

# MERCK FAMILY FUND

protecting the natural environment • strengthening the urban community

2019



**CONSERVING ECOLOGICALLY VALUABLE LAND**

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**MAKING PAPER PRODUCTION SUSTAINABLE**

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**PROMOTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND  
CARBON PRICING**

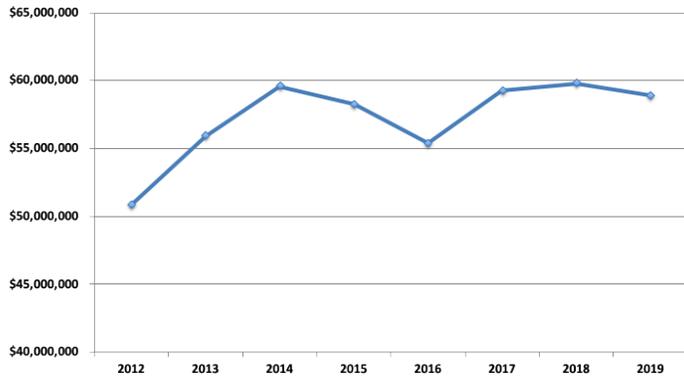
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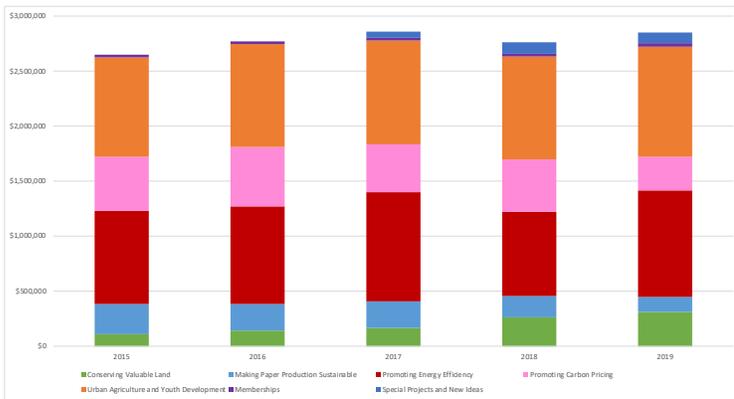
**URBAN FARMING AND YOUTH LEADERSHIP**

## MFF Assets, 2012 - 2019

Based on 12-month Average

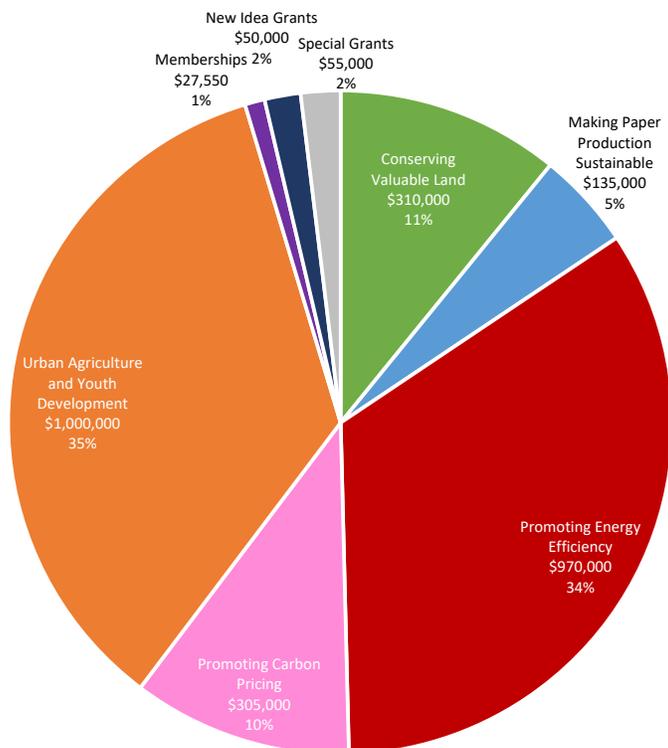


## Grants Paid, 2015 - 2019



## 2019 Grant Program Allocations

Total Disbursements: \$2,852,550



## Conserving Ecologically Valuable Land

*Urban sprawl, resource extraction, and poorly enforced environmental regulations place enormous pressures on natural resources. A healthy world needs a combination of land protections and sustainable use policies to ensure clean air, clean water, and healthy land. The geographic focus of this area will be the southeastern United States, with priority given to the Southern Appalachians and the states of Tennessee, North Carolina, Kentucky, South Carolina, Georgia, and Virginia.*

### American Rivers

Washington, DC

\$40,000

To support American Rivers' role to sustain the Little Tennessee Native Fish Conservation Partnership's capacity to protect riverside lands and restore streams in the Little Tennessee River watershed.

