



Biodiversity for a Livable Climate

Restoring Ecosystems to Reverse Global Warming

**ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2024**



A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends, Partners, and Supporters,

As I reflect on 2024, I am filled with gratitude for the remarkable progress we have made together. Thanks to your generosity, dedication, and shared vision, Biodiversity for a Livable Climate has expanded its reach, deepened its impact, and continued to advance the urgent work of ecosystem restoration and climate resilience.

Last year, we witnessed the transformative power of nature firsthand. Through our Miyawaki Forest Program, we planted two urban forests, replacing asphalt and lawn with thousands of native trees and plants. These projects—made possible by community collaboration and your support—will help cool urban heat islands, restore biodiversity, and improve air and water quality.

Our educational programs flourished, with more than 130% growth in course registration. From exploring the intelligence of plants to rethinking economics through a regenerative lens, our courses brought together students from around the world, equipping them with the knowledge and tools to become ecological stewards in their own communities.

Biodiversity for a Livable Climate also made strides in scientific research, advocacy, and media engagement. We partnered with Salem State University to study how urban vegetation mitigates heat, strengthened collaborations with policymakers and environmental organizations, and increased public awareness through national media placements and high-profile speaking engagements. Our work reached new audiences, shifting perspectives and inspiring action at local, national, and global levels.

None of this would be possible without you. Your belief in our mission fuels our ability to restore ecosystems, build resilient communities, and advocate for solutions that put biodiversity at the center of climate action. Every tree planted, every course taught, and every policy challenged is a testament to what we can achieve together.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to expanding our restoration efforts, deepening our partnerships, and ensuring that nature-based solutions are at the forefront of climate action. Thank you for being part of this journey. Your support is not just an investment in Bio4Climate—it's an investment in a thriving, livable planet for generations to come.

With deep appreciation,



BECK MORDINI

Executive Director



TRANSFORMING URBAN SPACES:

MIYAWAKI FORESTS



In 2024, Biodiversity for a Livable Climate (Bio4Climate) made a major step forward in improving urban environments by working on the development and planting of two new Miyawaki forests in Worcester, Massachusetts.

This was a big leap for us, as we grew from small sites (1,400 to 4,300 square feet) to larger ones, including a 6,400 sq ft. miniforest at the McGrath Municipal Parking Lot and an 8,000 sq ft. miniforest at the Plumley Village Apartments. From March to June 2024, we helped facilitate two community foraging days, one day of depaving, and four main days of planting. Hundreds of volunteers of all ages helped out, planting hundreds of saplings to transform the urban spaces and create thriving Miyawaki forests in Worcester. These forests are situated within Environmental Justice Communities, addressing the disproportionate effects of extreme heat on vulnerable urban populations.

Alongside the two plantings, we further developed the Miyawaki Forest Program by hosting presentations, tours, and information sessions to engage individuals interested in the project. We also organized maintenance sessions and offered virtual consultations upon request to enhance awareness and education.

MIYAWAKI FOREST PROGRAM **BY THE NUMBERS**

361

volunteers

722

hours

7,420+

native plants

30

virtual consultations

74

students engaged

10

presentations & interviews



TRANSFORMING ASPHALT INTO FOREST

At the McGrath Municipal Parking Lot, right outside the Worcester Public Library, our project went beyond planting trees. We depaved the 6,400 sq ft parking lot prior to soil preparation – removing asphalt and concrete – to give life a chance to flourish. This exposed the web of life below the surface, setting the stage for an entirely new ecosystem to grow.

Depaving is a key environmental strategy that addresses critical urban challenges such as:

- **Urban Heat Island Effect Mitigation:** Vegetation cools urban areas by providing shade, releasing moisture through transpiration, and reducing heat absorption by hard surfaces, decreasing temperature differences.
- **Stormwater Management:** Replacing hard surfaces lets rainwater soak into the soil, reducing runoff that causes urban flooding and pollutes waterways while replenishing groundwater.
- **Biodiversity Enhancement:** Native plants support the food web, promoting a healthier urban environment with cleaner air and water.

TRANSFORMING LAWN INTO FOREST

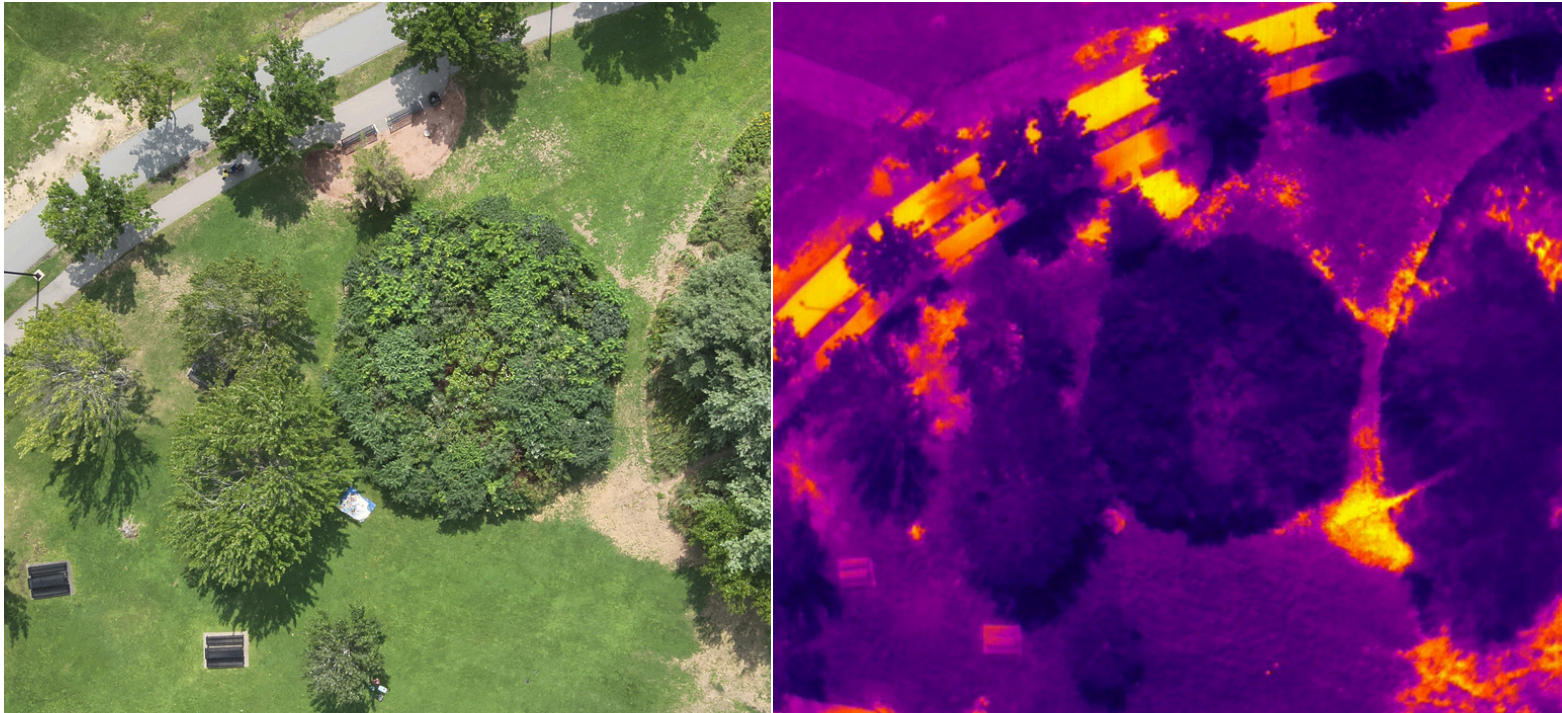
The second Miyawaki Forest in Worcester was planted at the Plumley Village Apartments, a housing complex serving approximately 430 families, primarily from low-income and diverse backgrounds. The designated site for the forest, approximately 10,000 square feet of lawn next to the playground was transformed into a lush, biodiverse forest that will benefit both the community and the local environment. A standout moment at Plumley Village was working with the young residents. Kids of all ages eagerly planted saplings, and the older boys, competing to plant the most, really energized the group!



COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIP

These two Miyawaki forests were made possible through strong collaboration with the City of Worcester and BSC Group. Community engagement led by Guillermo Creamer and the involvement of hundreds of volunteers ensured the success of these initiatives. Bio4Climate's leadership in Miyawaki forest implementation provided vital ecological guidance. This was made possible through the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Action Grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, these projects are a testament to the power of collaboration.

This year, Bio4Climate expanded Miyawaki Forest research by partnering with Nicholas Geron of Salem State University. Using a drone with a thermal camera, he and his students studied the Danehy Park forest's impact on the urban heat island effect, with plans to continue research during the 2025 summer heatwaves.



Danehy Park. Thermal image taken by Dr. Nicholas Geron via drone. The darker colors represent cooler temperatures created by the Miyawaki Forest, with warmer temperatures on different ground cover types, such as lawn, bare soil, and sidewalk.



The City of
Worcester



COLLABORATING TO INSPIRE YOUTH

This summer, Bio4Climate had the privilege of facilitating a tour and activity for the Biodiversity Builderssm program, a six-week paid-learning initiative that empowers 16-18 high school students to take action for the planet created and led by Jean Devine. Through hands-on experiences, the students learn how to remove non-native plants, design and build ecosystem gardens, sell native plants, and advocate for nature-based solutions to biodiversity loss, climate change, and environmental injustice.

The program serves students from Arlington, Belmont, and Cambridge, with a teaching site at Alewife Reservation, and includes work projects, ecosystem explorations, and opportunities to engage with professionals in various environmental, policy, and activist fields.

Bio4Climate supported their journey by leading an educational tour of the Danehy forest and an activity that focused on the soil food web, cultivating a deeper connection to environmental stewardship and community-driven change.



TRANSFORMING PEOPLE:

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCES



We are grateful for volunteers like Paul Barringer, who commuted an hour each way to participate in the Miyawaki project at the Worcester library.

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION

Our passion for nature and ecorestoration is not just based on an appreciation or love of nature, but on the continuously emerging science that reveals our interdependence on a world of interconnected life, from the soil below us to the highest bits of bacteria in the tree canopy.

When we understand how trees create rain, how animals hydrate the soil, how microbes connect all the processes, we realize that we must restore whole systems in order to keep our climate stable. Over 300 videos on YouTube of webinars and lectures, along with live classes online, share the knowledge, but there is nothing like experiencing these ecosystems in person. Two community engagement events and three experiential learning field trips reached hundreds of people of all ages.

Miyawaki forests are not the only way to bring biodiversity and soil health to urban areas. We were excited to support the formation of a local Cambridge citizen group, Native Plant Community Gardeners, to create native plant gardens near our Danehy forest. To raise awareness, we collaborated on a community festival in May- Biodiversity Day, which brought out over 100 people for birding tours, Miyawaki Forest tours, and activities at over a dozen booths to learn about pollinator gardens, native plants, and ecosystem restoration.

We expanded Experiential Learning of Nature-Based Solutions and Biodiversity through hands-on activities led by staff biologist, Jim Laurie. Jim and his Symbiosis Team organized field trips led by key figures in eco restoration in forests and wetlands in urban and wilderness areas.



ENGAGING FUTURE GENERATIONS

Building on our 2023 partnership with Boston University, Bio4Climate returned to campus to support the HUB XC 433 course, Environmental Equality and Urban Tree Canopies. Led by Professors Salvatore Genovese and Joelle Renstrom, the course connects students with community partners to tackle real-world ecological and equity challenges. Bio4Climate facilitated a site assessment and planning for a potential Miyawaki Forest, including a visit to the Brookline Miyawaki Forest for inspiration. While the proposed site was ultimately unsuitable for planting, students continued exploring Miyawaki forest creation, with Bio4Climate providing feedback to refine their final presentations.



Photos by Noah Sorin

Thank you to our education volunteers!

Katya Stupina
Yulia Rothenberg
John Feldman
Ann Barrett
Rob Moir
Cindy Laniewski

Nonie Valentine
Nyanna Tobin
Sue Rosenkranz
Christal Whelen
Hope Leeson
Yaroslava Nikulina

Maya Dutta
Paul Barringer
Petia Koutev
Judith Black
Glenn Gall
Marilyn Maxwell

Holly Ewald
Paula Phipps
Jean Devine
Margaret Elizabeth Fuhr
Tim Jones

EDUCATIONAL FIELD TRIPS

Floating Wetland Tour in Providence, RI. On June 15th, we visited a floating wetland project in Roger Williams Park created by the Below and Above Collective, which included our own Alexandra Ionescu. The Below and Above Collective's aim is to construct floating wetlands that regenerate urban ponds and engage communities with biodiversity & natural processes through art with ecological functionality.



Cambridge Moth Ball 2024: On July 24, Bio4Climate partnered with other host organizations on the first Cambridge Moth Ball at Kingsley Park, Fresh Pond Reservation, to celebrate National Moth Week. Around 200 attendees of all ages engaged in community science, moth collecting, data collection, photography, and children's activities. Jim Laurie hosted the Bio4Climate information table while Program Manager, Alexandra Ionescu co-hosted an interactive arts table with Cambridge Wildlife Arts. In addition to felting projects, we produced graphics illustrating the relationship between moth caterpillars and their host plants, which were included in take-home art kits. Key messaging included that our Miyawaki Forests, with their diverse native trees and shrubs, play a vital role in supporting moth populations and the broader web of life.





Charles River Floating Wetland Tour in Boston, MA. On August 13th, over 15 students in Jim Laurie's course visited the Charles River Floating Wetland led by Max Rome, the Stormwater Manager at the Charles River Watershed Association. Over twenty people followed Max on the river in rental kayaks and got introduced to the ecology of floating wetlands, the logistics that made the project possible and the importance of improving water quality through biodiversity.



