



# VALLEY TRUST NEWS

Number 82 Spring 2026

Our mission is to conserve natural habitats, waterways and agricultural lands in southwestern Ohio, for the benefit of present and future generations, through partnerships with people and communities.

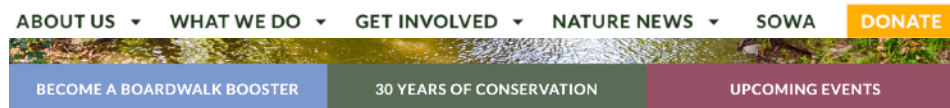
## It Takes a Village to Steward Land By Donna McCollum

As 3VCT has grown over the years, we have added easements, acres conserved, conservation partners (highlighted in the previous newsletter), staff, and technological and social media adeptness. We have become more professional in our business dealings, staff preparedness, and conservation associations. One thing that may be overlooked is our increase in conservation advocacy and stewardship of lands. In this newsletter we are highlighting how we contribute to land stewardship.

Most of the stewardship offered by 3VCT involves education. For example, a recent role of Executive Director Randy Evans involves organizing the Southwest Ohio Woodland Association (SOWA). SOWA holds quarterly meetings at field locations of notable forests, generally privately owned. Each field trip educates landowners about good woodland stewardship practices. SOWA also provides information about upcoming events by other organizations, from native plant sales to field trips. The meetings have exposed participants to how others are stewarding their lands.

Another way we educate people about forest stewardship is through our showcase property, the Helen S. Ruder Preserve. When we began restoring this 13.5-acre riparian forest in 2017, we decided to use it as a teaching opportunity. Instead of hiring a company to spray the invasive bush honeysuckle dominating the forest, we decided to do the work through volunteer work days. Over the last ten years we have recruited over 2500 volunteers, most of whom come for a few hours to help remove invasive species, plant and cage native species, or help build the boardwalk. Each of those volunteers has received information about invasive species, native species, land trusts, and why we do the work that we do. Equally important is the boardwalk, which has allowed community members to comfortably get into the forest to see the restoration work. We have also recently added ecology education signs near the boardwalk.

Our educational efforts also include outreach through Facebook, email and our website (below). We keep members informed of events and interesting information through all those outlets, but of particular interest is the recent facelift of our website. It not only informs readers about who 3VCT is, what we do and key points



of our history, but offers valuable information on topics like what help is available for conservation practices, what makes soil “good,” and where you can find our free seed libraries.

Our website menus steer patrons to information they desire. <https://3vct.org>

Finally, many of our events are meant to be educational, either informally or formally. For instance, at our 2025 Annual Meeting, our speaker talked about her role at Butler Tech teaching high schoolers about renewable energy, waste management, and sustainable agriculture. Our annual picnic in June will include a paddle down Four Mile Creek and information from local historian Steve Gordon about the Mill Race and Black Covered Bridge. Our Three Valley Book Club reads and discusses six timely books a year and is open to all. And, always fun, our Hikes for Acres get people out into local habitats to explore and learn by doing, and sometimes to hear from experts, as on our recent hike with Jeff Davis and Luke Theis at Fernald Preserve and Henshaw Wetland.

We hope you enjoy learning about the emphasis 3VCT puts on stewardship these days. Got questions? Refer to our website or call the office; staff are always ready to help.



**By Tom Vogel  
Board Chair**

## **Stewardship: It All Starts with the Staff**

Three Valley Conservation Trust manages over 225 conservation easements in southwestern Ohio and southeastern Indiana. But what does this management involve? What is the 3VCT staff's role in managing these easements? In a nutshell, their role can be summed up in one word – stewardship.

The staff undertake two crucial stewardship roles. First is the analysis of a potential easement site. This is a very detailed biological, environmental, hydrologic, and geographic analysis of the potential easement. Our Executive Director Randy Evans largely orchestrates this process, relying on Stewardship Specialist Tom Buckley, Stewardship Technician Erik Hermann, and GIS (Geographic Information System) and Conservation Specialist Preston Lawson. Each staff member carries out a specific role in assessing the conservation value of a prospective property. Tom focuses on the overall conservation value of a site. Erik is a botanical specialist; he focuses on the property's native plants. Preston, the newest staff member, uses GIS to address unique geographic and topographic features of a site, including its role in ground and surface water protection.

