

We can never have enough of Nature.

- Henry David Thoreau

The Indian River Land Trust remains dedicated to protecting the natural beauty of our beloved Indian River County environment.

Our mission is to protect, improve, provide access to, and promote the preservation of waterways, open spaces, and green places in Indian River County for the benefit of all today and tomorrow.

Cover Photo: Lagoon Greenway Boardwalk

We envision Indian River County as a place where

- Drinking water sources are protected and waterways are healthy and clean
- Aquatic life and wildlife have room to thrive
- Preserved waterfront and scenic areas provide a backdrop of beauty and tranquility
- All people can access and experience the splendors of nature and expand their knowledge and appreciation of the natural world

The Land Trust inspires and engages the community to protect and restore the health of the Indian River Lagoon, recognizing how critical the estuary is to the area's economic vitality and quality of life.

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Dear Friends,

We think you would agree that we live in paradise. Indian River County is a very special place, unlike any other coastal community. This is why many of us chose to live here and likely why you have been a champion in protecting the wildlife, waterways, open spaces and green places we all enjoy, before they are lost.

Thanks to you, the Indian River Land Trust has made great strides to preserve the paradise we all get to call home. Over the past year, you helped:

- Permanently protect 48 acres of highly developable greenspace along the Indian River Lagoon
- Expand the Lagoon Greenway trail system on recently acquired Land Trust property
- Preserve 36 acres containing an ancient cypress forest
- Initiate an effort to establish the St. Sebastian River Greenway
- Engage in a septic to sewer conversion project to protect the Indian River Lagoon
- Connect our community to nature through exciting educational outreach programs

You'll see more about these exciting projects in the pages ahead. We think they will inspire you as they highlight the lasting impact that your support is making in our community.

This past year, you helped expand our land conservation work beyond the edge of the Indian River Lagoon in the face of rapidly increasing inland development. At the same time, we remain committed to the Lagoon. We are currently constructing a living classroom for education and research on our Coastal Oaks Preserve that will inspire future generations to continue protecting our beloved lagoon and conservation lands throughout our county.

By protecting our paradise, you are ensuring a greener tomorrow. Your generosity is the foundation of what has already become an amazing conservation legacy.

Thank you for being a member of the Land Trust family!

Yours truly,

Meysteinle

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YOUR SUPPORT

Protects Paradise, One Land Acquisition at a Time

Last season you helped the Land Trust significantly move the needle in its land protection work. In October 2023, IRLT closed on its first ever acquisition west of US Hwy 1. The 36-acre Sebastian River Property is part of a critical river corridor that is threatened by development on the south edge of Sebastian. The property contains towering bald cypress and hickory trees rarely seen in Florida today. This property anchors the Land Trust's efforts to establish the long-envisioned St. Sebastian River Greenway with trails and boardwalks weaving through this impressive forest.

One month later, in November 2023, the Land Trust signed a contract for a critical piece of the conservation puzzle on the Indian River Lagoon. This property was a target acquisition, having been pursued by the Land Trust for nearly 15 years. The 48-acre property directly adjoins the 50-acre Toni Robinson Waterfront Trail and another 10-acre IRLT conservation property, creating a block of

120 acres of protected Lagoon-front property in a rapidly developing area of Indian River County. Thanks to a number of IRLT's long-time supporters, the Land Trust raised \$3 million in only three months to acquire this unspoiled waterfront property. IRLT officially closed on the property in March 2024.

With your continued support, the Land Trust remains on the lookout for critically important conservation opportunities for protecting wildlife habitat and connecting our community with nature. Thank you!

