



30th Annual Maryland Land Conservation Conference

"Changing the Future, Now!"

October 4th-5th, 2023 | Annapolis, MD



Day 1: Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at the [Crowne Plaza Annapolis](#)

7:50am	Registration Opens		
8:00am – 8:55am Queen Anne Ballroom	Continental Breakfast & Networking		
9:00am – 9:25am Welcoming Comments Arundel Ballroom	Josh Hastings, Executive Director, Forever Maryland Sarah Knebel, Executive Director, Scenic Rivers Land Trust Anne Arundel County Executive, Steuart Pittman Maryland Governor Wes Moore (Invited)		
9:30am – 10:20am Welcoming Keynote Speaker	<i>NOW IS THE TIME: YOUTH VOICES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES, NOW</i> Elise Joshi , Executive Director, Gen-Z for Change		
10:20am – 10:35am	Break		
10:40am – 11:50am Keynote Panel	<i>CREATING A HEALTHIER AND MORE VIBRANT PLANET THROUGH LAND CONSERVATION</i> Moderator: Joel Dunn , President and CEO, Chesapeake Conservancy ➤ John Piotti , President, American Farmland Trust ➤ Andrew Bowman , President & CEO, Land Trust Alliance		
12:00pm – 1:15pm Queen Anne Ballroom	Lunch Maryland Biodiversity Project Image Collection and Exhibitor Hall Open		
1:20pm -2:00pm Pecha Kucha Lightning Presentation w/ Q&A Arundel Ballroom	<i>LAND TRUSTS LEADING: ADDRESSING ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES THROUGH CONSERVATION & RESTORATION</i> - Addressing Species Loss Steve Kline , President & CEO, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy - Improving Water Quality & Building Awareness Kim Pause Tucker, Ph.D. , Executive Director, Gunpowder Valley Conservancy - Stewardship, Science, and Forest Sustainability Katie Lautar , Executive Director, Baltimore Greenspace - New Nonprofit Properties Purchased Easement Partnership Program Meg Boyd , Executive Director, Howard County Conservancy		
	<u>Track 1: Improve Your Land Trust</u>	<u>Track 2: Improve Your Community</u>	<u>Track 3: New Opportunities</u>
2:15pm – 3:30pm Concurrent Sessions	<u>SESSION A: Drafting Tomorrow's Conservation Easements to Change The Future Now</u> <i>(Prince George's Room)</i> Moderator: Terri Zselezcky , Maryland Field Representative, The Conservation Fund - Ann Jones , Director, Baltimore County Land Trust Alliance - Ann Gutierrez Carlson , Conservation Easement Program Manager, MD Environmental Trust	<u>SESSION B: Healing Communities Through Greenspace</u> <i>(Arundel C)</i> <i>Creating Sacred Places</i> - Erin Robertson , Chief Programs Officer, Nature Sacred <i>Greenspace Equity & Your Community</i> - Arica Gonzalez , Founder & Executive Director, The Urban Oasis	<u>SESSION C: Understanding Conservation Finance & Carbon Market Solutions</u> <i>(Queen Anne Ballroom)</i> <i>The Latest with Conservation Finance in Maryland & Beyond</i> - Timothy Male , Executive Director, Environmental Policy Innovation Center <i>The Latest on Nature-Based Carbon Solutions</i>

	- Elizabeth Carter , Land Protection Director, The Nature Conservancy (Maryland/DC) - Michelle Cable , Executive Director, MD Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF)	- Atiya Wells, BSN, RN , Executive Director, Backyard Basecamp, Inc <i>Restoring Untapped Pollinator Habitat</i> - Rick Johnstone , President, IVM Partners, Inc.	- Rachel Lamb, Ph.D. , Senior Climate Advisor, MD Department of the Environment
3:40pm – 4:30pm Closing Panel Arundel Ballroom	ROUNDTABLE CONVERSATION WITH MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON THE CHESAPEAKE AND COASTAL BAYS WATERSHED Moderator: State Senator Sarah Elfreth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Josh Kurtz, Secretary, Department of Natural Resources ➤ Rebecca Flora, Secretary, Department of Planning ➤ Kevin Atticks, Secretary, Department of Agriculture ➤ Serena McIlwain, Secretary, Department of the Environment 		
4:30pm – 6:00pm	Conservation Networking Happy Hour		

