

Black Rock Forest Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2019 (October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019)

While this calendar provides visual snapshots of the Forest, the Annual Report tells the story of the programs and operations at Black Rock Forest in numbers and insights. For more information about what we do and our programs, please visit blackrockforest.org.

CONSERVATION

150 trees (mostly native conifers) planted by the BRF seasonal crew with help from several school groups and volunteer events.

18 volunteers participated in the annual deer scat survey; winter and spring surveys estimated BRF deer density at 15 per square mile. BRF forest management efforts continued to promote tree seedling regeneration in the forest understory.

6 small grants were awarded for research through the David Redden Conservation Science Fund.

1 ADA accessible path completed (Sibyl's Path, Opening Ceremony: June 6, 2019). The first 0.3 mile section is fully ADA accessible while the second 0.3 mile section has a steeper grade but remains an easy walking path.

RESEARCH

67 attendees attended 3 events featuring eminent Conservation biologist Dr. Paul Beier, sponsored by the David Redden Conservation Science Lecture Series.

15 Posters and 22 Oral Presentations at Black Rock Forest's 11th Biennial Research Symposium on June 24, 2019.

5 scientific publications: 2 published in peer reviewed journals on tree physiology as it relates to climate change and variability in forest productivity; 1 USGS peer-reviewed report evaluating the long-term impacts of deer overabundance; 1 published conference presentation; 1 popular science article in *The New Yorker*.

3 undergraduate students mentored while completing their senior theses.

EDUCATION

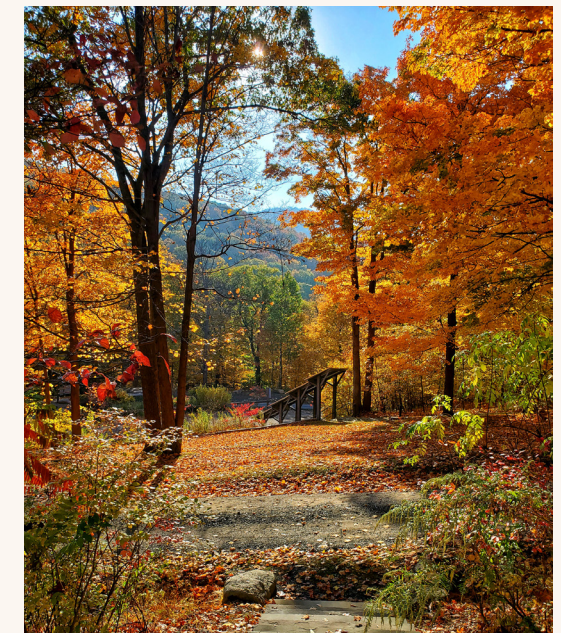
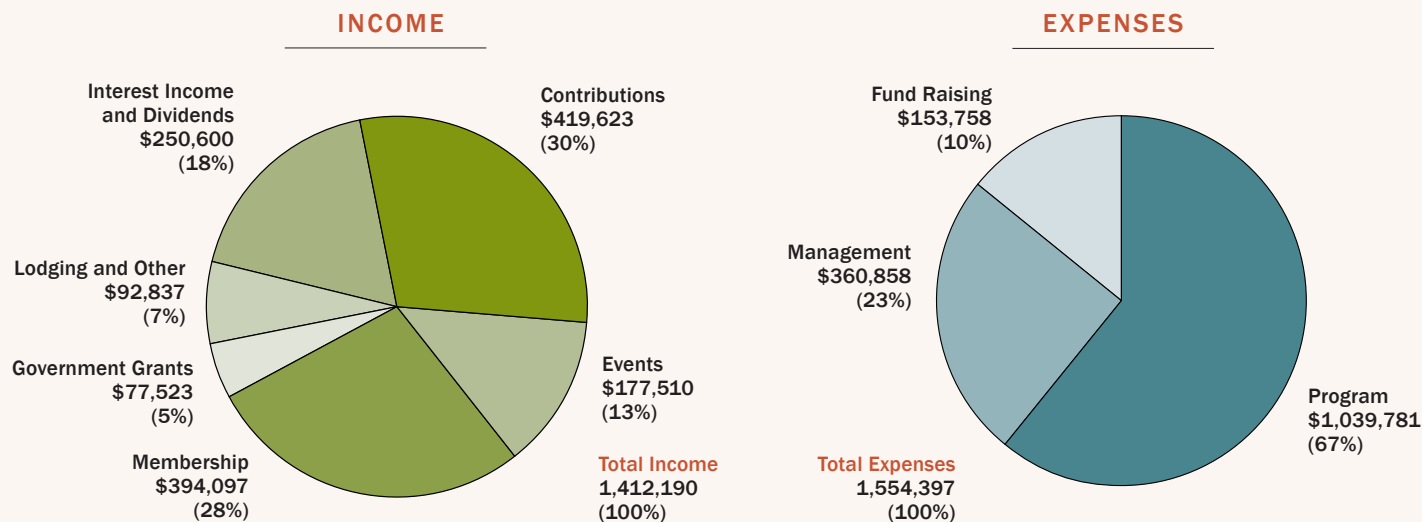
14,690 visitor days recorded (students, teachers, and scientists).

148 members of the public participated in 6 guided hikes at BRF; 221 attendees experienced Black Rock Forest's First Annual Planetarium Day and subsequent shows for school children.

57 middle school students attended Black Rock Forest's Summer Science Camp, 18 received need-based scholarships thanks to a generous grant from the Dyson Foundation.

68 middle school students participated in the 2019 Newburgh STEM summer program at Black Rock Forest funded through the Newburgh Enlarged City School District, a 20% increase over the previous year.

AUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019



Peak leaf as viewed from the Science Center.
Photo: Angelica Patterson, BRF Master Science Educator