

Land Marks

Protecting Land Forever

Vegetable Gardens, Pink Houses and Conservation Easements

If you did not know where it was, you might miss it entirely. The entrance to the old Cadwalader place is anything but grand by today's standards. A long sandy driveway, packed down from generations of use is lined with tall, thick cedar trees. This was the same entrance Francis Cadwalader came through after the U.S. Government utilized eminent domain to claim his family land at Maxwell Point to form Aberdeen Proving Ground in 1919. Maxwell Point had been in the family for nearly a century, originally purchased by his great uncle, the Civil War General George Cadwalader, in 1820. Francis watched his beloved hunting cabin become target practice and purchased a piece of land just 11 miles up the road.

There he timbered chestnut trees for WWI rifle stocks, built fences to accommodate his horses, and planted a vegetable garden on the west side of his historic pink home. He would ride his horses into the train station, and then commute to his law office in Baltimore City. His vegetable garden he would tend to his entire life. Of his hobbies — horses, gardening and skiing (which he didn't pick up until he was 80 years old), the one that remains most steadfast in the Cadwalader clan of today are the horses. Francis shared these passions with his children and grandchildren and instilled in them a family history so rich, his granddaughter, Sophie, can still recite them from memory.

Standing in the historic barn on the property with sunlight streaming through gaps in the wooden slats, lighting up the hay



Sophie Cadwalader Hayes pets Applejack, one of the horses at the Cadwalader property.

dust that is inevitable in a horse barn, Sophie Cadwalader Hayes smiles as she recounts riding her grandfather's horses as a child along trails that still meander through the property.

She moved to the estate fulltime just a few years ago. After meeting her husband, Todd, in college and building a family and a life in West Chester, Pennsylvania, she saw the need for a caretaker on the piece of land that had cultivated her own childhood. So she started with weekends first, then half the work
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Director's Note

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Spring is a special time of year in Maryland. Our state comes alive as we emerge from the depths of winter. Farms and forests, rivers and streams, and parks and gardens offer glimpses of new growth and reconnect us to a sense of rebirth and hopefulness.

We can help celebrate this hopefulness by continuing to champion and support the thousands of private landowners in this state that play a significant role in the conservation and stewardship of places that matter to our communities and our sense of place. With the support of private landowners, local land trusts, and the Maryland public, MET was able to set aside an additional 1,225 acres for the benefit of future generations. As this edition's featured landowner, the Cadwalader family reminds us, conservation transcends simple measurement of acres conserved. It reminds us of the deeper story of connection to the land we all share.

The shift in seasons also reminds us of the broader changes that are occurring across our landscapes — both the natural and the cultural — and the changing roles of conservation groups that serve them. Issues and challenges such as a warming climate, rising sea levels, maintaining viable family farms, and creating healthier, greener places to live — for all people — transcend any one group or organization. We understand that our success is tied to how well we attract an ever-wider spectrum of people to our work.

Here at MET we recognize that to remain a vibrant land trust providing true value to our constituents, we must evolve to meet the times. This spring, MET will be embarking on a process to re-examine our original purpose and identify ways we can use our unique approach to create a more enduring and inclusive land conservation movement in Maryland. Most importantly, we will be looking outward to connect with others in this process, engaging new voices and groups that have not been so closely connected to our mission.

In addition to our traditional land trust training, MET's spring conference will feature examples of how others are implementing innovative new approaches to land conservation and stewardship. Our keynote speaker, Secretary of Natural Resources Mark Belton, will be sharing his views of the evolving role of the Department of Natural Resources as it looks to the future. Following the conference, MET will be co-hosting, with a number of our partners, a summit that will convene a diverse cross-section of groups from across the state to discuss how land conservation must evolve to meet 21st Century challenges.

While MET will soon turn fifty, in many ways we have only just begun the work that will ensure our efforts may endure. We will keep you apprised of our conversations as we move forward in the months ahead.

In the meantime, go outside and enjoy the spring!

William H. Leahy II
 Director



MET Protected 1,225 Acres in 2015!

The past year saw an uptick over the previous year in the number of acres conserved by easements donated to MET. Working collaboratively with landowners and non-profit land trust partners, MET staff negotiated 11 conservation easement donations in 2015 that protect approximately 1,225 acres of land considered significant for its scenic, environmental, agricultural and historic resource value. Easements were accepted in eight counties across the state, and most of the easements were co-held with a local or regional land trust. Highlights by region are provided as follows.

