

Protecting Land Forever | 2025

# Landmarks

Since 1967 | [dnr.maryland.gov/met](http://dnr.maryland.gov/met)

Maryland  
Environmental  
Trust

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### 3 PROTECT

MET's 7 new conservation easements

### 6 PARTNER

MET's land trust partners

### 7 INVEST

2025 Keep Maryland Beautiful grant recipients

## BOARD MEETINGS

MET is governed by a Board of Trustees responsible for reviewing and voting on matters such as landowner requests that result in a significant change or impact to conservation attributes of an easement property. All matters requiring Board approval are reviewed during the board meetings held at 4:00 pm in Crownsville, MD unless noted otherwise. These are public meetings. Please contact MET if you plan to attend at: [met.info@maryland.gov](mailto:met.info@maryland.gov)

To learn more about activities that might require advanced approval or notification please contact MET's stewardship program staff. The agenda for each board meeting is posted in advance on MET's website: [dnr.maryland.gov/met](http://dnr.maryland.gov/met)

## 2025 BOARD MEETING DATES:

- February 3
- May 5
- June 2
- September 8
- November 3



BOARD OF TRUSTEES (CY2024)

Major Gary S. Burnett, Chair

Gregory Bowen, Vice-Chair

Mark Hoffman, Treasurer

Thomas B. Lloyd, Secretary

Megan Benjamin

Crystal Chissell

Keith Colston

Diana Edensword Conway

Megan D'Arcy

Craig Highfield

Julia King

Lori Lynch

Nathan Volke

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Hilary Bell

Delegate Natalie Ziegler

TRUSTEES EMERITI

K. King Burnett

John C. Murphy

Henry A. Virts

STAFF

John Turgeon, Director

Kevin Bull, Easement Stewardship Planner

Wendy Foster, Easement Monitoring Specialist

Michelle Grafton, Outreach and Engagement Manager

Cindy Hoffmann, Technology and Records Manager

Matthew Ludington, Conservation Easement Planner

Josette Markline, Monitoring and Stewardship Program Manager

Laural Paterini, Easement Stewardship Planner

Kelly Price, Fiscal Officer and Administrative Director

Daniel Skalos, Conservation Easement Program Manager

# BY THE NUMBERS



## PROTECT

MET protects more than 140,000 acres of Maryland's most treasured landscapes and natural resources. In 2024, MET completed **7 new easements protecting more than 520 acres in 7 counties**. MET partnered with local land trusts to complete two projects.



## STEWARD

As part of ensuring the long-term protection of the land, MET takes on stewardship obligations to ensure that easement provisions are upheld forever. In 2024, MET and its partners monitored over **983 easement properties** through in-person visits and review of aerial imagery.



## PARTNER

MET relies on its partnerships to accomplish its land conservation goals and to steward the more than 1,100 conservation easements MET holds across Maryland. In 2024, MET partnered with **23 land trusts** to monitor over 560 easements.



## INVEST

The Keep Maryland Beautiful Grants program invests in environmental stewardship. In 2025, grants totaling **\$238,751 were distributed to 20 awardees** in 9 counties and Baltimore City. Awardees included nonprofits, schools, communities and local land trusts.

# A YEAR IN REVIEW

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

2024 was a transitional year for Maryland Environmental Trust. Long time staff departed, and new staff were brought on board to help MET meet our long-term goals. In addition to staff changes, MET has been leveraging technology to maintain productivity despite having a lean team. MET completed its new easement monitoring app which staff and volunteers are now using in the field. In early 2025, the Board of Public Works approved the DNR's purchase of a 400+ acre property in Wicomico County, that had previously been conserved by an easement donated to MET in 2015, to establish the first State Park in Wicomico County. MET anticipates a busy rest of 2025 as we begin to leverage new tools and staff. We look forward to sharing our successes with you in next year's edition of Landmarks!

Enjoy your summer!

*John Turgeon*





# PROTECT

## PROTECTING LAND FOREVER

From the forested mountains of Garrett County to the shores of the Chesapeake Bay, Maryland has natural areas and scenic beauty rivaled by few states in the nation. Since 1972, landowners have granted to MET over 1,100 conservation easements that protect more than 140,000 acres statewide.

By protecting your land with a conservation easement: you leave a natural legacy; you improve quality of life; conserve scenic views and wildlife habitat; ensure the future viability of farming and forestry; and preserve the rural character and natural beauty of communities across Maryland.

