

CELEBRATING

30 SPACE

YEARS

P R O M O T E • P R O T E C T • P R E S E R V E

IT'S BEEN A WILD YEAR KEEPING SPARTANBURG WILD



A letter from our director

Thank you for your continued support of SPACE! Since joining the staff just a few months ago, it has been wonderful to meet many of you in recent days out on the trails. COVID-19 has altered how we do things in life, and now our community is finding strength in nature.

Our organization plays an important resource during a pandemic. We saw 45% more visitors than in 2019 as our fellow citizens take a break away from the screen to get a breath of fresh air. SPACE, more than ever, is a resource to Spartanburg. Many have connected to the great outdoors while social distancing on our trails, enjoying peace, and observing nature from our new boardwalk. Along with you, they have realized the value of having direct access to green space within a city.

While our 30th year is one that we will never forget, for obvious reasons, it does not mean that our plans to celebrate will diminish. Instead, we look to 2021 as a new dawn and a new way to celebrate. Without your dedication, time, talent, and treasure, SPACE would not have been a resource for those in need this past year who visited our special places - Glendale Shoals, Cottonwood Trail, and The Upper Chinquapin Greenway.

Please continue in your efforts to support SPACE and to

Keep Spartanburg Wild.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amanda Mathis".

Amanda Mathis
Executive Director
SPACE



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Daisy Troop 3451

Our observation deck at the new Boardwalk was put to good use by Daisy Troop 3451. Conservation Land Manager, Lynn Rhodes taught the Girl Scouts about wildlife inhabiting the Preserve...including beavers!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Keep OneSpartanburg Beautiful, a beautiful partnership.

Homeschool litter sweeps members of the Spartanburg Homeschool Beta Club helped out at the Upper Chinquapin Greenway, with litter picking, bridge fixing and grass mowing. They also cleared Kudzu at the Cottonwood Trail!



COTTONWOOD FRIENDS



Friends of the Cottonwood Facebook Group

Thanks to long time supporter of SPACE, Thomas Webster, the **Friends of the Cottonwood** Facebook group was started and administered by volunteers who live near and/or care deeply about the Cottonwood Trail. Whether they're sharing the latest wildlife sightings or what needs to be addressed on the trail, this group keeps us in the know and our community engaged!

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE CHAMPION

SPACE awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd largest Lance Hawthorn Trees in the state.

Ron Lance from the North American Land Trust joined us on the Cleveland Farm Preserve to award SPACE the South Carolina State Champion for the Lance Hawthorn Tree at 44 inches in circumference and 35 ft in height. The species was named in 2008 by James Phipps, and the previous champion was in Oconee County.

COMMITMENT TO PROTECT OUR SPACES



"The story of The Spartanburg County Foundation and SPACE goes back to 1989, when the organization, SPACE, was chartered. Later in 1990, a grant was offered from The Spartanburg County Foundation to purchase what was then a 94-acre tract of real estate.

My family and I love to come down to the trail; you feel like you're in the midst of the country, and you are minutes from downtown Spartanburg."

*Troy Hanna
President & CEO
The Spartanburg County Foundation*

THE HISTORY OF SPACE

The Spartanburg Area Conservancy (SPACE) was formed in 1989 when directors of a local community foundation became concerned over rapid growth and the increasing loss of greenspace and habitat. Through strategic acquisitions, land donations, and conservation easements, we have protected over 5,000 acres in the Spartanburg region.

THE HISTORY OF GIVING

The Spartanburg County Foundation provided the first grant to secure the preserve hosting what is now known as the Cottonwood Trail. They were also the first to sponsor the Boardwalk Restoration Project, completed in October of this year. And when inclement weather made the Highlands Trail risky for our community, they granted us \$2,500 to support tree removal and clean up.



PRESERVING OUR LAND

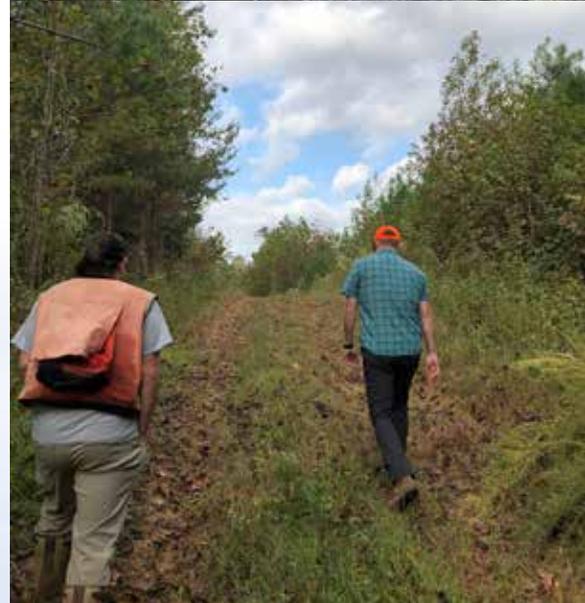
Through our mission and accreditation, SPACE is committed to responsibly stewarding and conserving the land we acquire. We work with landowners in a variety of means to conserve land, this year alone we acquired easements on properties through a U.S. Army Corps of Engineer-approved mitigation bank project, a South Carolina Conservation Bank funded project, and a tax incentive-based private easement donation.

