



published by THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND
AND LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

AMERICANS INVEST IN
PARKS & CONSERVATION

LANDVOTE[®] 2008





The Trust for Public Land conserves land for people to enjoy as parks, gardens, and other natural places, ensuring livable communities for generations to come. Since 1994, TPL's Conservation Finance Program has helped to secure voter approval of more than 400 local and state ballot measures that have generated over \$32 billion in new funding for parks and open space.

Visit TPL on the web at www.tpl.org to learn about Conservation Finance:

The Center for Conservation Finance conducts and publishes research on an array of funding topics and provides insights into emerging trends in land conservation:

- **LandVote® Database** – ballot measure results
- **Conservation Almanac** – statistics and analysis
- **Research Reports** – case studies, best practices, handbooks
- **Online Conservation Finance Course** – free University class

Conservation Finance Services help land trusts, communities, and states design, pass, and implement measures that dedicate new public funds for parks and land conservation:

- **Feasibility Research** – funding and measure options
- **Public Opinion Surveys** – gauging voter support
- **Measure Design** – optimal measure components
- **Effective Conservation Programs** – program design and evaluation



The Land Trust Alliance is a national conservation group that works to save the places people love by strengthening conservation throughout America. It works to increase the pace and quality of conservation by advocating favorable tax policies, training land trusts in best practices, and working to ensure the permanence of conservation in the face of continuing threats. 2008 marked the 26th anniversary of the Alliance.

Visit the Alliance on the web at www.landtrustalliance.org to learn about:

- **The Alliance in Your Region:** Land trust programs, grants, training, and accreditation
- **Public Policy:** Working with the Alliance to support land trusts' conservation goals
- **Resources:** Online learning, books, videos, brochures, training conferences, and events for the land conservation community
- **Land Trust Locator:** Finding a land trust in your area to connect with

The Trust for Public Land

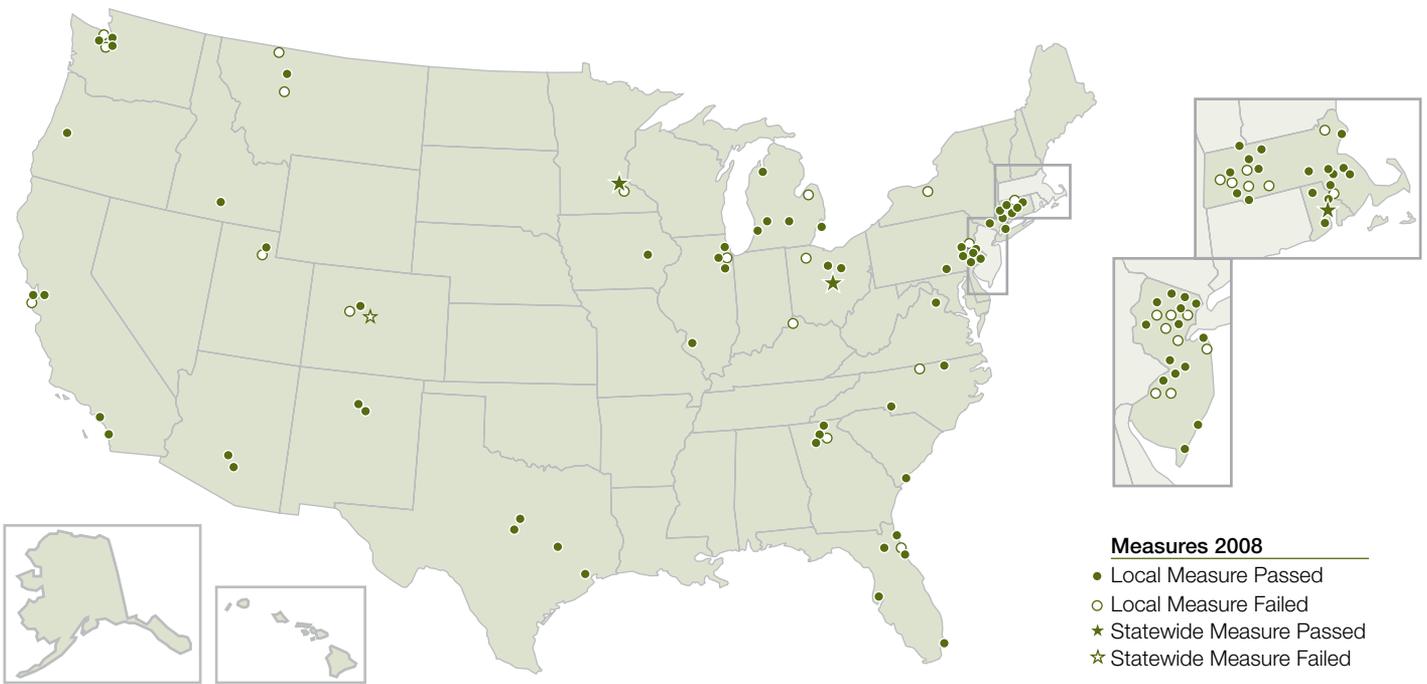
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Measures 2008

- Local Measure Passed
- Local Measure Failed
- ★ Statewide Measure Passed
- ☆ Statewide Measure Failed

In 2008, despite the nation's severe economic and fiscal crisis, voters continued their strong support for conservation ballot measures. The record year peaked November 4 when Minnesota voters passed the single largest conservation measure in history.

