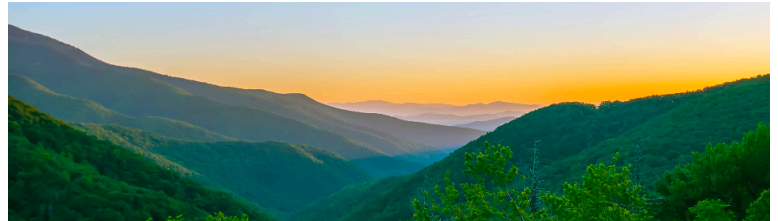


ANNUAL REPORT

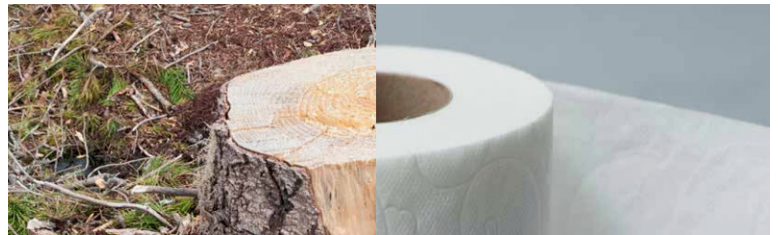
MERCK FAMILY FUND

protecting the natural environment • strengthening the urban community

2021



CONSERVING ECOLOGICALLY VALUABLE LAND



MAKING PAPER PRODUCTION SUSTAINABLE

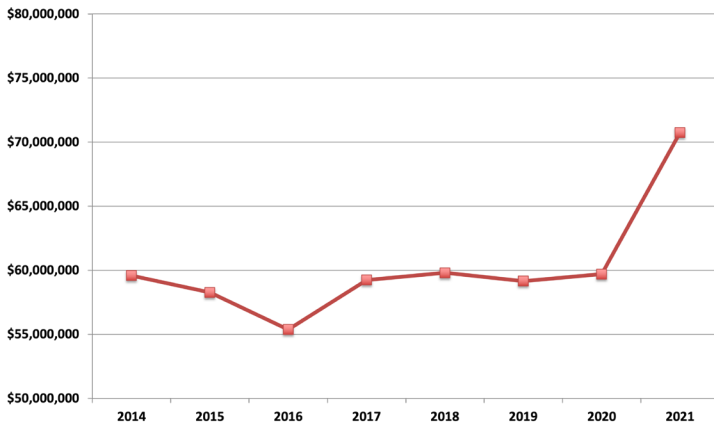


**PROMOTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND
CARBON PRICING**

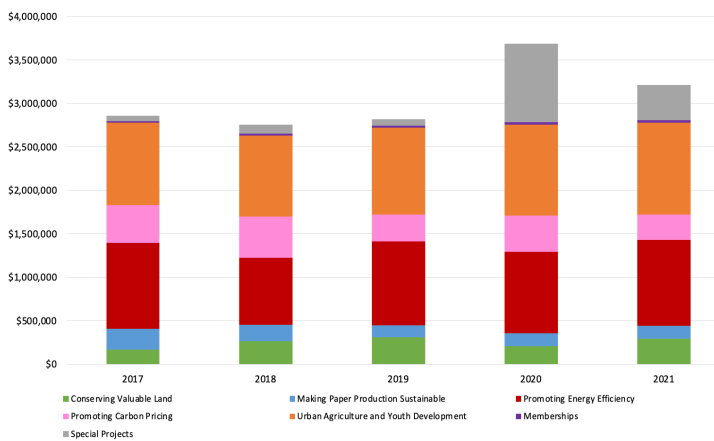


URBAN FARMING AND YOUTH LEADERSHIP

MFF Assets, 2014 - 2021

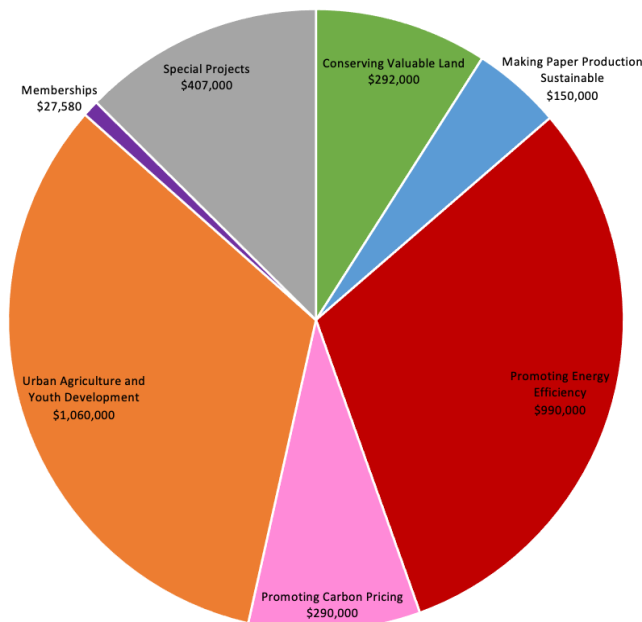


Grants Paid, 2017 - 2021



2021 Grant Program Allocations

Total Disbursements: \$3,216,580



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 efforts to conserve and restore habitat for native aquatic organisms in the Little Tennessee River basin.

Dogwood Alliance

Asheville, NC

\$35,000

To support the climate justice movement in the South, focused on forest protection, elimination of biomass as fuel, and elevation of frontline voices.

Environmental Integrity Project

Washington, DC

\$30,000

To support the legal challenge and enforcement of air pollution permits for wood biomass plants.

Land Trust Alliance

Washington, DC

\$35,000

Second year of a two-year \$70,000 grant to support the work of land trusts in the Southeast to reduce carbon emissions and increase resilience to climate change.

Natural Resources Defense Council

New York, NY

\$40,000

Second year of a two-year \$80,000 grant to support the "Our Forests Aren't Fuel" campaign.

Open Space Institute

New York, NY

\$45,000

First year of a two-year \$90,000 grant to support a climate resilience pilot program for communities in the greater Chattanooga region that address climate inequities.

Partnership for Policy Integrity

Pelham, MA

\$25,000

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

Southern Conservation Partners Inc.

Raleigh, NC

\$2,000

To support a convening of land and biodiversity conservationists in the southeastern US.

Trust for Public Land

Boston, MA

\$40,000

Second year of a two-year \$80,000 grant to support state and local governments in the Southern Appalachians establish new and dedicated sources of public funding for land conservation.

