

Maryland Environmental Trust

2002 ANNUAL REPORT



Photo by Jim Highsaw

*“Conservation is sometimes perceived as stopping everything cold...
the choice is not between people or wild places;
it is between a rich or an impoverished existence for man.”*

—Thomas Lovejoy

Letter from the Director

Amending and Improving MET Easements

The past few years have been extraordinary ones for land conservation in Maryland. Land trusts and conservation agencies have seen the annual totals of acreage preserved increase to unprecedented levels. The rate of land preservation for the last few years has outstripped the rate at which land is developed and subdivided.

In large part, this is due to liberal state and county funding for the purchase of easements. Through the Department of Natural Resources' Rural Legacy, Open Space, and GreenPrint programs, and the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program (MALPF), run by the Department of Agriculture, many thousands of acres of valuable land have been saved.

It is also worth noting that many public-minded landowners have sold easements for less than the full value determined by appraisal. In so doing, they have generously allowed funds to be made

available to a larger number of landowners. These "bargain sales" have also allowed the sellers of easements to take advantage of tax deductions that shelter the income they receive for their easements.

Finally, aided in part by the recently-enacted Income Tax Credit for donation of easements to the Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) and MALPF, the number of acres of easements MET preserved this year is a record.

The Tax Credit greatly increases the financial incentives for easement donation by middle-income landowners. For husband and wife, up to \$160,000 may be returned to the landowner in the form of income tax credits when an easement is donated.

Although the current state budget shortfall means that funding for easement purchase will be much tighter for the foreseeable future, we look forward to many more years of successful land preservation.



John Bernstein
Director

Mission

The mission of the Trust is found in Natural Resources Article 3-201, subtitle 2 of the Annotated Code of Maryland:

There is a Maryland Environmental Trust established to conserve, improve, stimulate, and perpetuate the aesthetic, natural, health and welfare, scenic, and cultural qualities of the environment, including but not limited to land, water, air, wildlife, scenic qualities, open spaces, buildings or any interest therein, and other appurtenances pertaining in any way to the State. Through educational and other means, the Trust shall encourage and motivate the populace of the State and others to do so and shall promote the continuing interest in and the study of these matters. The purpose of the Trust is of general benefit to the citizens of the State, and it is charitable in nature.

Description of Programs

Conservation Easement Program

The primary focus of the Trust is the protection of land from development through donated conservation easements. A conservation easement is a perpetual legal agreement between a landowner and the Trust, ensuring that a property shall not be developed (or subdivided) beyond a limit agreed upon by both parties. The land is thereby protected and preserved; the landowner retains all rights of ownership and privacy. An easement is binding on all future landowners and may lead to significant income, estate, and property tax benefits.

Local Land Trust Assistance

The Trust assists citizen groups in the formation and operation of local land trusts by offering training, technical assistance, administrative and project grants, and membership in the Maryland Land Trust Alliance. Conservation easements may be jointly held with the Trust and a local land trust.

Keep Maryland Beautiful

Through such incentives as the Bill James Environmental Grant and the Margaret Rosch Jones Award, the Keep Maryland Beautiful (KMB) program focuses on environmental education projects.



photo: Jim Highaw

Moses easement on Little Falls, Baltimore County

Regional Reports

OVERVIEW

With 78 new easements protecting 10,556 acres of land, fiscal year 2002 (July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002) was the most active year ever for the Maryland Environmental Trust (MET). The total acreage exceeded last year's record of 10,250 acres. Rural Legacy and other purchased easements accounted for 63 percent of the total acreage. Most of the new easements are held jointly with local and regional land trusts. As of June 30, 2002, MET's cumulative total since 1972 was 660 easements covering 89,006 acres. Baltimore, Talbot and Dorchester Counties continued to be the leading counties for easement acreage. Two highlights of the year were 1,614 acres of Rural Legacy easements in Caroline County, and a 405-acre easement in Dorchester County accepted by a local land trust last year and now held jointly with MET.

CENTRAL REGION

Central Region Planner Jim Highsaw and other staff completed 12 donated easements protecting a total of 620 acres. MET also accepted 10 Rural Legacy easements purchased by local and regional land trust partners on 1,373 acres, one easement resulting from the use of MET's Land Trust Grant Fund to help protect a farm in Cecil County, and one easement purchased with private funds by

a local land trust in Baltimore County.

Baltimore County continues to be one of the leading counties for new easements in the central region. The new easements in this county include seven donated easements covering 298 acres, five Rural Legacy easements totaling 402 acres, and one other purchased easement protecting eight acres. The new donated easements include a 94-acre farm with an historic house, located next to the state-owned Soldiers Delight Natural Environmental Area; two properties totaling 69 acres in the Worthington Valley Historic District; 25 acres of farmland and woodland to help protect the setting for an historic house on Old Court Road near Pikesville; an eight-acre property with an historic house surrounded by a cluster of MET easements in the Green Spring Valley Historic District; 68 acres in the agricultural area east of White Hall; and 34 acres north of Monkton surrounding the Northern Central Railroad Trail and Little Falls. The new Rural Legacy easements in the county include two easements comprising 97 acres in the Piney Run watershed, a 33-acre easement along the Gunpowder Falls near Sparks, a 46-acre easement in the My Lady's Manor Historic District east of Monkton, and a 226-acre farm property northwest of Jacksonville. MET also co-holds an easement purchased by the Gunpowder Valley

Conservancy to protect eight acres near Corbett. MET now holds easements on over 12,000 acres in Baltimore County, the most of any county in the State. (See map on page 11.)

