

ANNUAL REPORT

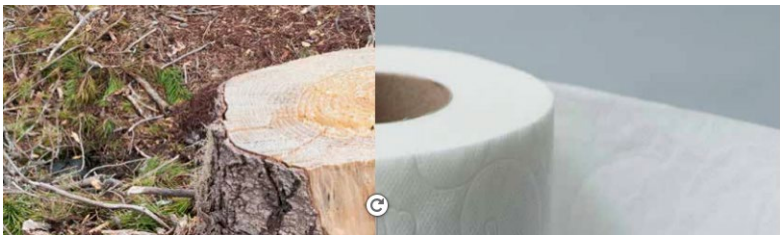
MERCK FAMILY FUND

protecting the natural environment • strengthening the urban community

2022



CONSERVING ECOLOGICALLY VALUABLE LAND



MAKING PAPER PRODUCTION SUSTAINABLE

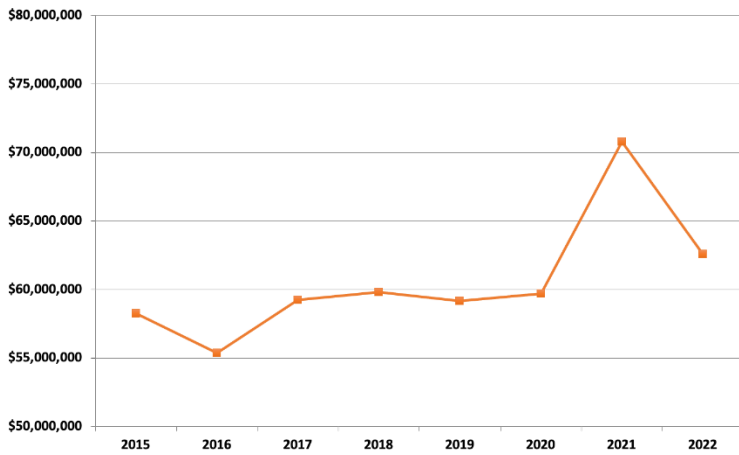


PROMOTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CARBON PRICING

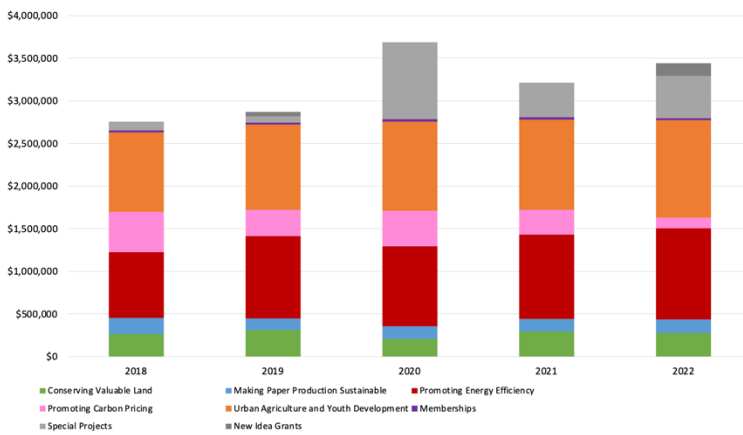


URBAN FARMING AND YOUTH LEADERSHIP

MFF Assets, 2015 - 2022

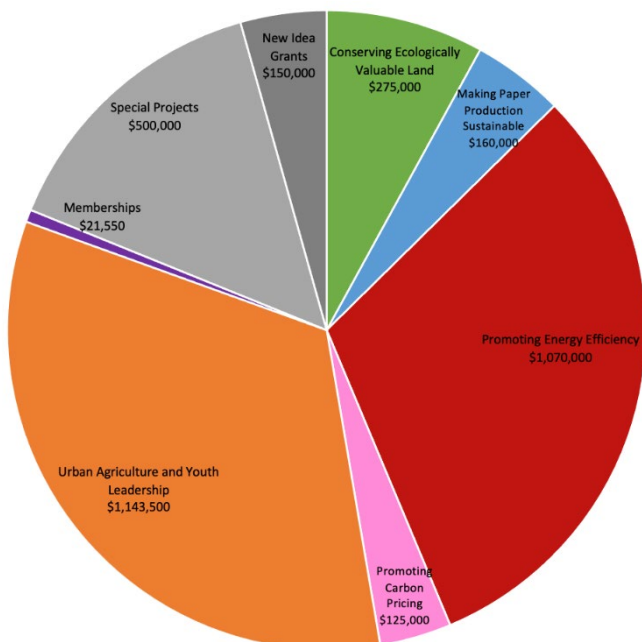


Grants Paid, 2018 - 2022



2022 Grant Program Allocations

Total Disbursements: \$3,445,050



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

\$50,000

To support biodiversity and climate resilience in the Little Tennessee River basin watershed through advocacy and technical support in coalition with tribal, scientific, and conservation communities.

Dogwood Alliance

Asheville, NC

\$35,000

To support the Our Forests Aren't Fuel Campaign to protect the biodiverse forests and elevate community voices in the Southeast.

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

First year of a two-year \$70,000 grant to support training and expertise to land trusts in the Southeast for equitable nature-based solutions to climate change.

Natural Resources Defense Council

New York, NY

\$40,000

To support NRDC's "Our Forests Aren't Fuel" campaign.

Old Growth Forest Network

Easton, MD

\$15,000

To support the preservation of old-growth forests in the Southeastern US through a growing national network of volunteers who dedicate and protect these forests from logging.

Open Space Institute

New York, NY

\$45,000

Second 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 PFPI's campaign to end renewable energy subsidies for woody biomass in MA.

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

To support the Pack4Good campaign to prevent ancient and endangered forests from entering the paper supply chain.

Fiscal Sponsor: Tides Foundation

Environmental Paper Network

Asheville, NC

\$50,000

To accelerate solutions for climate change, biodiversity, and social justice in the forest, pulp, and paper industries.

Fiscal Sponsor: Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs

Stand

San Francisco, CA

\$40,000

Second 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

To promote energy efficiency programs that address poorer quality housing; a transition to electrification; and aggressive state codes for building energy.

