Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) is a statewide land trust governed by a citizen board of trustees and affiliated with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Established in 1967 by the Maryland General Assembly as a charitable organization, MET is the oldest and most successful land trust in Maryland.

Land Conservation
• Negotiated six easements and two amendments that permanently protect 815 acres
• Hired new Easement Program Manager John Turgeon
• Transferred 18 acre Bunting property to Baltimore Co., protected with a conservation easement
• Hired UMD intern Nick Finio
• Hired office manager Shilpa Shah

Community Outreach
• Wrote and distributed two issues of LandMarks newsletters to over 2,000 constituents
• Distributed FY2012 and FY2013 Annual Reports to the Governor, President of Senate, Speaker of the House and DNR Secretary
• Exhibited at the Maryland Farm Bureau Convention
• Presented information about MET’s easement program at the State Scenic Byways Program annual meeting and at the Maryland Planning Directors’ Roundtable quarterly meeting
• Presented, in May, on Stewardship and Monitoring at Farmland Preservation Conference sponsored by Rutgers University in Hershey, PA
• Sent letters to MET landowners whose properties have Delmarva Fox Squirrel habitat regarding their assistance with the US Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plan
• Worked with the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to complete revisions of the MET model easement
• Promoted MET in several publications including the Delmarva Farmer and My Maryland (MD Farm Bureau)
• MET staff and Board Chairman attended Land Trust Alliance’s (LTA) Rally in Providence, RI

Special Events
• Held second reception with Governor O’Malley on June 17 in Annapolis to celebrate private land conservation, over 100 guests attended
• Chairman James Constable hosted a picnic in June for MET BOT and staff
• Held Inaugural Fête at Sagamore Farm on November 1, 97 guests registered. Sponsorship and ticket sales generated almost $30,000

Awards
• Presented annual Dillon Award and Aileen Hughes Award
• Awarded $27,000 in Janice Hollmann Grants to six local land trusts to strengthen their conservation, outreach and stewardship programs
• Distributed $8,000 in Keep Maryland Beautiful Grants
Land Trust Assistance

• Held annual MD Land Conservation Conference at the Claggett Center in Adamstown on April 3-4. More than 200 participants, representing 115 organizations attended from across the Chesapeake Bay region. DNR Secretary Joe Gill, provided the keynote address
• Held three Land Trust Roundtables: Adamstown, Huntingtown and Baltimore
• Distributed monthly Land Trust e-newsletters
• Executed four Cooperative Agreements: City of Annapolis; Gunpowder Valley Conservancy; Howard County Conservancy and Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust
• Met with seven local land trusts to discuss organizational needs, priority projects, challenges and stewardship strategies
• Attended the Northeast Land Trust Association Meeting in Windsor, CT
• Attended LTA’s Facing Your Biggest Challenge: A Workshop (Designed for Small and All-Volunteer Land Trusts) in Middleburg, VA
• Attended an LTA webinar and discussion on LTA’s new Community Conservation initiative
• Developed and distributed the Land Trust Needs Assessment Survey
• The Land Trust Advisory Committee began the process to develop and adopt a purpose statement

Fundraising

• Created Donate Now button on MET’s website which went live in Jan.
• Participated in first Giving Tuesday campaign on Dec. 2nd
• Distributed Annual Appeal letter to over 2,000
• Created donor categories to acknowledge financial supporters
• Received nearly $70,000 in donations

Stewardship

• Responded to 266 requests for information on easement applicability, interpretations, notifications and reports of concerns. Conducted 10 site visits in response
• MET staff and volunteers monitored 290 easement properties on 33,928 acres of conserved land submitted by nine local land trusts
• Conducted 43 visits jointly with eight land trust and government partners
• Reviewed 137 monitoring reports from land trust partners
• Met with OAG staff quarterly to discuss stewardship issues requiring continued OAG assistance, resulted in resolution of seven matters
• Developed criteria for a Stewardship Award to be presented to landowners for exemplary on-the-ground activities promoting best management practices and enhancement of conservation values
• Conducted onsite training for three land trusts on monitoring
• Prosecuted a major easement violation in Cecil Co. impacting a 13 acre forest stand

Volunteers

• Presented five Land Steward Volunteer training sessions at which 16 new volunteers were trained
• Prepared field files for and distributed 232 assignments to 45 Land Steward Volunteers who completed 192 visits to easement properties on 20,454 acres
• Reviewed 192 reports and over 2,500 photographs for completeness and clarity, and copied into MET paper and digital files
• Recruited, trained and supervised eight office volunteers who contributed a total of 550 hours assisting in GIS, recordkeeping, and report processing projects
• Held a Volunteer Appreciation Event at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in May. Sixteen participants enjoyed a catered lunch, hike and paddle trip on Muddy Creek
• Organized two (June and Oct.) Adopt A Highway clean-ups on Rt. 2/Solomons Island Rd. in southern Anne Arundel County

Social Media

• Reached 189 likes on Facebook
• Updated Wikipedia page to include links to Sagamore Farm, Daniel Sheffer Farm and Maidstone
• Blasted over 35 emails to landowners and friends of MET
• 8,571 viewed MET’s homepage, followed by:
  Land Conservation 2,485
  Property Listings 2,163
  Grant Programs 2,020
  Returning Visitors: 5,793
  New Visitors: 7,560

[Image: Volunteer photo taken during monitoring visit of a MET easement in Queen Anne’s County.]