EASTERN REGION

In **Kent County**, MET together with the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy (ESLC) protected 85 acres on two easement properties. Jim North along with sister and brother-in-law Rita and Ron Akins protected their family property along Churn Creek near Worton. This important 23 acre forested tract can be viewed by boat from the navigable Churn Creek, which feeds into the nearby Chesapeake Bay, while its forest provides

habitat and water quality benefits. The property is part of a larger conservation area which includes several thousand acres of protected lands in the immediate vicinity of the property. The other new conservation easement in Kent County permanently protects 62 acres of important farmland in Kennedyville. The Fry/Gifford family gifted this easement on St. Brigid's Farm to MET and the ESLC. Located in an area where agriculture is vital to the county, the farm has been a source of grass-finished beef and dairy products for Kent County. The property also provides sweeping pastoral views from Locust Grove Road, and is part of a larger conservation area that includes several thousand acres in its immediate vicinity. "Not only does St. Brigid's Farm sell their products directly to the local food market, they generously support local charities through their 'farm to table' dinners. It was a pleasure working with them to preserve a family farm that gives so much back to the local community," said Jared Parks of the ESLC.

Fifty-three acres of forest in **Talbot County**, which provides habitat for the Delmarva fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger cinereus*),
Continued on next page



View from Ivy Hill Road of 153 acre conservation easement property in Baltimore County.

MET Protects 1,225 Acres in 2015! *(continued from page 3)*



Dashiell family cemetery plot on the Graham property in Wicomico County. Wetipquin Creek is shown in the background.

were permanently protected by an easement granted to MET and the ESLC with the assistance of Talbot Preservation Alliance. REMCO Properties, LLC, is the landowner and grantor of the easement. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service classified this property as having high conservation value due to its status as a habitat for the Delmarva fox squirrel. Forest interior dwelling bird species, whose populations are dwindling, also make their home in this woodland tract. The property consists of mature pine and hardwood forest with an open understory. It is located adjacent to Waterside Village shopping center and was originally part of the parcel that was developed into the shopping center. The Talbot Preservation Alliance secured the right to establish the 53 acre easement through negotiations with REMCO when the site was first proposed for development in 2005. MET and ESLC then agreed to work with REMCO to hold the easement, forever protecting the vital woodland habitat. “The Talbot Preservation Alliance greatly appreciates the opportunity to partner with the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy and the Maryland Environmental Trust to ensure that, regardless of future political winds, there will be no further commercial creep beyond the current limits of Waterside Village,” said Tom Alspach, president of the Alliance.

In **Somerset County**, another new easement totaling 30 acres permanently protects important farmland in Westover. The landowner Frederick Howard donated the easement on his property to MET to safeguard its important resources and his family’s legacy. The site is adjacent to other protected lands and provides sweeping farmland views from Revell’s Neck Road. The

property with its prime soils is an integral part of the agricultural economy of the area connecting other protected farms. “I am extremely pleased that an organization like the Maryland Environmental Trust is available to residents so that we may be able to preserve our farmland for future generations,” Mr. Howard said. “This particular piece of farmland has been in my family for over 200 years and dates back to a direct ancestor who served in the Somerset County militia during the American Revolution. It’s a great feeling to know this old farmland will continue to be protected in the future regardless of who owns the property.”

In **Wicomico County**, MET accepted an easement donation from Donald C. Graham that permanently conserves his 446 acre agricultural and woodland tract located along the Wetipquin Creek near Quantico. The property contains significant natural resources including close to 200 acres of woodlands, portions of the Wetipquin Creek and two of its tributaries, Deep Branch and Horner Gut, and 58 acres of wetlands. Approximately 180 acres of the property is in active agricultural use. The property also contains the historic and architecturally significant house known as “Long Hill” that dates from the mid-18th century. Long Hill derives its historical significance from its long association with the Dashiell family, several of whom took an active role in the affairs of colonial Maryland. Mr. Graham is a descendant of the Dashiells, and he acquired the property because of its historical significance for his family. Long Hill was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974. The easement contains provisions that preserve the exterior facades of Long Hill, and



Historic “Long Hill” on the Graham property in Wicomico County.

require the landowner to allow members of the public to view the exterior of Long Hill during specified times each year. With extensive frontage along Wetipquin Road, Deep Branch Road, and Spry Larmore Road the property offers scenic rural views for travelers along these public thoroughfares. Scenic views of the property are also afforded from the Wetipquin Creek, which is navigable by small non-motorized boats such as kayaks and canoes.

CENTRAL/WESTERN REGION

In **Baltimore County**, MET partnered with The Manor Conservancy to accept a 166 acre easement donation from Cunningham Farms, LLC. The property is located along Stockton and Cooper Roads near Phoenix. The easement protects productive agricultural land and forest habitat. The scenic view from Stockton and Cooper Roads captures the property’s rolling agricultural fields, forested stream valley and the border of its forested area. The property is part of a larger conservation area which includes several thousand acres of protected lands in the immediate vicinity of the property.

