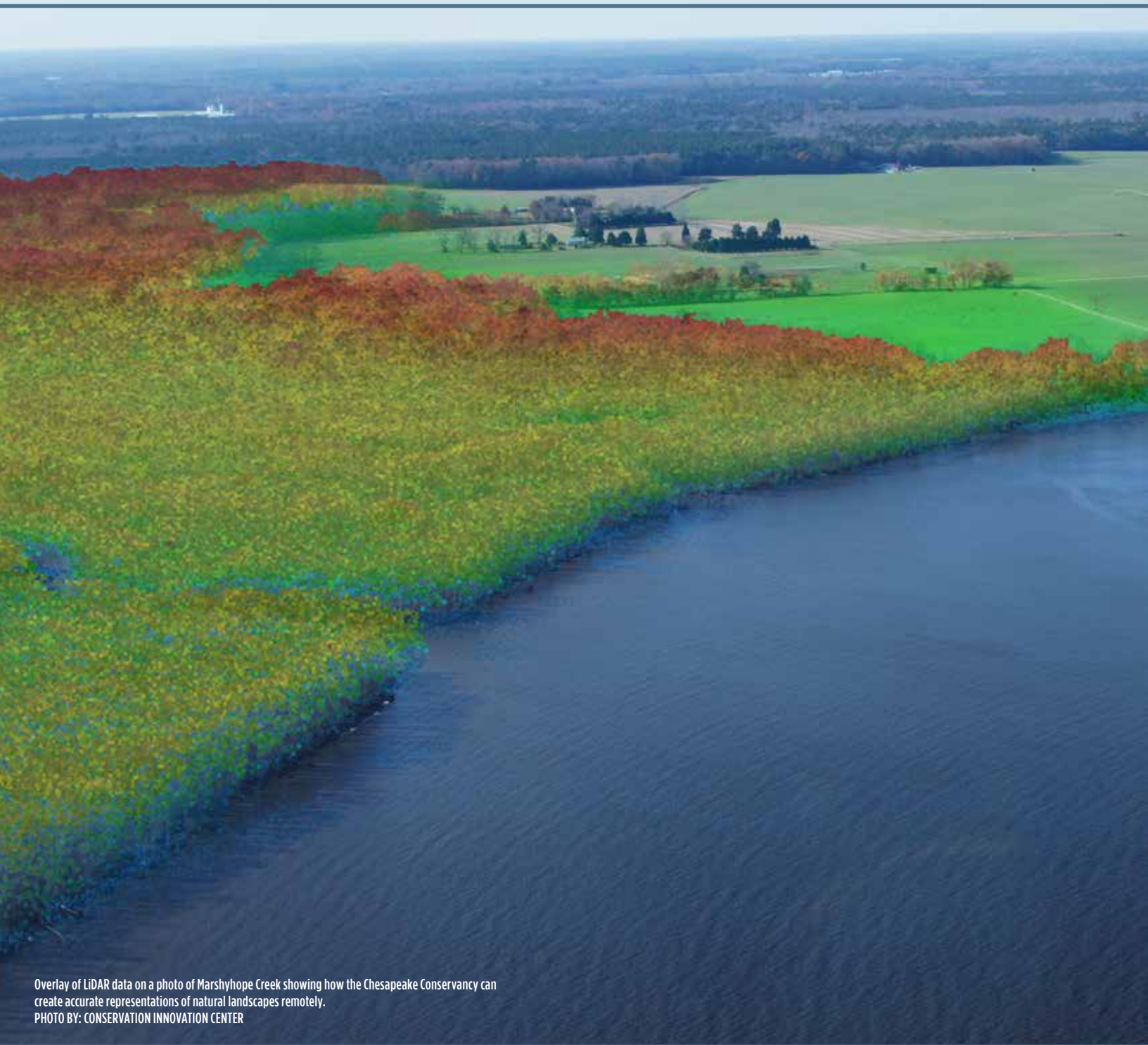


CHESAPEAKE CONSERVANCY 2014 WINTER NEWSLETTER

# Shorelines

*Saving the Chesapeake's Great Rivers and Special Places*



Overlay of LiDAR data on a photo of Marshyhope Creek showing how the Chesapeake Conservancy can create accurate representations of natural landscapes remotely.  
PHOTO BY: CONSERVATION INNOVATION CENTER

716 Giddings Avenue, Suite 42  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
443.321.3610

info@chesapeakeconservancy.org  
www.chesapeakeconservancy.org

**Mission**

The Chesapeake Conservancy's mission is to strengthen the connection between people and the watershed, conserve the landscapes and special places that sustain the Chesapeake's unique natural and cultural resources, and encourage the exploration and celebration of the Chesapeake as a national treasure.

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*From the Executive Director*

**Precision Conservation Drives Collective Action**

No single organization or agency, however powerful or creative, can protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay watershed alone. It is vital for our community leaders to abandon their individual agendas in favor of a collective approach to improving environmental conservation. We must work together to achieve better results for current and future generations. One promising mechanism is the use of emerging technology and conservation science integrated with community-based conservation.

To that end, the Chesapeake Conservancy is pioneering the application of emerging technologies and freely available high-resolution aerial imagery and elevation data to develop new targeting datasets that increase the effectiveness and efficiency of conservation and restoration practices throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed. We call this precision conservation.

Precision conservation is "getting the right practices, in the right place, at the right scale." This determines the landscape characteristics across an entire watershed, provides our partners with a greater ability to target projects that will help maintain water quality and critical habitats at the parcel scale, and helps locate restoration activities where they will have the greatest potential to achieve conservation goals.