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

\$70,000

Second year of a two-year \$140,000 grant to support a transformation of the packaging supply chain to protect the world's forests.

Fiscal Sponsor: Tides Foundation

Environmental Paper Network

Asheville, NC

\$40,000

To support the leadership, coordination, and resources of a global network concerned with the sustainable production and consumption of pulp and paper.

Fiscal Sponsor: SEE Inc

Stand

San Francisco, CA

\$40,000

First year of a two-year \$80,000 grant to support advocacy for more sustainable boreal forestry using market based campaigns with a target on Procter & Gamble.

Promoting Energy Efficiency & 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 efforts that will maximize the funding and deployment of efficiency programs.

American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy

Washington, DC

\$70,000

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

Ceres

Boston, MA

\$75,000

Second year of a two-year \$150,000 grant to support the implementation of energy efficiency targets and initiatives with major industrial sectors.

Clean Energy Group, Inc.

Montpelier, VT

\$25,000

To support work with the PEAK Coalition re peaker replacement with storage and renewables and on new issues with hydrogen combustion in power plants.

Coastal Conservation League

Charleston, SC

\$40,000

Second year of a two-year \$80,000 grant to support the Energy & Climate Program.

Conservation Law Foundation

Boston, MA

\$50,000

First year of a two-year \$100,000 grant to support energy efficiency and the equitable distribution of efficiency funding and programs.

Environmental & Energy Study Institute

Washington, DC

\$35,000

To support cost-effective, equitable access to clean energy and energy efficiency.

Natural Resources Council of Maine

Augusta, ME

\$40,000

To support the implementation of Maine's Climate Action Plan and carbon reduction policies.

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest

New York, NY

\$100,000

Second year of a two-year \$200,000 grant to support the PEAK Campaign to replace polluting fossil-fueled peaker power plants in low-income communities and communities of color with renewables and storage.