### Blue Ridge Forever

Asheville, NC

\$25,000

To support land and water conservation in western NC with emphasis on climate resilience.

Fiscal Sponsor: Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy

### Dogwood Alliance

Asheville, NC

\$25,000

To support the Wetland Forest initiative (WFI) coalition to engage with communities in the Pee Dee watershed in NC and SC.

### Environmental Integrity Project

Washington, DC

\$25,000

To support the challenges to air pollution permits requested by wood pellet mills in the Southeast.

### Forest Stewards Guild

Madison, WI

\$30,000

To support the conservation of bottomland hardwood through the Wetland Forest Initiative and by fostering ecological forestry in managed wetland forests.

### **Land Trust Alliance**

Washington, DC

\$35,000

Second year of a two-year \$70,000 grant to support land trusts in the Southeast and their ability to plan for climate change.

### **Natural Resources Defense Council**

New York, NY

\$40,000

Second year of a two-year \$80,000 grant to support advocacy and litigation that will reverse the rapid expansion of forest biomass for large-scale electricity generation.

### **Partnership for Policy Integrity**

Pelham, MA

\$20,000

To support and promote science-based carbon accounting for woody biomass in Massachusetts.

### **The Wilderness Society**

Washington, DC

\$40,000

To support the collaborative and consensus based proposal for the Nantahala-Pisgah Forest Management Plan.

### **Trust For Public Land**

Boston, MA

\$30,000

Second year of two-year \$60,000 grant to support the development of dedicated sources of public funding for land conservation in the Southern Appalachians.

## **Making Paper Production Sustainable**

*Paper production is a highly toxic, carbon-emitting, water-intensive, and forest-reliant industry. There are a number of ways to improve the environmental impact of the sector. The goal is to increase the rates of recycled paper in large paper sectors, reduce sourcing from endangered forests, and maximize clean production.*

### **Canopy**

San Francisco, CA

\$60,000

Second year of two-year \$120,000 grant to support the transformation of paper & packaging to a new straw pulp supply chain and protect endangered forests globally.

*Fiscal Sponsor: Tides Foundation*

### **Environmental Paper Network**

Asheville, NC

\$35,000

Second year of two-year \$95,000 grant to support the network to accelerate sustainable paper production and consumption.

*Fiscal Sponsor: SEE Inc*

### **Stand**

San Francisco, CA

\$40,000

First year of two-year \$80,000 grant to support campaigns focused on recycled cups and tissue paper, and to expand supply-chain research.

## **Promoting Energy Efficiency and Carbon Pricing**

*Without a price on carbon emissions, the cheapest and fastest way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is through energy efficiency. The Fund's strategy is to support efficiency policies and implementation efforts in the Northeast and Southeast. In the long run, it is still essential that a price be paid for carbon emissions. The Fund will therefore support the development of political and economic drivers at the state and federal level to establish or expand carbon pricing mechanisms.*

## **Energy Efficiency**

### **Acadia Center**

Rockport, ME

\$100,000

Second year of a two-year \$200,000 grant to support advocacy for energy efficiency, an improved power grid, and clean, affordable energy for all.

### **Alliance for Affordable Energy**

*New Orleans, LA*

\$20,000

To support the development of mature efficiency rules and financing for all Louisianans.

### **American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy**

*Washington, DC*

\$70,000

Second year of two-year \$140,000 grant to support technical assistance and resources for energy efficiency advocates and policy makers in the Southeast.

### **Ceres**

*Boston, MA*

\$75,000

Second year of two-year \$150,000 grant to support the mobilization of investors to spur corporations to implement energy efficiency programs, curbing greenhouse gas emissions in the process.

### **Coastal Conservation League**

*Charleston, SC*

\$45,000

Second year of two-year \$90,000 grant to support the advancement of energy efficiency in SC.

### **Conservation Law Foundation**

*Boston, MA*

\$50,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to support enhanced state energy efficiency in New England.

### **Energy Foundation**

*San Francisco, CA*

\$20,000

To support the Energy Optimization Advocates Meeting, a forum for advocates to share strategies and best practices to advance energy optimization.