American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy

Washington, DC

\$70,000

To provide technical assistance and resources to energy efficient advocates and policy makers in the Southeast.

Ceres

Boston, MA

\$75,000

First year of a two-year \$150,000 grant to support the adoption of energy efficiency and energy optimization strategies for science-based reductions in GHG emissions amongst major corporate energy consumers.

Clean Energy Group, Inc.

Montpelier, VT

\$25,000

To support MA advocacy groups and community organizations to shut down and replace peaker plants with energy storage, renewables, and demand-side efficiency measures.

Clean Water Fund

Boston, MA

\$35,000

To support advocacy and outreach efforts to increase equity in energy efficiency programs in CT and MA.

Coastal Conservation League

Charleston, SC

\$40,000

To seek changes in rules and adoption of plans to promote the replacement of fossil fuel electric plants with clean energy in South Carolina.

Conservation Law Foundation

Boston, MA

\$50,000

Second 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 promote equitable access to clean energy and energy efficiency by helping rural utilities improve OBF programs and collaborating with green banks.

Majority Action

Silver Spring, MD

\$50,000

To support corporate governance and board accountability campaigns at climate-critical companies.

Natural Resources Council of Maine

Augusta, ME

\$40,000

To support outreach and advocacy to implement Climate Action Plan, boost bipartisan support for carbon reduction policies, and mobilize residents.

North Carolina Clean Energy Fund

Raleigh, NC

\$30,000

To hire an Executive Director to guide statewide green bank/clean energy fund through critical startup phase & initial growth.

North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association

Raleigh, NC

\$30,000

Second 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

To reduce building energy consumption and emissions by at least 40% by 2030 and support an affordable, equitable clean energy transition.

Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance

Atlanta, GA

\$50,000

To support Southeastern Energy Insecurity Stakeholder Initiative and the use of EE to advance energy security and increase equity.

Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance

Atlanta, GA

\$50,000

Second 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 within their communities.