On Election Day, voters approved 63 of the 89 conservation finance measures (71 percent) across the country. These measures generated a single-day record of \$7.3 billion in new funding for parks, open space, working farms, watershed protection, and wildlife habitat. Over the course of the year, voters approved 90 measures totaling \$8.4 billion in new public funding for land conservation—a single-year record. The 71 percent approval rate for 2008 exceeded the 66 percent approval rate for 2007, and was just below the 76 percent average rate over the past two decades.

The record-setting amount of funding for 2008 can largely be attributed to the passage of Minnesota's \$5.5 billion Clean Water, Land and Legacy constitutional amendment. It is almost twice the funding of the former record-holder, New Jersey's 1998 constitutional amendment for the Garden State Preservation Trust. That measure dedicated \$2.9 billion in sales tax revenues to support open space and farmland preservation. The historic success of the Minnesota measure will increase investment in clean water, natural areas, cultural legacy, parks, trails, and the arts by roughly \$290 million a year for 25 years. An estimated \$220 million a year will be dedicated specifically to protect and restore natural areas, parks, and lands vital for water quality.

Voters backed local land conservation ballot measures in all corners of the United States in 2008, from traditionally supportive locations such as New Jersey and Massachusetts, to less traditionally supportive states such as Iowa and Idaho, where the use of local ballot measures for conservation is only beginning. Both Blaine County, Idaho (2-year property tax), and Johnson County, Iowa (\$20M bond), established the first county land conservation programs in their

respective states. In Montana, Lewis and Clark County became the fourth county in the state to pass a \$10 million open space bond in the past eight years.

Among the other noteworthy 2008 measures were:

- **East Bay Regional Park District, California:** a \$500 million bond measure received 71 percent support
- **Hillsborough County, Florida:** a \$200 million bond measure received 79 percent support
- **Hunterdon County, New Jersey:** an extension of the county's 3-cent property tax for 20 years will generate \$152 million
- **Community Preservation Act, Massachusetts:** seven of eight measures were approved on Election Day, bringing to 140 the total number of communities statewide that have adopted CPA
- **City of Phoenix, Arizona:** voters extended their open space sales tax for 30 years, which could generate \$900 million—approved with an overwhelming 83 percent support

With the 2008 ballot measures in the books, The Trust for Public Land has now amassed more than 20 years of ballot measures data in the LandVote® database. In the last two decades, conservation ballot measures have grown from scattered phenomena—with 24 measures in 1988—to commonplace. There were more than 200 measures in recent years and 127 in 2008. In that same time, more than \$54 billion in new conservation funding has been created at the state and local levels, with voters backing measures in 46 states.

Voters have continually supported conservation funding measures, despite challenging circumstances such as war and economic troubles. Voters of all political stripes, from coast to coast, want their state and local governments to invest public money to preserve precious land and water resources for future generations to enjoy. Twenty years of "Yes" votes make that clear.

National Overview

Abbreviations and Symbols Used

Co.	County
Bor.	Borough
Twp.	Township
PD	Park District
PRD	Park and Recreation District
CPA	Community Preservation Act Massachusetts
①	Municipal Measure
①	County Measure
▲	Special District Measure
★	Statewide Measure

Frequently Asked Questions

How is conservation funding calculated by LandVote?

LandVote only tracks conservation measures considered by voters: ballot measures.

LandVote tracks two major types of conservation ballot measures. The first type are ballot measures that authorize sales, property, income, and other taxes to pay for conservation. These are often called “pay as you go” funding sources. When a ballot measure authorizes a new tax, LandVote counts the estimated revenue generated for the duration of the tax. When the tax is not limited to a specific term, a duration of 20 years is used to generate the figure. In all cases the total funds generated over the life of the measure are conservatively estimated and do not reflect likely increases in the tax base. When a ballot measure increases an existing open space tax, LandVote counts only the value of the added increment.