### **Environmental Energy Study Institute**

*Washington, DC*

\$25,000

To support the engagement with rural co-ops to develop energy efficiency programs using on-bill financing programs.

### **Georgetown Climate Center**

*Washington, DC*

\$50,000

Second year of two-year \$100,000 grant to support leadership states working on carbon pricing, energy efficiency, and clean energy through convening, analysis, and online tools.

*Fiscal Sponsor: Georgetown University*

### **Majority Action**

*Silver Spring, MD*

\$50,000

To support Climate Majority Project's strategy that positions investors to hold electric utilities accountable for achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

### **Natural Resources Council of Maine**

*Augusta, ME*

\$30,000

To support outreach and advocacy to implement and adopt energy efficiency codes and standards in Maine.

### **NC Sustainable Energy Association**

*Raleigh, NC*

\$30,000

To support marketing tools and the reserve fund for tariffed on-bill financing programs.

### **Nicholas Institute**

*Durham, NC*

\$75,000

To support energy efficiency policy in North Carolina and Mississippi through the Southeast Energy and Environmental Leadership Forum and Workshops.

### **Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships**

*Lexington, MA*

\$75,000

Second year of two-year \$150,000 grant to support the Northeast region's carbon reduction goals through energy efficiency, decarbonization, and electrification.

### **Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance**

*Atlanta, GA*

\$40,000

Second year of two-year \$80,000 grant to support states active in energy efficiency planning, policy development, and implementation.

### **Southern Alliance for Clean Energy**

*Knoxville, TN*

\$100,000

Second year of two-year \$200,000 grant to support energy efficiency as a priority energy resource in the Southeast.

### **Southern Environmental Law Center**

*Charlottesville, VA*

\$150,000

First year of two-year \$300,000 grant to use market forces and regulatory conditions to achieve utility investments in energy efficiency.

### **Upstate Forever**

Greenville, SC

\$15,000

To support representation in upstate PSC docket matters that will have an impact on energy efficiency.

## **Carbon Pricing**

### **Clean Water Fund**

Boston, MA

\$50,000

To support efforts that will advance a price on carbon in Massachusetts.

### **Energy & Enterprise Initiative**

Fairfax, VA

\$40,000

To support the activation of conservatives to advance a price on carbon.

### **National Caucus of Environmental Legislators**

Washington, DC

\$40,000

To support the coordination of state legislators around the consideration and promotion of carbon pricing in the Northeast.

### **Niskanen Center**

Washington, DC

\$30,000

To support a bipartisan carbon tax policy with emphasis on educating Republican political leaders in Washington.

### **Oregon Environmental Council**

Portland, OR

\$50,000

First year of two-year \$100,000 grant to advance and secure a cap and invest carbon pricing program in Oregon and related climate protection measures.

### **Our Climate Education Fund**

Seattle, WA

\$25,000

To support students and millennials in the Northeast to advocate for equitable carbon pricing policies.

### **Resources For the Future**

Washington, DC

\$40,000

Second year of two-year \$80,000 grant to support ongoing analysis and research concerning national and sub-national carbon pricing policies.

### **VT Public Interest Research and Education Fund**

Burlington, VT

\$30,000

To support Energy Independent Vermont and its work to put a price on carbon.

## **Urban Farming and Youth Leadership**

*Growing food in community is a collective and personal entry point to many systemic issues including: health and nutrition, job training, environmental sustainability, and the creation of social capital. The local cultivation and distribution of fresh, healthy, and affordable food raises the awareness about quality and access something sorely lacking in low-income communities. This program at the Merck Family Fund will support programs in low-income urban areas that are harnessing the power of young people to create urban farms and local markets.*

### **A Little Touch of Everything (DBA) Mill Creek Farm**

Philadelphia, PA

\$15,000

To support neighborhood led youth programming and farming and city wide advocacy for vacant land.

### **Bed-Stuy Campaign Against Hunger**

Brooklyn, NY

\$25,000

To support Green Teens program at the Bed Stuy and Far Rockaway farms to grow food, run Farmers' Markets, tend chickens, and run aquaculture systems.

### **Brandeis University**

Waltham, MA

\$25,000

To support the design of a study on the neighborhood level impacts of urban farms and a shared metrics project for evaluating MA urban agriculture organizations.

### **Civil Eats**

New York, NY

\$10,000

To support the creation and publication of five news stories in the Northeast about urban agriculture and youth leadership.

