

# Victory for all!

## How a historic property near Gordonsville, Virginia was saved

Saving scenic land steeped in history is always a beautiful story. If conscientious patrons had not prevailed, this 136-acre piece would be an open-pit shale mine with massive dump trucks rumbling past all day, every day. It would be an ugly scar just a few miles from James Madison's historic Montpelier, Somerset Plantation (est.1834,) Woodberry Forest School, and award-winning Barboursville and Horton wineries. America's fourth President, a fervent conservationist, would be tossed in his grave as the roads around his beloved Montpelier rattled with 36,000 dump trucks a year passing by.

The battle against General Shale's self-serving play was won upon appeal to Virginia's Supreme Court led by impassioned local landowner Jason Capelle. Later, David Perdue purchased the land and tried to advance the work by 1) putting 125 acres of the property under a conservation easement, and 2) returning it to forest as the first property in the VA Department of Environmental Quality's nascent nutrient trading program. The DEQ program was created to keep Virginia's waterways free of overused fertilizer and sediment pollution. The scenic Blue Run flows directly through the property. You can imagine the runoff pollution an open-pit shale mine would have created.

Perdue was well-intended, but inexperienced in the detail state programs require. Eventually, he sold to present owner, Perdue Barboursville, LLC. that has now completed the job. Perdue Barboursville, LLC was established by Chandler Van Voorhis, Co-Founder and Managing Partner of GreenTrees, LLC, the world's leading reforestation program by credit issuance with deep experience layering ecological values. Today, Van Voorhis has released the protected land, nutrient credits, and land preservation tax credits back into the public for sale.

If you admire this laudable work to preserve scenic beauty and history, step up. Your financial support frees up Van Voorhis to do more of the same. Congratulations to all who helped change a serious tragedy ... into a victory for all!