SPACE'S PORTFOLIO GROWS BY 10% IN 2020

SPACE has added a little over 515 acres of private land in 2020. These projects include a variety of significant features and uses, from agriculture (cattle) in a rapidly growing incorporated municipality, to the confluence of two forks of the Tyger River, to a pristine hardwood forest along a hugely important section of the North Tyger.

Protecting our watershed and carving out agricultural land within developing areas is paramount to our continued work in Spartanburg County and our conservation goals, your support allows us to continue this work in years to come.

PRESERVE YOUR LAND TODAY.
INFO@SPARTANBURGCONSERVATION.ORG





COTTONWOOD TRAIL

Boardwalk Restoration Project



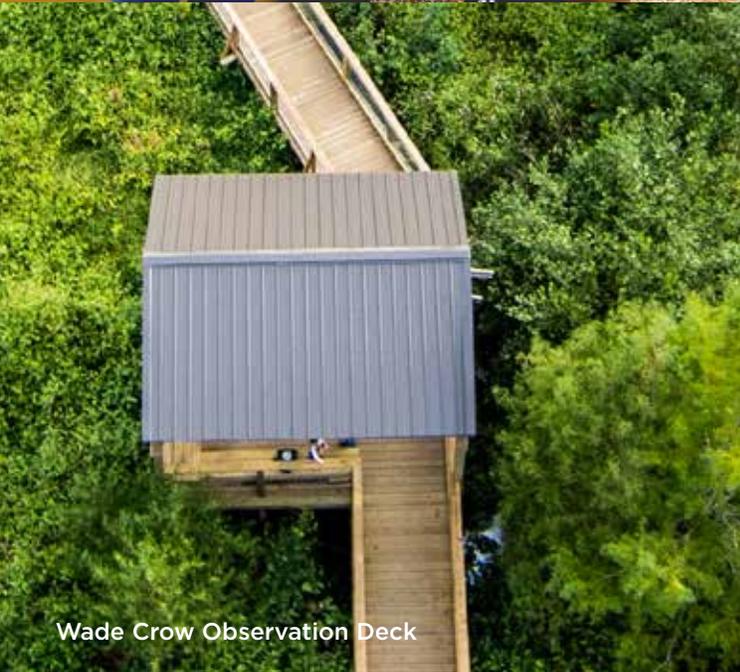
WADE CROW OBSERVATION DECK

We honored Wade Crow with the naming of our new Boardwalk Observation Deck.

Wade has been a long time supporter and past board member of SPACE, engineering the design and construction of Rachel's Bridge on the Cottonwood Trail, the Pavilion at Glendale Shoals, and supporting our Land Acquisition committee to name a few.

Thank you for supporting the Wade Crow Observation Deck!

- Douglas and Margaret Baker
- Suzanne Bagwell
- David and Louisa Berry
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- Palmetto Men's Club
- Joy Shackelford
- David and Betty Reagan Tate
- Jane Turner
- Andrew Wingo



Wade Crow Observation Deck



PRESERVING SPACES FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY



BOARDWALK RIBBON CUTTING

Our sponsors from the Spartanburg County Foundation, Milliken, Vic Bailey Subaru, Neely's Window and Doors, City of Spartanburg, and the SHS Cross Country team joined us for small celebration in November.

Thank you to our Corporate Sponsors!



THE SPARTANBURG COUNTY FOUNDATION
Your Community Foundation



Thank You
GoFundMe Donors!
\$25,000

Over 130 community members came together to raise over \$25,000 to restore the newly opened boardwalk on the Edwin M Griffin Preserve, surpassing our GoFundMe goal! See list of donors on page 9.

SPACE STAFF



Amanda Mathis
Executive Director



Clay McDonough
Conservation Director



Lynn Rhodes
Land Manager

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BELLE MONTGOMERY,
PRESIDENT-ELECT

There is nothing better than the Great Outdoors! 2020 has thrown all of us curveballs, but even in the midst of the unknown, there is amazing peace found in the nature. Conservation and preservation of greenspace in our community has always been very important to me. My mission this year is to ensure our community finds joy and peace in the nature.

I am honored and look forward to leading SPACE as President of the Board for 2021. Thank you for being a great friend to SPACE for all these years. My hope is that you will join me in supporting SPACE's efforts to provide access, education, preservation, and conservation of our Great Outdoors. Now, more than ever, we need to "Keep Spartanburg WILD."

Belle Montgomery
Board President
SPACE

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List reflects donations received up to December 1, 2020.

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CELEBRATING

30 YEARS SPACE



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