A second type of ballot measure is the *bond measure*, a ballot question that authorizes the use of bonded indebtedness (general obligation bonds) for the purpose of financing capital improvements such as land conservation. In tabulating results, LandVote counts the face value of the bonds authorized, rather than the much higher value of repaying the bonds in the future. Bonds usually extend for 20 or 30 years.

How does LandVote estimate all the amounts from ballot measures in 2008?

LandVote tabulates local and state conservation ballot measures in two ways: 1) the total funds expected to be generated by the ballot measure including components in addition to land acquisition, and 2) the conservation funding for land acquisition and protection. Both sets of figures document and help explain the substantial voter support that exists for conservation and the voters’ willingness to pay for conservation.

Conservation Statistics and Tools



Visit the Trust for Public Land’s LandVote Database and Mapping System

Over 20 years of conservation ballot measure data compiled.

www.landvote.org



Vote for Land and Water

Your Partner for Success Winning Public Funding for Conservation.

www.conservationcampaign.org



Visit the Trust for Public Land’s Conservation Almanac

Updates coming in 2010 and will include local and private conservation activity along with geospatial maps detailing the location of acquisitions and expenditures.

www.conservationalmanac.org



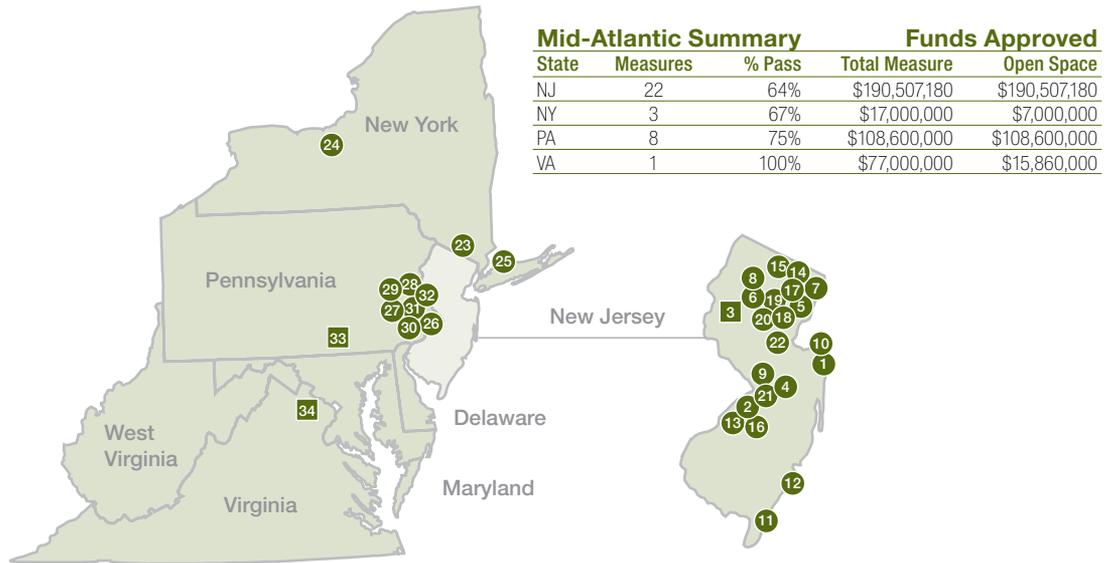
New England Summary			Funds Approved	
State	Measures	% Pass	Total Measure	Open Space
CT	7	86%	\$31,168,000	\$21,768,000
MA	21	67%	\$43,177,800	\$15,425,933
RI	4	100%	\$11,000,000	\$11,000,000