Fiscal Sponsor: Urban Sustainability Directors Network

Southern Alliance for Clean Energy

Knoxville, TN

\$100,000

First year of a two-year \$200,000 grant to support energy efficiency (EE) as a priority energy resource in the Southeast by advancing best practices and policies.

Southern Environmental Law Center

Charlottesville, VA

\$150,000

Second 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.

Upstate Forever

Greenville, SC

\$15,000

To support progress on energy efficiency programs in South Carolina and expand the network of advocates.

Carbon Pricing

Environmental Advocates NY

Albany, NY

\$25,000

To support the inclusion of carbon pricing as a key component of the final New York State Climate Action Plan and the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

National Caucus of Environmental Legislators

Washington, DC

\$40,000

To build state champions for carbon pricing in the Southeast and Northeast.

Our Climate Education Fund

Seattle, WA

\$30,000

To train and empower Youth Climate Leaders in NY and MA.

republicEn

Fairfax, VA

\$30,000

To educate and activate conservatives who care about climate change to build constituencies in targeted districts/states.

Fiscal Sponsor: Energy & Enterprise Initiative

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

New York, NY

\$25,000

To develop and sustain a network of Black farmers and food entrepreneurs with patient capital, technical assistance, and financial education.

Boston Farms

Mattapan, MA

\$20,000

To acquire and develop two new farm sites and increase neighborhood governance through the creation of Neighborhood Advisors.

Civil Eats

Cotati, CA

\$10,000

Second 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 collaborative projects that support those most impacted by the status quo.

Fiscal Sponsor: Northstar Fund

Eastern Woodlands Rematriation Collective

Hull, MA

\$30,000

To support the restoration of indigenous foodways and intergenerational farming and foraging practices.

Fiscal Sponsor: WhyHunger

Equity Advocates

Harrison, NY

\$37,000

To train grassroots advocates and build coalitions that advance just and equitable food and farming policy in New York City and state.

Everett Community Growers

Everett, MA

\$20,000

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

Fiscal Sponsor: La Comunidad, Inc

Farm School NYC

New York, NY

\$45,000

First year of a two-year \$90,000 grant to support young, urban farmer training and mentorship, a new climate resilience and farming curriculum, and state-wide advocacy for BIPOC farmers.

Gardening the Community

Springfield, MA

\$30,000

First 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 green economy skills at 5 Eco Hubs located in New York City Housing Authority developments.

Green Guerillas

New York, NY

\$30,000

To support youth food justice leaders, gardener organizing and city-wide advocacy for community gardens.

Greenroots

Chelsea, MA

\$25,000

First year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to support Youth Leaders to address food security and environmental justice issues through urban agriculture, organizing and community engagement.

Groundwork Lawrence

Lawrence, MA

\$30,000

First 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 to manage the South Street Farm, tend school and community gardens and advocate for food justice.

Groundwork Southcoast

New Bedford, MA

\$25,000

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

Fiscal Sponsor: Groundwork Lawrence

Haley House

Boston, MA

\$20,000

To support youth leadership and neighborhood engagement through urban farming.

Hattie Carthan Community Garden

Brooklyn, NY

\$25,000

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

Fiscal Sponsor: Magnolia Tree & Earth Center of Bedford Stuyvesant

John Bartram Association

Philadelphia, PA

\$30,000

Second 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.

MA Food System Collaborative

Greenfield, MA

\$45,000

To support the implementation of MA Local Food Action Plan and to facilitate the Urban Agriculture Working Group.

Fiscal Sponsor: Third Sector New England.

Mill City Grows

Lowell, MA

\$25,000

To support young people to become food justice advocates through urban growing and community education and engagement.

Norris Square Neighborhood Project

Philadelphia, PA

\$4,000

To support a networking event in late October 2022 for PA leaders in urban agriculture, gardens, and green spaces to make connections, build solidarity, and share best practices.

Norris Square Neighborhood Project

Philadelphia, PA

\$30,000

First year of a two-year \$60,000 grant to support continued youth leadership and community development through culturally affirming urban farming programs.

Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group

Kingston, NY

\$30,000

To support policy development and programs that connect youth and urban agriculture leaders to each other and enable policy development.

