequency causing flooding, droughts, hurricanes, tornadoes, and massive wildfires. Lower-income communities are disproportionately impacted, largely due to historical racial inequities.

Vanishing Wildlife Habitat

Worldwide we are experiencing the greatest acceleration in animal and plant species extinction in human history. North Carolina is one of the most biodiverse states in the country, yet rapid development across the Triangle is destroying natural habitats at an alarming rate.

Let's act now.

**Conservation
is the answer.
Waiting is
not an option.**



Together, we will

Improve Our Quality of Life and Health For All



TLC provides more than 55 miles of walking and mountain biking trails and hundreds of events to get people outside. Studies have shown that time in nature can lower blood pressure, enhance the immune system, increase self-esteem, reduce anxiety, and improve mood. TLC's expanded education and outreach programs inspire everyone - especially younger and more diverse people who will champion the environment in the future - can enjoy positive outdoor activities and the mental and physical health benefits they provide.

Protect Farmland and Reduce Barriers to Land Ownership



TLC is racing to secure conservation easements to protect local farms, food, and agricultural jobs; clean our drinking water; and provide wildlife habitat. Our Good Ground Initiative uses conservation tools like "buy, conserve, and sell" to increase farmland protection and provide land ownership opportunities for historically underserved farmers.

Safeguard our Drinking Water and Strengthen Climate Resilience



TLC protects wetlands, forests, and floodplains that absorb pollutants and slow downstream flooding. Well-managed farms slow run-off and sequester carbon in the soil. Every parcel of natural land that TLC protects means less carbon dioxide being pumped into the air we breathe.

Slow the Rapid Loss of Biodiversity



TLC's commitment to protecting the region's state-designated Natural Heritage Sites and wildlife corridors, along with the restoration of forests and wetlands, is crucial to protecting habitats and increasing species survival.

TLC has 40 years of conservation experience and a greenprint for strategic land protection.

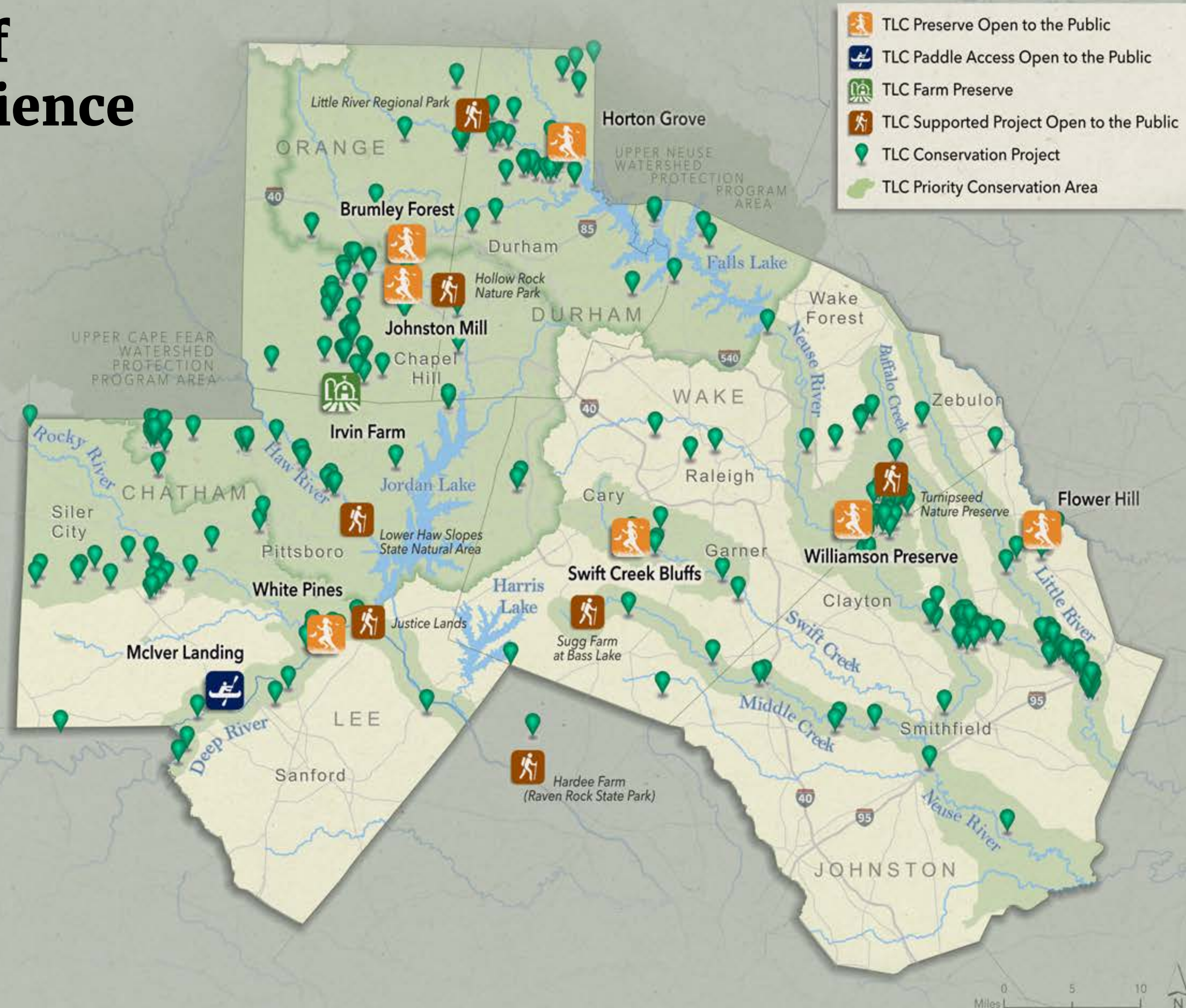
We will conserve 25,000 acres by 2025 by continuing to partner with landowners, municipalities, and state level programs to protect farmland, safeguard our drinking water, restore forests and wetlands, connect habitat corridors, and conserve unprotected Natural Heritage Areas.