In Cecil County, MET received a donated easement on 176 acres of farmland northwest of Cecilton, which completed a two-phase project started in 1994 to protect a 279-acre farm. On Herring Creek near Chesapeake City the owners of a 37-acre wooded property also donated an easement. The local land trusts in the County used Rural Legacy funds to purchase easements on four farms totaling 836 acres west of Cecilton, and on a 135-acre farm west of Fair Hill. To help acquire a farm north of Cecilton, the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy used MET's Land Trust Grant Fund and donated an easement on 179 acres to MET as part of the transaction.

Donated easements in other counties in the central region include an easement on a 74-acre farm on Swan Creek outside of Aberdeen in Harford County and a 34-acre farm outside of Manchester in Carroll County. In Howard County, a previous easement donor added a one-acre wooded parcel to his easement next to the watershed protection land surrounding Rocky Gorge Reservoir.



photo: Barbara Levin

Pennterra, Frederick County

WESTERN REGION

Barbara Levin, Western Regional Planner says, “fiscal year 2002 was a great year in the Western Region, which includes Frederick, Washington, Allegany and Garrett Counties. A total of 2,629 acres – 21 easements – were protected.

Maryland Environmental Trust, in partnership with Program Open Space and The Conservation Fund, protected 298 acres of Civil War historic properties in Washington County around Antietam Battlefield, and five small properties in Frederick County at South Mountain Battlefield.

The Frederick County Rural Legacy Program completed easements protecting 1,091 acres. Frederick County co-holds these easements along with the Mid-Maryland Land Trust and MET.

In Garrett County, John Hinebaugh donated an easement on his 81-acre farm on the Youghiogheny River. Mr. Hinebaugh has earmarked a portion of his property as a community park where his neighbors in the Sang Run Community hold weddings and family reunions.

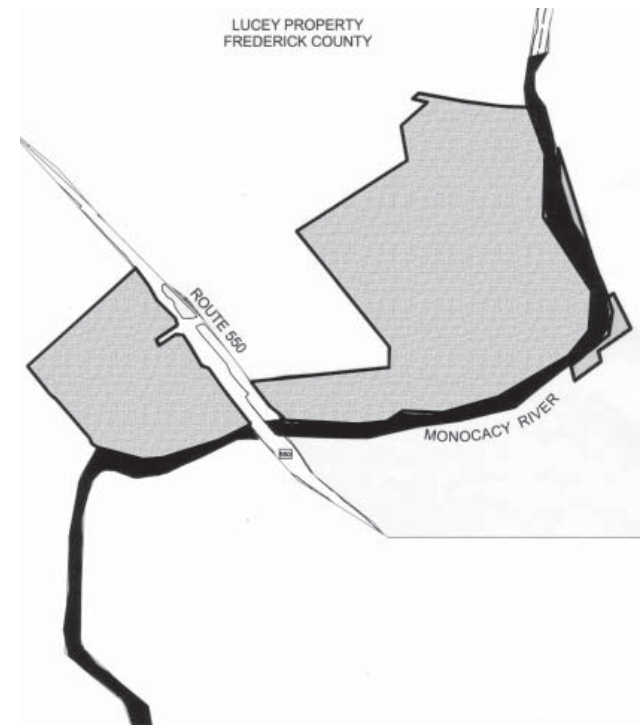
In partnership with the Catoctin Land Trust MET protected two farms in the Thurmont area – Anna Hall’s 164-acre farm, and Helga Colby’s 91-acre farm.

On the Monocacy River, The Conservation Fund saved the 200-acre historic Mathias Farm by purchasing the property and placing a conservation easement on it before selling it to a neighboring farmer. The Town of Emmitsburg acquired

a 510-acre property slated to be developed to add to their 700-acre watershed, and have also protected the property with a conservation easement.

One of the easement highlights of the region is on the banks of the Monocacy River where beauty and history blend together in Thurmont at Pennterra Manor. Pennterra stands on 308 acres of land composed of three historic tracts; *Four Dividend*, *Long Looked For Come At Last*, and *Resurvey on Paw Paw Bottom*. Built in 1783 as a Georgian stone house, it was remodeled in the Greek Revival period. George Ogle, son of Benjamin Ogle, tenth Governor of Maryland once owned the property. Kathleen and Barry Lucey purchased it from Mr. Lucey’s father in 1978. Most of the farm is cropland with some pasture, and since Mr. Lucey’s retirement, is being farmed by his son-in-law. The pasture is a habitat for grassland breeding birds that are disappearing from Maryland.

The Luceys have spent over 40 years on this land and want to make sure their labor of love remains as beautiful in 100 years as it is today. To achieve this, the Luceys placed a conservation easement on their property with Maryland Environmental Trust and Maryland Historic Trust as co-grantees. The two Trusts have a long history of working in partnership to save our heritage – farmland and the historic structures that adorn it.



