

I. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY SHEET

One page only. This page will be shared electronically with Grant Panel Members & Fund Advisors.

Note: If Philanthropy Network's Common Grant Application is used, CCCF's **Summary Sheet MUST accompany application.**

To obtain an electronic version of this application, visit www.chescocf.org

Date: 2/6/2025

Contact Information

Organization Name: North American Land Trust
Address: 100 Hickory Hill Road, Chadds Ford, PA 19317
Phone: 610-388-3670
Website: <https://northamericanlandtrust.org/>
Year Incorporated: 1992
FEIN: 23-2698266

ED/CEO Name: Steven W. Carter
ED/CEO E-mail: scarter@nalt.org
Board Chair Name: W. Tredick McIntire
Board Chair Approval (check here):
Primary Contact Name: Amy Bruckner
Primary Contact E-mail: abruckner@nalt.org

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

Arts, Culture & Humanities Environment/Animal Welfare Education
 Health Human Services Religion

Mission: The Mission of North American Land Trust is to permanently conserve and steward natural and cultural resources through innovative land preservation partnerships.

Geographic Area Served (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served):

All of Chester County, all of United States

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served:

As a national organization, NALT's demographic service area is the whole of the United States and as such, serves and interacts with a multitude of different cultures and backgrounds. At the local level, NALT owns and operates Brinton Run Preserve, located at 6 Oakland Road, with a West Chester PA 19382 mailing address. The Preserve is physically located in Chadds Ford Township, Delaware County but abuts Chester County on the northern boundary and serves the communities of Delaware and Chester Counties. Demographic statistics collected for Brinton Run Preserve for the year 2024 from Placer AI data included ethnicity, median age, and annual household income. Data concluded that the ethnicity of Brinton Run Preserve's 2,900 annual visitors was composed of 72% White (2,088 visitors), 8% Black (232 visitors), 15% Hispanic (435 visitors), and 5% Asian (145 visitors). The same data also concluded that the median age of visitors was 38 years old.

Annual Budget \$ 2,400,000

14 % of budget for program expenses
 85 % of budget for administrative expenses
 1 % of budget for fundraising expenses
100 % total

14 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
8 # of Board Volunteers
140 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
620 # of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources:

Service fees, stewardship donations, grants

Is this grant proposal for: Capacity Building or General Operating ?

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

___ Mission, Vision & Strategy ___ Governance & Leadership ___ Partnerships & Collaborations
___ Fundraising, Development & Marketing ___ Technology Other: _____

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$ 7,500

Proposal Summary:

Located at 6 Oakland Road in Chadds Ford Township, within the Brandywine Creek watershed, Brinton Run Preserve’s 71 acres support a variety of wildlife habitats, including woodlands, fields, streams and a pond. Within a rich and varied history, the preserve is a significant tract on the Brandywine Battlefield and North American Land Trust (NALT) recognizes the Lenape Indian tribe as the original inhabitants of Brinton Run Preserve. The Preserve is now open to the public so visitors can appreciate this piece of nature and its rich history. To ensure the property is never developed, the property has been placed under a Conservation Easement, held by Chadds Ford Township.

The Heritage Garden at Brinton Run Preserve will primarily showcase plants traditionally used for food and medicine by the Lenape as well as plants used by colonial settlers and African American as they established their communities in America. Encouraging community members and diverse cultures to visit the preserve to learn about the role of plants and agriculture in early American history is of utmost importance for this project. All plants will be labeled with their common, scientific and Lenape names and uses as appropriate; interpretive signs and maps will highlight plants used by settlers to survive in this new land, as well as contemporary medicinal and culinary uses of plants, including those currently occurring on the property.

Five raised bed planter boxes will highlight plants used by the cultures who historically inhabited the area as well as plants currently used in contemporary culture. Each raised bed will be dedicated to a particular community and will contain plants that were known to be historically (or currently) used by that community.

The communities and the partners we will be working with are:

Bed #1: African American Settler Garden – Christa Barfield at FarmerJawn

[\(https://www.farmerjawn.co/\)](https://www.farmerjawn.co/)

Bed #2: Lenape Garden – Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania (<https://www.lenape-nation.org/>)

Bed #3: Early Colonial Garden – West Chester Garden Club, Delaware County Planning Department

Bed #4: Contemporary Herbalist Garden – Kellie Lynch ([Elemental Enchantments](#))

Bed #5: Contemporary Culinary Garden – Ground Provisions Restaurant

[\(https://www.groundprovisionspa.com/\)](https://www.groundprovisionspa.com/)

The garden space will include five raised bed planters that are 4’ x 8’ each. Each raised garden bed will be surrounded by a 2’ wide perimeter trail to provide access for maintenance and education, this area will be same material as an access trail through the garden. The area around the trails will also be used for planting shrub and small tree species. Since NALT owns the Preserve and has an Interpretive Center near the proposed garden, there will be a regular presence on-site. NALT will have Volunteer days for garden maintenance and the West Chester Garden Club has also committed to the long-term maintenance of the garden. The entire proposed Heritage Garden area will include a deer exclusion fence to protect the plants and planter boxes from deer browse and other unwanted guests. A deer exclusion fence is essential for the success of our educational goals. The \$7,500 will be used to purchase and install the deer exclusion fence.

II. CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information. 3 pages maximum.

1. Nonprofit's history, goals, key achievements & distinctiveness

North American Land Trust (NALT) is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, established in 1992 by Andrew Johnson, with the primary purpose of preserving and managing open space with ecological, agricultural or historical significance. NALT headquarters are located in Pennsbury Township, Chester County, PA.

Since the beginning, NALT has worked to fill a specific niche within the conservation movement, balancing conservation and land development. Emphasizing stewardship and alternative development designs, NALT adopted a very specific goal: to serve the natural landscape and the landowner in the best way possible. Remaining true to these ideals, NALT has refined and expanded on those conservation goals to become the respected organization that it is today.

NALT recorded its first Conservation Easement in 1995, and ever since that day, NALT has continued helping landowners protect extraordinary land by employing ecological insight, land planning expertise, sophisticated mapping and innovative conservation strategies. The Vision of North American Land Trust is to establish strategic partnerships, creatively engage the community, and promote innovative solutions to permanently conserve and steward land.

Unlike most land trusts, NALT works with landowners across the United States, from Oregon to Texas and New York and back. Most of the Conservation Easements that we hold can be found in the eastern United States from New York to Florida with a total of 573 conservation easements, spanning 138,500 acres of conserved land in our 30-year portfolio. NALT has a strong local footprint, holding 65 conservation easements in southeastern Pennsylvania, protecting nearly 2,800 acres of land. Today, NALT also owns and manages Brinton Run Preserve, a historical and ecological preserve, open to the public in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania.

2. Funding request

• Description of key initiatives

1. Development of the Heritage Garden at Brinton Run Preserve will showcase plants traditionally used for food and medicine by the Lenape as well as plants used by European colonial settlers and African American settlers as they established their communities.
2. Interpretive signs, plant labels, and a map will highlight the plants used by the original inhabitants and settlers to survive in this new land, as well as contemporary medicinal and culinary uses of plants, including those currently occurring on the property.
3. A compilation of stories will be created to educate the public about the role of underrepresented cultures in the history of the Brandywine Valley.
4. Educational goals are to:
 - Bring community members and groups together in a safe, immersive space to learn about the role of plants and agriculture in early American history.
 - Educate K-12 students about early settlers by inviting local classrooms to the garden for active and passive education.

- Educate community members about native plants and pollinators and their role in the natural environment through the use interpretation and technology.
 - Use the Heritage Garden and adjacent Interpretive Center as inclusive learning platforms to promote historical and environmental education for all.
 - Encourage visitors to use the rest of the preserve to actively and passively learn about battlefield history and natural resource education.
5. A deer exclusion fence is necessary for the survival of the garden beds in the Heritage Garden and essential for the success of our educational goals.

• **Specific needs & issues to be addressed**

Demographic statistics collected for Brinton Run Preserve for the year 2024 showing 72% of visitors to the preserve are white indicate the need to encourage diverse cultures to visit the preserve. Developing and sharing the history of underrepresented groups in this unique way will encourage other cultures to visit the preserve and engage with nature.

• **Why it is important to fund this now**

To promote the role of the Brandywine Valley in time for the celebration of the Semiquincentennial, the 250th anniversary of America and help bring stories of underrepresented American history from across the Brandywine Valley to life. The Fight for Freedom of the American Revolution has led to our Freedom to enjoy, preserve, and learn about Nature today. Brinton Run Preserve is a community open space for many more to exercise that freedom, as it is protected in perpetuity, and open to all. The Unionville-Chadds Ford School District has demonstrated interest in NALT's goal to educate K-12 students about early settlers by inviting local classrooms to the garden for active and passive education and will be meeting late spring of this year to plan the curriculum.

• **How impact & results will be demonstrated**

NALT will use Placer AI and install trail counters to track how many visitors there are to the preserve and to the Heritage Garden and will also keep track of educational program participants and volunteers for the garden.

III. ATTACHMENTS

E-mail or mail this support information

1. Copy of 501 (c) (3) federal tax-exempt letter
2. List of Board of Directors, with their affiliations
3. Most recent annual report & financial statement, audited if available
4. Itemized organizational operating budget with actual results for prior fiscal year & current fiscal year to date
5. If capacity building initiative, itemized budget (including external consultant's proposal, if applicable)
6. Current strategic plan. If your nonprofit does not have a current strategic plan, explain why.

- Use this form @ www.chescof.org to apply online for grants from all Community Foundation Funds.
- **Email proposals to grants@chescof.org**
- Proposals are considered "complete" when CCCF has **confirmed** receipt of the **Grant Proposal Summary Sheet, Narrative & Attachments**.
- Proposals are shared electronically and online with Fund Advisors, Donors & Grant Panels.
- Per IRS Regulations, applicants must be charitable, tax exempt organizations with 501(c)(3) certification & cannot be individuals.

Please contact Grants Administrator Kevin Baffa at
(610) 696-8211 grants@chescof.org with questions.



*Connecting people who care with causes that matter,
so their legacies make a difference.*