



FY2021 Annual Report

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021





Photo by MET Staff

Table of Contents

Summary	3
Easement Program	4
Stewardship Program	5
Volunteer Program	6
Land Trust Assistance Program	7
Keep Maryland Beautiful Program	8
Financials	9
Contributors	11

Board and Staff List

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Ex-Officio Members

Senator Adelaide Eckardt
Tom McCarthy, Governor's Representative
Delegate Jim Gilchrist

Trustees Emeritus

King Burnett
Ellen Kelly
John C. Murphy
Henry A. Virts

Photo by MET Staff

Staff

John Turgeon, Director
Ann Gutierrez Carlson, Easement Program Manager
Jon Chapman, Stewardship Program Manager
Wendy Foster, Dept. of Natural Resources Liaison
Michelle Grafton, Land Trust Assistance Manager
Cindy Hoffmann, Technology and Records Manager
Josette Markline, Stewardship Planner
Kelly Price, Fiscal Officer and Administrative Director

FY2021 Annual Report

The Maryland Environmental Trust 2021 Annual Report is prepared and submitted to the Governor and General Assembly of Maryland, pursuant to the requirements of the Natural Resources Article, §3-203 (10).

Maryland Environmental Trust was established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1967 as a charitable organization with state support and funding, and with an independent Board of Trustees. In 1969, The Trust was assigned to the Department of Natural Resources for organizational purposes.

For over 50 years Maryland Environmental Trust has worked with the citizens of Maryland, local land trusts and other partner organizations to foster the appreciation and conservation of scenic open space, natural areas, and working farmlands across the state. With one of the largest portfolios of conservation easements in the nation, the Trust is a leader in its field. The Trust is responsible for perpetually stewarding these easements, which protect some of Maryland's most iconic and culturally significant landscapes and properties.

Conservation Easement Program

Conservation easements - their negotiation, acquisition, recordation, and stewardship - is a central part of Maryland Environmental Trust's work. Easements that are donated by private landowners are the primary mechanism by which the Trust works to accomplish its mission of preserving open space throughout the state of Maryland.



5 conservation easements were granted in FY2021. All 5 easements were co-held with local land trusts.



1,260 acres were protected in FY2021. One easement alone protected over 1,000 acres.



Easements were granted in **2 counties**: Harford and Somerset Counties.



2 easement amendments were completed that increase conservation benefits to existing MET easements.



Stewardship Program

Easement stewardship consists of activities essential to the long-term care of the land and sustaining landowner relationships, for all of MET's easements, in perpetuity. MET staff and volunteers provide vital landowner support in many areas. These include: regular visits to land under easement; identifying technical assistance for landowners who wish to engage in voluntary enhancement programs; interpreting owners' reserved rights and correcting easement violations to ensure easement provisions are upheld; and maintaining documentation and records that will support ongoing management and support.



138,741 acres conserved in total since 1972, throughout Maryland.



MET stewards and maintains records for **1,116 conservation easements** and 3 fee simple ownership properties.



893 monitoring reports were completed by MET staff, MET volunteers, contractors and land trust partners in FY2021, on 766 easement properties. Visits were completed using ground and aerial techniques.



MET adopted **1 new technical application**, Lens, to complete remote (“aerial”) monitoring visits during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Photo by Land Trust Partner

Volunteer Program

A part of MET's Stewardship Program, the Volunteer Program works to train and coordinate MET volunteers who serve as land stewards and help MET monitor its easements. Volunteer land stewards represent the Trust, schedule monitoring visits, meet landowners, share stewardship ideas, and document changes to help preserve the conservation values that make these lands special.



4 volunteer trainings were held in FY2021 to recruit and train volunteer land stewards. These four trainings were attended by **118 Maryland citizens**.



83 monitoring reports were completed by **17 active volunteer** land stewards.



540 hours were donated by volunteers in FY2021, and these volunteer services are worth approximately **\$15,412**.



MET trained **1 AmeriCorps funded Volunteer Coordinator** to recruit, train and manage MET's volunteer land stewards.



Land Trust Assistance Program

MET serves as the statewide land trust. Local non-profit land trusts, of which there are 41 in Maryland, work with and are assisted by the Trust. Over half of the Trust's conservation easements are co-held with local land trusts. Additionally, local land trusts help the Trust in the long-term stewardship of co-held easements. The Land Trust Assistance Program helps build and sustain the quality and effectiveness of the state's land trusts to achieve our mutual goals.



616 easements are co-held with **30 land trusts** and 5 other governmental partners.