SOUTHERN REGION

Southern Region Planner Diane Chasse and Local Land Trust Coordinator Nick Williams recorded 11 conservation easements during fiscal year 2002, protecting a total of 1,896 acres. With 1,147 acres protected, Charles County has protected the most acreage during this time. Paul Facchina Sr., and his family, protected nearly half of this acreage, as an extension of their previous conservation achievements – two easements protecting 400 acres. (See story in 2000 Annual Report.) This time, Mr. Facchina donated an easement on 328 acres, known as Gunston Pointe, and the Facchina Family Trust donated an easement on 233 acres, known as Audubon Woods. Gunston Pointe is a haven for wildlife – bald eagles, turkey, deer, fox, fish, etc. and has an extensive wetland complex on the Nanjemoy River. Audubon Woods is also on the Nanjemoy River and is habitat for rare, threatened and endangered plant species, including the Small-fruited agrimony and the Large-seeded forget-me-not. The forest borders a marsh owned by the National Audubon Society and is in the vicinity of other MET easements, creating a 1,000 acre-block of land protected by MET easements.

Also in Charles County, neighbors Dr. Francis Chiaramonte, President and C.E.O of Southern

Maryland Hospital, and Jay Adams, owner of Clinton Fence Company, donated easements on their farms that overlook the spectacular Wicomico River. The combined area of these pristine farms is 350 acres. The protection of these properties contributes to maintaining the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay by protecting streams and wetlands that drain into the Wicomico River. Dr. Chiaramonte says, “Conserving Tulip Hill Farm means preserving an ecological wonder and fulfilling a legacy inspired by my dad to give back each of the diverse species this land hosts.” Jay Adams says the easement enables “a beautiful, scenic view to forever remain that way.”

Elsewhere in Charles County, four easements were donated to both MET and the Conservancy for Charles County. The Posey Family (Thomas, Verna, David, and siblings) donated an easement on 78 acres of the family home, Cool Springs Farm. The easement protects forest, open fields, a lake, and Kerrick Run, a tributary to Zekiah Swamp. The same David Posey and partners Jim Lorenzi, and Wayne Wilkerson donated their second easement as members of Keystone Associates, LLC. This 74-acre easement preserves productive farmland that is part of a larger agricul-

tural preservation district, woodland and streams. Along the Potomac River, Peter Murphy donated an easement on 58 acres that includes bald eagle habitat, forest and open fields. Along the Mattawoman Creek, James and Linda Dyson granted an easement on their 24-acre forested property close to state-protected lands.

In Anne Arundel County, MET worked with Beverly Looper, County officials, the Trust for Public Land and the Magothy River Land Trust to protect 368 acres of forested land containing several unique plants and bog communities. (Story page 13.)

Also, in Anne Arundel County, MET accepted an easement with the Bay Ridge Trust on a 79-acre riparian forest on the Bay Ridge peninsula in Annapolis. The easement was a condition of a loan from the Land Trust Grant Fund that helped the Bay Ridge Civic Association to buy the property. (See more information on page 16.)

In St. Mary's County, with funding provided by Program Open Space, Ms. Lee Petty sold a 300-acre easement. The Maryland Environmental Trust and the Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust are the co-holders of the easement that protects the viewshed of the historic Sotterley Plantation and 200 acres of forestland. This property also connects Sotterley with Greenwell State Park.

EASTERN REGION

Through donations, the Trust's Conservation Easement Program protected over 60% of the 1,033 total acres preserved on the Eastern Shore. Seven landowners donated conservation easements on 655 acres in four eastern shore counties. Talbot County led the way with 470 acres protected – including a post-mortem donation to Eastern Shore Land Conservancy and MET by an estate on 260 acres along Bollingbrook Creek and the ESLC's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program/MET combined easement overlay on 81 acres, which were then conveyed to the Town of St. Michaels for public use. In addition, MET protected 20 acres along LaTrappe Creek and then with the ESLC, 109 acres along Harris Creek. In Dorchester County, the Trust accepted its first easement along Briary Cove on 24 acres, then coordinated with the ESLC to protect 94 acres southeast of Preston. In Wicomico County and in cooperation with the Lower Shore Land Trust, MET Board member K. King Burnett and his wife Esther Burnett preserved a 68-acre woodlot. With this second easement donation, the Burnetts have protected 93 acres, including their 25-acre home farm. Through the Rural Legacy Program's purchased conservation easement program, and also in cooperation with the ESLC, 292 acres of prime farmland and woodland buffers were protected in the Marshyhope River Rural Legacy Focus Area.

photo: John Hutson



Smith Cove off little Choptank River, Dorchester County

Keep Maryland Beautiful Program

Since 1986, the Keep Maryland Beautiful (KMB) program, funded by the State Highway Administration, has been active in funding voluntary activities and achievements by school groups, civic and community organizations that address environmental issues. "These projects have significantly benefited Maryland's natural environment," says Ellen Kelly, Committee chairperson. As part of the KMB program, the Maryland Environmental Trust annually accepts applications for the Margaret Rosch Jones Award and the Bill James Environmental Grant for projects that focus on environmental education.

The Margaret Rosch Jones Award grants a sum of up to \$2,000 to voluntary non-profit groups or communities that show continuing plans for a project demonstrating a basic understanding and resolution of an environmental issue. Through this award, which is bestowed in memory of the Executive Director and moving spirit of KMB for many years, the Trust hopes to remind citizens of her devotion, energy, and ingenuity. Ap-

plicants must have been actively participating in educating their community and/or succeeded in eliminating or reducing the causes of a local environmental problem.

The 2002 winners of the Jones Award were the Annapolis Tree Committee of Anne Arundel



County, Let's Beautify Cumberland Committee of Allegany County, and Stevensville Middle School of Queen Anne's County. Volunteers with these groups planted trees, conducted clean up and beautification projects.