The second crucial role for 3VCT staff is to monitor established sites to ensure they remain consistent with wise conservation standards and the easement contract. Every 3VCT easement is rigorously monitored every year. Much of this monitoring is accomplished by walking the easements and checking for violations of easement requirements, such as dumping, stream alteration, or other activities that violate wise conservation principles. On many sites, especially remote areas of our easements, drones can be used to monitor for violations. All three of the above staff members and Randy have become certified drone pilots.

However, 3VCT's stewardship function is not limited merely to easement assessment, acquisition or monitoring. Every staff member plays a role in stewardship. Teri Wickham, Office and Communications Manager, is responsible for managing the office, bookkeeping, paying bills, and managing supplies and logistics to ensure all our events, like our recent annual meeting, go smoothly. Teri triples her effect with her family's support of 3VCT. Her husband, Rory, and daughter, Nataly, assist Teri in many aspects of her responsibilities. Rory has spent countless hours assisting 3VCT in many of its functions; rare is the event that doesn't see Rory helping set up and clean up.

Three Valley's Development Manager April Hamlin plays a vital role in stewardship as well. She has been instrumental in securing and managing grants from local and regional entities. Her expertise in seeking out grants from conservation-minded organizations has helped fund the many improvements at Ruder Preserve and the entire operation of 3VCT. Also, her expertise in non-profit management and funding has improved every aspect of Three Valley's operations and planning.

Conservation Consultant Steve Gordon brings a wealth of knowledge to 3VCT. His commitment over many years, including his role in the Paddy's Run Conservation Project, has resulted in his being emblematic of the organization. Three Valley would not be the prominent conservation organization it is without Steve's expertise and commitment. He has been instrumental in building 3VCT's conservation brand in southwestern Ohio.

At 3VCT, we take stewardship very seriously. In many respects, it is the essence of who we are and what we do. Our members and volunteers can take great comfort in knowing the organization works for them to meet the conservation challenges of southwest Ohio.

## **Help Support Three Valley Conservation Trust**

**Membership**—show your commitment to land conservation in SW Ohio by becoming a member, renewing your membership, or providing a gift membership. As a Three Valley member, you join people committed to conserving open land, preserving agricultural legacy, clean air and water, and habitats.

**Donations**—provide support for monitoring and protecting our 225+ easements and acquiring new ones.



To become a member or to donate, go to <https://3vct.org> or call Teri at the 3VCT office at 513-524-2150, ext. 5.

## The Conservation Value of Prime Farmland

By Tom Vogel, Board Chair



Photo from <http://agri.ohio.gov>

Have you ever questioned whether farmland is of value to conservation? Is it as important to conserve farmland as to conserve more natural habitats like woodlands, wetlands, or native prairies? In a recent discussion among 3VCT board members, that question arose. Our Executive Director, Randy Evans, who was raised on a network of family farms in Iowa, responded with an emphatic “yes.” I think he surprised some board members, especially those with a narrower focus on natural habitats. However, 3VCT’s mission statement explicitly calls us to conserve “... natural habitats, waterways and agricultural lands in southwestern Ohio...” Why did our founders care about conserving farmland?

One reason may be Ohio’s abundance of prime farmland, defined by USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) as “land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, fiber, forage, oilseed, and other agricultural crops with minimum inputs of fuel, fertilizer, pesticides, and labor, and without intolerable soil erosion.” Nearly 50% of the state is classified as prime farmland (Robert Weiler Company, appraisal firm). Also, agriculture is Ohio’s number one industry. It is among the top ten agricultural producers in the US across a multitude of commodity and non-commodity products, producing more than 200 diverse crops.

Another reason is the many conservation practices that can help make farmland part of a healthy ecosystem, rather than just a drain on natural resources. The NRCS’s emphasis on reducing artificial inputs and soil erosion extends to helping farmers implement conservation practices on their land. Prime farmland can be managed to protect both surface and groundwater. With certain management techniques, it can serve as a primary agent for carbon sequestration. Planting of cover crops can help to reduce soil erosion and contribute to soil health. Our 3VCT staff actively work with easement donors, both to educate them on the latest practices for soil health and to help them engage with agencies like NRCS that can help implement such practices.