New England Region

New England Region Election Results 2008

State / Jurisdiction	Date	Status	Yes	No	Description	Funds Approved	
						Total Measure	Open Space
1 CT Danbury	Feb. 5	Pass	77%	23%	Bond for the purchase of open space and other capital improvements	\$16,000,000	\$6,600,000
2 CT Farmington	Jan. 17	Pass	82%	18%	Bond for the purchase of 90 acres on Krell Farm	\$6,750,000	\$6,750,000
3 CT Pomfret	Feb. 5	Pass	70%	30%	Bond for the purchase of open space	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000
4 CT Sherman	May 17	Pass	78%	22%	Bond for the purchase of farmland	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
5 CT Southington	Aug. 12	Pass	64%	36%	Bond to purchase 28-acre parcel of open space	\$1,258,000	\$1,258,000
6 CT Ellington	Nov. 4	Fail	49%	51%	Bond for open space acquisitions		
7 CT Windsor Locks	Dec. 9	Pass	89%	11%	Bond for the purchase of open space	\$2,160,000	\$2,160,000
8 MA Andover	Mar. 25	Fail	44%	56%	Community Preservation Act, 1% property tax surcharge		
9 MA South Hadley	Apr. 7	Fail	47%	53%	Community Preservation Act, 3% property tax surcharge		
10 MA Worthington	May 3	Fail	32%	68%	Community Preservation Act, 3% property tax surcharge		
11 MA Becket	May 17	Pass	67%	33%	Community Preservation Act, 1.5% property tax surcharge	\$672,400	\$224,133
12 MA Brimfield	June 3	Fail	42%	58%	Community Preservation Act, 3% property tax surcharge		
13 MA Chesterfield	May 5	Fail	34%	66%	Community Preservation Act, 3% property tax surcharge		
14 MA West Bridgewater	Apr. 12	Pass	61%	39%	Community Preservation Act, 1% property tax surcharge	\$2,203,640	\$734,547
15 MA Hanson	May 17	Pass	65%	35%	Community Preservation Act, 1.5% property tax surcharge	\$2,807,140	\$935,713
16 MA Stoughton	Apr. 8	Pass	51%	49%	Community Preservation Act, 1.5% property tax surcharge	\$9,971,340	\$3,323,780
17 MA Seekonk	Apr. 7	Fail	48%	52%	Community Preservation Act, 1.25% property tax surcharge		
18 MA Granville	Apr. 14	Pass	68%	32%	Community Preservation Act, 1.5% property tax surcharge	\$409,420	\$136,473
19 MA Medfield	Mar. 31	Pass	84%	16%	Debt exclusion for open space	\$1,550,000	\$1,550,000
20 MA Plympton	May 17	Pass	67%	33%	Community Preservation Act, 1.5% property tax surcharge	\$1,207,800	\$402,600
21 MA Shutesbury	Nov. 4	Pass	75%	25%	Community Preservation Act, 1.5% property tax surcharge	\$653,780	\$217,927
22 MA Royalston	Nov. 4	Pass	53%	47%	Community Preservation Act, 3% property tax surcharge	\$441,400	\$147,133
23 MA Swansea	Nov. 4	Pass	62%	38%	Community Preservation Act, 1.5% property tax surcharge	\$4,636,460	\$1,545,487
24 MA Amherst	Nov. 4	Fail	49%	51%	Community Preservation Act, 1.5% property tax surcharge increase		
25 MA Whately	Nov. 4	Pass	60%	40%	Community Preservation Act, 3% property tax surcharge	\$1,395,400	\$465,133
26 MA West Springfield	Nov. 4	Pass	55%	45%	Community Preservation Act, 1% property tax surcharge	\$7,140,840	\$2,380,280
27 MA Gloucester	Nov. 4	Pass	58%	42%	Community Preservation Act, 1% property tax surcharge	\$8,443,520	\$2,814,507
28 MA Northfield	Nov. 4	Pass	51%	49%	Community Preservation Act, 3% property tax surcharge	\$1,644,660	\$548,220
29 RI Middletown	Nov. 4	Pass	68%	32%	Bond for the preservation of open space	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
★ RI Rhode Island	Nov. 4	Pass	68%	32%	Bond for farmland and natural area preservation	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
30 RI Gloucester	Nov. 4	Pass	54%	46%	Bond for open space and watershed protection	\$500,000	\$500,000
31 RI Cranston	Nov. 4	Pass	57%	43%	Bond for the protection of open space, watersheds, habitat, parks and recreational areas	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000

Mid-Atlantic Region



Mid-Atlantic Summary			Funds Approved	
State	Measures	% Pass	Total Measure	Open Space
NJ	22	64%	\$190,507,180	\$190,507,180
NY	3	67%	\$17,000,000	\$7,000,000
PA	8	75%	\$108,600,000	\$108,600,000
VA	1	100%	\$77,000,000	\$15,860,000