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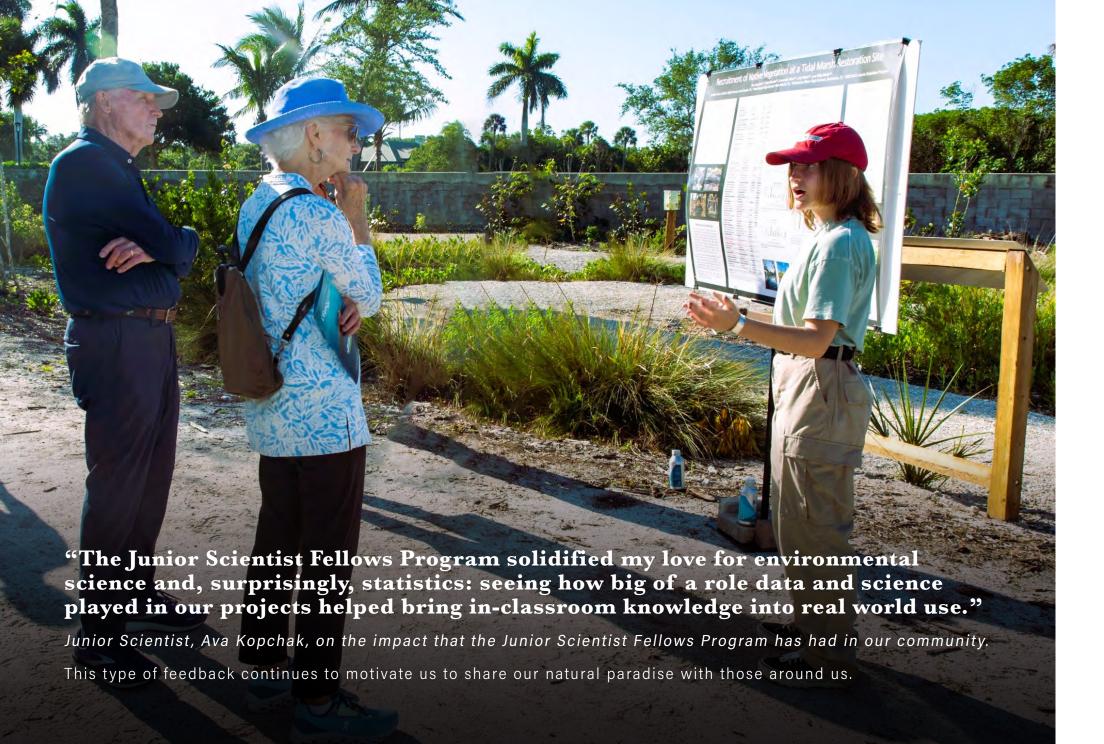
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"It is important to thank our staff, our Land Acquisition Committee and especially our generous donors, many of whom contributed to make our recent acquisitions possible." - BILL BEARDSLEE Chair of IRLT's Land Acquisition Committee



YOUR SUPPORT

Preserves Our Waterways, Open Spaces and Green Places

Providing access to conservation areas allows the community to explore and appreciate nature's beauty firsthand. In addition to offering daily access at three public trails, the Land Trust deploys an enthusiastic group of volunteer tour guides who share their knowledge of local history, plants and animals on interpretive hikes each season. Each tour connects participants with nature while promoting physical activity, mental wellbeing, and environmental stewardship through a deeper understanding and appreciation of the natural world.

IRLT's effort to connect the community to nature goes well beyond its public trails and tours. Education and research play an important role in our work.

The Junior Scientist Fellows Program, a partnership between the Land Trust and FAU's Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, returned for a 10th year of insightful environmental research at IRLT's 226-acre Coastal Oaks Preserve. Under professional mentorship, the students studied seagrass health in the Indian River Lagoon, restoration of native plants, water quality, and fisheries, culminating in formal presentations of their work at the Indian River Lagoon Symposium. This program provides a valuable opportunity to engage and train the next generation of scientists, while informing IRLT's land management.

To date, nearly 200 public high school students have participated in the Junior Scientist program.







YOUR SUPPORT Sustains Our Natural Areas

The Indian River Land Trust is passionate about, and spends considerable time caring for its 1,300 acres of conservation lands. Maintaining paradise (a.k.a. land stewardship) amounts to long-term care for land and water in an effort to maintain and restore wildlife habitat and to provide you safe and enjoyable access to these natural areas for passive recreation, education and research. Behind the scenes, staff coordinates with numerous contractors, partner organizations, and volunteers to make the lands you helped acquire their very best.

Invasive plant control is a conservation priority both on IRLT properties and for land trusts across the country. Invasive plants are aggressive, nonnative trees, shrubs and grasses that displace native plants and wildlife. IRLT assesses, plans and implements invasive species control projects for all its conservation areas. Staff lead volunteer events at public trails, such as Lagoon

Greenway, targeting hand removal of plants such as Air Potato Vine and Caesar Weed. Brazilian Peppertrees are the most invasive plant in the state, covering over 700,000 acres in south and central Florida. This past spring, contractors used heavy equipment at IRLT's Sebastian River Property to clear hundreds of these unrelenting trees. As a result, there are now outstanding views of towering, ancient cypress and hickory trees lining the river.

To further connect our community with nature, IRLT recently crafted an eye-catching series of spinning interpretive signs at its Toni Robinson Waterfront Trail, introducing visitors to the property's native plants and wildlife. With an eye towards habitat restoration, we anticipate that the newly built osprey nest platform on the Indian River Lagoon will be used this winter and for years to come.





We are grateful to those who choose to invest in the Indian River Land Trust's mission through their contributions to our organization. This list represents gifts made between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of this list.