*Fiscal Sponsor: Sustainable Markets Foundation*

### **Community Food Funders**

*New York, NY*

\$25,000

To support resources and networking opportunities for food system funders in the New York region to promote a just and sustainable food system.

*Fiscal Sponsor: North Star Fund*

### **Conservation Law Foundation**

*Boston, MA*

\$40,000

To support expansion of the Legal Food Hub, growth of urban agriculture through policy advocacy, and stories of urban farms to identify policy implications.

### **Eastern Woodlands Rematriation Project**

*Hull, MA*

\$15,000

To support indigenous women leaders to empower young people and their communities across New England to grow traditional crops.

*Fiscal Sponsor: Why Hunger*

### **Everett Community Growers**

*Everett, MA*

\$15,000

To support a Youth Crew to grow and distribute produce, conduct community workshops, and engage residents in working for policy change.

*Fiscal Sponsor: La Comunidad*

### **Federation of Neighborhood Centers**

*Philadelphia, PA*

\$20,000

To support youth leaders to increase access and consumption of fresh food in their neighborhood through urban agriculture, education, and community engagement.

### **FoodCorps**

*Boston, MA*

\$25,000

Second year of two-year \$50,000 grant to support 20+ FoodCorps service members in public schools and non-profits across Massachusetts to invigorate school gardens and connect to healthier school food.

### **Gardening the Community**

*Springfield, MA*

\$25,000

Second year of two-year \$50,000 grant to support youth leaders to address the community's food security and healthy food access needs through farming, urban - rural connections, and city-wide advocacy.

*Fiscal Sponsor: Third Sector New England*

### **Green City Force**

*Brooklyn, NY*

\$25,000

To support 85 service corps members to build and operate farms with public housing residents, expand healthy food access, and develop leadership and green economy workforce skills.

### **Green Guerillas**

*Brooklyn, NY*

\$25,000

To engage neighborhood youth in internships to become urban farmers and food justice advocates.

### **GreenRoots**

*Chelsea, MA*

\$15,000

To support ECO youth to grow food, advocate for and build more community gardens, and organize for food justice.

### **Groundwork Lawrence**

*Lawrence, MA*

\$25,000

To support year-round Green Teens programs that engages youth leaders in food justice, farming, and environmental stewardship across the gardens, farms, and parks of Lawrence.

### **Groundwork Somerville**

*Somerville, MA*

\$25,000

To support youth leadership, urban farming, and farmer mentorship programs while organizing for a more just, resilient community.

### **Groundwork Southcoast**

*New Bedford, MA*

\$20,000

To support Green Teen leaders to grow and distribute food and advocate for increased access to fresh food for their community.

*Fiscal Agent: Groundwork Lawrence*

### **Haley House**

*Boston, MA*

\$15,000

To support 15 local teens to participate in "Grow It! Cook It! Share It!", an urban growing and cooking program.

### **Hattie Carthan Garden Project**

Brooklyn, NY

\$25,000

To support neighborhood intergenerational leadership to revitalize and heal the community through growth and distribution of healthy food, educational workshops, and whole community events.

*Fiscal Sponsor: Magnolia Tree Earth Center*

### **John Bartram Association**

Philadelphia, PA

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to further youth-led agriculture, intergenerational community wellness, and culturally relevant food sovereignty at the Sankofa Community Farm.

### **Just Food**

New York, NY

\$15,000

To support opportunities for senior youth leaders to develop skills to organize a conference for young food justice leaders across the region.

### **Kelly Street Garden**

New York, NY

\$15,000

To support urban farming, youth leadership, and food justice programs that create lasting change for a traumatized community.

*Fiscal Sponsor: Open Space Institute*

### **MA Food System Collaborative**

Plainfield, MA

\$35,000

To support legislative advocacy, education, network development, and communications with the goal of full implementation of the MA Local Food System Plan.

*Fiscal Sponsor: Franklin County Community Development Co.*

### **Mill City Grows**

Lowell, MA

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to engage teens in year-round Youth Food Justice Program that involves farming, education, and community building activities.

### **Northeast Organic Farming Association**

Barre, MA

\$7,000

To support a one-day Teen Summit at the summer NOFA conference focused on youth leaders involved in urban agriculture and food justice projects.

### **Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group**

Kingston, NY

\$23,000

To support youth engagement and attendance at the annual conference, on-going policy and advocacy work, and updating the regional food systems paper.

