



Conserving the Land You Love

**Leap Year/ Late Winter 2020
Edition**

Leap Year 2020 brings.....

The Northern Neck Land Conservancy is happy to report we are a grateful recipient of a Mason and Lula Cole Trust gift. We are excited to report that this gift will enable us to continue our office technology upgrades.

The NNLC Endowment Fund is in place and has received its initial deposit. The Endowment Fund will ensure the stewardship of NNLC easements in perpetuity.

Our "Preservation of Farmlands" outreach event was well attended, even though it was a snowy night in the NNK! Approximately 25 interested individuals participated and heard from Elizabeth Friel, our Executive Director and from Craig Giese, NNLC Board member, about the easement process and the potential financial benefits of putting property in a conservation easement.

We will be hosting additional sessions of this topic in the future; more to come on this. In the meanwhile if you are interested in more information, call our office on 804-462-0979 and we will be happy to provide it.



Executive Director Elizabeth Friel speaking at the Preservation of Farmlands event on February 20.

Our Board is planning the agenda for our **Annual Board Retreat**. We will use the Retreat to update our Strategic Plan and refine our 2020 Vision. We will also refine our fundraising and communication plans. We welcome suggestions from you, our members, for consideration at the Retreat.

We are looking forward to seeing and working with you in the community.

Kirwan King, President
Elizabeth Friel, Executive Director

Conservation Corner by Allison Burgess, NNLC Intern

Importance of Timber

Timber is a natural, renewable, and recyclable resource commonly used for construction or paper products. Timber grown in forests has many benefits for the surrounding ecosystem and economy. The extensive root systems of the forests help reduce sediment runoff into nearby waterways, which also decreases the nutrients entering the water. The water quality is improved by reducing the sediments and nutrients in the water. Additionally, forests remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, so air quality is also improved.

The timber industry is also very beneficial for the economy. It

provides many jobs in multiple stages, from harvesting, manufacturing, and selling. Overall, forest products compromise about 1.5% of the United States economy (U.S. Endowment). The industry encourages landowners to manage their forests rather than cutting them down for other uses, such as development.