Also in **Baltimore County**, MET partnered with Land Preservation Trust, Inc., to accept two conservation easements donated by Ivy Hill Properties, LLC, totaling 153 acres along Ivy Hill Road near the county’s Oregon Ridge Park. The contiguous easements protect the pastoral scenic view from Ivy Hill Road and productive agricultural land and forest habitat, as well as over a mile of the frontage along Beaverdam Run stream, which

meanders through the forest on the property.

In **Frederick County**, MET accepted an easement granted from the Civil War Preservation Trust on a historically important 42 acre property, which is located within the Fox’s Gap section of the South Mountain Battlefield. The easement protects the historically important land area, including the view of the property along Reno Monument Road. Frederick County co-holds this easement with MET.

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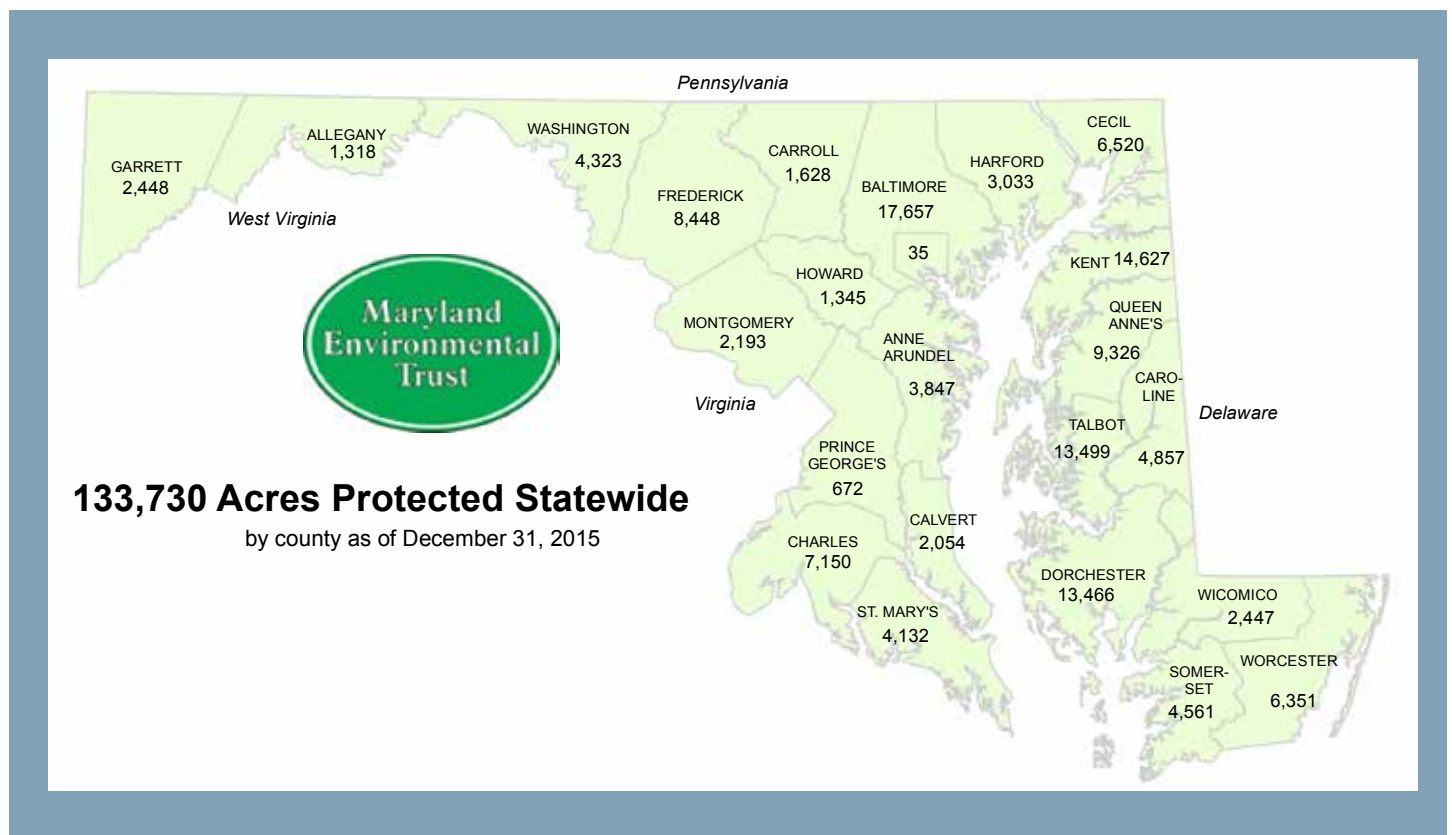


42 acres conserved in Frederick County next to South Mountain Battlefield.

MET Protects 1,225 Acres in 2015! *(continued from page 5)*



73 acre woodland tract conserved within the Broad Creek Historic District in Prince George's County.