About 87% of Ohio’s 74,000 farms are owned by families, many of whom have tended the land for generations. A family’s emotional ties to a generational farm often lead to a deep connection to their land and keen interest in keeping it healthy and productive for future generations. Not only does helping them establish easements on their farms keep prime farmland in agriculture, but it helps preserve the rural heritage of southwest Ohio and keeps families from having to sell off their farms to an ever-expanding suburban population. According to the National Land Cover Database (NLCD) of the Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium (<https://www.mrlc.gov/eval/>), 355,085 acres in cultivated crops and pasture/hay was lost in Ohio from 2001 to 2021. Specifically, 51% of that agricultural land loss (180,691 acres), was attributed to development.

Once farmland is developed, there is no turning back. It is likely gone forever. Subdivisions, roads and strip malls destroy habitat with little hope of future recovery to more natural habitat, impairing habitat and surface and groundwater indefinitely. Without an easement, Ohio’s farmland becomes vulnerable to uncontrolled development and a perpetual loss of the open land farmers could be managing for food production, wildlife habitat, and surface and groundwater protection.

So, does 3VCT recognize the value of preserving prime farmland in southwest Ohio? Absolutely. Without question, we desire to continue our region’s role in feeding the world’s 8.3 billion people, continuing a 250-year mission of serving as a key piece of the world’s breadbasket. We also want to help our landowners manage their farms for the best ecological outcomes, as well as preserve the cultural heritage of our rural landscape. Your 3VCT staff and board members regularly advise farmers on economically lucrative conservation-enhancing programs, such as the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), buffer strips, grass waterways, the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), and more recently, the new CLEAR programs. These can only be initiated on farms that have not fallen prey to development.

## It Takes Community to Conserve Land

By April Hamlin, Development Manager

At Three Valley Conservation Trust, everything we do is rooted in community. As a nonprofit 501(c)(3), we exist to provide a public benefit protecting the land, water, and natural spaces that make our region special. But fulfilling that mission depends on something essential: support. Quite simply, “no money, no mission.”

That’s where events play a vital role.

From our casual, free guided hikes to our signature farm-to-table dinners, events are more than just gatherings, they are a cornerstone of how we sustain our work. Through ticket sales, sponsorships, and donations, these experiences help generate the funding needed to conserve land for future generations.

While the goal of fundraising events may sound straightforward - raise as much as possible to support the mission - the reality is more complex. Behind every successful event is a dedicated team of staff and board members investing significant time, energy, and expertise. Planning, logistics, outreach, and execution all require thoughtful coordination. Staff time, often an unseen cost, can quickly add up, but are critical to ensuring events are both meaningful and financially impactful.

But the value of events goes beyond dollars raised.

They create space for connections. They build relationships. They offer an opportunity to share stories of impact and bring our mission to life in a tangible way. When supporters gather, they become part of something bigger. They become part of a community committed to conservation.

Because at the end of the day, it truly takes community to conserve land. We hope to see you soon, whether on a trail or around a dinner table!



*Guests at the 2025 Annual Meeting mix and mingle, enjoy a nice dinner and build community that goes beyond “dollars raised.”*

## How 3VCT Funds Agricultural Easements

Three Valley works primarily through two government programs to provide funding for agricultural easements, the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Clean Ohio Local Agricultural Easement Program (ODA LAEPP) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (NRCS ACEP-ALE). The two differ based on the type and use of the land and each follows a unique methodology and timeline.

As the LAEPP representative for Butler and Preble Counties, 3VCT is essential to ODA easements; without a local sponsor, farmers in these counties would be unable to apply for ODA funds. Each easement this program funds requires the extensive evaluation noted on page 2, as well as being at least 40 acres, cleanly titled, currently enrolled in the Ohio Current Agricultural Use Value (CAUV) and the Agricultural District Programs through the county auditor's office, and the landowner having demonstrated good stewardship of the property. Without 3VCT's participation, farmers could not get funding for easement, so some would not be able to retain their farms. As noted on page 3, keeping prime farmland in farms is important on many levels.