Jim Laurie shares the wonders of pond life and his inspiring book collection, while Maya Dutta is giving a tour of the Miyawaki Forest during Biodiversity Day.

PROMOTING AWARENESS IN ALL COMMUNITIES

We were proud to **serve as sponsors of the Cambridge screening of a groundbreaking new film, BLACKWATERS** – Brotherhood In The Wild, plus a discussion with the entire cast of the film. On March 15, 2024, in partnership with Trout Unlimited and community partners, we were excited to bring this insightful discussion to the community. This film "encompasses the power of five Black men whose paths have been challenged with loss, defeat, fear, and pain by life's ups and downs and social injustice challenges Black men and Black boys face every day."

"Through surviving life's trials, each man has found grace and success in the outdoors, healed and mended by nature's medicine to the soul, embracing the art of fly fishing and building brotherhood." Afterwards, the cast of the film shared a vulnerable and moving discussion of the possibilities for "dismantling the fear for BIPOC [Black, Indigenous and People of Color] and inspiring BIPOC to pursue their journey in the outdoors and uplift Black boys' lives in green spaces."

We are proud to have participated in this effort to increase diversity through justice-oriented ecorestoration programs.



YOUTH & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

We partnered with the Ocean River Institute in April to host *Youth-Powered Climate Justice with Our Children's Trust*. During this virtual event, Mat dos Santos and Laura Gehrke of *Our Children's Trust* explained how 16 youth plaintiffs successfully sued the State of Montana to protect their right to a clean and healthful environment, and how youth in six other cases in the U.S. and Canada are pursuing their rights to a safe and healthy future.



During our time in New York City for Climate Week, we reconnected with Monica Ibacache of Beyond Organic Design, a speaker in our Redesigning Our Communities series, and got to see first hand the impact of regenerative thinking in elementary school children. We participated in Monica's outdoor classroom in the underserved community of Spanish Harlem where she teaches permaculture design, ecosystem restoration and food production. During our visit, one of her students gave us a gift of her artwork of the overgrown turnip or radish that remained in the garden (It was really that big). We continue to cultivate this relationship with Monica and our other speakers in our series, especially those working in disadvantaged communities, through collaborations on projects and events in 2025.



COURSES OFFERED

Biodiversity 10: Beavers & Wetlands

- Instructor: Jim Laurie
- Feb 21 to May 8; 12 Classes
- Course participation: 497
- Average per class: 41
- *Beaver Land* by Leila Philip
- *Healing Earth* by John Todd

Biodiversity 11: Antarctica & Sea Level Rise Plant Intelligence

- Instructor: Jim Laurie
- Sep 18 to Dec 11; 12 Classes
- Course participation: 277
- Average per class: 23
- *The Quickening* by Elizabeth Rush
- *The Light Eaters* by Zoë Schlanger

An Economics of Love

- Instructor: Fred Jennings
- Apr 15 to July 8; 12 Classes
- Course participation: 360
- Average per class: 30

Trees & Forests: Wildlife, Wildfires, Water, and Climate Change

- Instructor: Hart Hagan
- Dec 5 to Jan 30; 8 Classes
- Course participation: 536
- Average per class: 67

Healing Our Land & Our Climate

- Instructor: Hart Hagan
- Feb 21 to May 8; 12 Classes
- Course participation: 360
- Average per class: 30
- *Cows Save the Planet* by Judith Schwartz
- *Dirt to Soil* by Gabe Brown
- *What Your Food Ate* by David Montgomery and Anne Bickle

"I really enjoyed the Healing Our Land and Our Climate course taught by Hart Hagan in Summer 2024. Hart is an excellent instructor. All the material was presented clearly and in an engaging manner. Many excellent resources were brought to our attention. Best of all, Hart has a knack for bringing out the knowledge and experience of the course participants which made for very interesting discussions, both in and out of class and a richer experience overall."

—Lynn Jones
Writer and Activist
Ottawa, Canada

"Hart Hagan's 12 week course on Healing Our Land & Our Climate managed to be both an unsentimental survey of the myriad ways we are badly wounding our living world and the insufficiency of many of the proposed "solutions" to this crisis, and an inspiring and thought-provoking exploration of how we can ourselves create and advocate for a vibrant, restored world full of life. He is a fine teacher, with an easygoing, approachable style, and great skill in asking incisive questions, which I deeply appreciated. I came out of his sessions with a perspective on the climate crisis that I did not quite have before, and it was a genuine joy to learn new things. I was sad when the course came to an end, and happy to learn that he would be hosting additional classes in the near future."

—Tyler Steward, MD
Milwaukee, Wisconsin


NATIONAL & GLOBAL IMPACT

A highlight in our 2024 presentations was when Maya Dutta, Bio4Climate's Director of Regenerative Projects, participated in the Small Forests, Big Benefits forum. The forum centered on the role of Miyawaki forests in addressing biodiversity loss, tree inequity, and climate change. Dr. Douglas Tallamy, a distinguished entomologist, professor, author, and founder of Homegrown National Park, delivered the keynote address, endorsing the Miyawaki Forest initiative as a crucial approach to boosting biodiversity in both urban and rural settings.


Tuesday, June 18 at 7pm ET

SMALL FORESTS, BIG BENEFITS


A forum to explore the planting of dense pockets of native trees and shrubs to address biodiversity loss, tree inequity, and climate change.



KEYNOTE: DOUGLAS TALLAMY
PROFESSOR, AUTHOR, AND FOUNDER OF
HOMEGROWN NATIONAL PARK



Featuring Maya Dutta, Director of Regenerative Projects at Bio4Climate, alongside Giuliana Casimirri, Christine Dannhausen-Brun, and Neelam Patil