SOUTHERN REGION

In *Prince George's County* near Fort Washington, a 73 acre woodland tract was permanently protected by a new conservation easement with MET. The Conservancy of Broad Creek, Inc., a nonprofit land trust that owns the property, donated the easement. "It is in our mission to preserve and protect the natural areas within the Broad Creek Historic District," said Michael Leventhal, President of The Conservancy of Broad Creek. "Using conservation easements is an effective approach in meeting our goals," he added. The Conservancy of Broad Creek was created to assist in the preservation of the Broad Creek area's history and ecology. Its members have hosted a number of events celebrating the history and lives of the Marylanders who have lived here during the past 350 years.

The property, known as the Broad Creek Woods, is located within the county's Broad Creek Historic District, which was recently designated a National Register Historic Site for containing notable examples of southern Maryland's cultural heritage. It is located directly across Livingston Road from the St. John's Episcopal Church, one of the oldest Anglican parishes in Maryland, and just north along Livingston Road from historic Harmony Hall, the eighteenth century mansion on 60 acres owned by the National Park Service.

With extensive frontage along Livingston Road as well as Indian Head Highway, the property offers scenic woodland views for travelers along these public thoroughfares, which the easement protects. The acreage is also located along the proposed public trail corridor known as the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, which will connect to the nearby historic sites and to the county-owned Henson Creek Stream Valley Park multi-use trail. The property is subject to a previous easement held by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission for the purpose of constructing the section of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail that runs through the property.



View from Revell's Neck Road of 30 acre easement property in Somerset County.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

