

DUPONT LAND LEGACY

DuPont has been a property owner since 1802, when company founder E. I. du Pont bought 65 acres of land for his black powder mills on the banks of the Brandywine River in Delaware.

During the more than two centuries of continuous operations that followed, the company acquired tens of thousands of acres more on which to site its plants and offices around the world. Through the years, significant parcels in the company's holdings went undeveloped or remained in the company's possession after the company ceased operations on or near them. Left undisturbed, many thousands of acres became prime natural areas and exceptional candidates for preservation. In 1994, DuPont formally instituted the DuPont Land Legacy Program to review these properties and recommend which should be protected.

Since its inception, DuPont Land Legacy has permanently protected nearly 34,000 acres of land. Some of the company's most significant land donations include the 1,000-acre Willow Grove Lake site donated in 1994 to The Nature Conservancy of New Jersey and 7,700 acres of forest near Brevard in western North Carolina donated in 1996 to The Conservation Fund and now part of DuPont State Forest.

In 2003, DuPont donated nearly 16,000 acres of company-owned land adjacent to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in the state of Georgia to The Conservation Fund. DuPont acquired the land in 1991 and 1996 with the intent to mine titanium ore safely and in an environmentally sound manner from the site. In light of public concerns about the project, DuPont announced in 1997 that it would defer activities related to the proposed surface mining operation and explore options for the property. DuPont established a Collaborative Process Core Group of local community officials, local NGOs, landowners, mining, tourism and wood fiber interests, elected officials and Native Americans. The donation represented a culmination of that process and a cooperative effort among DuPont, The Conservation Fund and International Paper.

Below left: The Okefenokee swamp in Georgia is an ecological treasure of global importance with world-class wetlands and magnificent forestland.

Below right: DuPont State Forest in North Carolina contains four major waterfalls on the Little River, and several smaller waterfalls on the Grassy Creek.