Once we develop these datasets—which are 900 times higher resolution and 20 percent more accurate than the current publicly available data—we use cloud-



Joel Dunn (right) meets with Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewel (left) and USFWS Director Dan Ashe (center). PHOTO CREDIT: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

based technology and analysis tools to make them easily accessible for our local, state, and federal partners. This kind of partnership enhances the conservation movement's capacity and increases the effectiveness and pace of conservation collectively.

In short, we are working to arm communities and policymakers with the data they need to make evidence-based decisions—and to make them faster. With tens of thousands of acres of forest and wetland vanishing each year, persistent pollution problems, and the looming impacts of climate change, now is the time to work together. Through a good strategy of better science, technology, collaboration, and funding, the Chesapeake Conservancy is advancing collective action for the Chesapeake.



JOEL DUNN, *Executive Director*

**Conservancy's Eagle Camera Returns**

The winter sojourn of Tom, Audrey, Breezy, and Spitz to South America does not mean the end of the Chesapeake Conservancy's wildlife cameras. This winter we will continue to stream a live webcam from the nest of a bald eagle family. America's national symbol since 1782, bald eagles in the Chesapeake spend their entire lives here, as long as they have access to water. Females lay from one to three eggs each year, between January and March, and the chicks will fledge in the late spring and summer. Visit the Chesapeake Conservancy's Eagle Cam to see the exciting lives of these regal creatures. [www.eaglecamera.org](http://www.eaglecamera.org).



PHOTO CREDIT: IAN PLANT



# Nanticoke Conservation Corridor Initiative Bolstered through \$1 Million REPI Challenge Award

The Chesapeake Conservancy's Nanticoke Initiative received a significant boost in June when a conservation proposal developed and coordinated by the Conservancy was awarded \$1 million by the Department of Defense to conserve land in the Nanticoke River corridor, a part of Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River's Atlantic Test Range. The award was made under the 2014 national Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program (REPI) Challenge competition. The Conservancy is one of only two winners this year, and one of only three since the REPI Challenge began.

The Conservancy's proposal includes the conservation of more than 2,000 acres containing a high biodiversity of flora and fauna, priority working lands, and areas important to the continued operation of NAS Patuxent River. NAS Patuxent River is home to the Navy's premier aircraft research, development, test, and evaluation facility and relies on the land, air, and sea ranges of the Atlantic Test Range to conduct its mission. The lands to be conserved through the REPI Challenge award will help reduce noise and safety

concerns and prevent costly restrictions and delays to training and testing.

To carry out the project, NAS Patuxent River will work with the Chesapeake Conservancy, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the US Department of

that support rare, threatened, and endangered plant and animal species—part of the Conservancy's broader 8,500-acre Nanticoke Conservation Corridor Initiative.

The Nanticoke River is among the least developed of Chesapeake Bay tributaries and through the efforts of the Chesapeake Conservancy and our partners, several thousand acres in the watershed have already been protected. The Conservancy's Nanticoke Initiative is a plan to fill in missing pieces in protection along the river corridor, particularly ecologically significant properties that might also provide public access to the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail.

In coordination with the REPI Challenge, the Patuxent River Naval Air Station has been identified as a Federal Sentinel Landscapes finalist.

The Sentinel Landscape program is a partnership between the US Department of Agriculture, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Department of Defense. If chosen as a Sentinel Landscape, the region supporting the base (including the Nanticoke corridor) will receive added focus, and potentially new resources.



Kayakers paddle down the Nanticoke River PHOTO CREDIT: CONOR PHELAN

Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service, Maryland and Delaware departments of natural resources, The Conservation Fund, and The Nature Conservancy. The REPI award of \$1 million will be leveraged more than 5:1 with contributions from this partnership in order to protect 2,259 acres of forests, wetlands, and farmland

## Access Spotlight:

In addition to the lands protected through the REPI program, the Conservancy also helped the State of Delaware conserve two properties identified through the Nanticoke River Conservation Corridor Initiative, which total over 130 acres. These properties will provide the public canoe and kayak access to the Upper Nanticoke portion of the Captain John Smith Trail in Delaware. Paddlers will see a landscape evocative of the 1600's.



(left): The Conservancy and our partners have conserved 114 acres containing rare plant communities, such as Atlantic White Cedar Swamp, and rare species, including the Seaside Alder. PHOTO BY: JOANNA OGBURN; (center): The Chapel Branch Moore Tract is 17.7 acres of land along the Chapel Branch, a tributary to the Nanticoke River. It enlarges the adjacent Chapel Branch Nature Area to 215 acres, which provides over 4 miles of wooded and meadow trails, native plant and wildlife habitats. PHOTO BY: RICH PHIFER, DNREC; (right): One of the original species named in the Endangered Species Protection Act of 1967, the Delmarva fox squirrel has recovered across many parts of its historic range, including the Nanticoke River corridor, and the USFWS is proposing to remove it from the Endangered Species List. PHOTO BY: LARRY MEADE - FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS

## Corporate Donor Spotlight: The Information Technology Industry Council

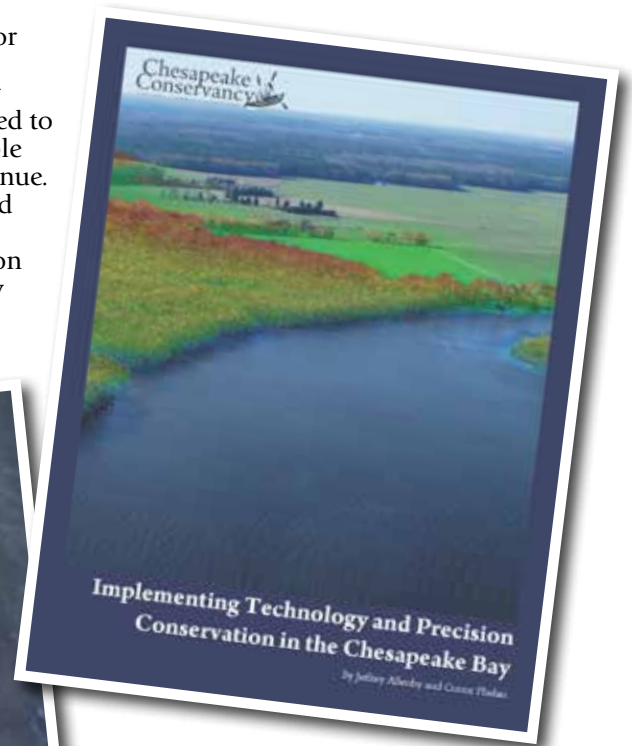
The work of the Chesapeake Conservancy is made possible through contributions from corporate partners like the Information Technology Industry Council. ITI is the premier advocacy and policy organization for the world's leading innovations companies and works to solve complex policy challenges.

Funding from ITI has resulted in a series of reports published by the Conservancy through the Digital Energy and Sustainability Solutions Campaign (DESSC), one of ITI's programs. These reports included *The Emerging Role of Technology in Precision Conservation*, and *Implementing Technology and Precision Conservation in the Chesapeake Bay*. The Conservancy expects to release the third phase of this project by the end of 2014.

"ITI's contributions have given the Chesapeake Conservancy the opportunity to study and effectively address the specific needs of conservation organizations throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed," stated Jeffrey Allenby, Director of Conservation Innovation. "The data we are generating through the Conservation Innovation Center are critical components to Conservancy programs, such as our *Envision* initiatives, and are helping us decide where we should focus our public access, conservation, and restoration efforts. The Conservancy's use of technology innovations has made us pioneers in the field of land and water conservation. We have taken our research and development beyond the conceptual phases to produce actual results, advancing the conservation movement as a whole."

Originally founded in 1916 as the National Association of Office Appliance Manufacturers in Chicago, ITI has had a number of different organization names and focuses. In 1994, the association was renamed the Information Technology Industry Council to better reflect the dynamic information and communication technology industry as it is today – consisting of manufacturers and suppliers of hardware, ICT services and software.

According to Chris Hankin, senior director of Environment and Sustainability for ITI, technology advances are already being applied to make our society more sustainable and that is a trend that will continue. The Chesapeake Conservancy and their initiatives demonstrate the benefits of integrating information and communications technology (ICT) into land and water conservation efforts.



photography and aerial imagery that is then analyzed by software packages has resulted in more effective and precise conservation. The degree of accuracy in being able to identify specific species, habitat areas, and water flow, is extraordinarily powerful and yields greater results."

Through ITI's support, the Conservancy has been able to use sophisticated technology and datasets to hone in and target areas in the Chesapeake Bay watershed where conservation and restoration efforts will provide the most benefit to the surrounding ecosystem. We can map where water flows on a landscape more precisely. This means, for example, instead of paying a farmer to create a buffer along his entire field, taking land out of production, we can focus our efforts where the water really flows, thereby paying less while having a greater impact.

Thanks to the Information Technology Industry Council and the Digital Energy and Sustainability Solutions Campaign for their continued support.

Traditionally, the use of technology for environmental, historical, and cultural conservation has not provided technology companies a solid return on investment. However, ITI recognizes the value of precision conservation. Leveraging technology to identify and compare distinct priorities across a watershed can maximize the effectiveness of Bay restoration and conservation using the resources that are available.

"Technology allows the conservation community to connect, engage and collaborate in ways never available before," Hankin noted. "Combined with greater data like high resolution satellite







## Conservancy to Honor Champions of Conservation December 9, 2014

Join the Chesapeake Conservancy in a festive evening to pay tribute to our loyal supporters and to honor three awardees in the first annual Chesapeake Champions celebration. Leading conservationists of the Chesapeake will gather on December 9 at the historic Governor Calvert House in Annapolis to applaud the efforts of the Conservancy and our partners to protect and restore the precious natural, cultural, and historic resources of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Much of the work of the Chesapeake Conservancy is made possible through the commitment of policymakers, individuals, and corporations who recognize the values and challenges of the Chesapeake Bay. Our inaugural Chesapeake Champions celebration will recognize three honorees who have helped advance the mission of the Conservancy. We have chosen to honor Keith Campbell, Skyline Technology Solutions, and a public servant that is still to be announced as our three worthy champions.



PHOTO CREDIT: CAMPBELL FOUNDATION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Keith Campbell, chairman of the Campbell Foundation for the Environment, established the foundation in 1998 to improve the conditions of America's largest and most ecologically diverse and productive estuary systems. The Campbell Foundation has worked to engage in partnership activities to protect living resources and their habitats and promote the benefits offered by healthy bays. In doing so, the foundation has created a network of conservation organizations working on every river in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.



