

# Charlotte Park & Wildlife Refuge

## Budget request for 2025 - 2026

### Explanation of line items requests

**Our budget request consists of three general categories. Within these categories are sub-categories that vary from year to year.**

**1. Maintenance:** Within this category there is typically mowing, work road and trail work, tree work (both for danger trees and trees that fall across the trails), signage and parking lot expenses. Due to the extreme weather event in June and resulting damage to both the work road and trails, we are starting a three-year project to repair and improve the Byington Trail. This is a high priority project, as the “trail” is multi functional; serving as a walking and equestrian trail, for agricultural access and our work road. For budgetary reasons, we have decided to do the project in sections. It will include grading, ditching and adding new top stone where necessary.

**2. Vegetative Management:** We are working constantly to eradicate and maintain the large areas of invasive species we have cleared. We use the funds in this category to hire sub contractors with appropriate machines and expertise to supplement the volunteer efforts. In addition, we are required by our management plan to keep specific areas brush hogged to maintain the required habitats in the Refuge. As we are sure you know, the cost of these services has risen significantly over the last several years. Fortunately, we have a devoted team of volunteers, which helps keep the expenses manageable.

**3. Equipment and Supplies:** This category includes volunteer supplies, tools and the necessary but unanticipated miscellaneous expenses.