



FY2022 Annual Report

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022





Photo by Land Trust Partner

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FY2022 Annual Report

The Maryland Environmental Trust 2022 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, MET 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, MET is a leader in its field. MET 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, and recordation – are a central part of Maryland Environmental Trust’s work. Easements that are donated to MET by private landowners are the primary mechanism by which MET accomplishes its mission of preserving open space throughout the state of Maryland.



8 conservation easements were granted to MET in FY2022. Seven of the eight are co-held with non-profit local land trusts.



1,421 acres were protected in FY2022.



Two of the conservation easements protect more than 586 acres of active farmland owned by the Aspen Institute in Queen Anne’s County. The Aspen Institute then gifted some and sold the rest of the protected land to the Wye Angus Program of the UMD College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.



Easements were granted in **5 counties**: Dorchester, Harford, Queen Anne’s, St. Mary’s, and Worcester Counties.



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 land enhancement programs; interpreting owners' reserved rights; correcting easement violations to ensure easement provisions are upheld; and maintaining documentation and records that will support ongoing management and support.



140,162 acres conserved in total since 1972, throughout Maryland.



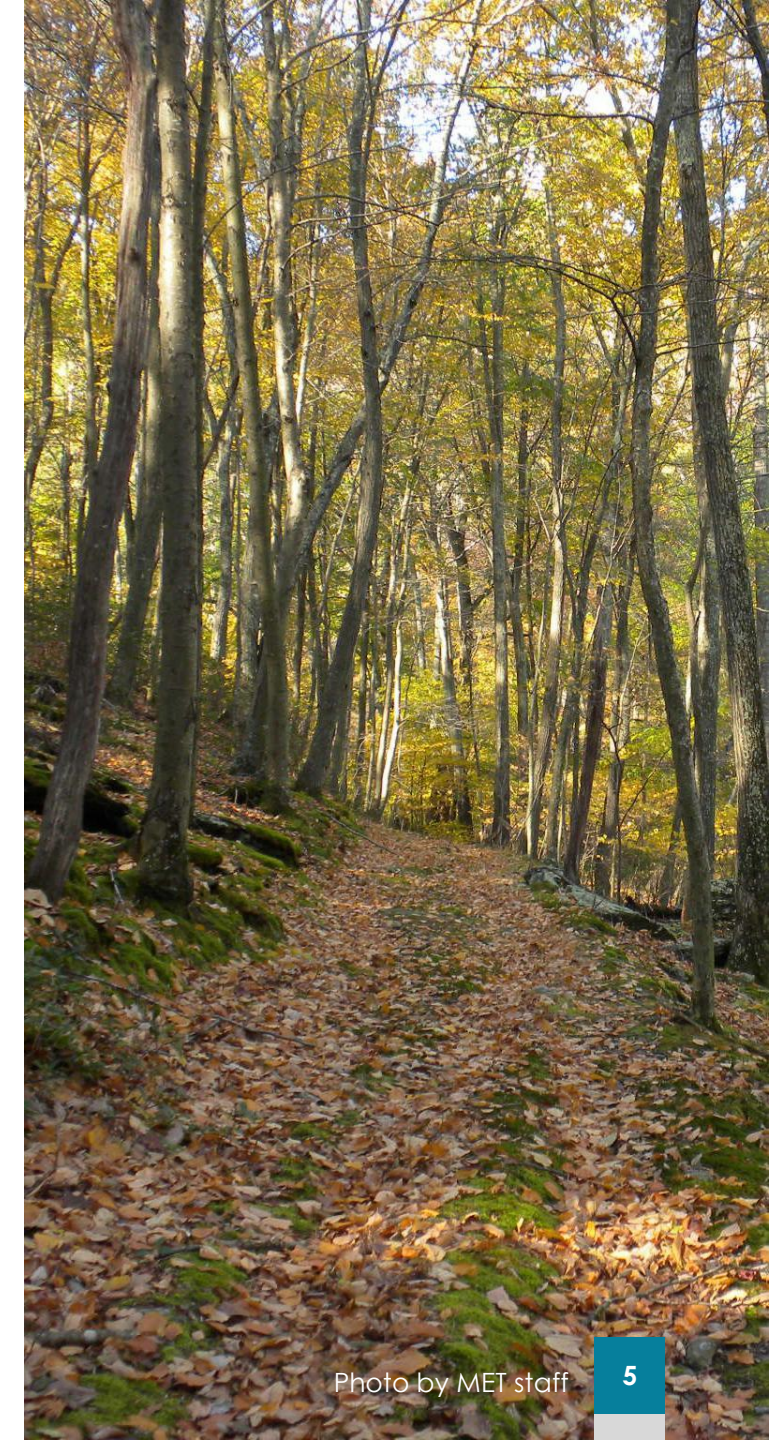
MET stewards and maintains records for **1,124 conservation easements**, as well as three properties MET owns in fee simple.