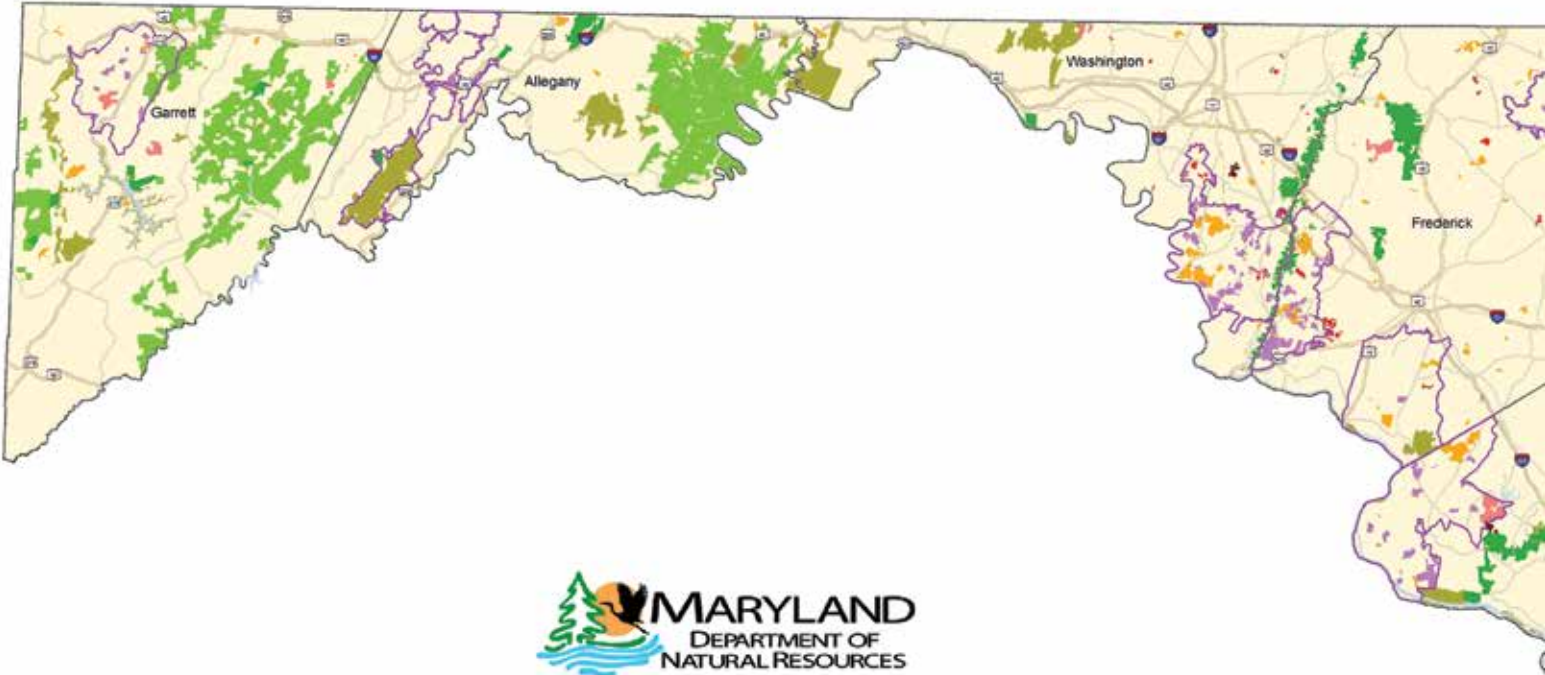
May 5-6, 2016

We hope you will be able to join us at this year's Land Conservation Conference on May 5-6, 2016. This year promises to be one of the most important gatherings to date. In addition to educational workshops, peer-to-peer networking, and an annual awards celebration, we will be building into the curriculum featured presentations and opportunities for dialogue designed to inspire new thinking and ideas about the future of land conservation work in Maryland. Maryland Department of Natural Resources Secretary Mark Belton will deliver the keynote address.

For more information visit MET's events page:
<http://dnr2.maryland.gov/met/Pages/events.aspx>.

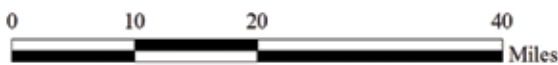
Protecting Land in Maryland

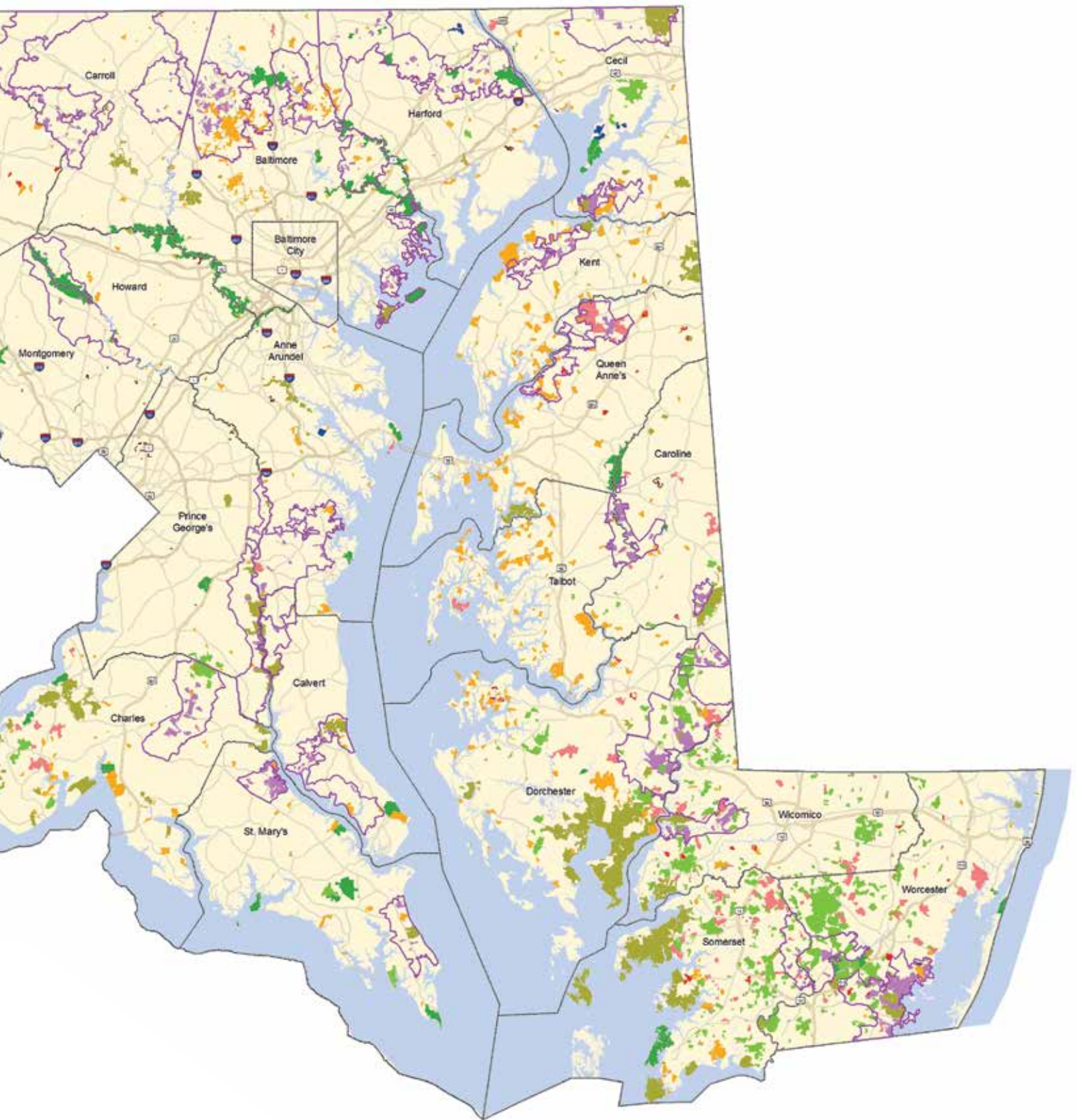
Statewide Map of Fee Simple Lands and Easements



