Director’s notes…

I was recently asked, “What can I do? I really believe in what you are doing, but I don’t have any land.” It’s not the first time I’ve heard this question, but it reminded me that if we’re going to be successful in conserving resources necessary for healthy rivers and bays and continue to enjoy the migrating patterns of songbirds and waterfowl, it’s going to take more than a few dedicated individuals working on conservation projects. We need to involve more of the community in our work, and in understanding the benefits of land conservation. If there are people who don’t feel connected to the land, they won’t understand the need to preserve the land. I made sure my friend learned how to get involved in our work and we’ve included a number of options in these pages. The land offers wildlife habitat, it supports agriculture and forestry activities. The land also offers a place for exploring, to be quiet, to listen to the wind and the sounds of the geese. It’s a natural prescription for relaxation. Thanks to the interest of numerous landowners, elected officials and timing, LSLT was successful in protecting close to 1,000 acres of land on the Lower Eastern Shore in 2016. Together, we’ll make a difference in preserving the rural landscape and supporting a healthy quality of life on the Eastern Shore.
Join us for our Volunteer Orientation and Training Event on March 25th

Have you wondered what it takes to become a Lower Shore Land Trust Volunteer? There are many ways to get involved and we are currently growing our team of volunteers. Do you enjoy the outdoors? Learn about what it takes to be a Land Steward. Walk some of the beautiful properties we have protected with conservation easements and meet the people who have conserved their land. Or would you like to pitch in at one of our many outreach and education programs? Here is your chance to learn more about our work and how you can get involved.

Volunteer Orientation and Training Event

Saturday, March 25th, 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon
Lower Shore Land Trust Office
100 River Street, Snow Hill, MD 21863

This event will provide you with information volunteer opportunities and what it takes to become a Land Steward Volunteer and get out on some of the most beautiful properties across the Shore. Do you have a skill to share? We’re looking for photographers, graphic artists and administrative support.

Please contact the Lower Shore Land Trust to register – mpettis@lowershorlandtrust.org or 443-234-5587

The Lower Shore Land Trust has partnered with AmeriCorps through the ShoreCorps/PALS State program offered at Salisbury University, and has brought on Michelle Winters as a new AmeriCorps Service Member. Michelle comes to LSLT with four years of undergraduate experience in environmental studies and marketing management. Joining an established organization, Michelle will apply useful techniques directed towards rural community engagement and land preservation to support the mission of LSLT.

The position aims to develop a pollinator certification program, enhance native landscaping resources, coordinate the Pollinator Festival and 10th annual Native Plant Sale and assist with efforts to develop Sturgis Park with environmentally friendly landscaping. Prior to her involvement with LSLT, Michelle learned sustainable landscape design techniques and rainforest restoration practices.

February Winter Bird Identification Program Draws Enthusiast Crowd

The Lower Shore Land Trust office was packed to the gills on a recent Saturday morning in February. Over 35 attendees came to hear experienced birder, Barbara Dolan, discuss bird identification techniques, the ecological significance of our feathered friends, and the importance of habitat preservation. Barbara kept the program lively by dressing from head to toe in every conceivable type of birding gear you could imagine, then demonstrated how to covertly approach a bird without scaring them away. Many laughs were had and we look forward to offering similar programs in the future.
There is no better time to get involved with LSLT! Volunteer your time as a Land Steward, help out at events, contribute your photography skills, install pollinator habitat or help out in the office. Don’t have time? Make a donation or join our monthly subscribers group by visiting our website at www.lowershorelandtrust.org. With each new donor, we can spend less time fundraising, and more time conserving land!
Save the Date!

Lower Shore Land Trust
Pollinator Festival and 10th Annual Native Plant Sale!

100 River Street, Snow Hill, MD

May 5th & 6th!

Become a Sponsor!

Monarch - $1,000
Honey Bee - $500
Garden Steward - $250
Green Thumb - $100

New location & new date!

Sponsors will be recognized at First Friday Garden ribbon cutting event in Snow Hill on June 2, 2017

Celebrate First Friday in Snow Hill and take part in the festivities with a “Cinco de Mayo” party by the Pocomoke River at Sturgis Park. Browse & shop featured plants, with live music and refreshments from 5 – 8 pm on May 5th. Shop for plants, bring the kids and enjoy the Pollinator Festival and 10th Annual Native Plant Sale on May 6th!

To learn more about how you can support LSLT visit the website at www.lowershorelandtrust.org or call 443-234-5587!

Fun facts!

Bees and wasps, beetles, butterflies and moths and flies make up the four groups of insect pollinators. Bats and hummingbirds serve as pollinators, but none to the extent of insects. All insect pollinators undergo complete metamorphosis: egg, larva (caterpillar, grub, or maggot), pupa, and winged adult. The appearance from one stage to the next changes dramatically, and it is important to recognize pollinators at each stage to help preserve them in your garden.