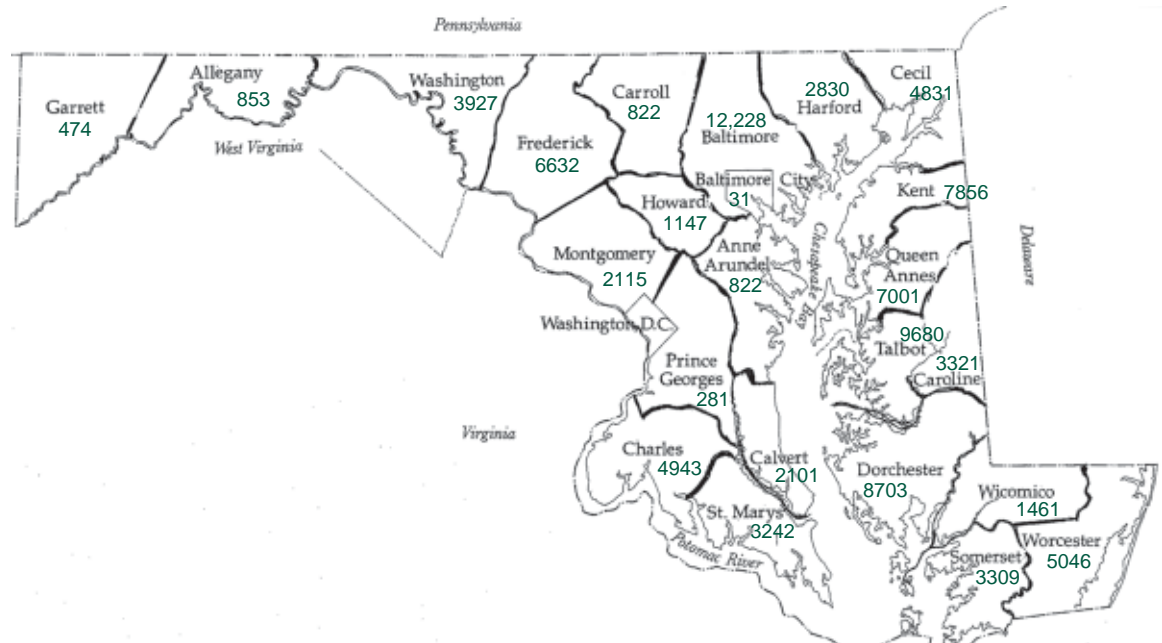
The Bill James Environmental Grants provide up to \$1,000 each to proposed environmental

education projects by non-profit youth groups. The objectives of these grants, given in memory of William S. James, who drafted legislation to create the Trust, are as follows: (1) encourage a sense of stewardship and personal responsibility for the environment; (2) stimulate a better understanding of environmental issues; (3) aid in the elimination or reduction of a local environmental problem; (4) encourage education regarding growth management - the protection of rural areas and sensitive resources and discouragement of sprawling development patterns.

The 2002 winners of the Bill James Grant were: the Alliance for Community Education of Anne Arundel County and the Assateague Coastal Trust (ACT) of Worcester County. The Alliance plans to educate area residents in understanding trees, understory, birds, etc. on a 100-acre forested easement which they use for passive recreation. The ACT plans to explore coastal bays' processes and issues that affect animal populations and to discuss possible solutions with area students.

MET Easements Across Maryland

Cumulative Number of Acres Per County



Cumulative Easement Acreage

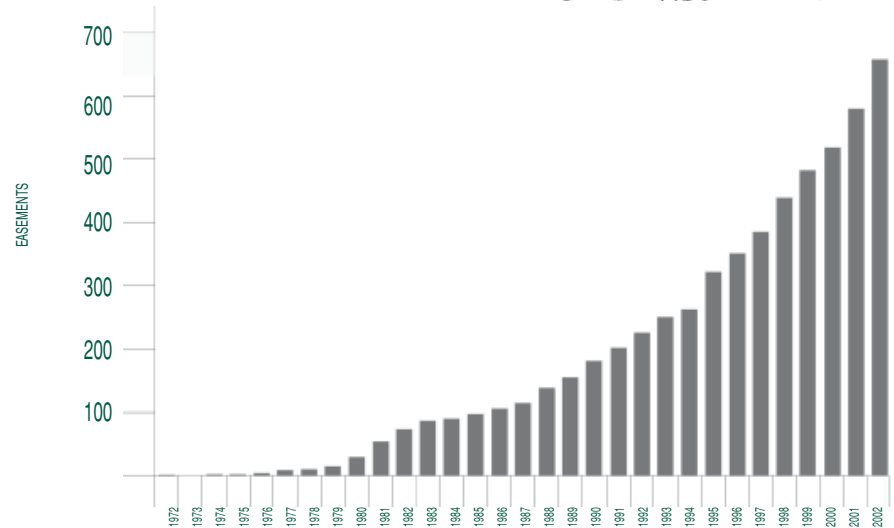
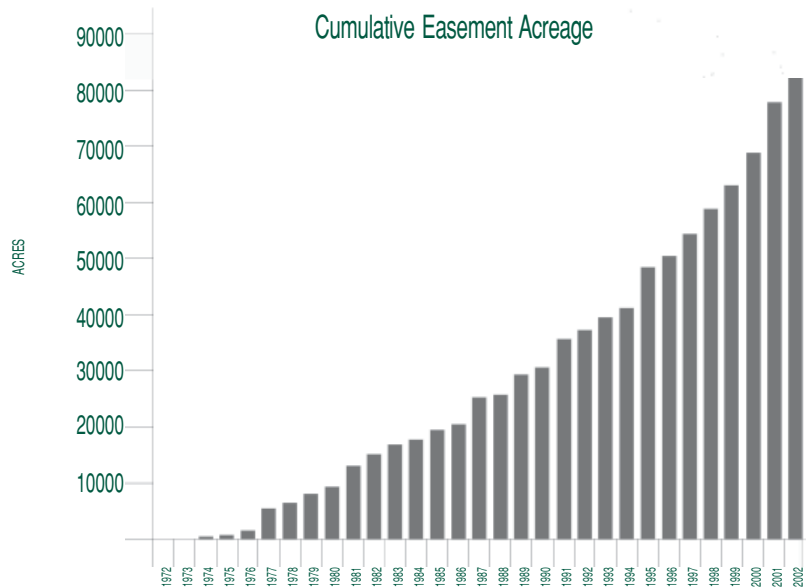