Mid-Atlantic Region Election Results 2008

Mid-Atlantic Region Election Results 2008							Funds Approved	
State / Jurisdiction	Date	Status	Yes	No	Description	Total Measure	Open Space	
1 NJ Neptune Twp.	Nov. 4	Fail	42%	58%	15-year, 1 cent per \$100 property tax increase for parks, open space and farmland preservation			
2 NJ Florence Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	56%	44%	20-year, 1 cent per \$100 property tax increase for open space and farmland preservation	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	
3 NJ Hunterdon Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	76%	24%	3 cents per \$100 property tax extension for the preservation of open space, parks, and farmland	\$152,000,000	\$152,000,000	
4 NJ Upper Freehold Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	61%	39%	2 cents per \$100 property tax increase for farmland preservation and open space	\$5,282,473	\$5,282,473	
5 NJ Harrison Twp.	Nov. 4	Fail	44%	56%	4 cents per \$100 property tax increase for the preservation of open space, farmland and recreational lands			
6 NJ Tewksbury Twp.	Nov. 4	Fail	44%	56%	10-year, up to 3 cents annual property tax increase for open space preservation			
7 NJ Teaneck Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	62%	38%	4-year, 1 cent per \$100 continuation of open space tax	\$2,400,000	\$2,400,000	
8 NJ Mount Olive Twp.	Nov. 4	Fail	27%	73%	1.4 cents per \$100 property tax increase for open space, farmland and recreation			
9 NJ Hopewell Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	55%	45%	1 cent per \$100 property tax increase for open space and farmland	\$9,120,880	\$9,120,880	
10 NJ Highlands Bor.	Nov. 4	Pass	54%	46%	Half-cent per \$100 property tax for open space preservation	\$555,298	\$555,298	
11 NJ Ocean Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	68%	32%	1.8 cents per \$100 property tax increase for open space, farmland and other natural areas	\$5,862,084	\$5,862,084	
12 NJ Barnegat Light Bor.	Nov. 4	Pass	60%	40%	1 cent per \$100 property tax increase for open space conservation	\$2,715,918	\$2,715,918	
13 NJ Mantua Twp.	Nov. 4	Fail	46%	54%	2 cents per \$100 property tax increase for open space preservation			
14 NJ River Vale Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	65%	35%	1 cent per \$100 property tax extension for open space, farmland, and recreation	\$2,004,900	\$2,004,900	
15 NJ Oakland Bor.	Nov. 4	Pass	70%	30%	5-year, extension of 1 cent per \$100 open space tax	\$1,270,000	\$1,270,000	
16 NJ Berlin Bor.	Nov. 4	Pass	70%	30%	2 cents per \$100 property tax increase for the preservation of natural areas	\$1,445,444	\$1,445,444	
17 NJ Cedar Grove Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	63%	37%	2-year, 2 cents per \$100 property tax extension for open space and recreation	\$132,233	\$132,233	
18 NJ Livingston Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	77%	23%	3 cents per \$100 continuation of open space tax	\$5,801,780	\$5,801,780	
19 NJ North Caldwell Bor.	Nov. 4	Fail	48%	52%	5-year, 1 cent per \$100 property tax for open space, farmland and recreational purposes			
20 NJ Union Twp.	Nov. 4	Fail	42%	58%	2 cents per \$100 property tax increase for land preservation and reducing open space debt			
21 NJ Allentown Bor.	Nov. 4	Pass	57%	43%	3.5 cents per \$100 property tax increase for open space	\$716,170	\$716,170	
22 NJ North Plainfield Bor.	Nov. 4	Fail	44%	56%	1 cent per \$100 property tax for open space, farmland and recreation			
23 NY LaGrange	Nov. 4	Pass	72%	28%	Bond for the preservation of open space and farmland	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	
24 NY Aurora	Nov. 4	Fail	38%	62%	Bond for the purchase of open space and farmland			
25 NY Huntington	Nov. 4	Pass	75%	25%	Bond for the acquisition of open space and park improvements	\$15,000,000	\$5,000,000	
26 PA Buckingham Twp.	Apr. 22	Pass	82%	18%	Bond for the preservation of open space, farmland, and recreational lands	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000	
27 PA Charlestown Twp.	Apr. 22	Pass	77%	23%	.5% earned income tax increase for open space and farmland preservation	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000	

28	PA	Upper Saucon Twp.	Nov. 4	Fail	50%	50%	.25% earned income tax increase for open space and recreational lands		
29	PA	Hatfield Twp.	Nov. 4	Fail	43%	57%	.125% earned income tax increase for the protection of open space, farmland and recreational lands		
30	PA	Newtown Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	61%	39%	.1% earned income tax increase for open space preservation	\$13,600,000	\$13,600,000
31	PA	Lower Makefield Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	69%	31%	Bond for open space preservation	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000
32	PA	Upper Dublin Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	67%	33%	Bond for the acquisition of land to protect natural and cultural resources	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000
33	PA	Adams Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	75%	25%	Bond for the preservation of farmland, open space, habitat, and watersheds	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
34	VA	Fairfax Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	68%	32%	Bond for park improvements and open space acquisitions	\$77,000,000	\$15,860,000



Southeast Summary			Funds Approved	
State	Measures	% Pass	Total Measure	Open Space
FL	6	83%	\$296,400,000	\$276,400,000
GA	4	75%	\$230,000,000	\$150,400,000
KY	1	0%	\$0	\$0
NC	3	67%	\$254,000,000	\$62,000,000
SC	1	100%	\$17,000,000	\$17,000,000