Together, we can protect our open spaces, wild places, and working lands. Starting here. Starting now.

“Forests and wetlands naturally store carbon dioxide, which makes sparing them from destruction a highly effective and economical way to mitigate warming. Few other strategies deliver as much environmental bang for your buck.”

Dr. Stephanie Roe

CO-AUTHOR OF THE UN PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE REPORT



A regional authority on land conservation through consensus building.

Triangle Land Conservancy has earned a reputation as the regional authority in land conservation through consensus building, partnering, and achieving tangible results.

Tremendous support from donors and partners has enabled Triangle Land Conservancy to:

- 🌿 Permanently protect more than **23,000** acres since 1983
- 🌿 Safeguard critical Natural Heritage Areas, wildlife habitat, stream corridors, and floodplains to protect **164 miles** of streams and rare habitats
- 🌿 Conserve and open **8 nature preserves on 2,447 acres**
- 🌿 Build and manage **55 miles of trails** that host over 150,000 people per year
- 🌿 Restore **100s of acres of forests, meadows, and streams**
- 🌿 Secure and monitor **106 easements** on 8,600 acres
- 🌿 Inspire **2,500+ people** of all ages each year with educational programs that help everyone feel welcome outdoors
- 🌿 Conserve land to support **seven local, regional, and state parks**
- 🌿 Secure 100s of acres of land for trail connections for the **East Coast Greenway and Mountains-to-Sea Trail**
- 🌿 Acknowledge the impact of systemic racism in the **history of land ownership** and conservation
- 🌿 **Advocate for everyone** to have access to nature



**Please join us
in being a force
for nature.**



Protect Land and Water

RIGHT NOW, with your support, we can conserve at least 5,000 acres by the end of 2026 by leveraging over \$34 million in government funds.

Together with TLC, you will:

- Acquire at least 4,000 acres through 24 projects to safeguard water quality, create critical linkages on riparian and wildlife corridors, provide spaces for trails.
- Protect at least 1,000 acres of farmland through conservation easements, in part by implementing the new “buy, conserve, sell” model to protect at least 10 farms support historically underserved farmers.
- Continue landowner outreach, field calls from landowners, assess properties, and apply for government funding to maintain the rapid pace of conservation.

Care for Land and People

NOW AND IN THE FUTURE, we can restore and maintain our public nature preserves as well as the nonpublic ecologically sensitive lands we manage.

Together with TLC, you will:

- Restore degraded forests, fields, and streams to provide healthy wildlife habitats and corridors.
- Inspire and nurture the next generation of environmentalists by expanding outreach, volunteer, and education programs that provide meaningful outdoor experiences to everyone in our increasingly diverse region.
- Renovate and repair historic buildings at TLC preserves to support farm operations, community programs and provide workspace for TLC staff.
- Carry on your legacy and commitment to nature by including TLC in your estate plans.