*Fiscal Sponsor: Tides Center*

### **Nubian United Benevolent International Association**

Roxbury, MA

\$20,000

To support culturally appropriate production growing by young people at 8 garden and farm sites across Boston.

### **Pennsylvania Horticultural Society**

Philadelphia, PA

\$20,000

To build the capacity and infrastructure of community gardens, support the leadership of gardeners, and ensure long term sustainability and preservation.

### **Philadelphia Food Policy Advisory Council**

Philadelphia, PA

\$25,000

To support residents and food justice advocates to create a more accessible and equitable food system.

*Fiscal Sponsor: Fund for Philadelphia*

### **Philly Urban Creators**

Philadelphia, PA

\$25,000

Second year of two-year \$50,000 grant to support the next generation of leaders for North Philly's food justice and land sovereignty movement.

### **Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia**

Philadelphia, PA

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to use law and advocacy to support low-income community gardeners and market farmers.

### **Red Hook Initiative (Formerly Added Value)**

Brooklyn, NY

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to support an urban farming and food justice program that inspires teens to become leaders, educators, and advocates for their community.

### **Regional Environmental Council, Inc.**

Worcester, MA

\$30,000

First year of two-year \$60,000 grant to support youth leaders in farming, community engagement, and local advocacy, as well as build out community garden and farm infrastructure.

### **Riseboro Community Partnership**

Brooklyn, NY

\$20,000

To support 48 young people to engage in food justice, farming, and leadership to enhance farm access.

### **Rockaway Youth Task Force**

Queens, NY

\$25,000

First year of two-year \$50,000 grant to support youth driven farming, community gardening, and social justice organizing in the Rockaways.

### **Soil Generation**

Philadelphia, PA

\$20,000

To support a pathway for youth program graduates to become actively involved as young adults in the sustainability movement.

*Fiscal Sponsor: Public Interest Law Center*

### **Southeast Asian Coalition of Central MA**

Worcester, MA

\$15,000

To support a multi-generational farming project that connects elder gardeners with youth leaders and converts several underutilized spaces into farms.

### **The Food Project**

Lincoln, MA

\$25,000

First year of two-year \$50,000 grant to support 145 teens to develop leadership skills, grow food, build community, and support the local food systems in Boston and Lynn.

### **The POINT Community Development Corporation**

Lincoln, MA

\$40,000

To support 20 ACTION Youth Leaders to work with the South Bronx Food Coalition to develop a plan for a just, local food system.

### **United Community Centers**

Brooklyn, NY

\$50,000

First year of two-year \$100,000 grant to support youth driven leadership for systemic changes to the local food system through farms, gardens and markets, community education and engagement, and network organizing.

### **Urban Farming Institute**

Roxbury, MA

\$25,000

Second year of two-year \$60,000 grant to support farmer training, new farm creation, and the development of the historic Fowler Clarke farm.

### **Urban Tree Connection**

Philadelphia, PA

\$25,000

To support youth leadership to address food justice and food sovereignty challenges in West Philadelphia through the framework of agro-ecology.

### **Viet Lead**

Philadelphia, PA

\$25,000

First year of two-year \$50,000 grant to support Southeast Asian youth leaders to build a garden, promote healthy living, foster intergenerational relationships, and organize campaigns to protect their community.

*Fiscal Sponsor: Urban Affairs Coalition*

## **Special Projects & New Ideas Grants**

### **Cape Fear River Watch**

Wilmington, NC

\$5,000

To support the work to stop biomass growth in the Southeast US.

### **Clean Energy Group**

Montpelier, VT

\$50,000

To provide analysis, technical assistance, and coalition building to establish Massachusetts as a policy leader in battery storage.

### **Dogwood Alliance**

*Asheville, NC*

\$15,000

To support the work to stop biomass growth in the Southeast US.

### **Environmental Integrity Project**

*Washington, DC*

\$5,000

To support the work to stop biomass growth in the Southeast US.

### **Natural Resources Defense Council**

*New York, NY*

\$25,000

To support the work to stop biomass growth in the Southeast US.

## **Membership Grants**

### **Associated Grantmakers**

\$3,000

### **Biodiversity Funders Group**

\$5,000

### **Confluence Philanthropy**

\$1,500

### **Environmental Grantmakers Association**

\$8,050

### **Funders Network for Smart Growth**

\$5,000

### **Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems Funders**

\$5,000