North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association

Raleigh, NC

\$30,000

First year of a two-year \$60,000 grant to support the development of products, services, and relationships to increase accessibility of energy efficiency across North Carolina and the nation.

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships

Lexington, MA

\$75,000

Second year of a two-year \$150,000 grant to support the advancement of resilient, low carbon homes, buildings and communities in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states.

Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance

Atlanta, GA

\$50,000

First year of a two-year \$100,000 grant to support energy efficiency policies and practices that actively increase equity, especially among communities disadvantaged by historic and systemic racism.

Southeast Sustainability Directors Network

Asheville, NC

\$50,000

To support local governments in the Southeast to better implement and advocate for energy efficiency.

Fiscal Sponsor: Urban Sustainability Directors Network

Southern Alliance for Clean Energy

Knoxville, TN

\$100,000

Second year of a two-year \$200,000 grant to support involvement in regulatory proceedings, collaborative working groups, and utility resource planning to advance cost-effective energy efficiency programs.

Southern Environmental Law Center

Charlottesville, VA

\$150,000

First year of a two-year \$300,000 grant to support the use of law and policy expertise to increase energy efficiency savings and lift the unfair energy burdens borne by low-income households.

Carbon Pricing

Dream Corps

Oakland, CA

\$20,000

To support state regulators and communities in the Transportation and Climate Initiative Program (TCI-P) on equitable cap and invest policy design and implementation.

Georgetown Climate Center

Washington, DC

\$50,000

To support facilitation and convening of RGGI states through the RGGI review process.

Green Energy Consumers Alliance, Inc

Boston, MA

\$50,000

To support the Transportation & Climate Initiative in MA and RI and advocate for a Heating Fuels Emissions Cap (HFEC) in MA.

National Caucus of Environmental Legislation

Washington, DC

\$40,000

To support expansion in the Southeast and continued TCI work in the Northeast.

Niskanen Center

Washington, DC

\$20,000

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

Our Climate Education Fund

Seattle, WA

\$30,000

To support Generation Z and millennials in the Northeast to advocate for polluter fees, environmental justice and renewable energy.

republicEn

Fairfax, VA

\$30,000

To support the activation of conservatives to advance climate action in select districts and states.

Fiscal Sponsor: Energy & Enterprise Initiative

Union of Concerned Scientists

Cambridge, MA

\$50,000

Second year of a two-year \$100,000 grant to support the implementation of an equitable market-based cap and invest program for transportation in the Northeast and mid-Atlantic.

Urban Farming & 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.

Black Farmer Fund

Bronx, NY

\$25,000

To support Black farmers and food entrepreneurs with access to non-extractive capital, technical assistance, financial education resources and community networking opportunities.

Boston Farms

Mattapan, MA

\$20,000

To support acquisition and management of new sites into Boston's first urban farm community land trust.

Civil Eats

Cotati, CA

\$10,000

First year of a two-year \$20,000 grant to support critical journalism on the food system generally, with attention to urban agriculture especially in the Northeast.

Community Food Funders

New York, NY

\$20,000

To support an ethical and equitable food system through funder education, collaborative projects, and partnerships with nonprofit leaders and organizations.

Fiscal Sponsor: North Star Fund

Conservation Law Foundation

Boston, MA

\$25,000

To support technical assistance and legal advocacy for regional, state, and local urban agriculture policy.

Equity Advocates

Harrison, NY

\$25,000

To support policy, advocacy, and coalition building programs to urban farming, gardening, and food justice organizations and engage them in food policy.

Everett Community Growers

Everett, MA

\$20,000

To support youth driven urban farming and fresh food distribution as well as advocacy for better food policy in one of the state's densest cities.

Fiscal Sponsor: La Comunidad, Inc

Farm School NYC

New York, NY

\$25,000

To support expanded capacity for young, urban farmer training and state-wide advocacy for BIPOC farmers.

Gardening the Community

Springfield, MA

\$30,000

Second year of a two-year \$60,000 grant to support youth leaders to address community food security and healthy food access through farming, a farm store, community engagement, and city-wide advocacy.

Fiscal Sponsor: TSNE MissionWorks

Green City Force

Brooklyn, NY

\$25,000

To support young adults in urban farming and sustainable practices at five ECO Hubs located at New York City Housing Authority developments.