Monitoring reports were completed by MET staff, MET volunteers, contractors and land trust partners on **837 easement properties** in FY2022. Visits were completed using ground and aerial techniques.



MET continued use of its **1 technical application**, LENS, to complete monitoring reviews through analysis of current aerial imagery, and its hosted land trust partner, Lower Shore Land Trust, in its use of the technology.



Volunteer Program

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



10 volunteer trainings were held in FY2022 to recruit and train volunteer land stewards. These ten trainings were attended by **36 Maryland citizens**.



174 monitoring reports were completed by **35 active volunteer** land stewards in FY2022.



350 hours were donated by volunteers in FY2022, and these volunteer services are worth approximately **\$8,400**.



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



Land Trust Assistance Program

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



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



Monitoring reports were completed by **18 land trusts and 1 governmental partner** in FY2022 on **397 easement properties**.



MET partnered with a local land trust on **1 jointly awarded grant** project in FY2022.



2 virtual Land Trust Roundtables were held in FY2022. There were **78 attendees** at these two events representing 38 conservation related organizations.



Keep Maryland Beautiful Grants

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 MET. MET has awarded Keep Maryland Beautiful grants annually for decades. The grant program is funded by MET, the State's Department of Transportation, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the nonprofit 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, suburban, and rural areas throughout the state.

In FY2022, \$320,000 in grants were distributed to 85 nonprofits, schools, organizations, land trusts, and municipalities.



61 Clean Up & Green Up grants were awarded in FY2022 and totaled **\$250,000**.



12 Land Trust Capacity, Excellence and Stewardship grants were awarded and totaled **\$52,500**.



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



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



Photo by KMB Awardee



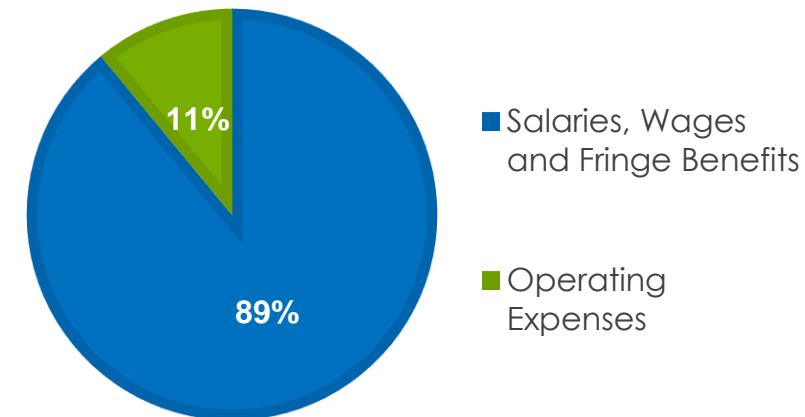
Photo by KMB Awardee

FY2022 Financial Statement: State Administered Funds

Expenses

Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits	\$855,734
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Authorized Positions: 8 Number of Contractual Positions: 0 	
Total Operating Expenses	\$102,327
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Including contractual services, grants, communications, travel, equipment, supplies and materials 	
Total Expenditure:	\$958,061

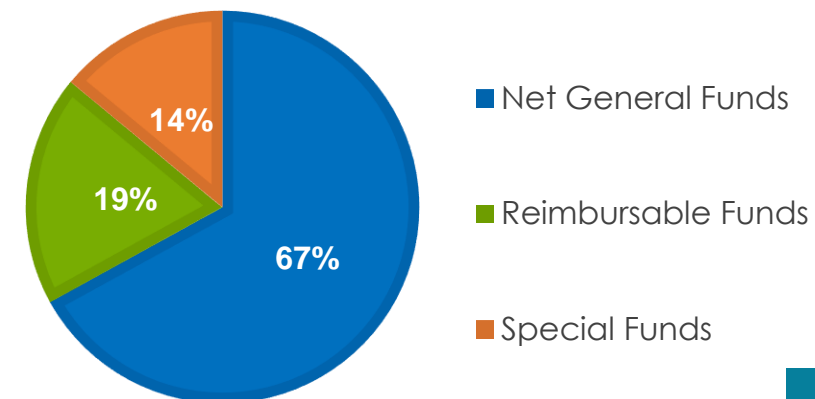
EXPENSES



Fund Sources

Net General Funds	\$647,288
Reimbursable Funds	\$180,366
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal Zone Management (\$130,366) Keep Maryland Beautiful (\$50,000) 	
Special Funds	\$130,407
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program Open Space 	
Total Funds:	\$958,061