Skyline Technology Solutions will be honored as our first corporate awardee. Skyline manages the Conservancy's popular Osprey Cam, which offers a glimpse into the lives of Tom and Audrey, an osprey couple that returns to the Chesapeake every year from South America to raise a new brood of chicks. The live streaming webcam was watched by more than 506,000 viewers from all 50 states and 123 countries in 2014, and is a valuable tool to help connect people to the Chesapeake and demonstrate the need to protect our natural resources.

The efforts of these three honorees are invaluable contributions to the Chesapeake Conservancy's mission to conserve the landscapes that sustain the irreplaceable natural and cultural resources of the Chesapeake region.

For reservations or sponsorship information for the Chesapeake Champions celebration on December 9, visit our website at [www.chesapeakeconservancy.org](http://www.chesapeakeconservancy.org) or call 443.321.3610.

# Join Us!



(Left) John and Susan Neely with Joel Dunn (Right) Jim and Mary T. Myers  
PHOTO CREDIT: THE ANNAPOLIS PHOTOGRAPHER

## 2014 Chesapeake Champions Sponsors



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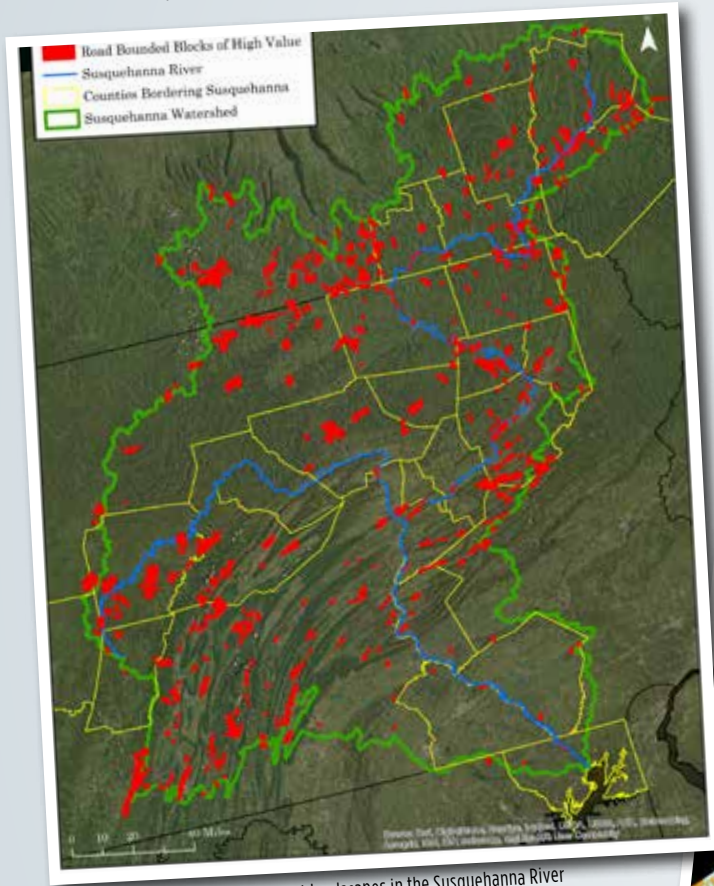
For more information on sponsorship, call Evelina Erickson at 443.321.3610



## Innovation in Action

Through the work of the Conservation Innovation Center, the Chesapeake Conservancy generates information to support corridor initiatives, such as (ETI) and *Envision the Susquehanna* (ETS), and guides the priorities of our conservation mission. The Conservancy is creating new Land Use and Land Cover (LULC) data with 900 times the resolution of existing datasets and close to 90 percent accuracy.

With information such as the locations of unprotected, ecologically valuable lands and corridors between natural areas, we are able to confidently make conservation and restoration decisions at a scale that focuses on the most appropriate areas and has the greatest impact on protecting critical ecosystems.



Multi-variable analysis of important landscapes in the Susquehanna River watershed PHOTO BY: CONSERVATION INNOVATION CENTER

### Envision the Susquehanna

Conservation Innovation has played an integral role in , helping further the initiative’s goal to improve ecological and cultural integrity throughout the Susquehanna landscape. In so doing, we improve the quality of life for all citizens along the river, which flows through New York, Pennsylvania, and Maryland.

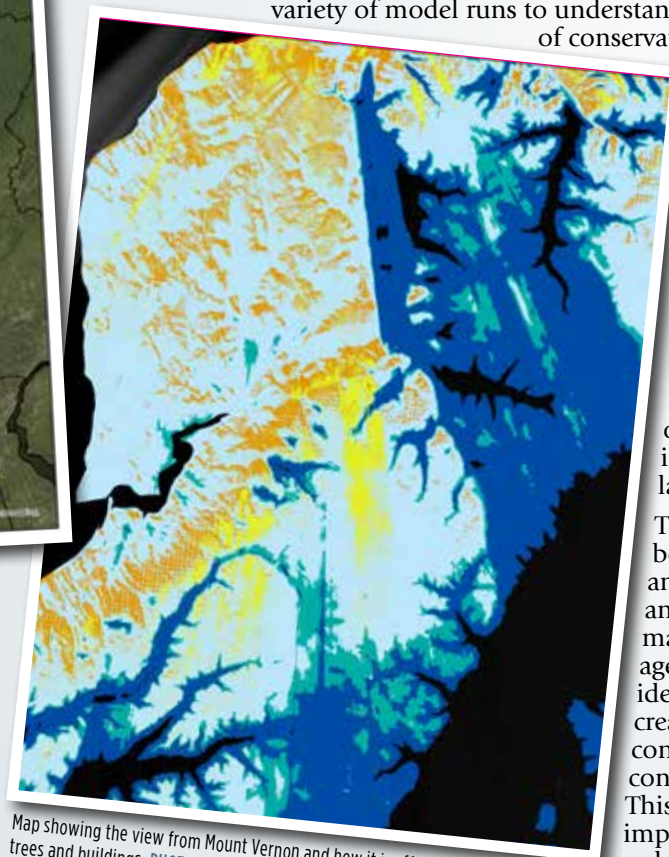
A grant from the North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (NALCC) enables the Conservancy and its partners to use landscape science products and regional datasets, combined with the Conservancy’s precision conservation techniques, to identify areas across the watershed that have high conservation value.