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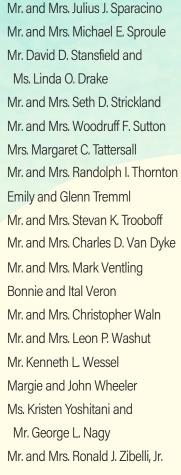
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Mr. and Mrs. Albert Stickney III

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Sturgess

Mr. and Mrs. William B. Tabler III

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas T. Tansill

Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Tepe

Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Thibodeau, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Thomas

Ms. Joanne A. Thompson

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Trucano

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Tuckerman

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Tyson, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh C. Uhalt

Anne D. Wallace

Mrs. Nancy Watson

Mr. and Mrs. Richard G. Webster

Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Webster

Ms. Patricia W. White

Mr. and Mrs. Roger M. Widmann

Mr. and Mrs. Larry W. Williams

Ms. Holly Wilson

Ms. Donna Winter Mrs. Dawn Wood

Mrs. Susan E. Wood

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Yankus

Mr. Stephen Yevak and Ms. Nancy Butler

Mr. and Mrs. William Younker

\$100 and below

Communities

Mr. and Mrs. George P. Allman

American Online Giving Foundation, Inc.

Dr. and Mrs. Fred Bauschard

Mrs. Lani Becker

Woody Talley

Ms. Martha Herrick

Mr. Peter Nowicki

Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Cashill

Mr. Michael Closson

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Colontrelle

Mr. Peter O. Crouse

Dale Sorensen Real Estate

Mr. Francis Davitt and Ms. Lynda A Ceremsak

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Docherty

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Fisher

Ms. Barbara Greene

Mr. Charles S. Hall

Mr. Bruce A. Hauptfuhrer

Mrs. Nancy Hodder

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Hollabaugh

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Kelley III

Mr. and Mrs. Don Klein

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Knowles

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Kozak

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick B. Lahey

Ms. Diane Langevin

Mrs. Vivienne S. Lewis

Mr. Brian Lieberman

Mr. and Mrs. David L. Marable

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Martin Ms. Kathleen McCarthy

Mr. and Mrs. C. Michael McKeever

Mrs. Louise McShane

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mellin

Ms. Flizabeth R. Mitchell

Mrs. Gail S. Moloney

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Montgomery

Mr. and Mrs. Tad Montross

Moorings Sabal Circle Garden Club

Mr. and Mrs. Guillaume Morin

Mr. Daniel Morris

Mr. and Mrs. Richard K. Morris

Mr. and Mrs. Michael A. Murray

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Novander

Mr. and Mrs. Liviu D. Onofrei

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Parker Mr. and Mrs. Mainert Peterson

Ms. Flaine K. Pirone

Gerald D. Reilly*

Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Reisman

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Resseger

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander M. Roe

Ms. Kristin M. Rohr

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Ms. Leah K. Scott

Mr. Robert Smith and Ms. Patricia L. Sawyer

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Stallkamp

Mr. and Mrs. Donald G. Stoner

Ms. Sharon Purdie

Mr. Thomas W. Tierney and Mrs. Lisa M. Kahle

Mr. and Mrs. Skip Tolette

Mr. and Mrs. Donald C. Tweedy

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Van Lith

Ms. Jane Vanistendal

Mrs. Marian S. Wenzel

I ani York

Mrs. Janis M. Young

Mr. and Mrs. Richard F. Young

ACTS- Retirement Life

Elizabeth Betts and

Mr. Alexandre H. Bravo and

Ms. Judith N. Briggs

Ms. Kathleen Camilli and

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel C. Clark

Lonnie and Melissa DePriest

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Ether

Mr. and Mrs. James E. Evans III

Mrs. Elizabeth W. Frappier

Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Hart

Ms. Elizabeth M. Heartfield

Mr. and Mrs. James C. Hewett

Mrs. Don R. Hinkley

Ms. Susan Isom-Eakins

Mr. and Mrs. Jason Jones

Ms. Linda Smolarek

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Snyder

Mr. and Mrs. Mark E. Stange

Mr. Edmund Sybertz and

Ms. Sharon V. Townley

Mrs. Heidi Truscott

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Van Os

Ms. Laurie White



We would like to thank our many volunteers and in-kind donors for supporting our work.

