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Rebekah Paulson is the Executive Director of The Friends of Stadium Woods (www.savestadiumwoods.com), the grassroots, all-volunteer advocacy group founded in November 2011 to permanently protect the 11 acre, rare, old growth white oak urban forest on Virginia Tech's main campus. She is the President of Southside Garden Club--the only Nationally Federated Garden Club in Blacksburg. Rebekah is an organic gardener and floral designer providing local clients with floral bouquets and arrangements from her garden for every occasion through her "hobby job" home business Rebekah's Country Garden (www.rebekahscountrygarden.com)

Rebekah is currently a Master Naturalist in Training at Virginia Tech and worked part-time at Lacie's Garden Center in Christiansburg from 2002-2007. Rebekah has focused on local volunteer efforts with Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, the VA Synod ELCA, Blacksburg Newcomers Club, Volunteer Emergency Foster Care, Sustainable Blacksburg, the Ecumenical Environmental Effort, and NRV Cares.

Rebekah has a B.A. in Political Science from The George Washington University in Washington DC. She also attended James Madison University and The University of Valencia, Spain double majoring in Spanish and Political Science with a minor in French. Prior to moving to Blacksburg in 2001 Rebekah worked for the World Resources Institute, an environmental think and do tank in Washington DC, and The AES Corporation, a global power company, headquartered in Arlington, VA.