Southeast Region

Southeast Region Election Results 2008

State / Jurisdiction	Date	Status	Yes	No	Description	Funds Approved	
						Total Measure	Open Space
1 FL North Bay Village	Jan. 29	Pass	63%	37%	Bond for the protection of open space and water quality on Biscayne Bay	\$9,400,000	\$9,400,000
2 FL Hillsborough Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	79%	21%	Bond for the purchase of land for preservation	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000
3 FL Alachua Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	51%	49%	2-year, .5 cent sales tax increase for land conservation and recreation	\$40,000,000	\$20,000,000
4 FL Flagler Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	65%	35%	20-year, .25 mill property tax increase for the acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands	\$40,000,000	\$40,000,000
5 FL St. Augustine Beach	Aug 26	Pass	61%	39%	Bond for the protection of wildlife habitat, watersheds, parks and recreational areas	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000
6 FL St. Johns Co.	Nov. 4	Fail	45%	55%	5-year, 1 cent sales tax increase for protection of natural areas and transportation projects		
7 GA Forsyth Co.	Feb. 5	Pass	70%	30%	Bond for the preservation of parks, open space, watersheds, and habitats	\$100,000,000	\$71,400,000
8 GA Jackson Co.	Feb. 5	Fail	49%	51%	Bond for the purchase of 340 acres for future parks and the protection of natural resources		
9 GA Cobb Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	65%	35%	Bond for the preservation of parks and open space	\$40,000,000	\$40,000,000
10 GA Cherokee Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	62%	38%	Bond for parks, open space, and recreational lands	\$90,000,000	\$39,000,000
11 KY Boone Co.	Nov. 4	Fail	33%	67%	2.2 cents per \$100 property tax increase for parks, recreation, and natural areas		
12 NC Clayton	May 6	Pass	74%	26%	Bond for parks and recreation	\$4,000,000	\$2,000,000
13 NC Guilford Co.	May 6	Fail	48%	52%	Bond for park development and greenways		
14 NC Mecklenburg Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	62%	38%	Bond for parks, recreation, and land acquisition	\$250,000,000	\$60,000,000
15 SC Hilton Head Island	Nov. 4	Pass	75%	25%	Bond for the preservation of beaches, open space and parkland	\$17,000,000	\$17,000,000

West Region

West Summary Funds Approved

State	Measures	% Passed	Total Measure	Open Space
CA	5	80%	\$716,364,090	\$411,364,090
OR	1	100%	\$100,000,000	\$32,200,000
WA	5	60%	\$210,000,000	\$80,697,000



West Region Election Results 2008

State / Jurisdiction	Date	Status	Yes	No	Description	Total Measure	Open Space
1 CA San Francisco	Feb. 5	Pass	71%	29%	Bond for city park improvements	\$185,000,000	\$5,000,000
2 CA San Mateo Co.	June 2	Fail	61%	39%	25-year, 1/8 cent sales tax increase for parks and recreation including open space preservation		
3 CA East Bay Regional PD	Nov. 4	Pass	72%	28%	Bond for the purchase of parkland, trails, and other recreational land	\$500,000,000	\$375,000,000
4 CA San Juan Capistrano	Nov. 4	Pass	70%	30%	Bond for the purchase of open space	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000
5 CA Pasadena	Oct. 27	Pass	60%	40%	Creation of Annandale Canyon Open Space Benefit Assessment District	\$1,364,090	\$1,364,090
6 OR Tualatin Hills PRD	Nov. 4	Pass	51%	49%	Bond for new parks, land acquisition, trails, and facility renovation	\$100,000,000	\$32,200,000
7 WA Seattle	Nov. 4	Pass	59%	41%	6-year, .19 cents per \$1,000 property tax increase for the preservation of open space, parks, trails and recreational activities	\$145,500,000	\$50,697,000
8 WA Bellevue	Nov. 4	Pass	67%	33%	20-year, 12 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value property tax levy for parks and open space	\$40,500,000	\$12,000,000
9 WA Sammamish	Nov. 4	Fail	57%	43%	Bond for parks, recreation and other capital improvements		
10 WA Peninsula Metropolitan PD	Nov. 4	Fail	53%	47%	Bond for acquisition of parkland and open space, and park improvements		
11 WA Bainbridge Island Metropolitan PRD	Nov. 4	Pass	54%	46%	.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value levy lift for the purchase of open space and park improvements	\$24,000,000	\$18,000,000



Photo: Jule Medders



Photo: Justin Spring

Midwest Region



Midwest Summary			Funds Approved	
State	Measures	% Pass	Total Measure	Open Space
IA	1	100%	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000
IL	5	60%	\$254,850,000	\$209,500,000
MI	6	83%	\$26,415,270	\$26,415,270
MN	2	50%	\$6,900,000,000	\$5,537,250,000
OH	4	75%	\$438,850,000	\$208,941,667