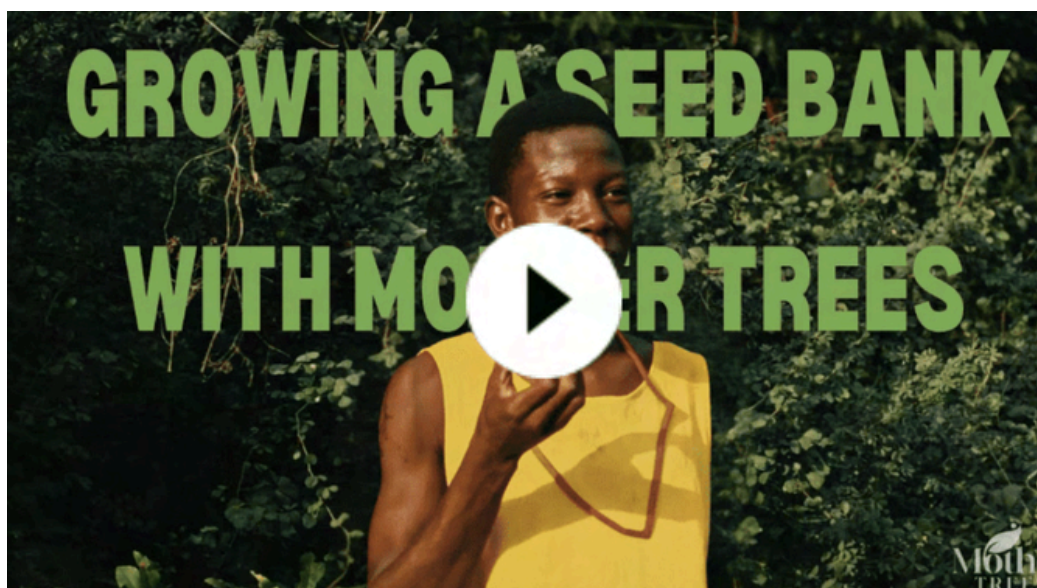


I think the Miyawaki Forest initiative is the single biggest thing I've seen to change that ridiculous notion and get people to recognize that we can get biodiversity both outside cities and inside as well.

– Dr. Doug Tallamy
Entomologist, professor,
author, and founder of
Homegrown National Park

Seeding a Seed Bank in Senegal

After visiting the Mother Tree project in Senegal, Gwen Noyes knew that John Leary's method of creating living fences around crops combined the best of eco-restoration with empowering local communities to create food sovereignty and economic opportunity. She helped us to form a relationship with John and his work. We wanted to do more than spread the word, and found a way to leverage a small donation to the project to make a big impact.



LIFE SAVES THE PLANET



Biodiversity for a Livable Climate continues discussions with authors, thought leaders, and hands-on projects to bring the best of science and success stories to a broad audience through our partnership with GBH.

From Vincent Stanley of Patagonia to Jon Waterman of National Geographic, we explored the issues most affecting our climate. Vincent Stanley took the hard questions on whether business can play a proactive role in regenerating ecosystems. After the Lahaina fires we spoke with a permaculturalist from Hawaii about the role of soil health in the fire and how everyone can adopt permaculture principles to build healthy soil.

On the global front, we visited programs in Senegal and Gambia where ecorestoration is restoring communities and the economy. This talk also highlighted our partnership with Mother Trees to set up their first seed bank. Our discussion with the Executive Director of Ecocide International explored how establishing ecocide as a crime changes the global perception of what is now considered a regulatory issue in most countries.

We wrapped up the year with an astonishingly beautiful trip to the Arctic with two adventurers and scientists who shared the wonder, the loss and the science driving the already changing Arctic ecosystem.

The videos of these talks are hosted on the GBH Forum network YouTube channel with over 100,000 subscribers. These live talks brought in registrations of nearly 300 people in some cases with many more watching the online replays.



As part of our Life Saves the Planet Series, conducted in partnership with GBH Boston, we hosted Jon Waterman and Dr. Flavio Lehner for a discussion entitled *Thaw & Freeze: The Ecological, Geological, and Human Stakes of a Warming Arctic*



EXPANDING OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH BEAVERS



Dr. Emily Fairfax

Pest or Partners?

Beavers as Wetland Protectors and Climate Heroes



With Brock Dolman and Kate Lundquist of Occidental Arts & Ecology Center

Thursday, June 20 at 6pm ET on Zoom



Dr. Denise Burchstead

In 2024, Bio4Climate made significant strides in raising awareness about beavers and their role in mitigating wildfires, droughts, flooding, and creating climate-resilient landscapes:

- **Jim Laurie's Wetlands-Focused Co-op:** The community read and discussed Leila Phillip's book *Beaverland: How One Weird Rodent Made America*.
- **Field Trip to Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest, VT:** Organized by our volunteer Katya Stupina and led by Dr. Denise Burchstead, fluvial geomorphologist who helped the group read the forest through the lens of her research. The site and Dr. Burchstead's research were featured in Leila's Philip book.
- **GBH Talk with Brock Dolman and Kate Lundquist:** Discussed beavers as climate heroes and their successful "Bring Back the Beaver to California" campaign.
- **Co-hosted 2024 Midwest Beaver Summit:** In collaboration with multiple organizations, we promoted the summit and raised awareness within the community.
- **2024 BeaverCon Conference in Boulder, CO & Field Trip to Beaver Created Wildfire Refugia:** Hosted by the Beaver Institute, this bi-annual event was attended by Alexandra Ionescu, who established new relationships, participated in field trips, and attended various presentations. A key highlight was a field trip led by ecohydrologist Dr. Emily Fairfax to a beaver-created wildfire refugia—an area that withstood the 2020 Cameron Peak wildfire—demonstrating the remarkable resilience of beaver-engineered landscapes in the face of megafires.

ACADEMICS



Kudos to Biodiversity for a Livable Climate Ecological Economist, Dr. Fred Jennings, for his many publications! One was presented at the 17th World Congress of the Association for Social Economics at UMass Boston on June 6. Fred is pictured here with Dr. Robert McMaster, Professor of Political Economy at the University of Glasgow Adam Smith Business School.

"What Went So Wrong in Economics"

Submitted to and accepted by the *Journal of Economics, Development and Society*, Vol. 1, No. 1 (forthcoming).

"Your presentation yesterday was really impressive. An excellent tour through the history of economic thought, and a withering critique of the mainstream. I loved it. Thanks for sending me your paper."

- Robert McMaster
Professor of Political Economy
University of Glasgow Adam Smith Business School

TRANSFORMING CONVERSATIONS:

INCREASED OUTREACH



Photo taken at Danehy Park Miyawaki Forest in July. It is an Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*) butterfly. The sight of this butterfly symbolizes the insect-host plant relationship we are regenerating.

GROWTH

With the hiring of a new Communications Manager, Brendan Kelly, Biodiversity for a Livable Climate was rewarded with higher-than-industry-standard growth last year.

Across all platforms, Bio4Climate brought around 1,708 people into our movement online.

