



CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER LAND TRUST

About the Land Trust

The Central Savannah River Land Trust is a nationally-accredited, local non-profit committed to safeguarding the CSRA's forests, wetlands, and open spaces, and connecting the community to nature. By permanently preserving these important landscapes, we are protecting our quality of life today and leaving our children a legacy that will last for generations.

Since 2001, the Land Trust has protected nearly 10,000 acres throughout the CSRA. Places like the Augusta Canal Heritage Trail, wild portions of the Savannah River in Georgia and South Carolina from Clark's Hill Lake to Burke County, and Columbia County communities including River Island and Sumter Landing are just some of our more well-known success stories.

One of our newest successes is our Greystone Preserve – a 262-acre protected forest and outdoor classroom in North Augusta – where the community can learn about the natural world through hands-on activities including nature hikes, gardening, beekeeping, painting, stargazing, and storytelling around the campfire.

As a non-profit, the Land Trust is funded entirely through charitable donations and is powered by the passion of good hardworking people dedicated to the future of our region. Our volunteers, board members, donors, landowners, and supporters are the real heroes -- each one doing his or her part to ensure our "Garden City" and surrounding region stays green and beautiful forever.

Joining the Board of Directors

The Land Trust is currently seeking several passionate members of our community to join our team as new auxiliary board members. Serving on the board is a rewarding experience and an opportunity for professional growth.

This self-nomination application is aimed to help you understand the skills, time, and resource commitments required of this leadership position. Please read the information provided and complete the application form in its entirety before submitting your self-nomination. Completed applications can be emailed to info@csrlt.org or mailed to PO Box 148, Augusta GA 30903.

Our current Board of Directors will review applications during their December meeting. If selected, you will be notified by December 31st and you will become a new auxiliary member on January 1st. After six months on the auxiliary, you may request to join the Board as a full voting member.



CENTRAL SAVANNAH
RIVER LAND TRUST

Joining the Board of Directors

The Role and Responsibilities of the Board

The Board of Directors is the Land Trust's governing body. As such, all board members have several legal responsibilities, including the Duties of Care, Loyalty, and Obedience:

Duty of Care – Paying attention to the organization's activities and operations.

Duty of Loyalty – When making decisions regarding the Land Trust or when recusing oneself from voting, putting the interest of the organization before personal or professional interests. A copy of the Land Trust's Conflict of Interest Policy will be provided to you upon receipt of your application.

Duty of Obedience – Complying with applicable federal, state and local laws, adhering to the by-laws and remaining guardians of the mission. A copy of the Land Trust's Bylaws will be provided to you upon receipt of your application.

As the Land Trust's governing body, the Board of Directors is responsible for undertaking and overseeing the most fundamental functions of the organization, ensuring the Land Trust operates in a way that fulfills the Board's duties of Care, Loyalty, and Obedience. These key functions include:

- Determining the **mission, goals, and purposes of the Land Trust**, including participating in strategic planning sessions and other goal-setting processes, as necessary;
- Ensuring **legal and ethical integrity**, effective planning, and adequate financial resources in the pursuit of the Land Trust's goals, purposes, and ultimately, mission;
- Selecting, supporting, and evaluating the Executive Director;
- Building and sustaining a competent Board;
- Providing **financial oversight** and protecting the Land Trust's financial assets;
- Monitoring and strengthening Land Trust programs;
- Enhancing the organization's public standing and **garnering financial support** from the community.

Please Note: We understand that our board members lead busy lives with plenty of family, business, social, and charitable obligations. Sometimes these other obligations come into conflict with a member's commitment to the Land Trust board. We expect each board member to monitor his or her ability for involvement in the Land Trust and to approach the group when conflicts arise or adjustments need to be made.



CENTRAL SAVANNAH
RIVER LAND TRUST

Joining the Board of Directors

Expectations for Individual Board Members

Our board members are an integral part of the Land Trust's mission to preserve local forests, wetlands, and open spaces and to connect our community to nature. We ask that all board members share their time, talents, and resources to support this mission.

The expectations for all board members include:

1. **Fully understand and support the mission** of the Land Trust. This includes reading and being familiar with the Trust's by-laws and other policies;
2. Seek opportunities to speak positively about the Land Trust and **tell the Land Trust story**, including speaking to friends and colleagues, service & civic clubs, and the news media;
3. **Serve in leadership positions** or undertaking special assignments willingly and enthusiastically when asked;
4. **Contribute financially, personally and/or corporately**, to the Land Trust at a significant level, according to personal means;
5. **Advocate and fundraise for the Land Trust**, as well as encourage community members to consider the Land Trust in their financial, real estate, and philanthropic planning;
6. **Attend a majority of the Board meetings and events** sponsored by the Central Savannah River Land Trust each year; The Board meets monthly, with eleven regular meetings/year plus one longer half-day retreat, which typically takes the place of a February board meeting. Meetings are typically held on Wednesdays at 836 Greene Street from 11:45am – 1:15pm, with the notable exception of the retreat. Lunch is provided. Our two major events, the Run and the Bash, are held annually in the Spring and Fall, respectively. A host of smaller "micro" events are also held throughout the year at the Greystone Preserve.
7. **Assume fiduciary and governing responsibility**, including stewardship of assets, insuring that adequate operational and financial controls are in place;

The Land Trust views service on the Board of Directors as both a privilege and responsibility. We ask that you be willing to work with others, listen to ideas, carefully consider important issues and work to come up with solutions to challenges. We ask that you demonstrate a commitment to conservation and the protection of our local landscape. In doing so, we anticipate the rewards will be significant as we realize, together, how we can make an impact on our community that will last for generations.



CENTRAL SAVANNAH
RIVER LAND TRUST

Joining the Board of Directors

Auxiliary Board Member Self-Nomination Form

Full Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Employer: _____ Job Title: _____

Educational Background:

Current Community/Volunteer Activities:

Other Memberships/Achievements:

1. Why are you interested in serving on the Board of Directors? Why is being part of the Land Trust important to you?
2. What particular attributes, skills, experience, and interests will you bring to the Board, and how will you use them to contribute to the success of the Land Trust?
3. What do you believe are the two most significant opportunities or concerns regarding land conservation today?
4. What potential conflicts, real or perceived, might arise, should you be elected to the Board?
5. Please describe any limitations on your ability to participate actively in regularly scheduled board meetings and major events in person, or to serve the entirety of a four-year term.
6. Please share any other thoughts regarding service on this Board that you would like us to know.

Please email your responses to info@csrllt.org before December 7th. An online version of this form is also available at [csrllt.org/boardnom](https://www.csrllt.org/boardnom). In-person meetings will be scheduled with select applicants before the end of the calendar year.



CENTRAL SAVANNAH
RIVER LAND TRUST

Joining the Board of Directors