Day 2: Thursday, October 5, 2023 at the Crowne Plaza Annapolis				
7:50am	Registration Opens			
8:00am - 9:30am Queen Anne Ballroom	Continental Breakfast & Networking			
8:30am - 9:30am Group Meetings	GROUP MEETINGS <u>Group #1:</u> MD Ag Land Preservation Administrators Board & Staff (Led by Bill Amoss in Prince George's) <u>Group #2:</u> Land Stewardship Professionals (Led by Josette Markline in Arundel C) <u>Group #3:</u> Regional Conservation Partnerships (Led by David Lillard in Calvert) <u>Group #4:</u> Maryland Land Trust Directors and Board Leadership (Led by Kate Patton in Montgomery)			
9:45am – 10:05am Welcoming Comments Arundel Ballroom	Josh Hastings, Executive Director, Forever Maryland Sarah Knebel, Executive Director, Scenic Rivers Land Trust Welcome from Maryland Comptroller Brooke Lierman			
10:05am – 11:05am Conservation Policy Panel	DISCUSSING CURRENT AND EXPECTED AGRICULTURAL, CONSERVATION & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY Moderator: Mark Conway , Executive VP of Programs, Chesapeake Conservancy/Baltimore City Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kristen Harbeson, Political Director, Maryland League of Conservation Voters ➤ Lindsay Thompson, Owner, Thompson Ag Consulting ➤ Matthew Stegman, Esq., Maryland Staff Attorney, Chesapeake Bay Foundation ➤ Anna Killius, Executive Director, Chesapeake Bay Commission 			
11:05 – 11:20am	Break			
	Track 1: Improve Your Land Trust	Track 2: Improve Your Community		Track 3: Improve Your Knowledge
11:20am – 12:25pm Concurrent Sessions	SESSION A: Improving Everyday Operations: Programs & Tools (Montgomery) ***Roundtable Discussion on Fundraising Events, Communications,	SESSION B: Improved Tools for Conservation & Planning (Prince George's) Artificial Intelligence & Solar Siting - Dr. Michael Evans , Senior Data Scientist, Chesapeake Conservancy	SESSION C: Coalitions & Collaboratives Bringing About Substantive Change (Arundel C) Delmarva Land and Litter Collaborative - Josh Hastings , Executive Director, Forever Maryland & Michele Drostin & Paula Jasinski , Green Fin Studio	SESSION D: Local Land Use Policy (Calvert) Understanding Comprehensive Plans, LPPRs, and the Core Components of Local Land Use Planning in Maryland

	<p><i>& Tools for Success</i> (Led by Kristin Kirkwood)</p> <p>- Susan Minnemeyer, Founder/Environmental Consultant, Nature Plus Solutions</p> <p><i>Wetland Adaptation Areas and Conservation Targeting</i></p> <p>- Sara Coleman, Conservation Resilience Planner, Chesapeake & Coastal Service, Maryland DNR</p>	<p><i>Delmarva Restoration & Conservation Network</i></p> <p>- Daniel Murphy, Chief, Div. of Habitat Restoration & Conservation, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Chesapeake Bay Field Office</p> <p><i>Southern Maryland Conservation Alliance</i></p> <p>- Mary Hoover, SMCA Coordinator, American Chestnut Land Trust</p>	<p>- Amy Moredock, Planning Director, Queen Anne's County</p> <p>- Susan J. Hauver, Planner & Zoning Administrator, Town of Walkersville</p>
<p>12:25pm - 1:30pm Queen Anne Ballroom</p>	<p>Lunch Maryland Biodiversity Project Image Collection and Exhibitor Hall Open</p>		
<p>1:40pm – 2:50pm Closing Presentation Arundel Ballroom</p>	<p><i>WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: CONSERVATION EASEMENTS AND FEDERAL TAX LAW</i></p> <p>➤ Nancy A. McLaughlin, Robert W. Swenson Professor of Law, University of Utah College of Law</p> <p>➤ Karin Gross, Special Counsel, IRS Office of Chief Counsel (Washington, D.C.)</p>		
<p>3:40pm</p>	<p>OPTIONAL TOURS:</p> <p>1.) TALK & TOUR: BACON RIDGE NATURAL AREA</p> <p>2.) MARYLAND STATE HOUSE & GENERAL ASSEMBLY TOUR</p>		