

What does the Athens Conservancy do?

The Athens Conservancy is a non-profit organization of a type known as a land trust. It works for protection of open-space lands in Athens County, Ohio, and nearby areas, including acquisition of land or specific rights pertaining to a property as well as educational and planning activities.

How is the Athens Conservancy funded?

Through grants, membership contributions, and private donations.

How can you become a member of the Athens Conservancy?

Membership in the Athens Conservancy is only \$10.00 per year. We welcome all members! Donations above and beyond membership are very welcome.

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Membership applications are at the Athens Conservancy website: www.athensconservancy.org

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Athens Conservancy Preserves
(all in Athens County)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Township</u>
Baker	269 acres	Canaan
Blair	75 acres	Canaan
Bluebell	230 acres	Dover-York
Brookville	18 acres	Athens
Canaan	440 acres	Canaan
Morris	97 acres	Carthage
Poston	48 acres	York
Skunk Run	27.2 acres	Troy
The Plains	13.5 acres	Athens
Tucker Run	47 acres	Canaan
Zak-Lohse	293 acres	Athens-Canaan

Other Preserves Created with Athens Conservancy Assistance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Township</u>
Chauncey	13.5 acres	Dover
Riddle	106 acres	Athens

Strouds Ridge Preserve Sections:

COAD	78 acres	Athens
Della Drive	23 acres	Canaan
Hope Drive	104 acres	Canaan

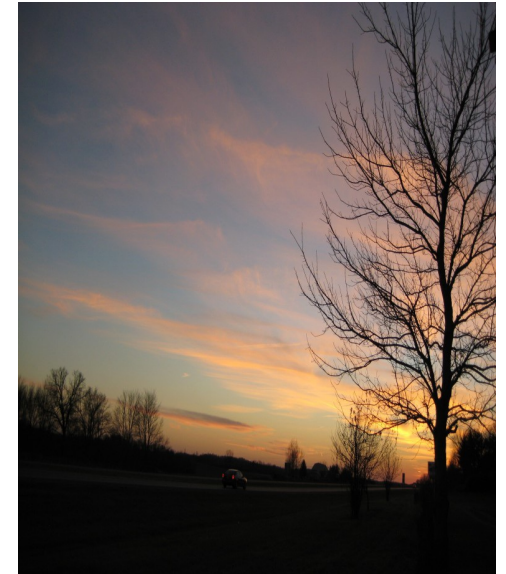
Other Projects with Athens Conservancy Assistance

Athens Belpre Rail-Trail:
14 miles so far in Rome/Troy Townships

Moonville Rail-Trail Connection:
2 miles so far in Athens/Waterloo Twps.

For more information, go to
www.athensconservancy.org

Conservation Easements



www.athensconservancy.org

Athens Conservancy

Dedicated to the preservation of natural areas in Athens County and nearby areas

www.athensconservancy.org

Conservation Easements

What is a conservation easement?

A conservation easement restricts permitted uses of a parcel of land in the interest of conservation.

It is:

- voluntary
- legally binding
- permanent

Why grant a conservation easement?

There are several advantages:

- The landowner maintains ownership of the property and may continue to live on it, sell it, or pass it on to heirs.
- It can lower estate/property taxes
- It's flexible — it can be written to meet the needs of the landowner while protecting the property's conservation value.
- It's permanent — it remains in force when the land changes hands.
- It may result in a federal income tax deduction.

What kind of property can be protected by an easement?

Any property with significant conservation or historic preservation values. Such as:

- *Forests
- *Farms
- *Scenic Areas
- *Wetlands
- *Endangered Species Habitat

Who can grant an easement ?

- Any owner of property, particularly those with conservation or historic resources
- An easement can be donated or sold

To whom can they grant it?

- Public Agency (e.g., U.S. Forest Service, state, local municipality, other political subdivision)
- Private nonprofit land trust (national, statewide, regional, local)

How long does an easement last?

Most are written to last forever.

What uses are permitted?

This is negotiable, but permitted uses *may* include, for example, agriculture, forestry, and outdoor recreation.

How restrictive is an easement?

The restrictions are negotiated by the landowner and the easement holder, and may include the following:

- Prohibition of certain industrial and commercial activities, such as logging
- No subdivision
- No removal, filling or other disturbance of the soil surface
- No outdoor advertising structures
- No mining
- No dumping
- No commercial recreation

Must an easement allow public access?

Landowners who grant conservation easements generally decide whether to open their property to the public. If an income tax deduction is to be claimed, however, some types of easements require access.

For more info about conservation easements or about the Athens Conservancy, visit our website at

www.athensconservancy.org