Fiscal Sponsor: Tides Center

One Art Community Center

Philadelphia, PA

\$25,000

To support expanded urban food production and aquaponics expansion, through youth leadership, training and employment.

Fiscal Sponsor: SMART

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

Philadelphia, PA

\$30,000

To support the preservation and capacity of community gardens as neighborhood assets.

Philadelphia Food Policy Advisory Council

Philadelphia, PA

\$40,000

To support implementation of the Urban Agriculture Plan and the 2023 Food Policy agenda.

Fiscal Sponsor: The Mayor Fund of Philadelphia

Philadelphia Food Policy Advisory Council

Philadelphia, PA

\$15,000

To support community organizing and advocacy to further the recommendations of the Urban Agriculture Plan and craft a 2023 Food Policy agenda.

Fiscal Sponsor: The Mayor Fund of Philadelphia

Red Hook Initiative

Brooklyn, NY

\$25,000

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

Regional Environmental Council, Inc.

Worcester, MA

\$30,000

Second 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 farm.

Rockaway Youth Task Force

Far Rockaway, NY

\$20,000

To support youth leadership, urban farming, and food justice education.

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

To support the capacity of urban farmers and growers to advocate and organize for land justice.

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

Soul Fire Farm Institute

Petersburgh, NY

\$25,000

To inspire and cultivate the next generation of activist farmers.

Southeast Asian Coalition of Central MA

Worcester, MA

\$15,000

To support intergenerational food growing and cultural preservation in the Southeast Asian community.

The Campaign Against Hunger

Brooklyn, NY

\$30,000

First year of a two-year \$60,000 grant to support the Green Teens urban farming and food justice program.

The Food Project

Lincoln, MA

\$25,000

Second year of a two-year \$50,000 grant to support youth powered urban agriculture and community development in Lynn and Dorchester.

United Community Centers

Brooklyn, NY

\$50,000

Second 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

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

Urban Farming Institute

Mattapan, MA

\$2,500

To support the UFI Retreat to create support systems and structures to help manage nonprofit leaders' burnout.

Urban Farming Institute

Mattapan, MA

\$30,000

First year of a two-year \$60,000 grant to support farmer training, production farms, markets, and backyard garden development.

Urban Tree Connection

Philadelphia, PA

\$30,000

First year of a two-year \$60,000 grant to support youth and community leadership through urban farming and food justice education to build a healthy, local food system.

Vietnamese American Initiative for Development, Inc

Dorchester, MA

\$20,000

To support youth to advocate for an investment in Town Field Park and implement a pilot community garden project on the site.

VietLead

Philadelphia, PA

\$30,000

Second year of a two-year \$60,000 grant to support the Southeast Asian youth leaders to end food, environmental, and health injustices in their community.

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

Second 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

\$50,000

Second year of a two-year \$50,000 grant and an additional \$25,000 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

\$50,000

Second year of a two-year \$50,000 grant and an additional \$25,000 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

\$50,000

Second year of a two-year \$50,000 grant and an additional \$25,000 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

Move LA

Los Angeles, CA

\$50,000

New idea grant.

Fiscal Sponsor: Community Partners

National Vote at Home Institute

Washington, DC

\$50,000

Second 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

\$50,000

Second year of a two-year \$50,000 grant and an additional \$25,000 grant to support civic power and engagement of African American communities across the state to create safer, healthier more just communities where all can thrive.

NY Renews

New York, NY

\$50,000

New idea grant.

Fiscal Sponsor: Tides Foundation

Organizing Empowerment Fund

Monona, WI

\$50,000

Second 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

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

Power

Philadelphia, PA

\$50,000

Second year of a two-year \$50,000 grant and an additional \$25,000 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

\$50,000

Second year of a two-year \$50,000 grant and an additional \$25,000 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.

TransitCenter, Inc.

Washington, DC

\$50,000

New idea grant.

Membership Grants

Confluence Philanthropy

New York, NY

\$1,650

Environmental Grantmakers Association

New York, NY

\$8,530

Exponent Philanthropy

Washington, DC

\$795

Funders Network for Smart Growth

Coral Gables, FL

\$7,500

Philanthropy Massachusetts

Boston, MA

\$3,075