NRCS has two programs for conserving and restoring land, the ACEP-ALE and Wetland Reserve Programs. Only the ACEP-ALE program helps establish agricultural easements. NRCS also offers “technical and financial assistance to help integrate conservation practices into croplands, grazing lands, forests, urban farms and other land uses” ([nrcs.usda.gov](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov)) through the Environmental Quality and Incentives Program (EQIP) and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).

Both of these programs encourage good land stewardship, such as crop rotation and residue and till management. Crop rotation helps to plan a sequence of crops grown on the same ground to maintain or increase soil health and organic matter content and to reduce erosion and water quality degradation. Residue and till management limit tillage to only planting, which helps control the amount, orientation, and distribution of all residues. These provide cover on the soil surface all year, vastly reducing soil loss through erosion. The staff time required to make these easements happen supports 3VCT's mission of conserving prime farmland.

## So What Can I do?

By Holly Wissing

Almost 50 years ago, Dayton philanthropist and environmentalist Marie Aull told me we could not count on government to save the wildflowers we both loved. ***“It’s going to be up to gardeners like us,”*** she said. And how right she was. But then Marie Aull, founder of the Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm, was a visionary. Today her concept of citizen involvement and responsibility in protecting the natural landscape is an established movement.

While land trusts are one part of that trend, smaller scale efforts are increasingly being embraced by homeowners, who are planting native species, reducing lawn size and adopting landscape practices that promote biodiversity. The 3VCT seed banks - located in 11 locations around Butler County and featured in the Butler Rural Co-op’s monthly magazine (below) – support this movement.

A prominent voice promoting the critical role homeowners can play is entomologist and author Doug Tallamy. The standing-room-only audience he attracted when speaking last spring at Oxford’s Lane Public Library was reportedly the library’s largest ever. Conservation needs to occur outside parks, he said, and anyone can contribute to biodiversity, whether by planting a flowerpot with pollinators or landscaping with native trees and shrubs. Our personal actions collectively create the connected habitats that a healthy planet depends on, he told the audience.

As for me, I have happily worked on my 11 acres for more than half a century - dividing wildflowers, collecting blue-eyed Mary seed, digging out honeysuckle, and controlling invasives. It has been a joy to watch the trout lilies and wild geranium spread and to see bluebells spill down hills. My guess is Marie Aull and Doug Tallamy would approve. And knowing that the property is permanently protected by 3VCT brings great satisfaction.



*Seeds of blue-eyed Mary, one of the prettiest of local wildflowers, can be propagated by collecting seed. Photo from <https://dnr.illinois.gov>.*

## 3VCT’s Seed Libraries Hit the Big Time



*Photo from Ohio Cooperative Living’s March 2026 magazine. For more details and seed library locations, check out the 3VCT website under [What We Do, Community, Seed Libraries](#).*

One way 3VCT helps people be good land stewards is by providing free native plant seeds at 11 seed libraries around Butler County, as highlighted in the March *Ohio Cooperative Living* magazine. Many of our easements are large, with tens or hundreds of acres, and need funding for large conservation measures. For these properties, we work with conservation partners, as noted on page 5. The seed libraries, though, don’t require large acreage or lots of money for landowners to increase their conservation value. Instead, each of us can plant native species wherever we can to help restore ecosystem function lost through unintentionally poor landscape choices.

Planting native species of flowering plants helps not only pollinators looking for nectar, but insect larvae that require particular species to grow, pupate and emerge as adults. By providing native plant seeds for your own smaller garden, 3VCT helps you help insects, those “little things that run the world”, as noted by famous ecologist E. O. Wilson.

Providing these seeds is a team effort of staff, as well as members and volunteers. Randy came up with the idea, April wrote the grant to fund them and connected with site owners. We buy seeds or take donations from gardeners. Office manager Teri usually divides those seeds into small packets and labels them. Volunteers have both provided money for seeds and helped divide and package seeds. Randy, Teri, and April deliver these envelopes to the boxes and clean out and restock the boxes monthly.

