

PennFuture's 2025 Goals

PennFuture will continue to **advocate for strong, science-based protections** that serve the public interest and ensure Pennsylvania's environment and communities are safeguarded—no matter what happens at the federal level. PennFuture will fight to **lower Pennsylvanians' electricity prices** by promoting renewable energy generation to enter our electric grid and evaluating these projects on the environmental sustainability of industries such as data centers and distribution centers, particularly compared to the economic promises made by developers.



Leave a Legacy to PennFuture

Did you know that you can make a tax-wise contribution to PennFuture's cause by including us in your estate plans? Your donation will help us work towards reducing water and air pollution and promote clean energy for the future generations.

If you'd like to learn more about making a Legacy Gift to PennFuture, please contact Jane Lee, Director of Development at lee@pennfuture.org.

A Letter From Our President & CEO



The past year has underlined the urgency to act to safeguard Pennsylvania's environment and forge new statewide strategies to advance cheaper and sustainable clean energy development. Across the nation, investment and support for clean energy and clean water are now under

attack in Washington DC. As our federal government retreats from climate resiliency efforts and affordable energy projects, Pennsylvania must step up. Our Commonwealth should be a leader in building a renewable energy future: one that lowers costs for families, creates jobs in every corner of the state, and reduces climate pollution.

Unfortunately, Pennsylvania's future is often stalled by policymakers and institutions who fail to see the connection between our economy and our environment. A prime example is how our power grid operator PJM Interconnection continues to delay the integration of renewable energy onto the grid. PJM's inaction is not simply a missed opportunity—it is a failure to act in the best interests of Pennsylvanians. Communities across the state are ready for solar, wind, and battery storage that will bring down utility bills and cut greenhouse gases. If PJM remains unwilling to address these barriers, we need strong state leadership to push for those technologies.

PennFuture has never shied away from taking bold positions when the stakes are high, and this year we demonstrated that once again. We supported Governor Josh Shapiro's Lightning Plan only when it was clear that core clean energy bills—RESET and PRESS—would remain strong and include the amendments needed to protect Pennsylvania consumers and communities. We will continue to make sure that new policy is not just for political theater, but is designed to deliver real, long-term benefits to Pennsylvanians.

In response to these challenges, we grew our capacity to meet the moment. This year, we expanded our team to ensure we can serve communities statewide. We welcomed a new Clean Air Campaign Manager based in Pittsburgh to oversee programs that allow us all to breathe a little easier. We expanded our Civic Engagement staff across the state from Philadelphia to Allegheny County, and from the Lehigh Valley to Erie. And we built out our Development Team to ensure we continue to have the resources needed to meet the moment.

PennFuture has never shied away from taking bold positions when the stakes are high...



We also launched the Legal Environmental Advocacy Fund (LEAF), an ambitious new initiative to support litigation that defends our constitutional right to clean air and pure water. Our inaugural LEAF event, held on June 10, 2025, marked the beginning of a powerful new tool in PennFuture's fight for environmental justice.

Through all of this, PennFuture has remained clear-eyed about the challenges ahead and steadfast in our vision for a sustainable, just, and prosperous Pennsylvania. The progress we've made this year belongs to all of us: our dedicated staff, our partners in advocacy, and the supporters who believe in this mission. Together, we are building the foundation for a Pennsylvania that leads on clean energy, clean water and a healthy environment.

Patrick McDonnell

President & CEO, PennFuture



Skyrocketing Electricity Bills

PennFuture was one of the first organizations to raise the alarm that electricity prices were on track to dramatically increase in the summer of 2025 and the culprit was our flawed energy capacity market.

High electricity prices are not an unsolvable problem. Thousands of energy projects—primarily inexpensive solar power, storage, wind, as well as some fossil fuels—have been stuck in grid operator PJM's interconnection approval process for years. This is the worst backlog in the country, and we are left paying to incentivize what we know can't happen.

Despite this significant push for cleaner energy, PJM has failed to address systemic issues that would allow these projects to come online faster and more effectively. And Pennsylvanians are feeling the impacts of this delay in their wallets. The gas industry claims that building more gas plants will solve reliability issues, but that would be both expensive and risky. Like investing, diversification is one of the best ways to protect ourselves from the unexpected. With more than 60 percent of our generation coming from gas, we already have more than enough eggs in that basket.