Green Guerillas

Brooklyn, NY

\$25,000

To support youth to gain leadership and gardening skills and knowledge of the food justice movement.

Greenroots

Chelsea, MA

\$25,000

To support youth that address food security and environmental justice through urban agriculture, organizing, and community engagement.

Groundwork Lawrence

Lawrence, MA

\$30,000

Second year of a two-year \$60,000 grant to support youth leadership through urban farming, food justice education, and community engagement.

Groundwork Somerville

Somerville, MA

\$25,000

To support the Green Team youth to grow and distribute culturally appropriate produce, support school gardens, and advocate for food justice.

Groundwork Southcoast

New Bedford, MA

\$25,000

To support youth leaders to grow food, expand access to fresh food and open spaces and support community food justice.

Fiscal Sponsor: Groundwork Lawrence

Haley House

Boston, MA

\$20,000

To support youth leadership and community food security through urban growing and community education.

Harlem Grown

New York, NY

\$20,000

To support youth leaders through urban food growing, teaching young children, and community engagement and education.

Hattie Carthan Community Garden

Brooklyn, NY

\$25,000

Second year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to support the Transforming Youths through Holistic Farming leadership program and local food access and sovereignty activities.

Fiscal Sponsor: Magnolia Tree & Earth Center

John Bartram Association

Philadelphia, PA

\$30,000

First year of a two-year \$60,000 grant to support youth leadership and local food sovereignty on a 4-acre community farm rooted in African cultural traditions.

Lion's Tooth Project

Brooklyn, NY

\$10,000

To support young people to create herb gardens as a vehicle for expression, transformation, and empowerment.

Fiscal Sponsor: iOby

MA Food System Collaborative

Greenfield, MA

\$35,000

Second year of a two-year \$70,000 grant to support the implementation of the Massachusetts Local Food Action Plan; and to support the Urban Agriculture Network to build the advocacy capacity among urban farming organizations in MA.

Fiscal Sponsor: Franklin County Community Development Co.

Mill City Grows

Lowell, MA

\$25,000

To support young people to become food justice advocates through sustained involvement in all aspects of urban agriculture.

Norris Square Neighborhood Project

Philadelphia, PA

\$20,000

To support youth leadership and community development through culturally relevant urban farming programs.

Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group

Kingston, NY

\$25,000

To support urban agriculture and youth leadership at the fall conference and to integrate both into operations and policy.

Fiscal Sponsor: Tides Center

One Art Community Center

Philadelphia, PA

\$25,000

To support installation of a second, larger greenhouse, expanded urban food production, youth employment, and food entrepreneurship.

Fiscal Sponsor: SMART

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

Philadelphia, PA

\$20,000

To support the preservation and sustainability of neighborhood gardens to create community and grow fresh food.

Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia

Philadelphia, PA

\$50,000

First year of a two-year \$100,000 grant to support urban farm and garden preservation and expansion through legal advocacy and organizing.

Red Hook Initiative

Brooklyn, NY

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 to support Red Hook teens to develop farming, leadership, and food justice advocacy skills.

Regional Environmental Council, Inc.

Worcester, MA

\$30,000

First year of a two-year \$60,000 to support the leadership of youth through urban agriculture, food justice education, fresh food distribution, community engagement, and advocacy.

RiseBoro Community Partnership

Brooklyn, NY

\$20,000

To support year round education and employment of children and youth in the Bushwick Grows farm.

Rockaway Youth Task Force

Far Rockaway, NY

\$25,000

To support youth leadership, farming, food justice education, and organizing around issues of relevance to youth.

Roots Rising

Pittsfield, MA

\$20,000

To support Youth Crews to help local farms grow food, host the Pittsfield Farmers' Markets and create a new urban farm.

Soil Generation

Philadelphia, PA

\$30,000

Second of a two-year \$55,000 grant to support and strengthen the movement for food and environmental justice, through organizing, community education, and advocating for structural change.

Fiscal Sponsor: Nature's Garden for Victory and Peace Inc.

Soul Fire Farm Institute

Petersburgh, NY

\$25,000

To train and inspire the next generation of activist-farmers and gardeners through trainings, skill shares, and educational video series.