If you would like to help provide seeds, package and label seeds, or adopt a seed library, be sure to give Teri a call at the 3VCT office, 513-524-2150, ext. 5.

## What Have Members Been Doing Lately?

Article and photos by Julie Primack, Ron Stevens, Donna McCollum

### 2025 Annual Meeting

The 2025 3VCT Annual Meeting, held February 22, 2026, gave members an opportunity to reconnect and spend an evening appreciating their organization. Despite world events, changes in funding, and challenging changes in conservation laws, 3VCT continued to conserve land, partner on conservation projects and monitor our 225+ easements in 2025. Both Randy Evans, Executive Director, and Tom Vogel, Board Chair, spoke of new lands protected by 3VCT and lauded the work of the three staff members we hired in 2025.



*Buffet style of LaRosa lasagnas allowed plenty of community time.*

LaRosa's donated our meal and we dined in a wonderful space donated by The Knolls of Oxford (above photo). We are grateful for their continued support! We also wish to thank The Ames Family & LPL Financial and Vogel Farm Enterprises for their sponsorship. Thanks to their generous match challenge, \$26,000 was donated to help 3VCT continue to move forward.

Membership voted to keep the current board with no new board members and no retiring-board members. Our Board President is Tom Vogel, Vice President is Sarah Dumyahn, Treasurer is Ed Teets and Secretary is Amy Sullivan.



*2026 3VCT board and staff, taken at the 2025 Annual Meeting.*



*Sarah Morris's enthusiasm for educating a new generation of teens in sustainable practices shows through. See the halo?*

After the membership meeting, we heard from Sara Morris, a local teacher at the Butler Tech Natural Science Center in the Institute of Environmental and Conservation Sciences and former 3VCT board member. Her talk took us through her career achievements and challenges, highlighting the need to bring students into environmental fields like renewable energy, waste management, and sustainable agriculture. The challenges she gives her students add to their respective resumes while improving our planet's future health. For all of us the evening was a good reminder that we can achieve a brighter future through the synergy (or accumulation, etc.) of small accomplishments.

### Congratulations to 3VCT's 2026 Conservation Scholarship Winners

We are thrilled to announce this year's 3VCT Scholarship winners - two outstanding students from our service area who are pursuing careers rooted in agriculture, environmental stewardship, and sustainability. Brody C. Bowen, from Twin Valley South, grew up on his family's sixth-generation farm — protected by a 3VCT conservation easement — and plans to return home to carry on that legacy. Sadie M. Abbitt, from Talawanda High School, hopes to help develop sustainable water treatment technologies to bring clean drinking water to underserved communities in Central and South America.

Congratulations, Brody and Sadie — we can't wait to see what you accomplish!

## What Have Members Been Doing Lately? (cont. from pg. 6)

Article and photos by Julie Primack, Donna McCollum

### Hikes for Acres, last of 2025 and first of 2026



*A view across the prairie and wetland complex of Ann Geddes's property.*

**Our last hike of 2025** was a delight for all who attended. We had a nice hike around Ann Geddes's prairie and wetland complex, even though it was a cool and dreary evening. Frank House drove people who wanted a ride in a 4-wheeler and answered our many questions about management of these endangered habitats. We viewed Anne's method of preventing muskrats from burrowing into the wetland berms and appreciated the diversity of decades-old prairies.

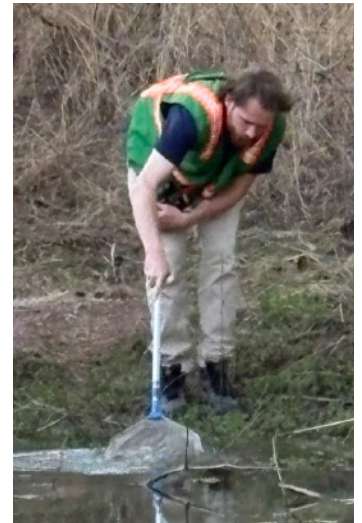


*Frank House answers questions about prairie and wetland management.*

Ann followed up after the hike, as always, with wonderful snacks! We enjoyed sitting around her cozy living room with like-minded folks and appreciating people like Ann who work so hard to preserve habitat.