PennFuture and Conservation Voters of Pennsylvania have hosted several events and webinars that connect Pennsylvanians with experts who will talk about where our energy comes from and how it's connected to energy companies like PECO and Duquesne Light, how prices are set, and the steps that need to happen to lower costs while demand for energy keeps going up.

Fighting for lower energy costs continues to be a focus for PennFuture, as our team continues to testify before legislative bodies on the urgent need to deploy clean energy sources onto our electric grid and build advocacy efforts with our membership to lobby legislators to support several clean energy bills moving in the House and Senate.

OPED, OBSERVER-REPORTER: Politicians Want You To Pay More For Natural Gas

Politicians often speak out against higher taxes, grocery bills, or utility rates, promising to work hard in office to prevent you from paying more. However, there is one notable exception: how much you pay for natural gas.

OPED, PENN LIVE: Expect higher electric bills this summer by as much as 20%





Data Center and cryptomining are the new force increasing fossil fuel and nuclear energy and electricity prices in PA.

Three Mile Island in Middletown, PA, the site of the 1979 partial meltdown of Unit 2 reactor, is poised for a revival, fueled by the surging energy demand for data centers and an investment from Microsoft.

The tech giant's 20-year agreement to purchase the 835 megawatts expected to be produced annually by the aging reactor underscores the pressure on our electricity grid to support artificial intelligence and digital infrastructure.

Pennsylvania also saw demands for energy also coming from another new industry: cryptoming operations. The increase in energy demand and soaring costs have some lawmakers and the fossil fuel industry pushing for expanded fracked gas operations.

In Venango County, crypto company Stronghold Digital Mining was using waste coal to fuel its cryptomining. However, in March, PennFuture and the Scrubgrass Creek Watershed Association achieved a settlement agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection and Stronghold Digital Mining's Scrubgrass Reclamation Company. The agreement requires the expedited removal of an unpermitted coal ash pile at the Scrubgrass Waste Coal Power Plant. The pile posed a pollution risk to the Allegheny River. Additionally, the company must implement on-site environmental mitigation measures and regularly report progress to the community organizations.

Today, the rapid expansion of AI technologies has reignited interest in nuclear energy as a stable, carbon-free source to power data centers. However, concerns about fossil fuel-powered data centers, market consolidation, and environmental impacts persist.

PennFuture, represented by EarthJustice, filed a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) protest in March 2025 against U.S. nuclear power provider Constellation Energy, owner of Three Mile Island Unit 1, which sought to acquire Calpine Corp. and its fleet of gas-burning generators. This consolidation would create one of the largest energy companies in the U.S.

"With a concentration of market power, this company could prioritize profits over public interest, incentivizing fossil fuel-fired power plants to operate more frequently. There is a real danger that the merged entity will manipulate the energy market leading to even higher energy prices for Pennsylvania consumers and small businesses and even greater emissions into our air," said Jessica O'Neill, Managing Attorney for Litigation, PennFuture.

In 2024, PennFuture named Donna Kohut as Policy Manager for Sustainable Economics. Her work focuses on the long-term sustainability and benefits to Pennsylvania communities of proposed industry investments and development projects. Kohut's first major project with the publication of Economic Policy is Environmental Policy: Prioritizing Environmental Progress in Pennsylvania's Department of Community and Economic Development, which offers policy recommendations for the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) and how to reshape the Commonwealth's strategic collaborations with public and private partners.

New York Times: <u>Three Mile Island</u>, <u>Notorious</u> in Nuclear Power's Past, May Herald Its Future

A plan to restart one of the two reactors at Three Mile Island is at the leading edge of efforts to greatly expand the country's reliance on atomic fission to meet the growing power demands of homes, businesses and data centers.



Pennsylvania must take critical action to reduce carbon emissions

After three years of legal battles, PennFuture's Managing Attorney for Litigation Jessica O'Neill and Staff Attorney Emma Bast stood before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court on May 13, 2025 for the final oral argument on Pennsylvania's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). This was our last chance before the PA Supreme Court to make the case for RGGI.