By finding these areas, the ETS team can seek out regional hotspots with multiple conservation benefits at both the regional and community-specific levels, improving the method for prioritizing conservation actions. This process will set a standard for local partners to develop efficient and effective on-the-ground conservation projects that will protect the Susquehanna’s irreplaceable ecological and cultural resources.

One of the main tools developed by the Conservation Innovation Center to aid in ETS and other corridor initiatives is the Northeast Block Conservation Opportunities Analyst tool. Developed for the NALCC, it uses new landscape-wide habitat datasets. This tool incorporates up to 10 environmental factors to run a weighted analysis, based on the importance the user gives to each element, in order to identify the forest blocks that contain the characteristics that best match the user’s criteria.

Among the criteria used to prioritize the entire Susquehanna watershed for ETS were landscape condition, threats, species of greatest conservation need, wetlands, habitat patch factors, distance to existing protected lands, and presence of natural heritage areas.

To understand the comprehensive conservation value of each block, staff weighted each of the variables differently in a variety of model runs to understand the variability of conservation potential



Map showing the view from Mount Vernon and how it is affected by the height of trees and buildings. PHOTO BY: CONSERVATION INNOVATION CENTER

and identify regions that persistently ranked highly. Using this information, in conjunction with previously identified local priorities, staff will begin to target public meetings and outreach efforts in high-value landscapes.

The tool will also be used by state and local science and wildlife management agencies to identify areas and create regionally consistent conservation plans. This will protect important habitats and species from Maine to Virginia.

### Envision the James

Similarly, the Innovation Center has provided the technological groundwork to implement the Conservancy’s initiative. The Conservancy’s precision conservation analysis targets key areas of the James River watershed that will have



the largest impact on protecting critical riparian habitat and downstream water quality.

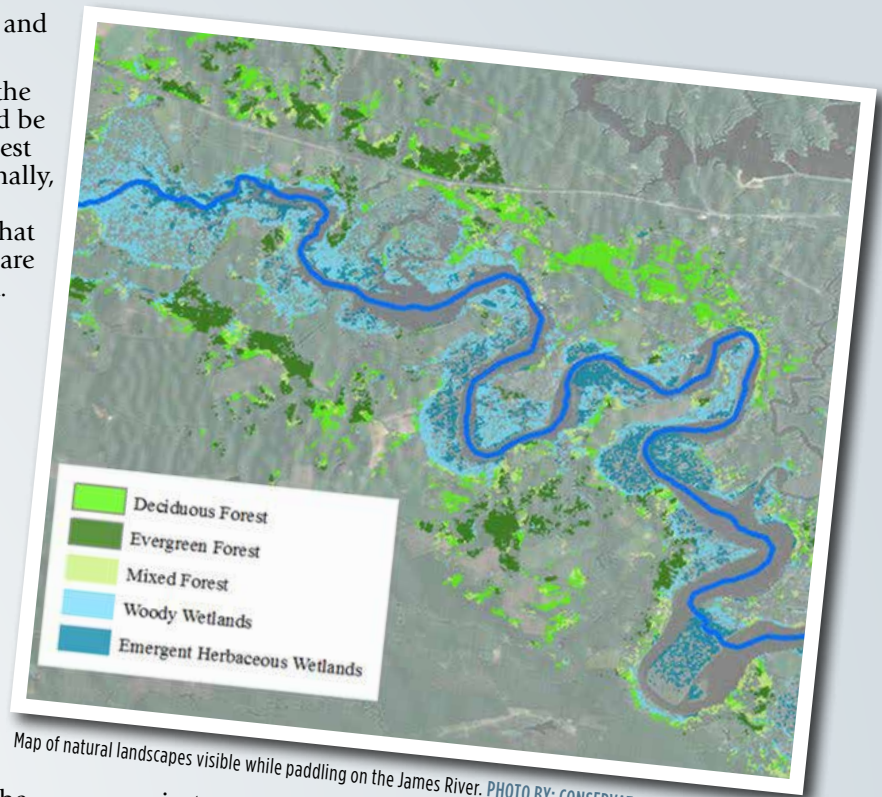
Through Land Use Land Cover and flow path analyses, the Conservancy can pinpoint where riparian buffers should be placed to enhance wildlife habitat and provide the highest reductions in nutrient and sediment pollution. Additionally, the Conservancy and its partners are able to identify evocative stream segments and important open spaces that have high ecological, cultural, and historic value. These are the areas the ETJ team will work to permanently protect.

Earlier this year, the Conservancy started analyzing the landscape of the southern bank of the Potomac River across from George Washington's Mount Vernon in Charles County, MD. As part of a project begun by Prince Georges County, Conservancy staff completed a digital surface model using LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) elevation data and identified portions of the landscape that would impact the viewshed of Mount Vernon if developed.