**Our first hike in 2026** was just as fun, as we explored the vernal pools at Fernald Preserve and Henshaw Wetland. Our group was led by Fernald's Interpretive Specialist, Luke Theis (right), and Ohio Division of Wildlife biologist, Jeff Davis. We got to see a cricket frog, spring peeper and red-backed salamander. We also found multiple egg masses of spotted salamanders and learned the reason they were green; it seems an algae that grows on the egg masses feeds on the wastes of the salamander larvae, quite an interesting mutualism. What an amazing world!

*(Right) Luke Theis dips for critters at Fernald Vernal Pools*



*(Above) These spotted salamander larvae were about 3/8" long in their green egg cases. Learning about them was a highlight for many of us.*

At Henshaw Wetland, we hikers appreciated the mowed trails at the new wetland and prairie restoration and enjoyed the story of how this wetland came to be, through Jeff's former use of the local ditch as a collection point for his high school classroom, to his later connecting the Henshaws with 3VCT. The prairie grasses and forbes are doing well and we heard both spring peepers and American toads calling in the vernal pools, reinforcing the old adage:

**"If you build it, they will come."**

*(Right) Ohio's expert amphibian biologist and a 3VCT contractor in the Paddy's Run Watershed Project, Jeff Davis, showed everyone a cricket frog and talked about their ecology.*



## Save The Dates!

See the website for details as we get nearer to these events. RSVP to Teri at 513-524-2150, ext. 5.

### Spring Hikes for Acres

We have two hikes remaining this spring and sure hope you can join us! The next one is on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the home of Donna McCollum and Hays Cummins. We have had get togethers there several times, but never during the spring wildflower season. As honeysuckle has been removed, spring ephemerals have returned in force, including some uncommon species like golden pimpernel (Right, from <https://auth1.dpr.ncparks.gov>).



**Date:** Thursday, April 23

**Location:** 5398 McCoy Road, Oxford

**Time:** 5:00-6:30 pm, followed by cookout if desired

**Cost:** Free - donations always accepted



The May hike will also include dinner, this time generously offered by Mark and Linda Boardman with produce from 7 Wonders Farm (left photo), our hiking location for the evening. 7 Wonders, a locally-owned farm, offers organically-grown produce and pasture-raised meat at the farm and Oxford Farmer's Market, as well as in CSAs. Owner Jennifer Bayne, will lead a tour of the farm, focusing on organic farming and the CSA economy.

**Date:** Thursday, May 28

**Locations:** 5872 Oxford-Milford, Road and

4385 Harris Road, Oxford, OH

**Time:** 5:00-6:30 pm,

followed by picnic

**Cost:** Free - donations always accepted

### Annual Member Picnic

Come one, come all to the Annual Picnic! 3VCT will provide main courses and drinks and rely on all of you to bring a dish to fill out a spectacular meal.

**Date and Time:** Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup> - 11 am to 2 pm

**Location:** Leonard Howell Park, 5200 Bonham Road, Oxford, OH

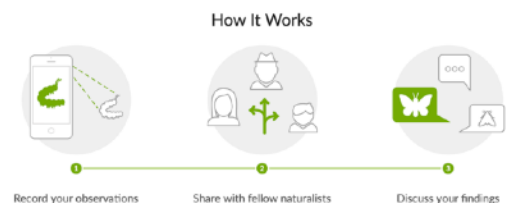
For those adventurous spirits among you, we're also going to paddle Four Mile Creek from Hueston Woods to Ruder Preserve, with stops along the way to be hear some local history from Steve Gordon. Tentatively, we plan to start paddling at the parking lot below the dam at 9:30, stop at the Mill Race and Black Covered Bridge (right), then join other members at Leonard Howell Park, a short walk from the parking lot at Ruder Preserve. Vessels can be your own or you can rent one and 3VCT will provide transport.