Southeast Asian Coalition of Central MA

Worcester, MA

\$15,000

To support the engagement of Southeast Asian youth leaders and elders in building intergenerational relationships through food production in backyards and community gardens.

The Campaign Against Hunger

Brooklyn, NY

\$25,000

Second year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to support the year round Green Teens urban farming and food justice program.

The Food Project

Lincoln, MA

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to support youth powered urban agriculture, food distribution, and community development in Lynn and Boston.

United Community Centers

Brooklyn, NY

\$50,000

First year of a two-year \$100,000 grant to support youth leadership for food justice across NYC and food production and distribution on farms and gardens in East New York.

Urban Creators

Philadelphia, PA

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 to support youth leadership, community resilience, and food sovereignty through urban agriculture.

Urban Farming Institute

Mattapan, MA

\$30,000

Second year of a two-year \$60,000 grant to support farmer training and a network of urban farms stewarded by and for the community.

Urban Tree Connection

Philadelphia, PA

\$25,000

To support youth leadership through urban farming and food justice education to build a healthy, local food system.

VietLead

Philadelphia, PA

\$30,000

First year of a two-year \$60,000 grant to support the development of Southeast Asian youth leaders who are working to end food, environmental, and health injustices in their communities.

Fiscal Sponsor: Urban Affairs Coalition

Special Projects

The combination of COVID, the heightened commitment to racial justice, and protection of the vote inspired the Trustees and staff to make additional one-time grants to the following groups.

Blueprint North Carolina

Raleigh, NC

\$50,000

First year of a two-year \$100,000 grant to work with 50+ member organizations to develop civic engagement strategies that build partnerships and power to ensure racial justice and fair democratic representation.

CASA Pennsylvania

Hyattsville, MD

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to support civic engagement, redistricting, and on-going environmental, education, and immigrant rights campaigns in five Southeast PA counties.

Fiscal Sponsor: CASA de Maryland, Inc.

El Pueblo

Raleigh, NC

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to support leadership development, civic engagement, voter education, and registration and policy advocacy focused on the Latinx community.

Make the Road Pennsylvania

Allentown, PA

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to educate, organize, and mobilize the Latinx community in Southeast PA to advocate for fair redistricting, cleaner air, and greater voter participation and representation.

Fiscal Sponsor: Make the Road New York

National Vote At Home Institute

Washington, DC

\$50,000

First year of a two-year \$100,000 grant to support efforts in Pennsylvania and North Carolina and across the country to make streamline registration and voting processes and make the ballot accessible, safe, and secure.

North Carolina Black Alliance

Raleigh, NC

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to support civil power and engagement of African American communities across the state to create safer, healthier more just communities where all can thrive.

Organizing Empowerment Fund

Monona, WI

\$50,000

First year of a two-year \$100,000 grant to support relational organizing technology, training, and financial assistance to grassroots, civic engagement organizations in North Carolina and Pennsylvania.

Fiscal Sponsor: Tides Foundation

Pennsylvania Voice

Philadelphia, PA

\$50,000

First year of a two-year \$100,000 grant to support partner organizations to secure voting rights, access to the ballot, and fair electoral representation.

Planned Parenthood

New York, NY

\$7,000

General Support.

Power

Philadelphia, PA

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to support deeper civic engagement, voter education, and GOTV efforts while resisting threats to voting rights and representation, and organizing for environmental justice and police accountability.

Southern Coalition for Social Justice

Durham, NC

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to support the training of grassroots legal fellows and community leaders to advocate and monitor the county and state redistricting efforts in North Carolina.

Transportation for America

Washington, DC

\$50,000

Second of a two-year \$100,000 to support advocacy for equitable and green transportation funding from any stimulus package.

Fiscal Sponsor: Smart Growth America

Membership Grants

Biodiversity Funders Group

San Francisco, CA

\$5,000

Confluence Philanthropy

New York, NY

\$1,500

Environmental Grantmakers Association

New York, NY

\$8,500

Exponent Philanthropy

Washington, DC

\$780

Funders Network for Smart Growth

Coral Gables, FL

\$7,500

Philanthropy Massachusetts

Boston, MA

\$4,300