Source, Maryland Extension

LSLT is grateful for the generous support from the Rural Maryland Council. Grant funding supports our outreach and education efforts across the Lower Eastern Shore.
Friday, April 7, 5—8 pm Snow Hill First Friday
Wildlife watercolorist, Ellen Lawler, will showcase her beautiful artwork of birds of the Eastern Shore.

Saturday, April 8, 10 am—Noon Embracing Diversity in the Garden
Barbara Ellis, author of “Chesapeake Gardening and Landscaping,” will discuss her book and tips for native gardening. Order your book when you register by calling 443-234-5578 or register online @ www.lowershorelandtrust.org

Monday, April 10, 3:45 pm STEM PM @ Snow Hill Library
Kids ages 6 and up will learn about the importance of pollinators through hands on activities and crafts.

Saturday, April 22 Earth Day!
Visit our table at the Salisbury Zoo for some cool science and a fun kid activity!

Friday, May 5, 5—8 pm Snow Hill First Friday
“Cinco de Mayo” Celebration!
Pick up pre-sale native plants, browse selection, and enjoy live music and food!

Saturday, May 6, 9 am—1 pm Pollinator Festival and 10th Annual Native Plant Sale!
Purchase from great selection of native plants, learn from Master Gardeners, and kid friendly activities!

Thursday, May 11, 6—7:30 pm Pollinator Garden Certification Workshop
Learn about our pollinator certification program and how to encourage them in your garden

Friday, June 2, 5—8 pm Snow Hill First Friday
Sponsor Appreciation and Garden Dedication Ribbon Cutting

**In Pursuit of Pollinators**

Lower Shore Land Trust Launches Pollinator Certification Program!

We are excited to announce our new Pollinator Garden Certification Program, launching this spring. The interest in pollinators is growing more year as we learn more about the continuous decline of various populations around the world. LSLT will host a series events relating to pollinators and ways you can support a healthy habitat in your backyard or farm.

Pollinating species are responsible for 75% of the over 1,300 plants grown for human consumption. Not only are humans’ livelihood dependent on pollinators, but the stability of our entire ecosystem is also directly influenced by pollinator activity. Landscape fragmentation creates patches of land that are unviable for pollinators, which makes them have to travel farther distances with less available resources to replenish their energy. Protecting large landscapes is important, but everyone can make a difference.

YOU can bee part of the “pursuit for pollinators” by implementing environmentally friendly practices in your yard and introducing pollinator friendly gardens and habitats. Join LSLT at our upcoming events to promote pollinators and to learn how to be a proper pollinator host!

Complete the interest form available on our website and learn how to qualify—it’s as simple as planting native plants for nectar and hosts for pollinators, providing water sources, limiting or eliminating the use of herbicides, fungicides and insecticides in your yard and introducing additional conservation measures. Become a pollinator protector today!
LOWER SHORE LAND TRUST
100 River Street
Snow Hill, Maryland 21863
Phone: 443-234-5587
Fax: 443-234-5589
E-mail: info@lowershorelandtrust.org
Www.lowershorelandtrust.org

“Land protection starts here!”

Upcoming events

Jay Fleming Visits Snow Hill March 3rd!
Celebrated Annapolis-based photographer and author will be on hand at the LSLT office during Snow Hill's March First Friday, from 5—8 pm. Jay will Feature a sampling of his phenomenal Chesapeake Bay and Eastern Shore photographs and signing copies of his new book, “Working The Water” available for purchase.

Spring Equinox Fundraiser at Burley Oak
Let’s celebrate Spring! Join us at Burley Oak on Monday, March 20 from 5:30 pm—8:30 pm and help raise some bucks for the ducks and party down with The Bilenki Experience, featuring George and Pat Bilenki, Adam Bilenki, Jonathan Chase. Proceeds benefit LSLT & MCBP!

Ellen Lawler Featured at April First Friday!
Friday, April 7 from 5—8 pm meet the artist. Lawler's watercolor paintings of birds and nature reflect her deep appreciation for the beauty and diversity of the area's natural heritage. She is recently retired from the Biology Department at Salisbury University and spends much of her time in the field observing, photographing and sketching.

Diversity on the Garden with Barbara Ellis
Join us on Saturday, April 8, from 10 am—noon at the LSLT office for an informative program for beginners and advanced gardeners with author and gardener, Barbara Ellis. Limited Seating! $15.00 per person. Order a copy of her Chesapeake Gardening & Landscaping to be distributed the day of the event. RSVP by calling 443.234.5587