CELEBRATING RURAL AREA PROTECTION

10 YEARS OF ACE
• Between 1974 and 1992, twenty-five thousand (25,000) acres of farmland were lost to development in Albemarle County.

• Existing regulatory land-use planning tools had not been able to stem the conversion of farm and forest land to other uses.
Recognizing that farm and forest land, clean water, biological diversity, scenic vistas, and rural character have a public and private value, Albemarle County created the Acquisition of Conservation Easements (ACE) program in 2000.
Forks of Rivanna, TNC
ACE is helping to . . .

Preserve farm and forestland from fragmentation & conversion to non-farm/forest uses
ACE is helping to . . .

Preserve the rural character & unspoiled beauty of the County
ACE is helping to . . .

Preserve our drinking water by protecting watersheds and riparian zones
ACE is helping to . . .

Protect wildlife habitats by providing large unbroken tracts of farm & forestland
ACE is helping to . . .

Promote a more stable, sustainable, and viable agricultural and forestry base
ACE is helping to . . .

Promote tourism by protecting rural landscapes along entrance corridors and scenic highways & byways
What ACE has accomplished during the last 10 years...
Protected 7,224 acres on 37 properties
Protected 3,576 acres of “prime” farm and forestland soils
Protected 76,534 feet of streamside with riparian buffers
Eliminated 435 development rights from fertile farmland
Protected 454 acres of mountaintop
Protected 26 working family farms
Other notable facts:

- Protected lands on 20,000 feet of scenic highway, byway, or entrance corridor
- 25 properties have “tourism” value
- 11 properties in Rural Historic Districts
- 23 properties adjoin permanently protected land
- 12 properties in the watershed of a drinking supply reservoir
• ACE has leveraged a significant amount of County funding to support our land conservation efforts.

• More than $1.4 million dollars in state/federal grants and donations have been awarded to the ACE program since 2000, greatly increasing our ability to acquire and protect rural lands.
Where our land conservation efforts stand today.