MISSION
The Nature Foundation at Wintergreen, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, encourages understanding, appreciation, and conservation of the natural and cultural resources of the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia.

PURPOSE
To accomplish our mission, the Foundation serves as a center for research and education related to Wintergreen’s natural and cultural resources. To that end, we are engaged in an array of activities:

- Offering educational programs through guided hikes, scientific conferences, programs for local schools, and on-site youth and adult programs.
- Maintaining more than 30 miles of trails.
- Conducting ecosystem research studying plants and animals, including DNA studies, and native plant propagation.
- Participating in wildlife management studies and offering research into control of deer and bear populations.
- Monitoring water quality of mountain streams.
- Offering surveys of building projects to define and protect rare ecosystems and Native American sites.
- Advising Wintergreen property owners on relevant conservation issues within Wintergreen and county officials on Nelson County issues.
- Serving as the primary environmental steward and managing approximately 6,000 acres of wilderness areas within the Wintergreen community.
- Hosted researchers working on regional and national conservation efforts.

For Love of the Land

One of the things that attracted me to Wintergreen many years ago was a unique development concept that included a science-based appreciation into both its design and its long-range plans. As this concept led to the birth of The Nature Foundation at Wintergreen, I have remained connected. Wintergreen would not have kept its current history had it not been for the vision of its founders and the continued efforts of the Foundation to keep that vision alive.

Dr. Dennis Whigham, Senior Scientist, The Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
It has been, is, and forever will be, The Nature Foundation's mission to keep the original vision of Wintergreen alive. Existing and future endowment funding for forest preservation through research and education is essential.

Doug Coleman, Executive Director