photo: John Hurson

South Grays Bog, Anne Arundel County

Anne Arundel County Greenway Protected

PURCHASE OF THE 388-ACRE LOOPER PARCEL WILL BOLSTER PROTECTION OF FORESTS AND WETLANDS

In February 2002, the Maryland Board of Public Works approved \$2.5 million in the Department of Natural Resources' Program Open Space (POS) funds for the purchase of a 388-acre parcel of land which preserved one of the last significant open space corridors on the Chesapeake Bay's western shore between Annapolis and Baltimore.

"We must remain vigilant in our efforts to prevent unchecked development and the further degradation of our precious natural resources," said Governor Glendening. "This acquisition permanently preserves one of Anne Arundel's most biologically-significant areas, providing an unparalleled opportunity for wildlife protection and conservation education, along with exceptional recreational opportunities."

The approval by the Board cleared the way for the acquisition of the 388-acre, mostly forested property which forms the keystone of the proposed Magothy Greenway, designed to protect water quality and natural habitats between the Severn River and Patapsco River Greenway projects. The property consists of approximately 375 acres of mature second-growth forest and 15 acres of existing private athletic fields. Anne Arundel County placed a Maryland Environmen-

tal Trust/Magothy River Land Trust conservation easement on 368.95 acres of the property, with 20 acres reserved for active recreational pursuits.

Located between Mountain Road and North Shore Road, the Looper property is adjacent to and includes several unique and regionally significant bogs including the North and South Grays bogs, Blackhole Creek bog, the Eagle Hill bog, and Shady Pond, all of which are listed within regulations as Wetlands of Special State Concern. The North Grays bog and South Grays bog were also cited by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Inventory of Natural Resource Areas within the Chesapeake Bay region as excellent examples of coastal plain bogs and harbor several state-listed and rare plant species as do the other neighboring bog areas.

The Trust for Public Land negotiated the acquisition. The funding was a partnership with Anne Arundel County (\$151,780), Department of Transportation/Transportation Efficiency Act 21 (\$2.35 million), and POS funds (\$2.5 million) for a combined total of over \$5 million.

"The Looper property, which is the crown jewel of the Magothy River Greenway plan, has long been sought for preservation because of its

forests and trails, as well two bogs that offer unique ecosystems which, once prominent in this area, have been all but lost to development," said Julie Enger, project manager for the Trust for Public Land. "Funding through Program Open Space made the protection of this property possible—without which, I have no doubt that the land would have been developed."

Future plans for the property include the creation of multi-use/equestrian trails that would link the property and its existing athletic fields with the nearby Lake Shore Elementary School and the Lake Shore Athletic Complex to the west, as well as Bodkin Park and the Mountain Road library to the east. The deed for the property limits certain impacts or uses of the property to include any development other than passive recreation or any impacts on wetlands or bogs. All development (other than trails) will be confined to the twenty acres that already contains athletic fields.

DNR's Program Open Space has preserved more than 300,000 acres of open space and recreation areas. Most Maryland residents live within 15 minutes of an open space or recreational area funded by this program.

FY 2002 Legislation

	Years 1-6	Years 7-16
Adjusted Gross Income Before Easement	\$90,000	\$90,000
Annual Deduction for Easement Donation	(\$27,000)	(\$0.00)
Adjusted Gross Income After Easement	\$63,000	\$90,000
Estimated Tax without Easement	\$24,227	\$24,227
Method 1 - Estimated Tax With Easement Using Federal & State Deductions	\$14,679	N/A
Method 2 - Estimated Tax Using Federal Deduction & State Credit	\$12,536	\$20,096
Method 1 - Annual Tax Savings	\$9,548	N/A
Method 2 - Annual Tax Savings (Tax Credit)	\$11,691	\$4,131

TOTAL ESTIMATED TAX SAVINGS

Method 1 - \$57,288 (35% of donation) OR
Method 2 - \$111,456 (74% of donation)

In a typical example this tax credit increased the net savings due to an easement donation from approximately \$57,000 to \$110,000.