The outcomes of this analysis will be used to direct funding for land acquisition south of Mount Vernon in order to maintain as pristine a view from the property as possible. This study will also garner a better understanding of how different aspects (building heights and placement) of future developments across the Potomac will influence a visitor's view.

This analysis of the Mount Vernon viewshed informed the Conservancy's work along the James. The Conservancy undertook a project to update work started by our National Park Service partners to map the viewshed visible from the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail along the James.

Our detailed visibility analysis identifies landscapes that are visible from navigable stream reaches throughout the entire James River watershed, increasing the scope of the original



project by an additional 1,000 miles to span over 1,200 miles of the river and its tributaries.

Through this endeavor, the Conservancy is collaborating with Virginia state agencies and local partners to identify areas where visible landscapes overlap with other ecological, historical, and cultural priorities to conserve the lands that will deliver the greatest benefit.

## 2014 Chesapeake Hackathon



PHOTO BY: HANS-PETER PLAG

There is a growing need in the Chesapeake for tools designed to help communities understand and incorporate climate change and sea-level rise data into long-term planning efforts for development. In the name of collective action, programmers, designers, and experts in a number of different fields will gather at Old Dominion University

on November 8-9 for the first Chesapeake Hackathon, hosted by the Chesapeake Conservancy, Intel, and the Digital Energy Sustainability and Solutions Campaign.

The collaboration of this two-day marathon will create tools that help the region adapt to more frequent flooding, rising sea levels and other projected impacts of climate change. It will bring together experts in climate change and sea-level rise, planning and zoning, community development, and conservation targeting.

Coastal communities throughout the Chesapeake Bay are constantly making decisions about where to allow construction and new development, as well as where to protect open space for public enjoyment and natural resource

protection. Decisions are often focused on short-term benefits that do not consider what the landscape might look like beyond the next 30 years. These decisions can have long-term implications, however, as communities are allowed to expand into areas that will be vulnerable to flooding, and expensive investments in public infrastructure are placed in areas that will be impacted by a rising sea level and a changing climate.

In addressing these critical needs, these tools will help local governments and conservation organizations integrate new climate data into efforts that reduce a community's vulnerability while offering greater protection for critical coastal ecosystems.



## Donor Profile: James and Sylvia Earl

James and Sylvia Earl are residents of the Chesapeake who understand the importance of protecting the precious natural resources that give the region its special feel. Since 1988, Jim and Sylvia have donated to nonprofit organizations through the Helena Foundation, which they started in honor of Jim's mother, Margaret Helena Earl. A large component of the foundation's philanthropic work goes toward environmental causes, including the mission of the Chesapeake Conservancy.

"We are appreciative of the support of all of our donors at the Chesapeake Conservancy," Conservancy Executive Director Joel Dunn said. "The devotion of caring individuals like the Earls make our work in the Chesapeake gratifying on a personal level. Jim and Sylvia are passionate about their giving and clearly do their research. By making the Conservancy one of their top philanthropic priorities, they ensure the protection of irreplaceable natural, historical, and cultural resources in the Chesapeake."

A native of Omaha, Nebraska, Jim and his family traveled every summer to Deer Lake in Wisconsin, where the Earls supported efforts of Deer Lake Conservancy to maintain clean water in the lake. In 1965, these ideals came along with Jim and Sylvia when they moved to Maryland, where he became a professor of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Maryland, College Park.



Jim and Sylvia Earl at the Conservancy's Captain John Smith Chesapeake Society event PHOTO BY: THE ANNAPOLIS PHOTOGRAPHER

In anticipation of Jim's retirement in 2000, the Earls moved to Crownsville in 1965. Here, he served on the board of the Scenic Rivers Land Trust, which works to protect rivers near Annapolis. Soon, he became involved with the Trust for Public Land in its efforts to create an environmentally sound development plan for the Sahlin Farm on the Severn River. This was the catalyst that made environmental causes a focus for the Helena Foundation.

When a friend recommended that the Helena Foundation donate to Chesapeake Conservancy, Jim said he was unsure of what we do. But after

doing some research, he understood what sets the Conservancy apart from other conservation organizations.

"I realized that the coordinating aspect of the organization does not overlap with any of the other organizations that we support," Jim noted. "We support the Conservancy because they get the communities, the legislators, and the federal government to come together to make these projects happen. We think this is a good thing to be doing. For us, it just seems natural to donate."

Thanks to Jim and Sylvia for your support!

## New Captain John Smith Trail Access Opens at Virginia State Park

Virginia Governor Terry McAuliff joined Chesapeake Conservancy Executive Director Joel Dunn and NPS Chesapeake Bay Superintendent Charles Hunt for a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Caledon State Park on August 27 to open six new campsites along the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. The campsites, designed for canoes and kayaks, were developed through the partnership of the Commonwealth of Virginia, National Park Service, and Chesapeake Conservancy and are the latest additions in a plan to increase public access sites across the Bay watershed.

"Partnerships like this one bring extra expertise and resources to the effort to create more public access to the Chesapeake Bay and its great rivers, and particularly to the Captain John

Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail," said Dunn. He noted that creating access that enables people to explore the Chesapeake watershed's outdoors is a part of Chesapeake Conservancy's mission.

The Conservancy has played a key role in development of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Public Access Plan and the Potomac River Segment Plan for the trail. The plans identify canoe-in campgrounds as an important need for paddlers who want to travel along the routes of Captain John Smith's explorations.