*Photo oxfordmuseumassociation.-*

### Ruder Preserve Bioblitz - Make Way for Citizen Science!

For the first time, 3VCT will conduct a bioblitz at Ruder Preserve. A bioblitz is "an intense, communal effort to identify as many species as possible (plants, animals, fungi) within a designated location and time period". With the help of Lynn White at Butler Soil and Water Conservation District, we will partner with iNaturalist to report any species found at Ruder during September 2026 and May 2027. In case you're worried, it's so easy! You simply take pictures of what you see and submit them to iNaturalist and they take it from there, identifying species and generating reports of what was found (right photo). We hope you mark your calendars to take part in this fun opportunity.



### Adopt-A-Section

One more opportunity awaits at Ruder Preserve. We are starting a program to support long-term management of invasive species there. We hope to recruit caretakers who could, in a few hours spring and fall, remove invading species like bush honeysuckle, European privet and Asian bittersweet before they become a big problem. One section of the forest is adopted already and we hope to add more this year. If you are part of a group that would like to help keep this lovely riparian forest in a more natural state, please contact Donna McCollum at [donnamccollum@me.com](mailto:donnamccollum@me.com).



THREE VALLEY  
CONSERVATION TRUST

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Barb Smyth, Teri Wickham



“Valley Trust News,”  
the newsletter for members  
of Three Valley  
Conservation Trust,  
is published twice a year.

## Three Valley Book Club 2026

The 3VCT book club is free and open to all, so please consider joining our next discussion. Even if you don't have time to read the book, there are usually enough of us who have to make it interesting! We have already read two of our 2026 books, *Forces of Nature* by Brian Cox and *Humble Pi* by Matt Parker, but four more are on the list. If those 4 are as entertaining as these two, we'll be enjoying ourselves this year. Hope you can join us!

Meetings are by Zoom at 7 pm on the 2nd Thursdays bimonthly. To receive the meeting link, email Ben Mattox at [benmattox50@yahoo.com](mailto:benmattox50@yahoo.com)

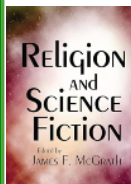
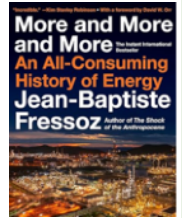


### May 14th, *AI-2041* by Fai-Fu Lee and Chen Qiufan Discussion leader Julie Primack

Lee and Chen believe many of us still don't grasp the big picture of AI in our daily lives. Here, they present ten globe-spanning stories of how our world might look in 2041.

### July 9th, *More and More and More* by Jean B. Fressoz Discussion leader Karl Mattox

Fressoz argues that the the idea we will transition to green energy is fallacy, since even though nations have climate agreements to reduce fossil fuels, the world burns more of them than ever before.

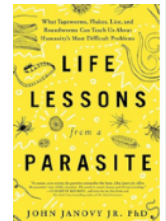


### Sept. 10th, *Religion and Science Fiction* by Ian Barbour Discussion leader Bill McKenna

From Frankenstein to Star Wars and more, from the U.S. to China, the authors who contribute to this volume explore religion and science fiction as a multifaceted, multicultural phenomenon.

### Nov. 12th, *Life Lessons from a Parasite* by John Janovy Discussion leader Ben Mattox

"In nature, as in society, the parasites outnumber the hosts. John Janovy Jr. offers the parasites' view of this situation. The result is smart, funny, and all too revealing." Elizabeth Kolbert



## Would you like to help?

3VCT couldn't accomplish its mission without many committed volunteers. As we plan for 2026 and beyond, we want to encourage you to help out however you feel comfortable doing so. One of the best ways to volunteer with 3VCT is to join one of our committees. Please consider helping out where you can. If you would like to help in any way, contact the 3VCT office at 513-524-2150, Ext. 5 for information. Thanks!

**Outreach and Education** - recruits the next generation of 3VCT supporters, educates current ones, plans and helps with fundraising events, builds community

**Land Protection & Stewardship** - evaluates properties proposed for easements

**Property Management** - decides about activities at Trust-owned properties

**Development** - determines strategies for developing a financially sustainable organization through key partnerships and donors

**Finance** - keeps track of accounts, formulates the budget and informs the board on all financial matters

Three Valley Conservation Trust is a member-funded, not-for-profit, charitable organizations certified by the IRS under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.  
Your contribution/donations can be tax deductible.