Midwest Region Election Results 2008

Funds Approved

State / Jurisdiction	Date	Status	Yes	No	Description	Total Measure	Open Space
1 IA Johnson Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	61%	39%	Bond for the purchase of farmland, parks, wetlands and other natural areas	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000
2 IL Fox Valley PD	Feb. 5	Pass	65%	35%	Bond for open space acquisition and park improvements	\$44,850,000	\$22,500,000
3 IL St. Charles PD	Feb. 5	Pass	59%	41%	Bond for capital improvements including some open space acquisition	\$25,000,000	\$2,000,000
4 IL Lockport Twp. PD	Feb. 5	Fail	35%	65%	Bond for the acquisition of parkland and other capital improvements		
5 IL Lake Co. Forest Preserve District	Nov. 4	Pass	66%	34%	Bond for the purchase of open space and natural areas	\$185,000,000	\$185,000,000
6 IL Waterloo PD	Nov. 4	Fail	47%	53%	Bond for the purchase of 10.82 acres of new park land		
7 MI Park Twp.	Jan. 15	Pass	69%	31%	10-year, .5 mill levy renewal for parks and open space	\$4,355,500	\$4,355,500
8 MI Cascade Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	58%	42%	20-year, .23 mill levy for open space preservation	\$6,860,000	\$6,860,000
9 MI Ingham Co.	Aug. 5	Pass	50%	50%	10-year, .14 mill levy increase to protect farmland, wildlife habitat, and other natural areas	\$10,563,230	\$10,563,230
10 MI Independence Twp.	Nov. 4	Fail	43%	57%	10-year, .45 mill levy for the acquisition of open space, recreational lands, wetlands and watersheds		
11 MI Peninsula Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	60%	40%	10-year, .475 mill levy to purchase parkland	\$2,596,540	\$2,596,540
12 MI Grosse Ile Twp.	Nov. 4	Pass	52%	48%	3-year, 1 mill extension for open space preservation	\$2,040,000	\$2,040,000
★ MN Minnesota	Nov. 4	Pass	56%	44%	25-year, 3/8% sales tax increase for natural resource protection and arts	\$6,900,000,000	\$5,537,250,000
13 MN Egan	Nov. 4	Fail	47%	53%	Bond for the purchase of golf course for open space		
★ OH Ohio	Nov. 4	Pass	69%	31%	Clean Ohio Fund bond to preserve wildlife habitat and farmland, provide recreational trails, and clean up industrial sites.	\$400,000,000	\$200,000,000
14 OH Preservation Parks of Delaware Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	52%	48%	10-year, .6 mill replacement and increase levy for parks, wildlife habitat and watersheds	\$37,000,000	\$8,325,000
15 OH Portage PD	Nov. 4	Fail	46%	54%	10-year, .5 mill additional levy for the preservation of forests, wetlands and other natural areas and operations		
16 OH Knox Co. PD	Nov. 4	Pass	52%	48%	5-year, additional .35 mill levy for park improvements, open space, and watershed protection	\$1,850,000	\$616,667

Rocky Mountain Region



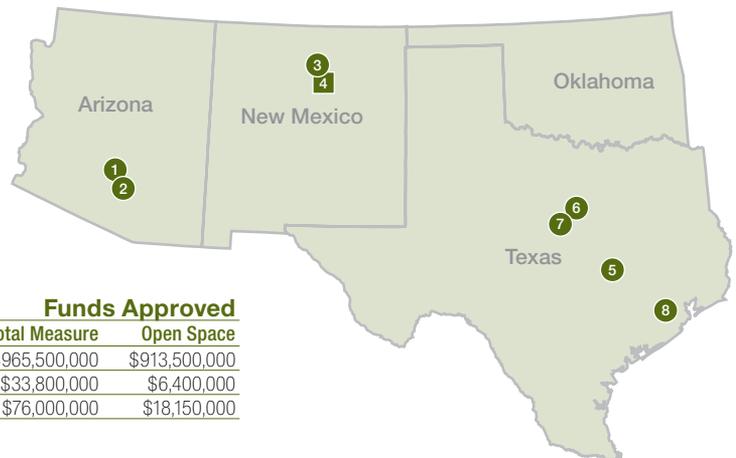
Rocky Mountain Summary Funds Approved

State	Measures	% Passed	Total Measure	Open Space
CO	3	33%	\$71,196,000	\$53,397,000
ID	1	100%	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
MT	3	33%	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
UT	2	0%	\$0	\$0