418 monitoring reports were completed by **17 land trusts** and 1 governmental partner in FY2021, on 357 easement properties.



MET partnered with local land trusts on **2 jointly awarded grants** projects in FY2021.



2 virtual Land Trust Roundtables were held in FY2021. These two events were attended by **68 conservation partners** from 42 organizations.



Keep Maryland Beautiful Program

The functions and activities of the Governor's Committee to Keep Maryland Beautiful were transferred to MET in 1967 and it was the first program administered by the Trust. MET has awarded Keep Maryland Beautiful grants annually for decades. The grant program is funded by the Trust, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and Forever Maryland. Grants through this program help volunteer-based, nonprofit groups, communities and land trusts to support environmental education projects, litter removal, citizen stewardship and to protect natural resources in urban and rural areas throughout the state.

In FY2021 \$312,500 in grants were distributed to 91 nonprofits, schools, organizations, land trusts and municipalities.



65 Clean Up & Green Up grants were awarded and totaled **\$250,000**.



14 Land Trust Capacity, Excellence and Stewardship grants were awarded and totaled **\$45,000**.



12 Citizen Stewardship grants were awarded and totaled **\$17,500**.



19 counties and Baltimore City were home to organizations that received grants.



Photo by KMB Awardee



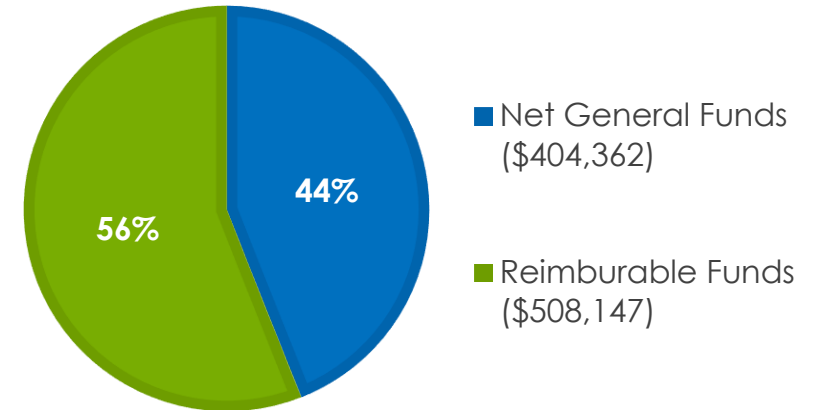
Photo by KMB Awardee

FY2021 Financial Statement: State Administered Funds

Expenses

Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits	\$602,205
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Authorized Positions: 7 Number of Contractual Positions: 0 	
Total Operating Expenses	\$310,304
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Including contractual services, rents, communications, travel equipment, supplies and materials 	
<i>Total Expenditure:</i>	<i>\$912,509</i>

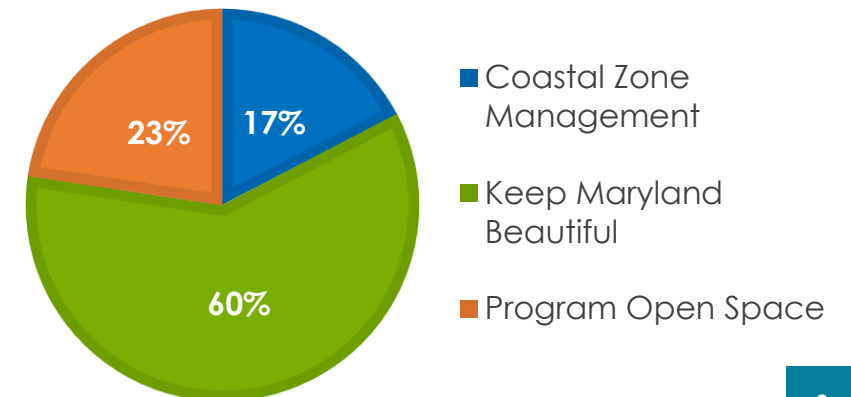
EXPENSES



Reimbursable Funds

Coastal Zone Management	\$90,402
Keep Maryland Beautiful	\$312,500
Program Open Space	\$117,745
<i>Total Reimbursable Funds:</i>	<i>\$520,647</i>