In 2024, MET worked with landowners and local land trusts and governmental partners to complete 7 new easements on more than 520 acres in 7 counties. Thank you for helping to protect some of Maryland's most treasured landscapes. Here are snapshots of the new easements:



### ANDREA ROSE BOWDEN

BALTIMORE COUNTY

32.36 acres

Conservation Features:



### MARGRET W. CARTER

CAROLINE COUNTY

33.4 acres

Conservation Features:







## **WILLIAM AND KATHARINE SCHEIG**

GARRETT COUNTY

84.26 acres

Conservation Features:



## **LOUIS A. BOEHM, JR. AND JOSEPH T. BOEHM**

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

37.45 acres

Conservation Features:



Protected in partnership with:



## **KATHERINE P. MERRICK**

QUEEN ANNE'S & CAROLINE COUNTY 217.48 acres

Conservation Features:



## **LOWER SHORE LAND TRUST**

WORCESTER COUNTY

103.46 acres

Conservation Features:



## **WILLIAM WADE SAPP AND LEE TALBOT HAMILTON**

HOWARD COUNTY

13.53 acres

Conservation Features:



Protected in partnership with:





## CONSERVATION FEATURES



### FOREST AREAS

Protection of forested areas to protect habitat, sustainable forest management and adjacent aquatic resources.



### AGRICULTURE

Protection of farmland to protect soils and ensure agricultural lands are protected.



### SCENIC VALUE

Preservation of open space for the scenic enjoyment of the general public.



### WATER QUALITY

Buffer is required to protect shoreline /streambank, aquatic resources and habitat.



### NATURAL HABITAT

Protection of a relatively natural habitat of fish, wildlife, plants or similar ecosystems.



### HISTORIC IMPORTANCE

Preservation of a historically important land area or certified historical structure.



### OUTDOOR REC AND/OR EDUCATION

Preservation of land areas for outdoor recreation by, or education of, the general public.

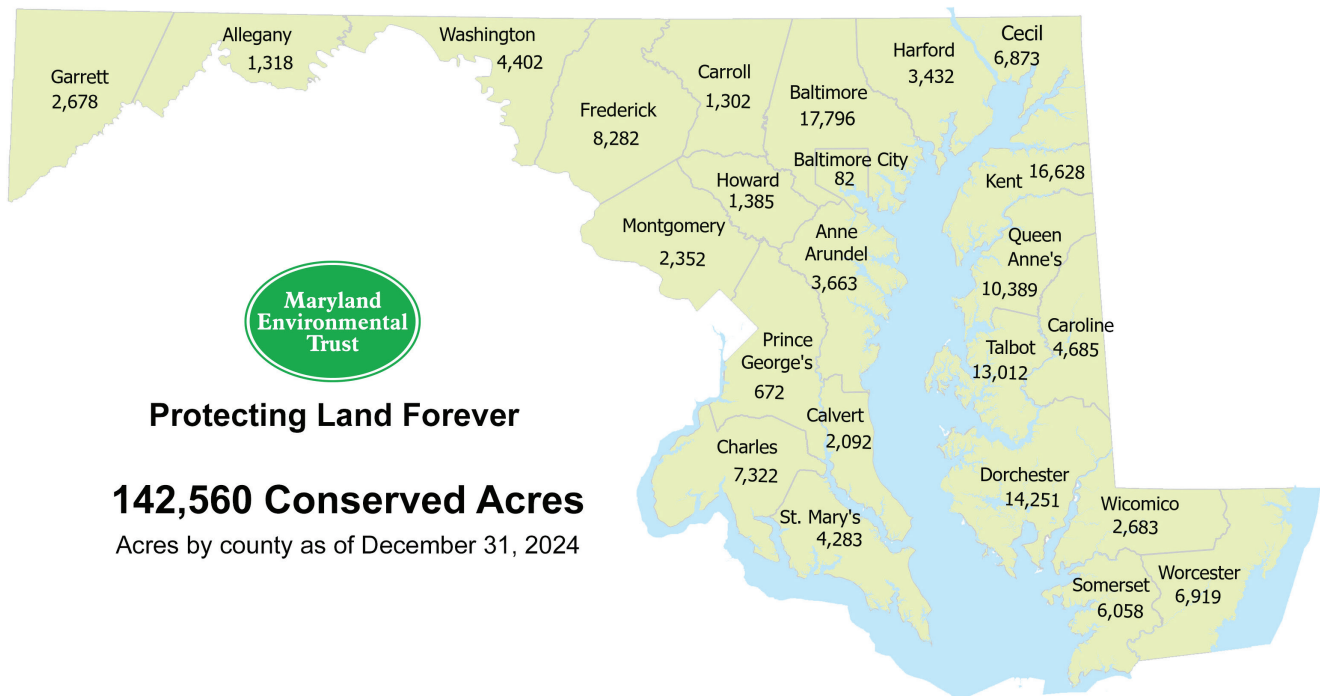


### ADJACENT TO PROTECTED LANDS

Property is adjacent to other protected lands, either public or private.

## MET'S PROTECTED AREAS MAP

As one of the oldest and most successful land trusts in the country, the Maryland Environmental Trust holds over 1,100 conservation easements conserving more than 140,000 acres statewide. From the Chesapeake Bay to the mountains of Garrett County, MET works with landowners and local land trusts to protect Maryland's most treasured landscapes and natural resources as a legacy for future generations.