This is a fight for Pennsylvanians' constitutional right to clean air and a healthy, stable environment under the state's Environmental Rights Amendment.

If Pennsylvania joins RGGI, it will cut carbon emissions from Pennsylvania's power sector by 84% by 2030, accelerate investment in wind and solar, lower electricity bills for Pennsylvania families, and put Pennsylvania back in the driver's seat on climate leadership.

WENY: Oral Arguments on RGGI Before the PA Supreme Court

"Air is a resource that we have to protect," Jessica O'Neill said, a lawyer for Penn Future.





PennFuture's Legal Environmental Advocacy Fund empowers us to explore new forms of legal advocacy and ensure every community has a voice.

PennFuture's Legal Environmental Advocacy Fund (LEAF) is our newest tool to stand up to polluters, enforce environmental laws, and champion the rights of communities on the front lines of environmental harm.

In 2020, PennFuture took a bold step by consolidating our legal advocacy efforts into a dedicated Legal & Policy team. We have transformed this team from just 2 to 6 talented professionals, and their collective impact on the environmental legal landscape in Pennsylvania has been remarkable. With over 25 legal actions filed and an impressive success rate of nearly 70%, we are only just getting started.

This dedicated, unrestricted fund can be used by PennFuture for impact litigation, litigation outside of the geographic areas of grantors, litigation outside of issues of grantors, expert consultation and witnesses, and legal internships and fellowships.



The LEAF Inaugural Fundraiser was held on June 10, 2025 at Phipps Conservatory in Pittsburgh with Allegheny County Executive Sara Innamorato as keynote speaker.





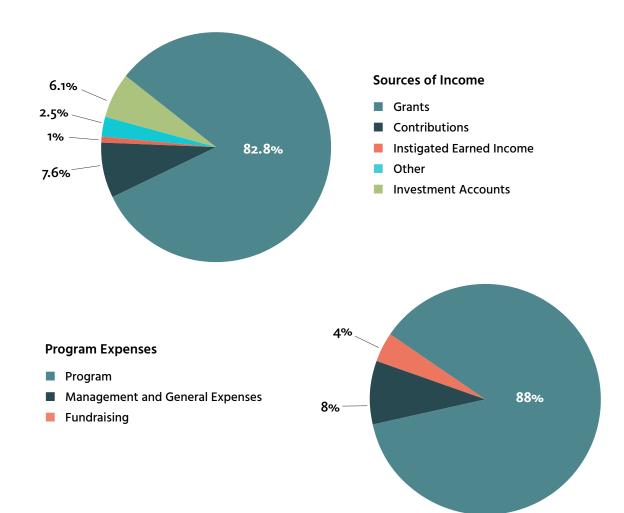
Donate to LEAF

Financial Summary

Fiscal Year 2024 (For year ending June 30, 2024)

	Revenues	Category	Notes	Sources of Income
	\$2,660,882	Grants	Philanthropic Support	82.8%
	\$245,356	Contributions	Individual donors, Membership and Events	7.6%
	\$26,528	Instigated Earned Income	Rents and Legal Fees	1%
	\$82,398	Other	Sales of assets and other	2.5%
	\$198,092	Investment Accounts	Net investment income	6.1%
TOTAL	\$3,213,257			100%

	Expenses	Category	Notes	Sources of Expenses
	\$2,647,885	Program	Programmatic salaries and expenses	88%
	\$251,362	Management and General Expenses	Management salaries and lobbying expenses	8%
	\$111,081	Fundraising	Fundraising salaries and expenses	4%
TOTAL	\$3,010,328			100%



By the Numbers 2024

%	of the	budget s	pent in	Penns	, Ivania
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- **86%** from foundations
- 8% giving from dedicated individuals
- **6** public testimonies
- **7** significant legal wins
- 30 educational videos produced
- 10 Webinars
- **237** U.S. media mentions
- 7 letters-to-the-editor published by members
- 3,479 supporters took actions in our campaigns



We extend our gratitude to each donor who made a gift to PennFuture during our last complete fiscal year, **July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.** The individuals, organizations, and businesses listed here provide the philanthropic support that makes it possible for PennFuture to do our work. **Each gift makes an impact**.

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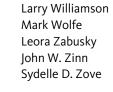
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