



The Land We Love

*Preserving the rural heritage of the
Northern Neck since 2004*

Volume 10, Issue 1

Spring 2015

Celebrating Our Natural Resources!

The Northern Neck Land Conservancy (NNLC) is dedicated to preserving the land you love. But the NNLC is also dedicated to celebrating the beautiful natural resources in this region. The NNLC is celebrating natural resources in your community in 3 big ways!

BOOTS AND BARBEQUE, SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

IT'S NATURAL TO PROTECT YOUR RESOURCES

The biggest celebration will be "Boots 2015" to be held at the historic King Copsico Farm, home of the Honorable and Mrs. W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr. on September 13, 2015. The NNLC is so gratified and excited that the Murphys will host this wonderful

event on the banks of the Potomac River. The farm has been under a conservation easement since 2001.

The Boots 2015 Committee is also thrilled to announce that Secretary of Natural Resources for Virginia, the Honorable Molly Ward, has agreed to be our keynote speaker. Given that the Honorable W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr. also formerly served as the Secretary of Natural Resources for the Commonwealth, the Boots 2015 Committee felt that a theme of "It's NATURAL to Protect Your RESOURCES" was a perfect theme! Sponsors and exhibitors are signing up quickly.

Tickets are available now, for a bargain price of \$30 with a new 10% off member rate. Additionally, our famous raffle will be held and raffle tickets will be available very soon. Please see the back cover for ticket purchase information.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Perhaps you have seen the NNLC display and tent already this season at the Lancaster County Court Day or the Heathsville Earth Day. Please look for our friendly Board members and volunteers at the following events:

***July 4, 2015
Reedville 5K and
Independence Day
Parade***

***August 1, 2015
Irvington Farmer's
Market***

We would love to meet you and tell you about the NNLC's good work! You may also sign up to volunteer for NNLC, purchase one of our limited edition hats or pick up a license plate application for those wonderful Northern Neck License plates.



Betsy Hardy and Temple Moore lead the group preparing to paddle

CAT POINT CREEK KAYAK TRIP

On May 30, 2015, volunteers Betsy Hardy (NNLC Board member) and Temple Moore (NNLC former Board member, volunteer and Master Naturalist) led a group of kayakers through Cat Point Creek. Under NNLC's leadership, Cat Point Creek was designated a "Special Project Area" and is a critical area for conservation in our community. This unspoiled wetland habitat was duly celebrated under sunny skies. Look for new NNLC led kayak trips this Fall and next Spring.



CELEBRATING NATIONAL ACCREDITATION



The Northern Neck Land Conservancy recently achieved land trust accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance (LTA).

“The Northern Neck Land Conservancy’s accredited status demonstrates our commitment to permanent land conservation that benefits the

entire community,” said Jamie Tucker, former Executive Director.

“Our land trust is a stronger organization today having gone through the rigorous accreditation program.”

The Northern Neck Land Conservancy was awarded accreditation and is one of only 280 land trusts from across the country that has been awarded accreditation since the fall of 2008.

“Through accreditation, land trusts conduct important planning and make their operations more efficient and strategic,” said LTA Commis-

sion Executive Director Tammara Van Ryn.

Community leaders in land trusts throughout the country have worked with willing landowners to save over 47 million acres of farms, forests, parks and places people care about. Strong, well-managed land trusts provide local communities with effective champions and caretakers of their critical land resources, and safeguard the land through the generations.

“We are proud to display the accreditation seal that demonstrates the quality of our service to landowners, and the high

degree of professionalism of our organization” stated Ms. Tucker.

New Executive Director Elizabeth Friel was also enthused at the NNLC’s accredited status. She had led the Williamsburg Land Conservancy through accreditation and appreciates that NNLC had been brought up to the high national standards.

“Accreditation provides true organizational sustainability. NNLC’s completion of the accreditation program is a wonderful accomplishment. It gives us a road map going forward” stated Ms. Friel.

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BEGINS WORK



Elizabeth R. Friel of Williamsburg was selected after a nationwide search that began last winter and attracted several competitive candidates who believe in the value of land conservation and open space protection.

“I’m excited at being here,” said Friel, who began her work in the Northern Neck in April.

“It’s a really beautiful place. I’d like to come and help preserve that amazing landscape—it’s quite an opportunity.”

Friel’s hire follows an important milestone the conservancy reached last year of earning accreditation from the national Land Trust Alliance. (see story above)

Friel was land stewardship manager for the Williamsburg Land Conservancy. She previously was a planning director for the city of Falls Church.

