

FY2022 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

Photo W Stringfellow

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022



FOREVER

MARYLAND

Advancing and Enhancing Land Conservation

a year's overview

WHERE WE ARE NOW

Board of Directors

Nick Dilks,
Chair
Will Cook,
Vice Chair
Adair Stifel,
Treasurer
John Griffin,
Secretary
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Mark Conway
Mitch Neitzey
Barry Salisbury
Gary Burnett,
MET Board Liaison

Advisory Council

Rob Etgen
Ann H. Jones
Bill Leahy

Staff

Wendy Stringfellow,
President
Michelle Boyle,
VP of Advancement
Josh Hastings,
Program & Policy Director
Dina Lansinger,
*Keep Maryland Beautiful
Grants Coordinator*

Dear Friends,

As we pull the annual report together, it's time to reflect on this past year at Forever Maryland. It's been quite the year for the Board of Directors, Advisory Council and staff. We undertook, and have now completed, our first five-year strategic plan which communicates the direction Forever Maryland will head on our journey to strengthen and support Maryland's conservation community including land trusts, landowners, local governments, natural resource businesses and environmental nonprofits. Our planning process was supported by a local consulting firm, Quinn Strategy Group, who interviewed stakeholders and led the Board and staff's in-person and virtual planning meetings. To no one's surprise, we affirmed we're a passionate group and care deeply about our work so you can imagine there were a few intense planning meetings. The final product builds on and expands the work of our organization's first two years, pushing us to scale-up existing work while stretching us to continue to operate in new and innovate ways. We invite you to visit our website to dive into Forever Maryland's strategic plan: www.ForeverMaryland.org.

It's been a great year! Forever Maryland advocated, in both Annapolis and D.C., for land conservation funding and environmental legislation that will positively impact state preservation goals and efforts. We hosted two well-attended conferences, a webinar series, and a Building Better Boards workshop; all in support of our conservation-focused community. The Keep Maryland Beautiful grants program was as robust as ever, and we became the fiscal sponsor of B-GREEN, a regional capacity building initiative collaborative in Baltimore City and inside the Baltimore beltway.

We are grateful to you and all of our partners who share our goal and vision to boldly advance land conservation in Maryland. On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff at Forever Maryland, thank you for your support and we look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Connect with us on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter to be part of our journey!



Nick Dilks
Chair



Wendy Stringfellow
President

last year's

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Leadership

Welcomed new Board Members **Mitch Neitzey** and MET Board liaison **Gary Burnett**.



Planning

Embarked on Forever Maryland's first **Five Year Strategic Plan** bringing together the Board of Directors, Advisory Council and staff to focus priorities and resources.



Pillar I: Education

Hosted **two** two-day **conferences** (Harford county Ripken Stadium, July 2021 & Ches. Bay Beach Club, Eastern Shore, June 2022) to over 250 attendees.

Provided **five** *Building Better Boards* virtual workshops to 78 attendees including 24 Board members from 44 land trusts, nonprofits, and government agencies representing land conservation and watershed groups.



Hosted **five** successful **webinars** on Regional Conservation Partnerships, geospatial analysis, conservation funding, and more, featuring national and state leaders.

Pillar II: Outreach

Managed the **Keep Maryland Beautiful Grants** Program and, in conjunction with our partners, awarded **\$320,000** to 85 nonprofits, land trusts, and municipalities to support and protect natural resources in 21 counties and Baltimore city. For a full listing of grant recipients visit our website.



Held multiple Lunacy Virtual Happy Hour for the land trust community to build friendships and partnerships.



last year's

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Outreach - continued

Partnered and became the fiscal sponsor of B-GREEN, a regional capacity building initiative cohort in **Baltimore**. Funding was provided by Chesapeake Bay Trust.

Pillar III: Advocacy

MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Forever Maryland pushed for legislation that resulted in funding additional positions to expedite land conservation, including: **3 positions** at the **DNR's Dept. of Planning & Acquisition** and **2 positions** at the **Office of the Attorney General**.



Testified for support of the state's budget to include more than **\$380 million** allocated for parks and open space.



Testified on **11** critical pieces of legislation, including: the Conservation Finance Act, Maryland the Beautiful Act, Great Maryland Outdoors Act, Irreplaceable Natural Areas Program Establishment, Heirs Property Act and more – all of which significantly impact conservation and preservation goals/efforts.



Partners for Open Space

Continued as the fiscal sponsor of *Partners for Open Space*.



Developed and hosted a *Program Open Space (POS)* Workgroup that included the state's **25** most prominent agricultural, environmental, conservation, parks, and forestry groups. The majority of recommendations from this group were made into law.



Played a critical role in advocating for the payback of previously transferred POS conservation funding.