Fee Simple Lands and Easements

-  DNR Fee Simple Lands - State Parks
-  DNR Fee Simple Forest Lands
-  DNR Fee Simple Lands
-  DNR Held Easements
-  Rural Legacy Easements
-  Maryland Environmental Trust Easements (MET)
-  Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Easements
-  Forest Conservation Act Easements
-  Forest Legacy Easements
-  Rural Legacy Areas





Cadwalader *(continued from page 1)*



The long and inconspicuous cedar-lined driveway leading into the Cadwalader family property.



The inside of the historic wood-slatted hay/horse barn.

week as well, and was eventually living fulltime in the historic pink house and running a horse boarding business out of the barn.

The experience, she says, has brought her closer than ever to her family's history which lines the walls in photos and paintings inside the historic home (with parts dating back to the 17th century). In a letter Francis penned to his parents shortly after

seeing the property in Harford County for the first time, he spoke of how near it was to the city by machine, but that it was so far out, it was bound to never be developed. While the communities across the street and several more just up the road beg to differ these days, the Cadwaladers of today and future generations can rest assured their conserved land will remain just the way Francis saw it, for many years to come.

Tax Incentives for Easement Donations

Enhanced Federal Income Tax Incentives for Conservation Easement Donations Are Now Permanent

In what the conservation community is calling a major victory, the enhanced federal income tax incentives are now permanent. The enhanced incentives were part of a bill passed by the U.S. Congress and signed by the President into law in mid-December of 2015. The majority of our Maryland congressional delegation supported the bill.

The incentive:

- Raises the deduction a landowner can take for donating a conservation easement from 30 percent of his/her adjusted gross income in any year to 50 percent;
- Allows qualifying farmers and ranchers to deduct up to 100 percent of their income; and

- Extends the carry-forward period for a donor to take tax deductions for a voluntary conservation easement from five to 15 years.

These changes apply to donations made at any time in 2015 and to all donations made after that.

Since 2006, the Land Trust Alliance together with its more than 1,100 member land trusts and five million supporters led the multi-year campaign to secure permanency of the incentives. Earlier versions of the incentives expired December 31, 2014. Thank you Land Trust Alliance for your leadership! Thank you Congress for this added encouragement to landowners to conserve their land to protect important natural and cultural resources!

MET 2015 Volunteer Highlights

Preserving land takes human activity — driving there, walking the landscape, talking with residents, noticing changes, making notes, taking pictures, filing a report — and then repeating once a year. As Maryland’s statewide land trust, MET is responsible for preserving 1,080 easements covering 133,730 acres. That’s a lot of movement, senses, and skills, and that’s why our Volunteer Land Stewards and Office Volunteers are so important!

In 2015, we processed and archived 99 monitoring reports from volunteers, and prepared and assigned 188 easement field files for volunteers representing 20,110 acres. We recruited 14 potential volunteers and trained four new Volunteer Land Stewards. Between field and office, the 33 Volunteer Land Stewards monitored 65 easements and the five Office Volunteers worked on Stewardship projects. This totaled more than 500 hours of service valued at \$11,500, a huge donation of time and talent to MET.

We deeply appreciate the 36 Volunteer Land Stewards and Office Volunteers — and all of their hard work. Thank you!



A Volunteer Land Steward photo evokes the many steps of volunteer service to MET.



VOLUNTEER LAND STEWARDS AND OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Ronnie Adams
Shan Allen
Lauren Atwood
Derek Baumgardner
Jason Boothe
Andrew Brignole
Ken Brown
Ann Burchard
Christine Cadigan
Susan Cohen
Owen Curran
Carrie Dike
Jeffrey & Sharon Dillon
Sondra & Steve Dorsey
Christine Dzingala
Vivienne & Kevin Gautrey
David Godfrey
Joe Hasuly
David Hobson
David & Nancy Kieffer
Toby Lloyd
Brittany McBride
Cassandra Melton
Andrew Mowbray
Werner & Elizabeth Schumann
Kevin Smith
Stuart Stainman
Melissa Tully
Charles Wells
Lynn Wilkinson
Joseph Yates

Volunteer Program Update

New Focus for 2016

The MET Volunteer Program saw growth and transition in 2015. Volunteer Coordinator Jamie Salabogi accepted a new position in West Virginia in June, and David Minges (himself a West Virginia native) joined MET as Volunteer Coordinator in October.