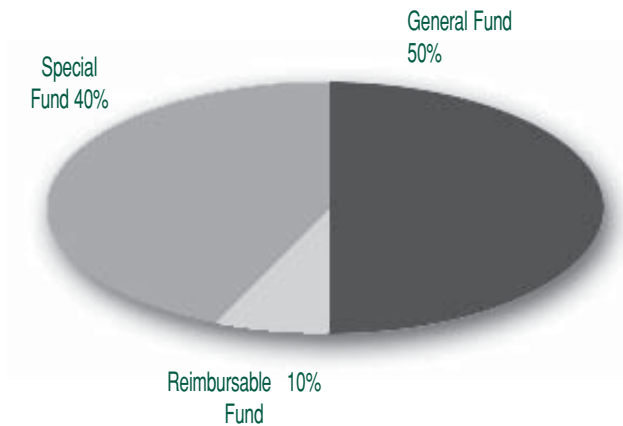
After the success of the Maryland Income Tax Credit for donation of conservation easements successfully passed through the Legislature last year, this year has been a quiet one for MET-related legislation. The Tax Credit allows a husband and wife to take a credit of up to \$10,000 per year against Maryland income taxes owed. It can be “carried forward” for 15 years, allowing a total tax credit of \$160,000. In a typical example this tax credit increased the net savings due to an easement donation from approximately \$57,000 to \$110,000.

In the coming year, MET has several legislative priorities. However, with current deficits, it is unlikely that the Legislature will entertain any proposal that creates a new drain on state resources. In that context, MET plans to explore the following:

- 1) **Expansion of the Maryland Income Tax Credit.** Create an alternative track for tax credits, increasing the maximum credit (to, say, \$12,500 per year per taxpayer) but decreasing the length of the carryforward so that the total tax loss to the State is not increased.
- 2) **Transferability.** Several states have enacted tax credits which are transferable. This allows a landowner who cannot take advantage of the tax credit to transfer it to another taxpayer in return for a cash payment.
- 3) **Property Taxes.** Most MET easement donors are eligible for “agricultural use assessment”, which keeps their property taxes very low. In addition, donors receive a 100% rebate of property taxes on the unimproved portion of their properties for 15 years after donation. MET intends to propose legislation that mandates that all MET donors receive the lowest agricultural assessment possible.

Appropriations Statement

FISCAL YEAR 2002



Number of Authorized Positions	10.70
Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits	\$529,715
Total Operating Expenses (includes grants, contractual services, communications, travel, equipment, supplies and materials)	412,202
Total Expenditure	957,942
FUND SOURCES	
Net General Fund Expenditure	473,327
Special Fund Expenditure	387,293
Reimbursable Fund Expenditure	97,322
TOTAL	957,942

Local Land Trusts Extend their Conservation Reach

New land trusts continued to start up in different corners of Maryland, including the Prettyboy Mason Dixon Conservancy (Baltimore County), the Woodberry Land Trust (Baltimore City), the Greater Black Swamp Creek Land Trust Group (Prince George's County), the K&S Wildlife Land Trust (Frederick/Washington Counties) and the Southern Calvert Land Trust.

More established land trusts, especially the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy (ESLC) and the Lower Shore Land Trust (LSLT), maintained a brisk pace of joint conservation easement work with MET protecting 2,189 new acres of farm and forest land in all counties on the eastern shore. Emerging land trusts in western shore counties also picked up the pace as they expanded their network of landowner contacts and brought in additional joint easement donations. For example, the Catoctin Land Trust in Frederick County got off to a good start with two donated easements near Thurmont; the Conservancy for Charles County secured four easements; and Cecil Land Trust received a 37-acre easement on the Merryman property.

On both shores of the Chesapeake Bay, many local land trusts focused their efforts on encouraging private landowners to sell easements to state

easement purchase programs such as the Rural Legacy Program and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). Local trusts that had traditionally sought donations took advantage of these funding opportunities to team up with national land trust partners, farmland preservation consultants, and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). These efforts have produced a continuing flow of jointly held easements, especially with local trusts operating in designated Rural Legacy Areas such as ESLC, LSLT, the Land Preservation Trust (LPT), The Manor Conservancy, the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy (GVC), the Cecil Land Trust, and the Mid-Maryland Land Trust Association. There were 82.5 acres of CREP easements by The Potomac Conservancy during this period.

Some local land trusts also acquired gift easements that they hold independent of MET or any government agency; examples this year included LPT, the Severn River Land Trust, the North County Land Trust, GVC, the Mt. Washington Preservation Trust, and the Bay Ridge Trust.

Three land trusts acquired land in order to protect it from development. ESLC bought the 180-acre historic "Anchorage Farm" on the edge

of Cecilton (Cecil County), restricted the land with agricultural easements, and resold it to a private farmer. In a similar manner, the Chesapeake Wildlife Habitat restricted 220 acres of farm and woodland it had previously purchased in Kent County by selling an easement to CREP and donating an easement to MET and then selling the farm to two private buyers. In March 2002, the Bay Ridge Trust (BRT) and Bay Ridge Civic Association settled on 115 acres of bay-side riparian forest land on the Annapolis Neck, for a price of \$4.2 million. Most of that acreage is now under permanent conservation easement held by MET and/or BRT. All three of these transactions were facilitated by land acquisition loans from MET's Land Trust Grant Fund.

Local Land Trust Incentive Grants

Under its land trust assistance program, MET initiated four "incentive grants" aimed at giving local land trust members financial incentives to increase their donated easement solicitation work. These small grants were targeted towards land trusts with demonstrated easement solicitation skills operating in regions of significant land conservation potential.