Federal Lobby Days

Led the Maryland delegation in May at Land Trust Alliance's Lobby Days and participated within the Choose Clean Water Coalition virtual Lobby Day in March.



fiscal year overview

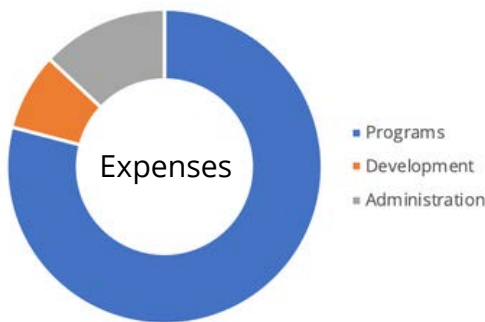
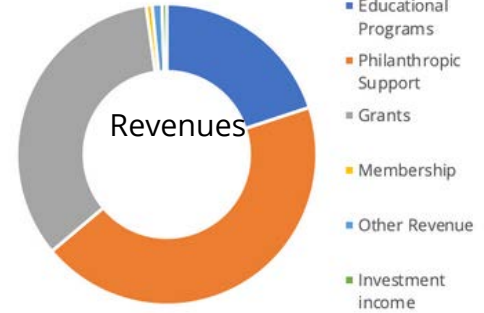
NUMBERS & GRAPHS



Photo by W Foster

Revenues

Educational Programs	\$109,304
Philanthropic Support	\$240,751
Grants	\$185,675
Membership	\$3,550
Other Revenue	\$5,768
Investment Income	\$2,807
Total Revenues	\$547,855

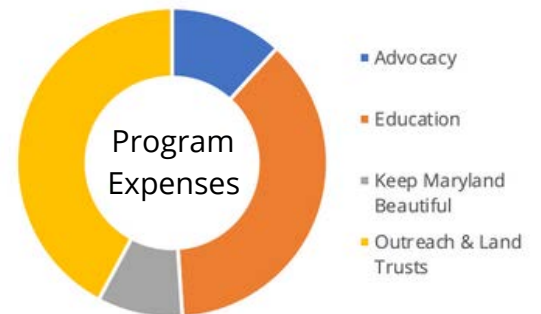


Expenses

Programs	\$550,324
Development	\$55,267
Administration	\$90,520
Total Expenses	\$696,111

Program Expenses

Advocacy	\$64,743
Education	\$204,567
Keep Maryland Beautiful	\$48,971
Land Trusts & Outreach	\$232,043
Total Programs	\$550,324



*Unaudited at the time of publication.



Photo by M Boyle

Forever Maryland was founded to promote and enhance land conservation statewide through education, advocacy, and outreach. Thank you to our donors. Your generous contributions support the efforts of Forever Maryland to advance the mission of land conservation across the state.

Donors

July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022

Conservation Champion \$10,000+

Fancy Hill Foundation
The Helena Foundation
Barry and Tod Salisbury
Jennifer Stanley

Land Leader \$5,000-\$9,999

Rick and Kathleen Bailey
Bonsal Family Foundation
Wilson L. Coudon
Nick and Martina Dilks
Adair Stifel

Preservation Proponent \$1,000-\$4,999

Anonymous
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Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Galli
Mr. and Mrs. David Greene
The Hockmeyer Foundation
L'Aiglon Foundation
Mitch Neitzey
Mr. and Mrs. James Riepe
Gary B. Smith and Stacia K. Smith
Ted Sudol

Environmental Advocate \$500-\$999

K. King Burnett
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Colhoun
Mark and Victoria Collins
William H. Leahy
Peter F. Murphy
Achsah O'Donovan
Holly Stone
Wendy Stringfellow

Open Space Supporter \$100-\$499

Anonymous (3)
Anonymous *in honor of Jesse Zietman*
Chet and Paula Anderson
Ms. Martha Barchowsky
John and Mary Ann Beckley
Nelson Bortz
Ms. Marney S. Bruce

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Campbell III
Dr. and Mrs. Gary P. Carver
Burnet and Lydia Chalmers
Charles Soil Conservation District
Nessly and Susan Craig
Harriett Crosby
Annie Jenney Darrow *in honor of Uncle Jay Griswold*
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John Turgeon
Thacher W. White and Doris Blazek-White
Helen Crettier Wilkes
David Wilson
Ann P. Woodland *in honor of Wendy W. Stringfellow*

Ally \$10-\$99

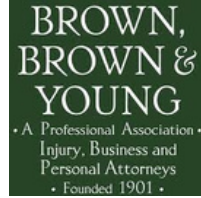
Frank and Christina Allen
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Gail Ensor
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Mark and Diane Katlic
Priscilla and Wally Lippincott
Ron Boyer and Liz McDowell
Sara Ramotnik
Reed Creek Farm LLC
Jerome Schaefer
Jack Shaw
John Weske

Grants

Baltimore Gas & Electric
Chesapeake Bay Trust
Land Trust Alliance
Pepco - Exelon
Rural Maryland Council

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS



HARRY R. HUGHES CENTER FOR AGRO-ECOLOGY, INC.



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FOREVER
MARYLAND

Enhancing and Advancing Land Conservation

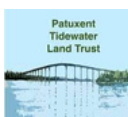
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This newsletter is printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks.

Member Appreciation

We would like to thank our founding members for supporting Forever Maryland through our Membership Program. To become a member and enjoy the benefits visit www.forevermaryland.org/join.



Sugarloaf Countryside
Conservancy, Inc.



Photo by Ann Jones