*– Brendan Kelly
Communications Manager*



Newsletter up 13%
Instagram up 23%
LinkedIn up 26%

YouTube views: 24,700
TikTok views:
20,000



***Be sure to check
out this 2024
year-in-review
video created by
Brendan!***

(Click on thumbnail to view)

IN THE MEDIA

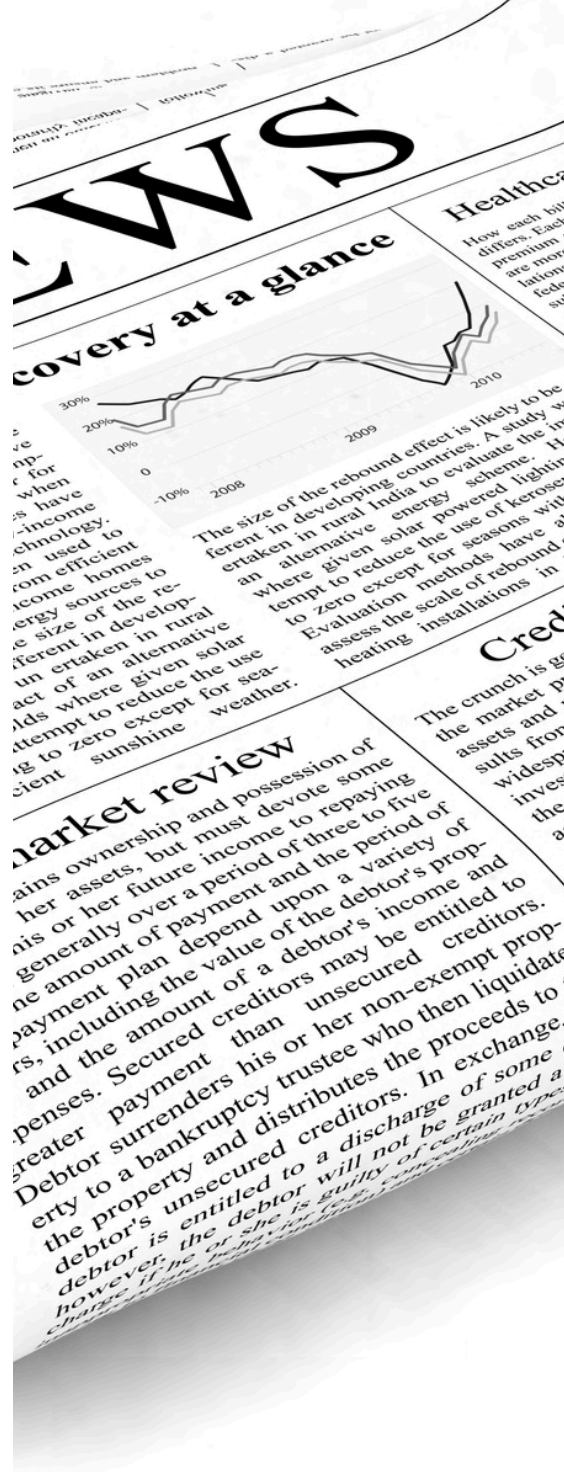
Our New York Times story closed out 2023 for us and sent us into 2024 with great momentum.

In 2024 we were mentioned four times by Richard Heinberg in his Resilience essays, the first four times we've been included. We were mentioned twice in Rob Lewis essays on Resilience.

Of those, [Restoring Nature is Our Only Climate Solution, July 2024](#) is the most impactful, as this perspective grew out of two years of partnership with Richard in our Redesigning Our Communities conference series over 2022-23. This is what Bio4Climate does- shift the way people think about the climate crisis.

Our Miyawaki program was featured in the global publication [UU World](#). We were interviewed on podcasts Digging in the Dirt and Truth to Power. And the Watertown, MA group thanked Bio4Climate for the inspiration on planting [their first Miyawaki Forest in this video](#).

Finally, we were honored to be featured by Domini, a mutual fund firm that's women-led and impact-leading. You can read their article on our Danehy Park Miyawaki Forest [here](#).



The New York Times

The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE
MONITOR®

UUWorld

FEATURED CREATURES

The weekly featured creature series is as popular as ever (open rates hover just below 50%) and we've welcomed a new team of writers sharing their personal perspectives, insights, and curiosities about all life.

Our writers took us around the world, looking to the sky, under rocks, in the ocean, and everywhere in between for nature's hidden stories. We learned about red kites in Madrid, moon snails on the beach, and an Eastern Emerald Elysia blurring the plant-animal boundary.

Communications Manager, Brendan Kelly, has expanded this popular weekly to include a robust newsletter with events, updates and research from around the world.

You can read more about our Featured Creature Series [by visiting us online here](#).

Thank you to our volunteer writers!

Helena Venzke-Kondo

Jane Olsen

Abigail Gipson

David McNicholas

Jasmine Gormley

Joely Hart

Hart Hagan

Tania Roa

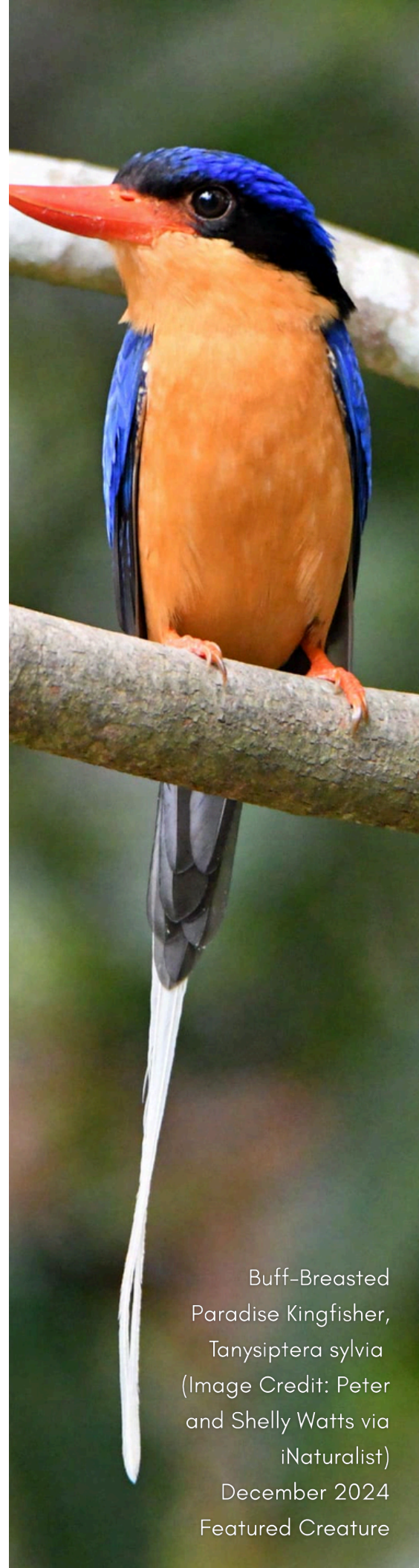
Ryan Pagois

Maya Dutta



“This is so inspiring!”

– Jane Heinz-Frye, BLC donor and volunteer, commenting on the Featured Creature weekly emails



Buff-Breasted
Paradise Kingfisher,
Tansyptera sylvia
(Image Credit: Peter
and Shelly Watts via
iNaturalist)

December 2024
Featured Creature

CLIMATE WEEK

We participated in Climate Week in New York City in September, building on last year's pilot initiative to promote our "Nature Cools" message during the global Climate March. This year, we kicked off the week by participating in the Fridays for Future NYC Climate Strike, Climate March across the Brooklyn Bridge, and Climate Rally, again our promoting "Nature Cools" message. There we connected with young climate activists from NYC and across the U.S., and Indigenous leaders from around the world.