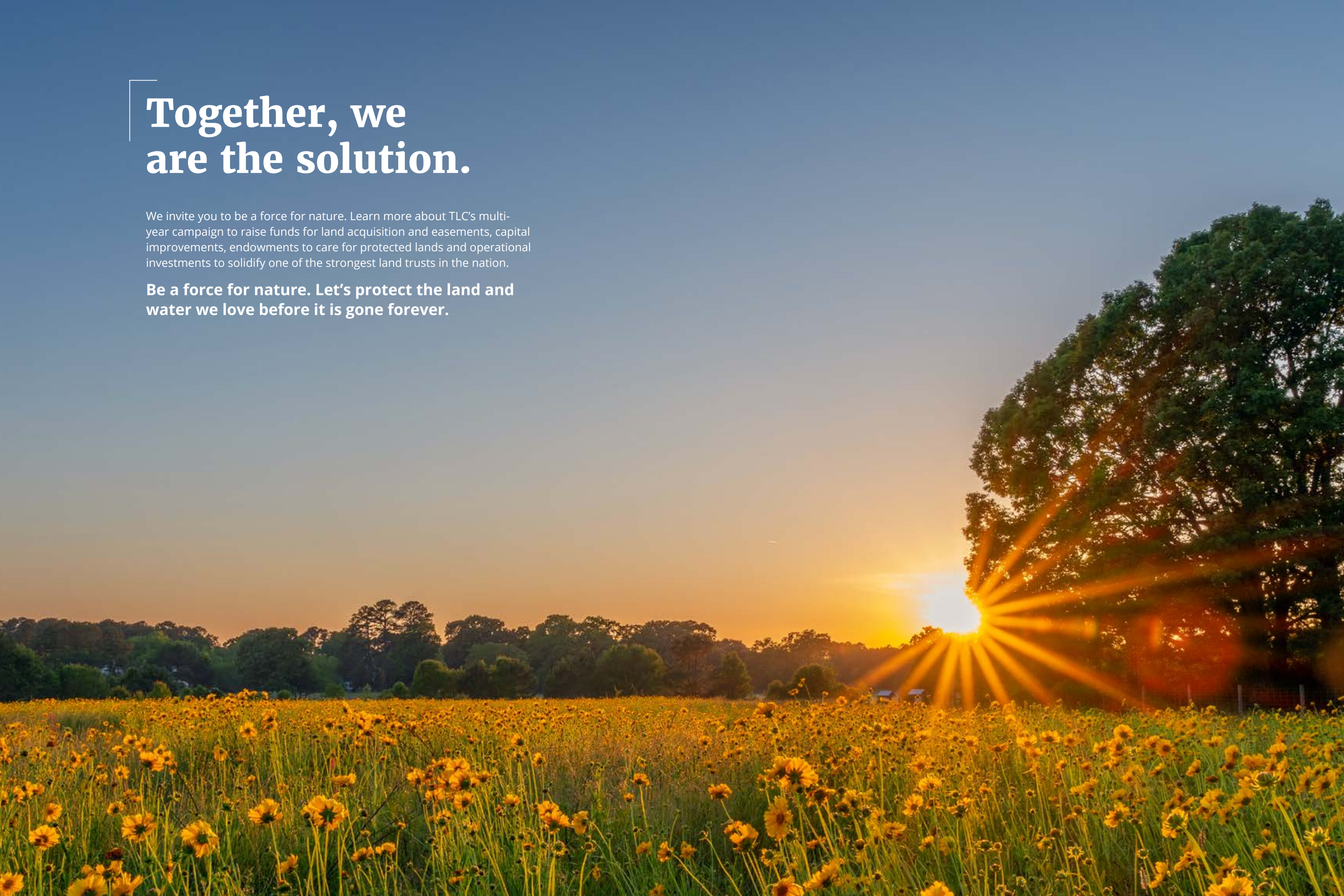
**Support TLC’s most
ambitious fundraising
initiative ever.**



Together, we are the solution.

We invite you to be a force for nature. Learn more about TLC's multi-year campaign to raise funds for land acquisition and easements, capital improvements, endowments to care for protected lands and operational investments to solidify one of the strongest land trusts in the nation.

Be a force for nature. Let's protect the land and water we love before it is gone forever.



Triangle Land Conservancy can accelerate the pace of conservation to protect more land and water in our rapidly growing region. With your financial support, we can make this vision a reality.



“The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit.”

Nelson Henderson, Author



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