“I’m enjoying my work for the Northern Neck Land Conservancy, she said. “My biggest priority is getting to know the land and the people.”

(Partially Excepted from the Rappahannock Record)



Boots and Barbecue returns Sunday September 13th at King Copsico Farm in Westmoreland County.

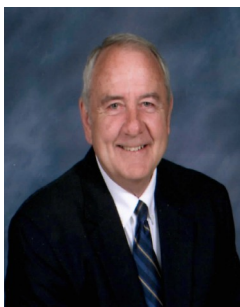
Join us on the shores of the Potomac River at the home of our hosts The Honorable and Mrs. W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Serving as President of the Northern Neck Land Conservancy is a very special honor. The first reason is the opportunity for our passionate and collective promotion of the mission to preserve the rural heritage of the Northern Neck by conserving its lands, waters, economies and culture for future generations.

The second reason is the chance to work with and come to know a truly exceptional board of directors. Our members include four farmers, an aviator, an attorney and law professor, four educators, a corporate CEO, a noted vocalist, a prosecutor and district judge, an

investment advisor and a state association president. Each also has a myriad of other volunteer activities-church, garden clubs, YMCA, library, museum, fire department, historical society and support of the needy. My thanks to each...and an invitation for you to express an interest in joining our Board. You will have a great time!



Steve Walker, NNLC President

CONSERVATION UPDATE



NNLC's Land Preservation Committee had the opportunity to visit some potential conservation sites at their May meeting.

Also in May the NNLC Board of Directors recommended approval of the designation of a Special Project Area for the Lower

Rappahannock River corridor. This designation will be considered at the Virginia Outdoors Foundation's June meeting. This designation recognizes the environmental and historic significance of the Lower Rappahannock River and encourages conservation efforts in the area.

SPOTLIGHT ON KING COPSICO FARM - HOME OF BOOTS 2015

King Copsico Farm, located in Westmoreland County, was once part of a larger tract patented in 1658. The farm, which retains its Native American name, sits on a low bluff overlooking the Potomac River which is 7 miles wide in the area. The site also borders Herring Pond. The home on the Farm was initially built as a summer cottage, but then added to in several phases.

The land has been settled since the mid 17th century. In the late 1600s it was occupied by Major Francis Wright, grandson of one of the first Europeans to settle the Northern Neck. Major Wright's wife Anne was the only sister of George Wash-



ington's grandfather. King Copsico is a designated Century Farm by the Virginia Department of Agricultural and Conservation Services. The farm has been under conservation easement since 2001.

This historic and environmental jewel has been owned by the Honorable and Mrs. W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr., since 1964. Tayloe Murphy is the former Secretary of Natural Resources for the State of Virginia and also

spent 18 years in the Virginia House of Delegates.

While in the House of Delegates, Murphy sponsored key environmental legislation. Murphy was instrumental in the passage of the state's Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act.

It seems only fitting that "Boots 2015" be held at this lovely historic farm that so well represents our natural resources in the Northern Neck owned by an individual who has done so much to protect natural resources throughout the Commonwealth.

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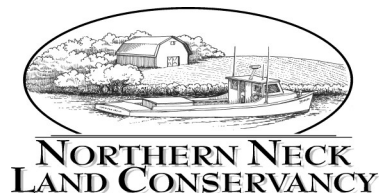
Phone: 804-462-0979
Email: nnlandconservancy@gmail.com
Web: www.nnconserve.org

NORTHERN NECK
LAND CONSERVANCY

Boots & BBQ 2015 RSVP: please return to above address by September 1st
Or you may call 804-462-0979 or go online to nnconserve.org to pay by credit card

☐ YES! I am looking forward to attending Boots on Sept. 13th at King Copsico Farm

☐ 1 person \$30 (Members \$27) ☐ 3 people \$90 (Members \$81)
☐ 2 people \$60 (Members \$54) ☐ 4 people \$120 (Members \$108)
☐ Other Amount @\$30 a ticket (Members \$27)



☐ I cannot attend Boots this year, but I support the work of NNLC and I am enclosing a donation .

Name (s) _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Address _____

PAYMENT:

Check enclosed ☐

Credit Card ☐ MC/VISA # _____

Name on Card _____ Expiration _____

VIRGINIA



Order your own Northern Neck License Plate online at <http://www.dmv.state.va.us/vehicles> or call the NNLC office at 804-462-0979. Show your pride as you drive and support conservation efforts.

THE NORTHERN NECK