In 2016, the Volunteer Program will focus on recruiting, training, assigning, and recognizing volunteers *regionally* across Maryland. By working closely with local land trusts, easement coholders, and MET easement partners, we hope to build and strengthen nearby groups of Volunteer Land Stewards and encourage long-term local relationships between stewards and landowners.

“The current MET Volunteer Land Stewards are doing an incredible job,” notes Minges. “I’m learning a lot from their suggestions and experiences, and we’ll be gathering this spring to share ideas, train new volunteers, and celebrate and recognize everyone’s hard work.”



Snow slowly succumbs to sun on the fields of an MET easement.

Delmarva Fox Squirrel No Longer Endangered

We're going NUTS about the big news for the Delmarva fox squirrel announced late last year. After nearly 50 years on the list of species covered by the federal Endangered Species Act, the Delmarva fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger cinereus*) was delisted thanks in large part to conservation efforts including protection of habitat through conservation easements held by MET.

The Delmarva fox squirrel is indigenous to the Delmarva Peninsula and by the mid-20th century its population had deteriorated to dire levels due to habitat decline. Forest clearing for agricultural land, timbering, and development, as well as over-hunting all led to the dismal outlook for the bushy tailed mammal. The Delmarva fox squirrel is larger than the more common gray squirrel that many people see in their urban and suburban neighborhoods and has a distinguishing long and bushy tail. The Delmarva fox squirrel inhabits forestlands and agricultural fields in the Delmarva region.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service determined that the population had rebounded to a level where they are no longer at risk of extinction. Thus, the decision was made to remove them from the list of Threatened and Endangered Wildlife under the Endangered Species Act.



Delmarva fox squirrel on MET easement property in Talbot County.

Conservation efforts like this depend on the support and engagement of private landowners in protection and stewardship of critical habitat like that for the Delmarva fox squirrel. MET's work with local land trusts and landowners is an important part of this success story. This is a win for coordinated conservation efforts in Maryland and we're proud to have played a small role in helping the Delmarva fox squirrel to rebound!

MET Holds Land Trust Roundtable

Maryland Environmental Trust hosted a Land Trust Roundtable on September 8, 2015 at the People's Resource Center in Crownsville, MD. The Roundtable brought together 34 representatives from 18 organizations from the land trust and conservation community to discuss land conservation challenges in their counties and how our community can work together to increase awareness and support for land conservation in Maryland.

Ann Jones (Director, Partners for Open Space), Josh Hastings (Policy Manager, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy), Kate Patton (Director, Lower Shore Land Conservancy) and Rick Leader (Director, Scenic Rivers Land Trust) led the conversation and tackled questions including the importance of land conservation, community outreach efforts and Program Open Space challenges. Participants provided examples of effective partnerships as well as specific actions to address challenges in the conservation community.



MET's Roundtable series convenes regularly for the purpose of sharing ideas on land conservation and is open to land trust staff, board members, volunteers and others interested in land conservation. For more information on MET Roundtables, please visit MET's events page.

2016

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SCHEDULE

The following dates have been reserved for the MET Board meetings in 2016.

February 1	September 12
March 7	October 3
April 4	November 7
May 2	December 5
June 6	

The Board of Trustees meets the first Monday of each month with the exception of January, July and August. The board meetings begin at 6:30 pm and are held at 100 Community Place, First Floor, Conference Room A, Crownsville, Maryland, unless notified otherwise. These are public meetings. Please contact MET if you plan to attend.

Easements sometimes require advance notification and/or written approval for certain activities. Please see MET's website for information and application. If you are unsure whether notification or approval is required, contact MET's stewardship staff to help make that determination. Activities that might require approval or notification include:

- Constructing any new buildings or structures
- Renovating or enlarging existing structures
- Conveying property (provide contact information on new owner)
- Subdividing property
- Recording any other encumbrances on property (e.g. right-of-ways, ingress/egress, other easements)
- Entering wetlands mitigation or restoration programs
- Changing use of property (e.g. from forested lands to agricultural lands)
- Making a boundary line adjustment
- Harvesting timber

For complex matters, it may take a minimum of 30 days for MET to review and approve the proposed activities. Please contact Jon Chapman, Stewardship Program Manager, at 410-514-7904 to discuss your plans. All requests should be made in writing at least three weeks prior to the scheduled board meeting. Thank you!

MENU

MET Maryland Epicure Table

Here's our fantasy feast sourced from MET easement property owners across Maryland, so dig in.