State, federal, and local partners cut the ribbon at the new canoe launch at Caledon State Park. PHOTO BY: PETER TURCIK

The addition of the new campsites at Caledon State Park will serve paddlers on the western shore of the Potomac. The park is located just upstream from the Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge (US 301).



## Board Profile: Dr. Mamie Parker

When Chesapeake Conservancy board member Dr. Mamie Parker spoke to students at Benjamin Franklin High School at Masonville Cove about her life and work in the field of conservation, no one realized where it would lead. Mamie is a retired Regional Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and has over 30 years of experience as a fisheries biologist.

Her presentation was so successful, Mamie is now embarking on a 12-school lecture series entitled "The Mamie Parker Journey: Inspiring Youth to Embrace the Chesapeake." The goal of these talks is to engage students in the Baltimore area and encourage them to experience the Chesapeake Bay watershed through facilities such as the Masonville Cove Urban Wildlife Refuge. In speaking to these students, Mamie also hopes to expose them to career options in environmental science and environmental studies.

"If you really want to reach out to the community, you need a good spokesperson," Mamie explained. "I have always been able to recruit non-traditional conservationists that didn't

see what role they could play in the field, because the field is full of European-Americans, not people of color. I realized that in kids and adults, the points resonate better with people that look like them, act like them, and can relate to them."

Mamie Parker grew up youngest of 11 children to a single mother in southeast Arkansas. From an early age, Mamie's mother, Cora, fostered a love of the outdoors in her daughter through fishing. Mamie feels this early introduction to the outdoors was enormously influential on her life and eventual career.

"A large percentage of the girls in my ninth grade class were pregnant, I was not because the outdoors were a deterrent for me," Mamie noted. "I would have been kissing had I not been fishing."

In her lecture series, Mamie uses her own life experience to show these students how the outdoors and conservation have helped her overcome numerous obstacles in her life. Through her presentations, Mamie hopes to inspire youths in the Baltimore area to overcome their own hurdles and become the next



Dr. Mamie Parker speaks to students at Benjamin Franklin High School PHOTO BY: DEVIN RAY, US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

generation of conservationists.

So far, Mamie said she has received positive feedback from students, which has made the experience very gratifying.

"I feel really good about it, because I think about my own profession and how hard it is for me, as a pioneer," Mamie commented. "To know that I was able to help somebody, and they have someone to look up to and say, 'I'm ok doing this,' to be able to tell them 'here is what you are going to experience, but hold fast to what you believe,' and to see some of them sending me notes back over time saying, 'I made it!' or 'I overcame this because of something you said,' is really rewarding."

## LEAVE A LEGACY OF THE CHESAPEAKE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Please remember the  
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For more information call:  
443.321.3610 or  
[eerickson@chesapeakeconservancy.org](mailto:eerickson@chesapeakeconservancy.org)



PHOTO BY: MATE WARSCHALKO - FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS





Maryland state terrestrial archaeologist Charles Hall (second from right) shows designs etched into the Bald Friar petroglyphs, housed at the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab. Also pictured (from the left): Conservancy Board Member Turney McKnight, Evelina Erickson, and Joel Dunn. PHOTOS BY: PETER TURCIK

## Conservancy Aids Return of Ancient Petroglyphs

The rich history of the Chesapeake Bay watershed does not begin with Captain John Smith's explorations. Indigenous people who lived here long before the native tribes Captain Smith met made carvings into rocks along the Susquehanna River. The exact age of these petroglyphs is unknown, but they may be as old as 10,000 years, when the first people are thought to have inhabited the region.

Construction of the Conowingo Hydroelectric Dam in the 1920s and the subsequent flooding of the Susquehanna would have buried petroglyphs carved into Indian Rock at Bald Friar's Ford. However, in 1926 a team from the Maryland Academy of Sciences traveled up the river to Indian Rock with a load of dynamite. They blew the petroglyphs out of the rock and collected as many intact specimens as survived the blast.

Over time these pieces of history have been moved around to various locations. In 2006, Charles Hall, Maryland state

terrestrial archeologist, started a search to locate these ancient artifacts and protect them from neglect and vandalism. Many of the pieces he found are now located in Maryland's Archeological Conservation Laboratory.

The Chesapeake Conservancy has championed the preservation of these important cultural relics, and is working with the State of Maryland to move the petroglyphs to Susquehanna State Park, located close to the original location of Indian Rock along the Susquehanna River. Members of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs and of the Haudenosaunee, the Indian nation that represents the seven tribes of the Iroquois, have shown support for this effort.

Susquehanna State Park is on the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail and near the spot where Smith allegedly met with the Susquehannock Indians. It would provide a location where the stones

could be protected and displayed to tell their story.

Many of the enigmatic symbols in the petroglyphs are geometric shapes, composed of curved lines, dished hollows and diamonds. Some are concentric circles. One is a picture that some interpret as two fish swimming away from two straight lines. Perhaps the most intriguing is a recurring diamond-shaped symbol that some describe as a serpent's head, a human face, perhaps a fish, or even a ceremonial mask.

These historic treasures offer an opportunity to think about the people who lived along the Susquehanna long before Europeans arrived—to explore their past, visualize their landscape, and begin to restore their memory, their land, and their ancient petroglyphs, to an honored place.



## Conservancy Staff News

Chris Maxwell joins the Conservancy this fall to work on the National Workshop on Large Landscape Conservation. Chris was a full-time legislative fellow for Congressman Pete Gallego, working on defense, veteran affairs, energy,



PHOTO BY: PETER TURCIK

environment, natural resources, science, and agriculture. Chris has also worked with Sea Web in Silver Spring in operations, and with Metco Environmental in Texas, where he was a project supervisor for air quality control testing, and Clean Air Act compliance. Chris is working on his Master's degree in public policy at American University, and holds a Bachelor's degree in science/marine biology from Texas A&M University.