Rocky Mountain Region Election Results 2008

State / Jurisdiction	Date	Status	Yes	No	Description	Funds Approved	
						Total Measure	Open Space
① CO Basalt	Apr. 1	Fail	49%	51%	Bond to purchase open space, riverfront parks, and for flood control		
★ CO Colorado	Nov. 4	Fail	42%	58%	Amendment 58, retired oil and gas corporate tax to be used for education, wildlife habitat and renewable energy		
② CO Summit Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	60%	40%	12-year, 3.25 mill property tax increase for natural areas acquisition, wildfire protection, and other green initiatives	\$71,196,000	\$53,397,000
③ ID Blaine Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	53%	47%	2-year, .0014 mill property tax increase for open space preservation	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
④ MT Flathead Co.	Nov. 4	Fail	44%	56%	Bond for the protection of natural areas including watersheds, farmland, open space, and wildlife habitat		
⑤ MT Lewis and Clark Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	51%	49%	Bond for the preservation of open space and farmland	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
⑥ MT Cascade Co.	Nov. 4	Fail	37%	63%	Bond to purchase 233 acres of an air force base for open space		
⑦ UT Cache Co.	Nov. 4	Fail	41%	59%	Bond for the protection of farmland, recreational lands, watersheds, wildlife habitat and trails		
⑧ UT American Fork	Nov. 4	Fail	29%	71%	Bond for open space, parks and trails		

Southwest Region



Southwest Summary Funds Approved

State	Measures	% Pass	Total Measure	Open Space
AZ	2	100%	\$965,500,000	\$913,500,000
NM	2	100%	\$33,800,000	\$6,400,000
TX	4	100%	\$76,000,000	\$18,150,000

Southwest Region Election Results 2008

State / Jurisdiction	Date	Status	Yes	No	Description	Funds Approved	
						Total Measure	Open Space
① AZ Phoenix	May 20	Pass	83%	17%	30-year, extension of .1% sales tax for open space, parks, and park improvements	\$900,000,000	\$900,000,000
② AZ Maricopa	Nov. 4	Pass	61%	39%	Bond for park acquisition and improvements	\$65,500,000	\$13,500,000
③ NM Santa Fe	Mar. 4	Pass	71%	29%	Bond for the improvement and acquisition of parks, trails and open space	\$30,300,000	\$2,900,000
④ NM Santa Fe Co.	Nov. 4	Pass	67%	33%	Bond for parks, open space, and trail acquisitions and improvements	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
⑤ TX Georgetown	Nov. 4	Pass	58%	42%	Bond for parks, recreation and open space acquisition	\$35,500,000	\$9,000,000
⑥ TX Arlington	Nov. 4	Pass	58%	42%	Bond for parks and recreation	\$15,500,000	\$2,250,000
⑦ TX Murphy	Nov. 4	Pass	65%	35%	Bond for parks, trails and open space	\$7,500,000	\$1,900,000
⑧ TX Missouri City	Nov. 4	Pass	72%	28%	Bond for park acquisition and improvements	\$17,500,000	\$5,000,000

The New York Times

SYNDICATE

EDITORIAL

A Resounding Vote for Open Space

November 18, 2008

Almost unnoticed in the election results was some very good news for the environment — and for land preservation in particular. Despite the financial crisis, voters made it clear that they want to increase spending on preserving open land, even at the cost of higher taxes.

Across the nation, voters approved \$7.3 billion in new spending for parks and open-space preservation. Sixty-two of the 87 referendums to acquire or otherwise protect open space were approved. And the support came in rural, Republican areas, as well as in those that lean toward the Democrats.

California and Florida said yes to more than \$700 million in new spending on open space. In Minnesota, voters increased the sales tax by three-eighths of a cent to generate \$5.5 billion over the next 25 years for land preservation and environmental protection. It was the largest open-space state referendum in the nation's history.

Despite especially tough economic times, New Jersey voters showed that they feel strongly about acquiring open space before it is all eaten up by strip malls and McMansions. The state is reeling from high property taxes, unemployment and a budget deficit. But voters still approved 14 of 22 county and municipal referendums to increase or extend property taxes dedicated to acquiring or preserving open space.

These votes are an explicit rebuke to President Bush, who failed miserably to honor his 2000 campaign promise to fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the government's main vehicle for buying open space. They should give Congress a strong push to approve a public lands measure that, among other things, would grant permanent wilderness protection to two million acres of public land.

We had hoped that Congress would approve the legislation in the current lame-duck session. On Monday, the Senate majority leader, Harry Reid, withdrew it from the calendar after Senator Tom Coburn, an Oklahoma Republican, threatened to filibuster the bill. Mr. Coburn called it a waste of money and an unnecessary expansion of federal control over public lands.

Mr. Reid said the Senate needed to focus on the economic crisis, but he promised to bring the measure up for immediate action early next year.

Old business tends to get lost in the early days of a new Congress, especially when there is a new administration. Come January, we will remind Mr. Reid of his promise and of the voters' clear commitment to preserving open spaces.

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