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INSTITUTE**

FOCUS ON CLIMATE

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STATE OF MAINE TAPS OSI EXPERTISE ON LAND, CARBON, AND CLIMATE

As states across the country race to meet the challenges of climate change, Maine is emerging as a leader in climate-smart conservation, thanks to guidance from OSI. Staff is providing expertise, technical assistance, and data-driven recommendations to help allocate \$40 million in grants by Land for Maine's Future, the state's primary land protection funding program. "By adopting these new criteria, Maine is leading the way for other state and federal agencies to see that land protection is a critical climate change solution," said Abby Weinberg, OSI's Director of Research. "We are honored to work with states like Maine to collectively address climate change through smart, effective land protection."

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LISTEN UP: OSI FEATURED ON CLIMATE PODCAST

The Open Space Institute was recently featured on ["The Climate Daily"](#) podcast. The short, daily production



A CONNECTION FOR WILDLIFE AND CARBON STORAGE

OSI's 1,000-acre acquisition in the town of Wawarsing, New York will provide a critical connection between 320,000

highlights positive steps being taken to deliver climate solutions and related news that will leave listeners less overwhelmed and with a better understanding of efforts to mitigate climate change. Listen in for the seven-minute program!

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CATALYZING CONSERVATION FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Since 2021, OSI and the Land Trust Alliance have awarded \$800,000 in grants through the Land and Climate Grant Program, which supports innovative projects including conservation of high carbon-storage forests; harnessing land as a buffer against storms; and addressing the burden of climate change borne by under-resourced communities.

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acres of protected land between the Catskill Park and Shawangunk Ridge, benefitting both wildlife and people. The newly conserved property's dense forest will also help fight climate change through its capture and storage of carbon.

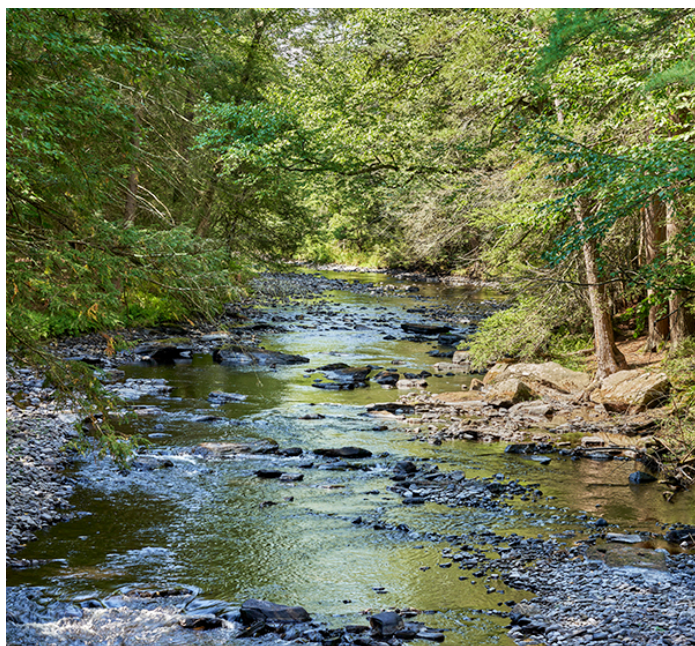
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WATIES ISLAND: A NATURAL BUFFER AGAINST EXTREME WEATHER

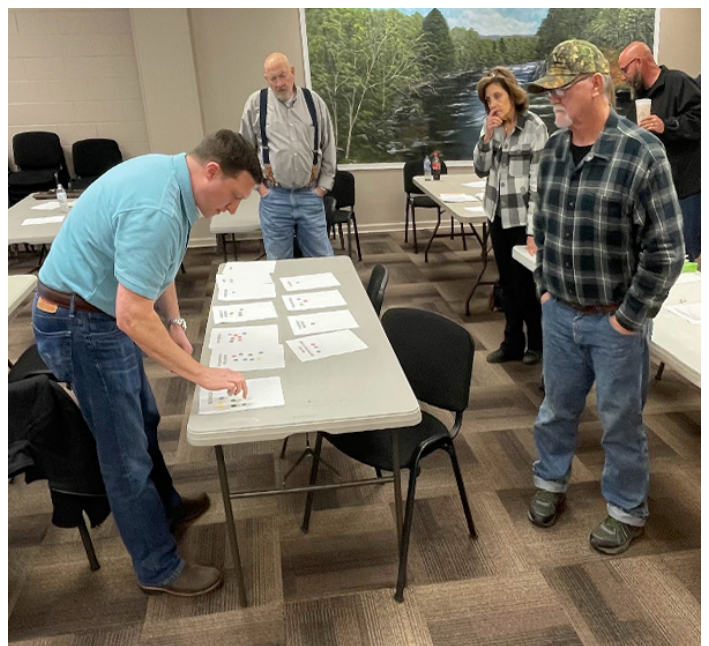
A key portion of one of the Southeast's last undeveloped barrier islands has been protected by OSI. Located not far from the tourism mecca of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, the island functions as a natural shield, protecting the vulnerable coastline from some of the worst impacts of climate change and increasingly severe storms.

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PROTECTING LAND FOR CLIMATE IN THE APPALACHIANS

The Appalachian Mountains are an important, natural resource for climate and carbon storage – absorbing hundreds of millions of tons of pollutants each year. Read about nine recently completed, OSI-supported projects across five states resulting in the protection of nearly 10,000 acres. Each project was funded, in part, through



AIDING CLIMATE VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

OSI has partnered with Chattanooga's Thrive Regional Partnership to debut an innovative new initiative helping communities in Georgia, Tennessee, and Alabama employ land-based solutions to meet climate challenges. By bringing experts to historically marginalized communities, the "Resilient Communities Initiative" is empowering

OSI's Appalachian Landscape Protection Fund, capitalized by donors including the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

families and local leaders in some of the South's most climate-vulnerable areas.

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