VOLUNTEERS

Donna Anderson Tom Anderson **Annie Barrow** Kerry Bartlett Wendy Bernstein Janice Broda Bill Brookings Cindy Burleson Jim Byrnes Terry Byrnes Laura Clark Francie Cramb Community Church Earth Care Ministry Kathy Dalbey Ann L. Decker Jack Deihl John Ericson Jon Fauver Carla Flournoy Charlie Flournoy Carmen Garceau Vin Gemmiti Tim Glover Cindy Hatfield Ed Hatfield Charlie Hatfield

Pat Hays Alana Humberson Julaine Ivy Rodolph "Rody" Johnson Tommye Johnson David Kanarek Marcia Kasabian Katherine Kittendorf Paula Knier Fred Knier Brenda Kramer **Christopher Lamb** Anne Lanier **Taylor Kennedy Lubas** Mary Marley Sheila Marshall Christine McKenney Wensley McKenney Deb Meadow Lee Moore Loreto Murray **Andrew Murray Shirley Nichols** Nick Polge PulteGroup

Brian Quinn

Lyndal Hill

Felicity Rask Ricky Ray Lenora Ritchie Fran Robinson Sheila Rockwell Sandy Rolf Ellen Serruto Jim Shea* Laura Shields Nancy Shoemate Dave Singewald Mark Stange **Heather Stapleton** Andy Steinbergs Meg Steiner **Judy Teague Carol Thomas** Wayne Thomas Caroline Vandeventer Vero Shores Owners Association Karen Wade Catherine Walker Linda Wall Molly Teter Webb **Rick Williams**

Holly Wilson

Donna Winter Jack Zuzack Marie Zuzack

GIFTS IN-KIND

Adams Ranch Natural Beef Aiello Landscape Complete Cleaning of IRC **Distinctive Painting** Einstein Bros. Bagels Elizabeth A. Gillick Gould, Cooksey, Fennell, P.A. Jetson TV & Appliance Moor, Baker & Associates Architects, P.A. **Natalie Holtom Interiors** Native Island Apiaries Paul Can Do Pinson Contractor Services **Rock City Gardens** Schacht Groves Snider's Custom Window Decor Total Golf Cart, LLC

* Denotes deceased supporter

Financial Highlights

(July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

From Audited Financial Statements*



Statement of Financial Position (6-30-2024)

ASSETS	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,888,081
Cash & Cash Equivalents - Campaign	\$ 4,100,613
Investments: New Otter Marsh Endowment	\$ 289,826
Investments: Land Stewardship Endowment	\$ 4,917,578
Unconditional Promises to Give	\$ 681,487
Conservation Land & Improvements	\$ 23,102,665
Other Property, Equipment and Other Assets	\$ 70,121

TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 36,050,371
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	\$ 7,447
Other Liabilities	\$ 24,797
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 32,244
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$ 36,018,127

^{*} For a complete copy of the IRLT's Financial Statements please contact our office.

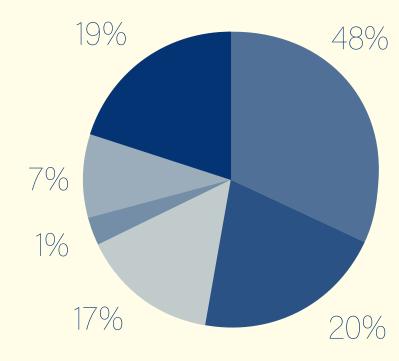
Statement of Activities

REVENUE	
General Gifts, Appeals & Contributions	\$ 1,171,939
Bequest	\$ 500,000
Contributions for Conservation: Purchase, Protection & Restoration	\$ 2,901,020
Grants & Other Support	\$ 58,682
Fundraising Events (net)	\$ 407,378
Interest and Other Gains	\$ 1,022,880
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 6.061.899

OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	
Programs: Land Protection & Management	\$ 861,041
General & Administrative	\$ 203,982
Fundraising: Marketing & Development	\$ 241,170
OTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,306,193

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL REVENUE

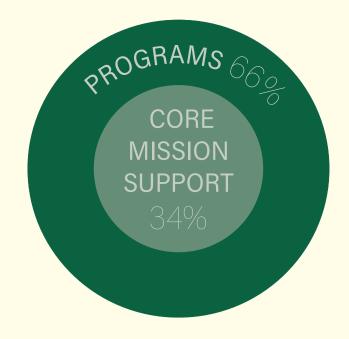
\$6,061,899



- GENERAL GIFTS / 19%
 APPEALS & CONTRIBUTIONS
- BEQUEST / 20%
- CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CONSERVATION / 48%
 PURCHASE, PROTECTION & RESTORATION
- GRANTS & OTHER SUPPORT / 1%
- FUNDRAISING EVENTS / 7%
- INTEREST & OTHER GAINS / 17%

PERCENTAGE OF OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

\$1,306,193



- PROGRAMS / 66%
- LAND PROTECTION & MANAGEMENT
- CORE MISSION SUPPORT / 34%
 GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION / 16%
 FUNDRAISING: MARKETING & DEVELOPMENT / 18%



Indian River Land Trust

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