We attended many presentations and events at “The Nest Climate Campus” and Exhibit Hall in NYC’s Javits Center, and networked with climate activists at a variety of events throughout New York City. This included a long list of like-minded, non-profit, business, and corporate leaders from around the world. We wrapped up the week with **a presentation by Executive Director Beck Mordini at the Nigerian Embassy**, as part of a panel on global projects co-hosted in partnership with the EcoRestoration Alliance.



VOICES OF WATER

Continuing the legacy of Jan Lambert and her tireless enthusiasm around the importance of regenerating water cycles, The Voices of Water (VOW) program supported a number of significant activities focused on education, global collaboration, and public outreach around water cycles.



Voices of Water supported the international conference, *Embracing Nature's Complexity: How to Communicate the Value of Water- and Climate-Regulating Ecosystems*, held in Munich from April 9-14, 2024. The event brought together scientists, authors, and educators including Dr. Jan Pokorný, Dr. Michal Kravčík, and journalist Judith D. Schwartz.



Conference sessions explored the science of the small water cycle, the importance of ecosystem restoration, and effective communication strategies for the public and policymakers alike.

Jan Lambert during one of her many projects restoring water systems



TRANSFORMING SUPPORT:

FUNDRAISING PROGRESS



The generous support of our donors makes possible projects like this one, which transformed a parking lot into a self-sustained ecosystem as a Miyawaki Forest.

WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR DONORS

Generous partners like you helped fuel another record-setting year of growth and impact for Biodiversity for a Livable Climate. All told, 355 individuals and institutions gave a total of \$338,537 in support of our mission to address the climate crisis through nature-based solutions.

Gifts came from across the country, with supporters making gifts from 45 states, demonstrating the national reach and resonance of our mission.

The diversity of gift levels speaks to the breadth of our community. 126 donors gave under \$100, reflecting strong grassroots engagement. 201 supporters contributed between \$100 and \$999, while 29 donors gave \$1,000 or more—providing significant backing for our core initiatives. We are grateful for all of the supporters who help make our mission possible.

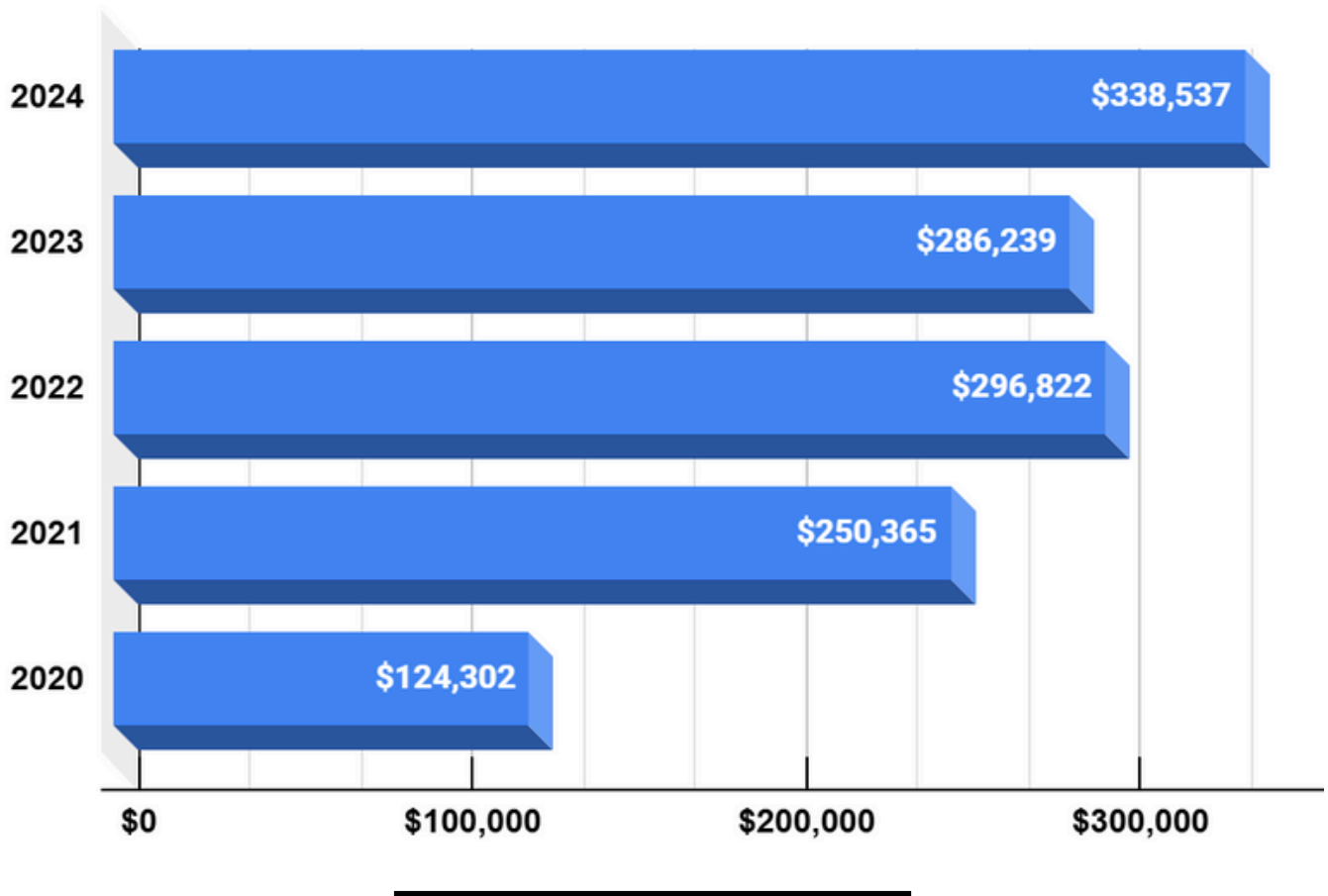
Special thanks to our lead donors

John Lambert	Chris Fritsch
Paul Barringer	Marcia Brown
Sisters of St. Francis –	Philip Bogdonoff
Sacred Heart	Philip West
Charitable Fund	Ranganath Nayak
Eric Klose	Katharine Harkins
DeCourcy Squire	Lucy Stroock
Loretto Special	Maryanne Mott
Needs Fund	Pete Pulis
Barbara Bacon	Eastern Bank
Franklin Fund	Foundation
Judith Schwartz	Jimmy Pryor
Tom Wallace Lyons	Ann Barrett



Field Trip to Hubbard Brook with Dr. Denise Burchstead who is a fluvial geomorphologist that studies the impact of beaver dams and log jams on the overall hydrology of the forest.