Kate Baker joins the Conservancy as the coordinator for the Chesapeake Conservation Partnership, a coalition of diverse organizations and agencies engaged in land conservation within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Kate joins the

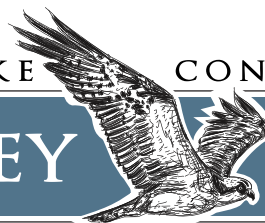


PHOTO BY: PETER TURCIK

Conservancy after two years in Seattle, where she worked with state agencies on renewable energy policy and was a graduate fellow at Environmental Defense Fund. Kate has a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Washington with concentration in environmental management and a Bachelor of Science in finance from the University of Maryland.

CHESAPEAKE CONSERVANCY

OSPREY CLUB



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### Farewell to Tom, Audrey, Breezy, and Spitz! Thanks for another great year!



PHOTO BY: CRAZY OSPREY FAMILY

*"Thank you for a wonderful two years with Tom and Audrey and their offspring. Osprey Girl's blog enriched the experience through clarification and wit."*

- Rosemarie Retacco, Philadelphia, PA

*"Chesapeake Conservancy, What a wonderful two years of watching Tom and Audrey and Family. They are on our screen all day when they are in the nest."*

- Dennis W. Meadowcroft, Ocean City, MD

Thanks to Dennis and Rosemarie, and all Osprey Club members for their continued support.

Your contribution of \$100 or more automatically enrolls you in the **OSPREY CLUB**. Visit [www.chesapeakeconservancy.com](http://www.chesapeakeconservancy.com) and donate today!

## HOLIDAY GIFT-GIVING TIME IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!

Give a Conservancy canvas tote, insulated jacket, or - for a limited time only - a beautiful coffee table book, *The Nanticoke, Portrait of a Chesapeake River*. This edition has exceptional photos by David Harp with the story of one of the Chesapeake's most pristine rivers, the Nanticoke, by noted author Tom Horton. All proceeds go to support the Chesapeake Conservancy's important work. Check out our Chesapeake Gear Shop at [www.chesapeakeconservancy.org](http://www.chesapeakeconservancy.org).





THE CHESAPEAKE CONSERVANCY RELIES ON OUR MANY FRIENDS TO PROTECT AND CONSERVE THE CHESAPEAKE'S GREAT RIVERS AND SPECIAL PLACES. YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION OF ANY AMOUNT IS TRULY APPRECIATED. OUR TAX ID NUMBER IS #26-2271377.



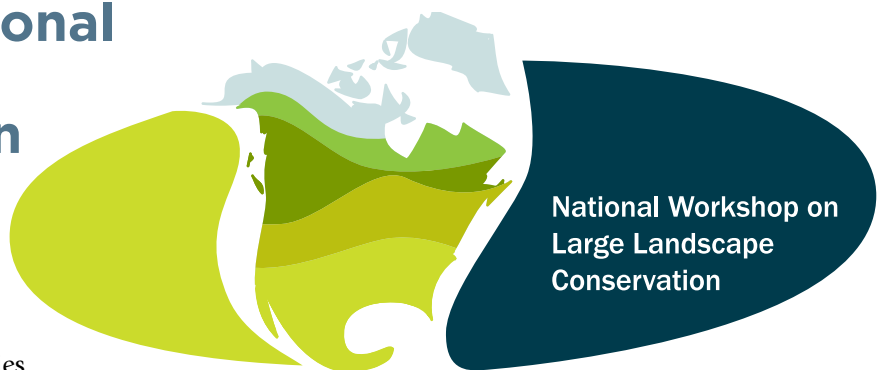
## Conservancy Hosts National Workshop on Large Landscape Conservation

As this issue of *Shorelines* comes off press, the Chesapeake Conservancy hosts the 2014 National Workshop on Large Landscape Conservation, meeting October 23–24 in Washington, D.C. The workshop brings together conservation practitioners and policymakers from across North America to learn, network, and share information about the challenges of large landscape conservation.

As local hosts, the Chesapeake Conservancy will have the opportunity to showcase work we are doing, along with the National Park Service and other partners, to conserve the irreplaceable scenic, natural, and cultural landscapes in the Chesapeake watershed. Joel Dunn, Jeff Allenby, and other Conservancy program staff will be among the presenters and will describe the successes of landscape conservation in the Chesapeake and innovations here that may be models for other areas of the

country. Other staff will host visitors and have opportunities to attend workshop sessions as this national forum meets in the Chesapeake region for the first time. The Conservancy will also have an information booth for providing materials and discussion about our programs.

A field trip to Mount Vernon the day prior to the formal start of the workshop will give another opportunity to show the effects of the Conservancy's work. As noted elsewhere in this *Shorelines*, our Conservation Innovation Center has been working with Prince George's County, Maryland, to analyze the landscape across the Potomac River from George Washington's famous home, to identify



portions of the landscape that would impact the viewshed of Mount Vernon if developed.

Large landscape conservation is a growing and evolving field, as managers of parks and other protected lands, policymakers, and practitioners at all levels recognize the challenges of conservation in the 21st century. Hosting and participating in the 2014 workshop is an exceptional opportunity for the Chesapeake Conservancy to be part of the national conversation. Watch for details in a future issue of *Shorelines*.