Local Land Trusts

Maryland is currently served by 49 local land trusts (LLT) with six new ones emerging in the past year. MET serves as both mentor and partner to these organizations, working either together or independently on specific easements and overall conservation strategies. Many MET easements are co-held by LLTs, providing a dual layer of land protection. Contact the LLT in your area to discuss conservation opportunities.

American Chestnut Land Trust	Peg Niland	410-586-1570	Land Trust International	Shantini Senanayake	301-345-1060
Annapolis Conservancy Board	Steve Carr	410-263-7949	Long Green Valley Conservancy	John Canoles	410-592-6752
Bay Ridge Trust	Dan Wells	410-626-0342	Lower Shore Land Trust	Nancy Whitlock	410-641-3019
Broad Creek Conservancy	Marian DiLorenzo	301-292-6318	Magothy River Land Trust	Tom Woodward	410-974-0756
Calvert Farmland Trust	Susan Hance-Wells	410-414-5070	Manor Conservancy	James Constable	410-659-1315
Carroll County Land Trust	Ned Cuman	410-848-8247	Maryland Mountain Trust	Marcia Simmers	301-746-8989
Carrollton Manor Land Trust	Nancy Bodmer	301-874-1940	Mid Maryland Land Trust Assoc.	Paul Gilligan	301-834-7851
Catoctin Land Trust	Sam T. Castleman III	301-271-2823	Mt. Washington Preservation Trust	Karin Brown	410-887-3480
Caves Valley Land Trust	Mitchell Kolkin	410-244-7656	North County Land Trust Anne Arundel	Rebecca Kolberg	301-594-2134
Cecil Land Trust	William Kilby	410-392-9667	Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust	Gita van Heerden	301-373-5690
Central Maryland Heritage League	Dean Considine	301-371-6971	Patuxent Watershed Land Trust	Ray Puzio	410-418-5222
Charm City Land Trusts	Jim Kelly	410-366-0922	Potomac Conservancy	Matthew Logan	703-276-2777
Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage	Chris Pupke	410-822-5100	Prettyboy Mason Dixon Conservancy	Mike Hollins	717-235-8426
Chesapeake Wildlife Sanctuary	Dianne Pearce	301-390-7010	Prettyboy Watershed Preservation Society	Sharon Bailey	410-239-3524
Conservancy for Charles County	Vivian Mills	301-283-2410	The Restoration Conservancy	Ned Tillman	301-362-8520
Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust	Mildred Kriemelmyer	301-372-8766	Rockburn Land Trust	Burnett Chalmers	410-467-7774
Eastern Shore Land Conservancy	Rob Etgen	410-827-9756	Save Historic Antietam Foundation	Tom Clemens	301-790-2800
Franklintown Land Trust	Fred Worthington	410-448-3383	Severn River Land Trust	Sandra Parks-Trusz	410-424-4000
Greater Sandy Spring Green Space	Pam Saul	301-774-3333	South County Conservation Trust	Patricia Haddon	703-684-2470
Gunpowder Valley Conservancy	Charlie Conkin	410-661-1233	South Mountain Heritage Trust	Phil Stanley	301-834-4337
Harford Land Trust	David Miller	410-836-2103	Southern Calvert Land Trust	Kenneth R. Spring	SPRING@DIRECTWAY.COM
Harpers Ferry Conservancy	Paul Rosa	304-535-9961	Sugarloaf Countryside Conservancy	Perry Kapsch	301-972-8979
Holly Neck Conservation Assoc.	Jim Mitchell	410-238-2249	Tree-Land Foundation Frederick County	Robert Martin	301-563-3407
Howard County Conservancy	Elizabeth Stoffel	410-465-8877	Western Shore Conservancy	Pam Cooper	301-390-0797
K&S Wildlife Land Trust	Terry Kuhn	301-241-4747	Woodberry Land Trust	Janis E. Danforth	410-516-8853
Kensington Land Trust	Helen Wilkes	301-933-8756	Woodland Committee Land Trust	Leonard Kerpelman	410-367-8855
Land Preservation Trust Baltimore County	Edward A. Halle Jr.	410-771-9900			

MET Board of Trustees

TRUSTEES

Royce Hanson, *Chair*
Perry Kapsch, *Vice Chair*
Michael Hankin, *Treasurer*
Edward A. Halle Jr., *Secretary*
Doris Blazek-White
Gerald E. Brock
K. King Burnett
Brice M. Clagett
David L. Greene
Constance Lieder
John C. Murphy
Henry A. Virts

EX-OFFICIO

Governor Parris Glendening
Delegate Mary Dulany-James
Senator Roy Dyson

TRUSTEES EMERITUS

Former Senator James Clark
Ajax Eastman

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Peter Vorac
Ann H. Jones

The Board of Trustees of the Maryland Environmental Trust has 15 members, designated by the enabling legislation, and several Area Representatives, authorized by the bylaws. The Area Representatives sit with the board and advise on conservation issues within their regions. Three of the Trustees are Ex-Officio. There are currently two Trustees Emeritus and two Area Representatives.

ROYCE HANSON, Chair

A political scientist and educator, he is a resident of Montgomery County who joined the board in 2000. He is Visiting Professor at University of Maryland at Baltimore County where he is in the Policy Science Graduate Program, and Interim Director of the Center for Urban Environmental Research and Education. He has been very active in his community and now focuses much energy on farmland preservation and watershed protection. He is Co-chair of the Legacy Open Space Committee in Montgomery County.