FUND SOURCES

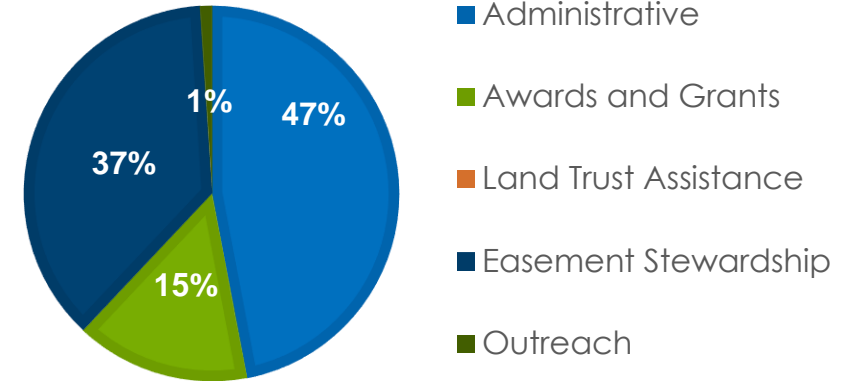


FY2022 Financial Statement: MET Administered Funds

Expenses

Administrative Expenses	\$76,196
Awards and Grants	\$24,100
Land Trust Assistance	\$59
Easement Stewardship	\$60,819
Outreach	\$1,367
Total Expenses	\$162,541

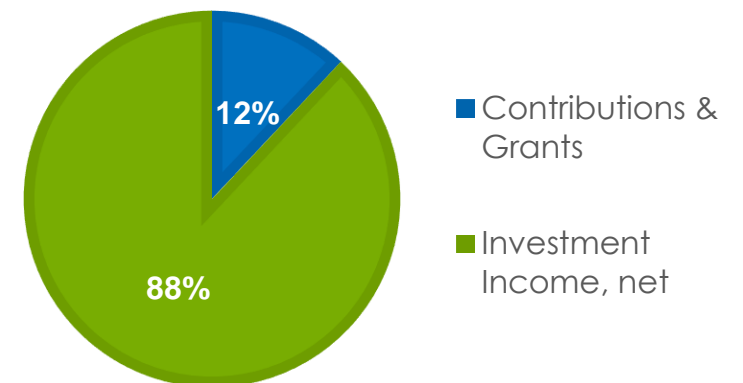
EXPENSES



Support and Revenues

Contributions and Grants	\$34,964
Investment Income, net	\$(427,343)
Other Revenues	\$0
Total Revenues:	\$(392,379)

SUPPORT AND REVENUES



Contributors

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Environmental Benefactor

\$5,000-\$9,999

The Perry J. Bolton Trust
Mr. Hamilton Chaney

Open Space Guardian

\$1,000-\$4,999

Dr. Gary Carver
Mr. Sam and Mrs. Nikki Forry
Mr. Theodore and Mrs. Joan Hoffman
in memory of John Hutson
Mr. Nichols Meittinis
Dr. Erin Hutson Meola
Mr. George Murnaghan
Riepe Family Foundation
Ms. Jennifer Stanley

Habitat Hero

\$500-\$999

Mr. Ethan Assal
Mr. James Christhilf

Land Supporter

\$100 - \$499

Anonymous
Mr. Frank and Mrs. Christina Allen
The Bramble Foundation
Mr. Scott and Mrs. Carol Bartram
Ms. Marney Bruce
Ms. Diana Conway *in honor of
Montgomery Countryside Alliance*
Mr. Terry Dunkin
Mr. Richard Gold
Mr. Philip Hager
Mr. James Highsaw
Mrs. Kathryn and Mr. Linwood Hoffman
in honor of Brent Jayson (BJ) Chillemi
Ms. Kellie Isbell
Mr. Henry Jenkins, II
Ms. Barbara Knapp
Mr. Jayson Poland
Ms. Heide Scott
Mr. John Turgeon
Ms. Gita van Heerden
River Hill Community Association, Inc.

Friend

\$10 - \$99

Ms. Kate Fensterstock

Mr. David Kieffer
Ms. Annette King

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

George Franklin Thorne, III and Rose Elaine Thorne
H. James Watson, Jr. and Barbara H. Watson
Ian Thomas Bottiglieri, Margaret Elizabeth Bottiglieri,
and Thomas Bottiglieri
MIV Real Estate, LLC
Patriot Point, LLC
Patterson Mill, LLC
The Aspen Institute, Inc.



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