FUNDRAISING SUCCESS



FY24 Financial Summary

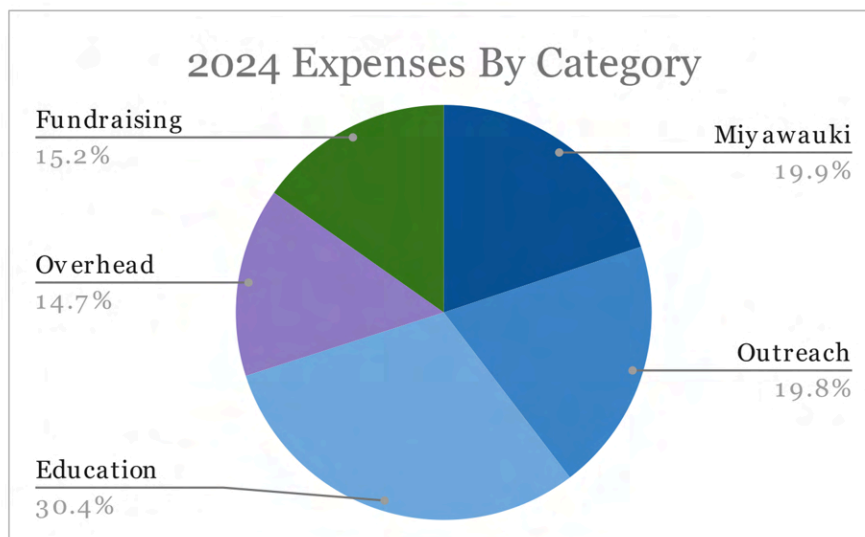
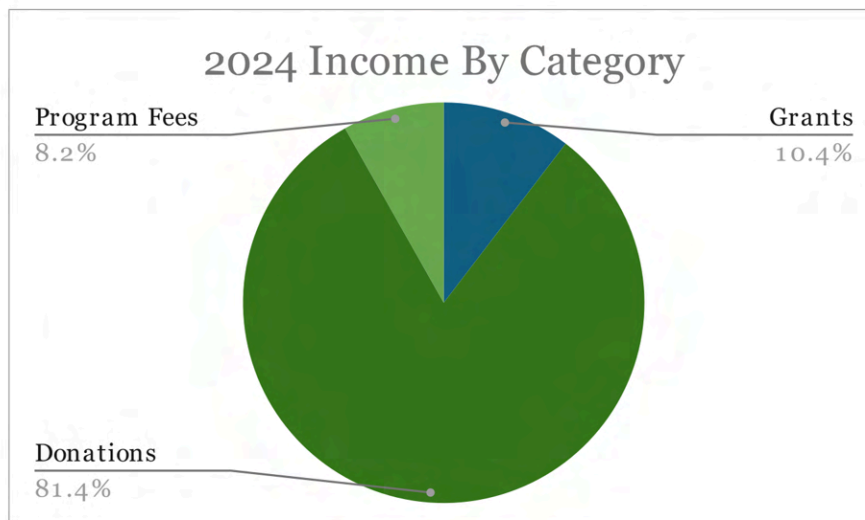
Revenue & Support

Grants	\$35,000.00
Donations	\$274,123.00
Program Fees	\$27,564.31
Total Income	<u>\$336,687.31</u>

Expenses

Miyawaki	\$62,911.33
Outreach	\$62,544.40
Education	\$96,315.15
Overhead	\$46,657.88
Fundraising	\$48,146.02
Total Expense	<u>\$316,574.78</u>

**The Financial Summary is based on unaudited financials*



DONORS HONORING OTHERS

We are deeply grateful to all who made gifts in honor or memory of someone special this year. These tributes are a reminder that our work is rooted not only in science and advocacy, but also in community, legacy, and connection.

Whether celebrating a friend, mourning a loved one, or marking a meaningful milestone, your gifts carried stories that inspired and moved us. Thank you for weaving your personal commitments into our shared vision of a livable climate.

IN MEMORIAM

Jan Lambert

Lynus Wade Erickson

Claire McGuire

Joe Townsend

"Damon who loved trees"



Jan Lambert was a passionate advocate for water-based climate solutions and founder of the Voices of Water program at Biodiversity for a Livable Climate. Jan used writing, education, and grassroots action to highlight the central role of water in ecosystem restoration. Jan's book Water, Land and Climate and her foundational work continue to inspire.

We are grateful to her family—John Lambert, Martha Maki, and Matthew Maki—for supporting Jan's legacy with generosity, partnership, and dedication.

Claire McGuire



Lynus Wade Erickson



Joe Townsend



DONORS THANKING DONORS

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WERE HONORED THROUGH GIFTS MADE BY OUR DONORS

Barbara Bacon
Judi Baller-Fabian
Paul Barringer
Philip Bogdonoff
Cathiner
Thomas Burke Fortson
Gladney Farm
Hart Hagan's 2024 Course – Healing
Our Land & Our Climate
Mark Haubner
Shirley Haubner
Jim Laurie

Hannah Lewis, Holly and Barrs
Fernando Lopez
Ellen Maidman-Tanner
Miyawaki Forest creation
Mom
Nuria
Paula Phipps (for all you do!)
Maureen Sacks
Trevor Z. Stanton
Madeline Tate
Nora A. Umiker
Erika Davis Wade
Catherine Zimmerman

“Deep thanks to the Outreach team who have been devoted to getting the Bio4Climate message out to the world, and to Beck M. and David C. who make sure our supporters feel appreciated.” - Biodiversity for a Livable Climate Donor



Volunteers install native plants at the Worcester Public Library Miyawaki Build

OUR TEAM



Beck Mordini
Executive Director



Alexandra Ionescu
Assoc. Director of
Regenerative Projects



Maya Dutta
Miyawaki Advisor



Hannah Lewis
Miyawaki Consultant



Jed Katch
Director of Education



Louise Mitchell
Outreach Programs Manager



Zuzka Mulkerin
Director
Voices of Water



Jim Laurie
Restoration Ecologist



Fred Jennings
Ecological Economist



Bill Myatt
Development



Ceciley Akins
Development



Brendan Kelly
Communications Manager



John Minkle
Informational Technology



Linsey de Jager
Ecological Research Intern

SPECIAL THANKS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Philip Bogdonoff, Board President
Stephan Rogers, Board Clerk
Vicki Benjamin, Board Treasurer
Sue Farist Butler
John Lambert (joined in 2024)
Nancy Lee Wood
Sharon McGregor
Shannon Scrofano (joined in 2024)