# PARTNER

## WORKING TOGETHER TO STEWARD MORE THAN 140,000 ACRES

Maryland Environmental Trust works with partners, including landowners, land trusts, local governments and volunteers, to accomplish its land conservation and stewardship goals. Since 1972, landowners have granted to MET over 1,100 conservation easements that protect more than 140,000 acres statewide. More than half of these easements are co-held with local land trusts and counties.

In addition to conserving new lands, MET’s partners help to steward the co-held easements that MET holds across Maryland. In CY2024, co-holders monitored more than 560 conservation easements helping MET reach its monitoring goal.

**MET would like to extend a special thanks to its co-holders who completed annual easement monitoring. We are grateful for your continued partnership and stewardship of our protected lands!**

American Chestnut Land Trust	Frederick County Government	Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust
Baltimore Green Space	Gunpowder Valley Conservancy	Rockburn Land Trust
Carroll County Land Trust	Harford Land Trust	Scenic Rivers Land Trust
Catoctin Land Trust	Land Preservation Trust	The Manor Conservancy
Cecil Land Trust	Lower Shore Land Trust	The Nature Conservancy
Conservancy for Charles County	Magothy River Land Trust	The Potomac Conservancy
Ducks Unlimited	NeighborSpace of Baltimore County	Washington County Government
Eastern Shore Land Conservancy	Patuxent Conservation Corps	

### LAND TRUST PARTNERS

MET partners with local land trusts and other co-holding partners to meet our mutual land conservation and stewardship goals. Maryland’s land trusts operate in communities around the state. Visit MET’s online Land Trust Directory and learn more about the land trusts and conservation partners in your region.

[dnr.maryland.gov/met/Documents/Land\\_Trust\\_Directory.pdf](https://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Documents/Land_Trust_Directory.pdf)



# INVEST

## 2025 KEEP MARYLAND BEAUTIFUL AWARDS \$238,751 IN GRANTS

Maryland Environmental Trust, in partnership with the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Maryland Department of Agriculture, and the Chesapeake Bay Trust awarded 20 Keep Maryland Beautiful grants totaling \$238,751.

The Keep Maryland Beautiful Grants program invests in Maryland's environmental stewards. Grants through the Keep Maryland Beautiful program help volunteer-based nonprofit groups, communities and local land trusts in Maryland to support environmental education, community cleanup, tree planting, and beautification projects in urban and rural areas.

2025 Keep Maryland Beautiful recipients included schools, nonprofit groups, municipalities, and local land trusts in nine counties and Baltimore City. More information on the Keep Maryland Beautiful grant program is available online at:  
[dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/grant\\_programs.aspx](https://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/grant_programs.aspx).



## 2025 KEEP MARYLAND BEAUTIFUL GRANT RECIPIENTS

### ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Annapolis Maritime Museum and Park

### BALTIMORE CITY

Blue Water Baltimore

Greater Mount Holly Community Development Corporation

No Boundaries Coalition

St. Matthew's New Life United Methodist Church

York Corridor Business Improvement District Management Authority

### BALTIMORE COUNTY

NeighborSpace of Baltimore County

Pearlstone Conference and Retreat Center

### CALVERT COUNTY

American Chestnut Land Trust

### CHARLES COUNTY

Conservancy for Charles County

### FREDERICK COUNTY

Catoctin Land Trust

### HARFORD COUNTY

Friends Falls Creek Farm

Harford Land Trust

### HOWARD COUNTY

Howard County Conservancy

Howard EcoWorks

Patapsco Heritage Greenway

### PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

Chesapeake Natives

ECO City Farms

### WORCESTER COUNTY

Lower Shore Land Trust





100 Community Place, 3rd Floor  
Crownsville, MD 21032  
Tel: (410) 697-9515  
Email: [met.info@maryland.gov](mailto:met.info@maryland.gov)  
[dnr.maryland.gov/met](http://dnr.maryland.gov/met)

# STEWARD

## ADVANCING AND ENHANCING

The staff at MET appreciate our Conservation Easement property owners and consider them highly valued land stewardship partners. We understand that maintaining a property can be hard work and restoring or enhancing land can seem overwhelming. Stewardship staff are available to assist easement owners with enhancing the environmental and scenic aspects of their properties. Many resources are available through state, local, and nonprofit programs and the Stewardship Program can provide a connection between those resources and landowners.

To learn more about enhanced stewardship opportunities, visit MET's Stewardship Program webpage:  
[dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/stewardship.aspx](http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/stewardship.aspx)



### MY CONTACT INFORMATION HAS CHANGED. HOW DO I UPDATE MY CONTACT INFORMATION?

If your contact information has changed or if you have a question about your conservation easement please contact MET's stewardship staff.



Scan the QR code or visit [forms.gle/bxdYpz14fQ23Z1Md9](https://forms.gle/bxdYpz14fQ23Z1Md9) to complete the easement landowner survey.