FUND SOURCES

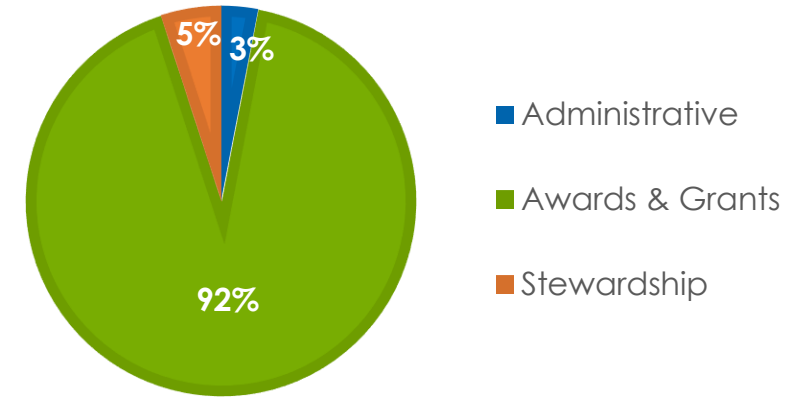


FY2021 Financial Statement: MET Administered Funds

Expenses

Administrative Expenses	\$25,325
Awards and Grants	\$730,000
Stewardship Program	\$41,474
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<i>\$796,799</i>

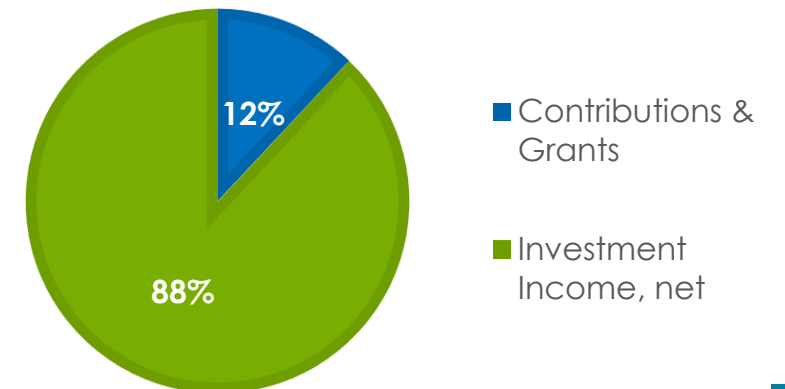
SALES



Support and Revenues

Contributions and Grants	\$104,337
Investment Income, net	\$771,091
Other Revenues	\$740
<i>Total Revenues:</i>	<i>\$876,168</i>
Change in Net Assets	\$79,369

SUPPORT AND REVENUES



Contributors

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Environmental Benefactor

\$5,000-\$9,999

The Perry J. Bolton Trust

Open Space Guardian

\$1,000-\$4,999

The Brown Family

Mr. Theodore and Mrs. Joan Hoffman
in memory of John Hutson

Mr. Nichols Meittinis

Mr. George Murnaghan

Riepe Family Foundation

Ms. Jennifer Stanley

Habitat Hero

\$500-\$999

Mr. Ethan Assal

Mr. James Christhif

Dr. Gary Carver

Mr. Samuel Yaffe

Land Supporter

\$100 - \$499

Mr. Frank and Mrs. Christina Allen

The Bramble Foundation

Ms. Elaine Christ

Ms. Diana Conway *in honor of*
Montgomery Countryside Alliance

Mr. Terry Dunkin

Mr. John Eshleman

Exxonmobil Foundation

Mrs. Ruann George

Mr. Richard Gold

Mr. Henry Jenkins, II

Mr. James Highsaw

Mr. James Kaper

Ms. Barbara Knapp

Ms. Kathleen Pontone

Dr. Sarah Taylor-Rogers

Mr. John Turgeon

Ms. Gita van Heerden

Mr. Douglas Worrall

Friend

\$10 - \$99

Anonymous

Ms. Megan Benjamin

Ms. Lauren Case

Mr. Jon Chapman

Ms. Patricia Clark

Ms. Christine Dell'Amore

Mr. Andrew Devillier

Ms. Susan Gordon

Mr. Darryl Harris

Mr. Ronnie Hay

Mr. Matthew Schneider

Ms. Cathy Tipper

Open Space Legacy Society

Dr. Gary and Mrs. Darlene Carver

Ms. Constance J. Lieder

The Honorable S. Jay Plager

Mr. Alan and Mrs. Amy Schmaljohn

Conservation Easement Grantors

The Revocable Trust of Larry E. Leese

Foxridge Drive, LLC

Daryl Insley and Terissa Layfield

Loose Cow, LLC

Izaak Walton League of America, Harford County
Chapter



Maryland Environmental Trust
100 Community Place, Third Floor
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
(410) 697-9515
www.dnr.maryland.gov/met