PERRY KAPSCH, Vice Chair

Joined the board in 1998, after serving as an Area Representative. A resident of Montgomery County, she is both an historic and environmental preservationist. She is an historic preservation planner with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, President of Historic Medley District, Inc. and a founder of For A Rural Montgomery and of Sugarloaf Countryside Conservancy.

MICHAEL HANKIN, Treasurer

An attorney and financial manager, he is a resident of Baltimore County. He joined MET in 1998. He is President and CEO of Brown Investment Advisory and Trust Co. He has been active with the Valleys Planning Council and is former Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Baltimore Zoo.

EDWARD A. HALLE, JR., Secretary

An attorney from Baltimore County, he joined the board in 2000. He has been personally active in preserving land through the Land Preservation Trust, Inc. and Piney Run Rural Legacy Area. He is with the law firm of Fowley & Beckley and is an avid horseman. He has created several coalitions of investors to purchase, protect with easements, and then resell major parcels of agricultural land threatened by intense development.

DORIS BLAZEK-WHITE

Attorney and resident of Talbot County, she came to MET in 1998 after serving on the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy Board. A partner in Covington & Burling, she brings exceptional knowledge and experience in land preservation, estates, and the environment. She is a graduate of Goucher College and Georgetown University Law Center.

GERALD E. BROCK

A resident of Howard County, he joined the board in 1999. He is a consultant in community development. For more than 30 years, he has worked as a senior executive for community master planning and development on two of the most successful new towns in the U.S.: Columbia, Maryland, and Irvine, California. He has demonstrated major concern for balancing growth with respect for the natural environment.

K. KING BURNETT

From Wicomico County, he joined the board in 1971, has served two terms as Chairman, and originally proposed the conservation easement program. He is a partner in the law firm of Webb, Burnett and Jackson, in Salisbury and lives on a farm with an easement he donated to MET. For many years, he has been a leading proponent in Maryland for conservation, farmland protection, land use management, planning and environmental stewardship. He also serves on the Board of the Maryland Center for Agro-Ecology, Inc. and as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws on which he serves as a representative of the State of Maryland.

BRICE M. CLAGETT

A lawyer who lives in Anne Arundel County, he is one of the trustees with deep concern for both historic and environmental protection. He is senior counsel with Covington & Burling and has served with MET since 1978. He was MET Chairman from 1985-1989 and was Chairman of the Maryland Historical Trust from 1972-1978. He brings a wealth of legal expertise about easements balanced by extensive knowledge of Maryland, its history and politics.

DAVID L. GREENE

A farmer from Baltimore County, he is a retired University of Maryland, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Carroll County Extension Director. He has first-hand experience in agriculture and the issues related to production, practice and preservation. He has been a member of the Carroll County Land Trust and is currently on the Baltimore County Agricultural Land Preservation Board.

CONSTANCE LIEDER

She has been on the board since 1989 and served as Chair from 1993-2001. She is a planning consultant, resident of Baltimore City and for ten years served as Maryland Secretary of State Planning, 1979-1989. She is Past President of the American Institute of Planners and has been on the boards of American Planning Association, National Housing Conference and Women Executives in State Government. In addition to being an ardent conservationist, she has focused much of her career on rebuilding urban areas, a necessary corollary to preserving natural resources.

JOHN C. MURPHY

An attorney who lives and practices in Baltimore City, he is a longtime board member, since 1978, and he has served as both Chairman and Vice-Chairman. He is a former Assistant Attorney General for Maryland and an activist for historic preservation, community conservation, neighborhood planning and farmland protection.

HENRY A. VIRTIS

Newly appointed to the MET board in 2002, he retired in February 2001 as the Maryland Secretary of Agriculture. In this capacity he served with the Secretary of Natural Resources and the Director of Planning as the third member of the Rural Legacy Board since its inception. He now farms in St. Mary's County. The home farm, Trent Hall, was protected by an MET easement in 1978, and a contiguous farm, Washington Creek, is preserved by perpetuity in the MALPF program.

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

PETER VORAC

A management analyst and farmer from Frederick County, he is active professionally in farmland protection. He is a land preservation specialist with the County Department of Planning and Zoning and a member of the South Mountain Heritage Society and Mid-Maryland Land Trust. He is working to increase funding and tax credits for county and state land conservation efforts in order to maintain a strong agricultural resource industry.

ANN H. JONES

A professional planner, she is from Howard County, is a member of the Howard County Conservancy and works for the Valleys Planning Council in Baltimore County as Rural Legacy Coordinator. Her concern is maintaining a viable agricultural base, directing development to appropriate urban areas and funding necessary infrastructure to accommodate it.

Staff



John Hutson, *Natural Resources Planner*



Jim Highsaw, *Easement Program Manager*



Nick Williams, *Local Land Trust Coordinator*



Dorothy Smith, *Secretary*



Lisa Holmes, *Secretary*



Diane Chasse, *Natural Resources Planner*



Barbara Levin, *Natural Resources Planner*



Jonathan Chapman, *Monitoring Coordinator*



Shirley Massenburg, *Administrator*



John Bernstein, *Director*

photos: Shirley Massenburg

MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST
100 COMMUNITY PLACE 1ST FLOOR
CROWNSVILLE, MARYLAND 21032-2023

www.conservemd.org

410-514-7900 877-514-7900