APPETIZER

Broiled Oysters with Mignonette
Hollywood Oyster Company | Hollywood, Maryland

SALAD

Fresh Mixed Field Greens Dressed with Balsamic Vinegar
Evensong Farm | Sharpsburg, Maryland

ENTREE

Grass-Fed Black Angus New York Strip Steak
Hedgeapple Farm | Frederick, Maryland

FROM THE CELLARS

Landmark Reserve 2012
Boordy Vineyards | Hydes, Maryland

DESSERT

Assorted Seasonal Ice Creams
Kilby Cream | Rising Sun, Maryland

Fresh Blueberries
Hybridoma Organic Fruit Farm | Baldwin, Maryland

Landowner Signs

MET provides landowners an attractive sign to be displayed on their conserved property. If you are a landowner with an easement held by the Maryland Environmental Trust and wish to have a sign, please contact Dave Minges or call 410-514-7918 to request one be mailed or delivered at your next monitoring visit.

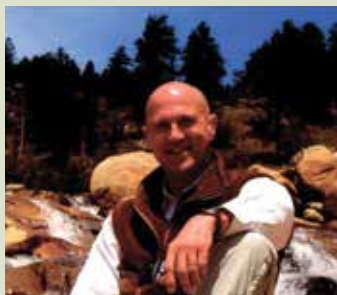


New Faces at MET



Toby Lloyd, Trustee

MET is pleased to welcome Toby Lloyd as a Trustee. “I’m honored to be elected to the MET board and look forward to being a part of MET’s mission to preserve farmland and open space,” said Mr. Lloyd. Previously he served as a MET Montgomery County Area Representative in 2014 and 2015. Toby is the owner and president of Turnrow, LLC, a farm and land consulting company focusing on conservation and farmland assessment. Turnrow also provides marketing and communications services, helping agriculture and environmental organizations develop effective messaging for target audiences. Prior to Turnrow, Toby worked for USDA’s Farm Service Agency for 13 years. While with USDA, he worked in their National Office in the Conservation and Environmental Programs Division then served as the Chief of Farm Programs for FSA in Maryland. Toby has a Master’s Degree in Geographic and Cartographic Sciences from George Mason and a Bachelor’s Degree from Washington College.



Dave Minges, Volunteer Coordinator

In October, Dave Minges joined MET as Volunteer Coordinator. “I’m very pleased to be here at Maryland Environmental Trust,” said Minges. “I can splice in three strands of my background and skills — volunteering, the environment, and the live/digital world experience — as we pull together to build Volunteering and Stewardship here at MET.”

A veteran nonprofit executive director and project manager, Minges directed The Governor’s Office on Volunteerism, where he and his staff drafted and developed Maryland’s first programs in National Service/AmeriCorps and *Volunteer Maryland!*

As Executive Director of the Chesapeake Bay Trust, he expanded CBT’s grantmaking and emphasized large and small volunteer-driven restoration projects. “Feet wet and hands dirty was our informal mantra,” says Minges. He was a founder of the Chesapeake Bay Funder’s Network and an original advisor to the Chesapeake Gateways project of the National Park Service.

Technology and its impact on society and culture has always fascinated Minges, who was a Hagley Fellow at the University of Delaware, where he received an MA in the History of Technology and Industrial America. “The digital world is a mixed blessing that both connects and removes us from the natural world,” he mused. “MET is preserving land forever for real, live human and natural benefits, and we will be using more digital devices and data to track and quantify landscape change over time. But *human relationships* — between MET staff, volunteers, local land trusts, and landowners — will always be the heart of land preservation success.”

Dave Minges recharges his heads-up solar panel at Rocky Mountain National Park.

Your Matching Gift Matters

Did you know that you can easily double your donation to Maryland Environmental Trust? Many organizations and companies offer matching gift programs to their employees and retirees. Is your company a corporate philanthropic organization? Matching gift programs are designed to be the means by which companies support employee charitable giving. For more information please contact Wendy Stringfellow at wendy.stringfellow@maryland.gov.



Thank You to Our Recent Contributors

(August 1, 2015 — February 1, 2016)

Every effort has been made to properly acknowledge all contributors.
Please contact Wendy Stringfellow at 410-514-7905 if a listing is in error.

Conservation Champion \$10,000+

The estate of Alverta and
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The estate of Sarah Griggs
The Helena Foundation

Open Space Guardian \$1,000 - \$4,999

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The Maryland Environmental Trust depends on the generous contributions of individuals, companies, and foundations to fulfill our long-term mission. MET plays a unique role as a statewide organization dedicated to strengthening land conservation and stewardship by working with landowners, local land trusts, and other local and regional partners. Your gift ensures we are able to staff and implement our most critical programs.

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100 Community Place
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Whether you make an unrestricted contribution, donate to our stewardship fund, or support a special project or program, your gift to MET is appreciated and essential to our future. Please consider a **tax-deductible** contribution to MET this year. With your support, we can continue to protect Maryland's diverse natural, scenic, and historic resources. Thank you for your support!

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This photo: Farmland on the Mason property in Kent County.