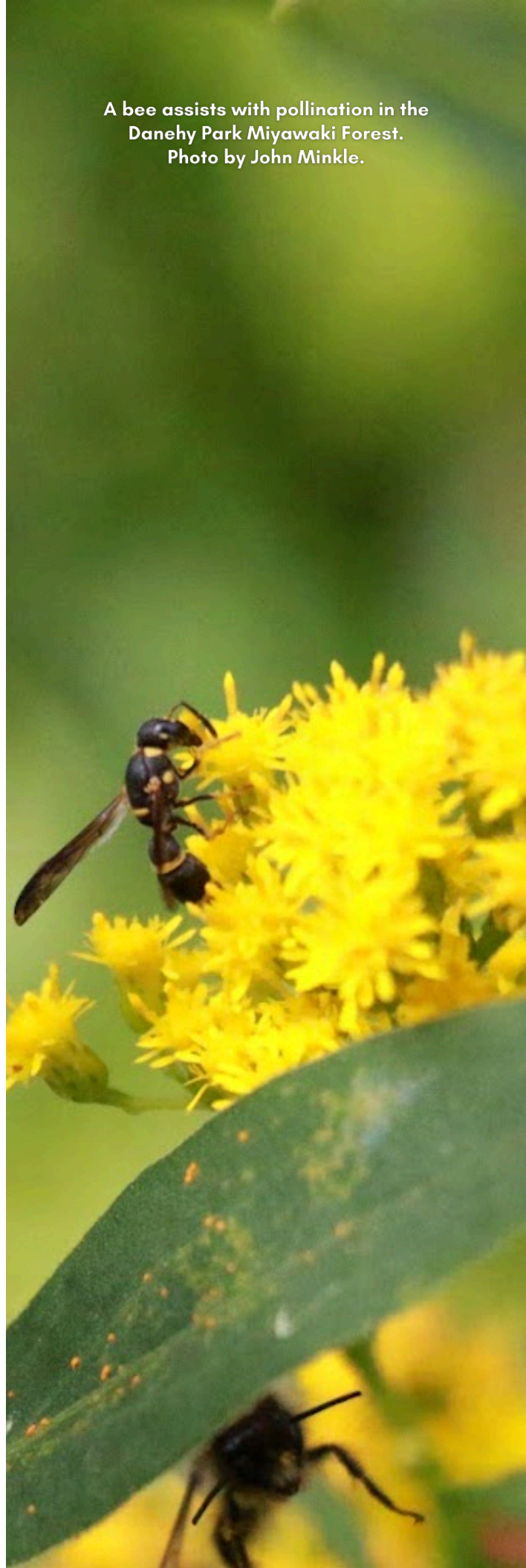
ADVISORY MEMBERS

Tom Goreau	Ridge Shinn
Pallavi Mande	Helen D. Silver
Jeff Masters	Richard Teague
Fred Provenza	Anastassia Makarieva
Bill Reed	Rob de Laet
Judith Schwartz	John Todd

IN-KIND SUPPORT

Gwen Noyes and Arthur Klipfel
Sue Farist Butler
Ruth Otte and Ed Huling
McCarter & English, LLP
Oak Tree Development, LLC

A bee assists with pollination in the
Danehy Park Miyawaki Forest.
Photo by John Minkle.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS

Philip Bogdonoff

Philip Bogdonoff is what happens when deep systems thinking meets roll-up-your-sleeves action. As Board Chair of Biodiversity for a Livable Climate and Director of the Washington, D.C. Chapter, Philip has helped shape not just the organization's direction—but its spirit. Based in Takoma Park, he's the kind of community builder who brings people together over coffee and catalyzes real change. From launching local pollinator and food forest initiatives to influencing county and state policy, Philip's leadership is both grounded and far-reaching.

He listens closely, connects dots others might miss, and moves ideas into motion. His work reminds us that ecorestoration isn't just a strategy—it's a calling. And we're lucky to have him answer it with such clarity, generosity, and drive.



Mark Haubner

Mark Haubner has been an integral part of the Biodiversity for a Livable Climate community for several years, bringing deep curiosity, generosity, and collaborative spirit to everything he does. A former student in our courses, Mark has since stepped into a leadership role—helping to develop curriculum, host screenings of *Regenerating Life* across his bioregion, and engage others in conversations about water cycles, biodiversity, and local action. His partnerships with organizations and scientists aligned with Biodiversity for a Livable Climate's mission have extended our reach and impact. We're grateful for Mark's thoughtful contributions and the way he brings holistic, hopeful solutions to the forefront of climate work.



THANK YOU!

The long, slow path pursued by most climate organizations, of decarbonizing our economy in order to halt global warming, is not sufficient for the extremes of our times. We have leveraged your generous support to increase the range and impact of programs that directly impact communities and create support for the direct benefits of working with nature.

These include the role of rehydrating the land to mitigate wildfires and reforestation as well as mitigating heat islands in urban areas. Unlike other approaches to climate change, *ecore restoration* restores communities as it mitigates climate chaos - helping the most vulnerable, whether in urban areas of the US, or in the Global South.

Thank you for partnering with us in this important work!



Photo taken at Plumley Village site during the last day of planting on May 18th, 2024 in a torrential rain. Despite the fact that it was raining, we were still able to have fun and plant!

MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

As Board President of Biodiversity for a Livable Climate, I want to extend my deep gratitude to all of you—our supporters, Beck and the rest of the staff, volunteers, and fellow board members—who have helped make 2024 a remarkable year. Together, we've continued to deepen our impact, amplifying the message that restoring ecosystems is essential to healing our planet.

This was a year of working wisely with the resources we already had—focusing on depth, not breadth—and yet we still grew. Our Miyawaki Forest program expanded dramatically.

2024 also marked an exciting increase in public engagement. We co-hosted three Cambridge-based events, and our education program blossomed, with new courses, a new instructor, and more than double the number of participants.

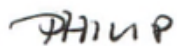
In media and public discourse, Bio4Climate gained welcome visibility. A December 2023 *New York Times* feature set the tone for the year, and we were cited four times by Richard Heinberg in *Resilience*. We also stepped into new formats, with podcast appearances and significant participation in NYC Climate Week—where our Executive Director Beck Mordini spoke on a panel about ecorestoration at the Nigerian Consulate.

Our work continues to branch out into new and important areas such as beaver reintroduction and fire resilience. Personally, I've been honored to represent Biodiversity for a Livable Climate as an advisor to the Panama Canal Watershed Restoration Project and to Ed Huling's ambitious work to restore soil fertility at scale. Several members of our Leadership Team have been actively supporting the work of the EcoRestoration Alliance.

I want to especially acknowledge our dedicated Board of Directors. Each board member brings their heart and talents to this work—advancing restoration through finance, education, art, agriculture, policy, and projects that span local to global. It is a privilege to be part of a team with such creative and committed individuals. It's clear we face an unfolding ecological crisis—but I continue to find hope in action. Even small steps toward regeneration carry meaning. Bio4Climate is here to encourage and amplify those steps, especially through our Nature Cools campaign. We're drawing inspiration from Damon Centola's work on social change, helping us spread ideas that restore and reconnect.

In the year ahead, we welcome your continued support—both financial and relational. If you know environmental leaders, or respected leaders in farming, ranching, or forestry communities, we'd love to connect with them. Together, we can grow the movement for Nature-based solutions and help cool the planet from the ground up.

With deep gratitude,



Philip Bogdonoff
President, Board of Directors
Biodiversity for a Livable Climate

CLIMATE IS NATURE



NATURE IS CLIMATE

(illustration by Tom Chalkley)

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Photo credits

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