



NORTHERN NECK LAND CONSERVANCY

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Places, Partners, and Perpetuity



NNLC Conserves Record 2,000 Acres and Expands to Essex County

In 2016 NNLC set a goal to protect 1,000 new acres by the year 2020. The response was remarkable and NNLC conserved 2,000 acres in year 2017 alone! In Northumberland County, 3 beautiful properties were conserved and will remain in productive farm and forest land (including the 242-acre Gascony site shown above). In Richmond County, 224 acres along Totuskey Creek, will be forever protected.

What's more, NNLC was asked by property owners in Essex County to conserve two significant farms, including the stunning Gywnnfield Farm just north of Tappahannock. The Board agreed to this expansion, extending NNLC's reach to Essex County.

NNLC is excited about this record year as well as the additional 1,000 acres that is under consideration for 2018. The growth has been accompanied by key partnerships and policy changes to insure easements are well protected – forever.

Save the Date!

**BOOTS & BBQ 9/23/2018
HEATHSVILLE, VA**



NNLC Partners for Conservation, Funding and Outreach

In November 2017, NNLC Board and staff along with Natural Resources and Conservation Services (NRCS) District Conservationist, Debbie Bullock, and property owner, Cathy Calhoun, celebrated the partnership and funding that helped protect Ditchley in Northumberland County. The group enjoyed an advance batch of specialty hard cider produced onsite. In a multi-year effort, NNLC partnered with the Ditchley owners and NRCS to secure substantial Farm Bill monies to facilitate the innovative agricultural development and restoration of this community treasure. NNLC is seeking additional partners to fund conservation and is currently working with the Department of Defense encroachment funds (known as Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration or "REPI" funds)

NNLC has also partnered with farmers in bringing special outreach programs to Northern Neck through two Preservation of Farmlands events. These open house style forums held in Northumberland and King George Counties had more than 25 attending and a lively conversation. And finally, NNLC's annual education event "Boots and BBQ" reflected a unique pairing with area dog trainers and decoy makers. The dog trial demo was a huge hit!



NNLC Plans for Future with Strategic Plan and Endowment Fund

With the NNLC's growth and expanded conservation footprint in the region, NNLC has been strategically planning for the organization's future. The strategic plan was recently updated (see Board members planning above).

Protecting conservation easements in perpetuity is the key mission of NNLC and the Board has now strengthened its conservation stewardship policy. The Board also recently received enhanced conservation easement inspection training. And thanks to a generous gift, an endowment fund has been established with a plan for funding being formulated.



*The beautiful Northern Neck License
Plate benefits the work of NNLC.*

*Order yours at
www.dmv.virginia.gov*

Places

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS ABOUND!



Totuskey Creek- 224 Acres



Gwynnfield-757 Acres



Wind Farms-686 Acres



Mill Creek-44 Acres



Downing-100 Acres



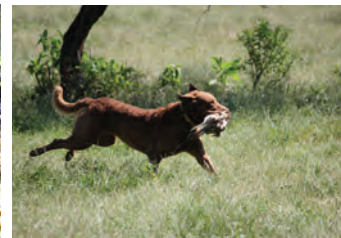
Gascony- 242 Acres



Ditchley- 167 Acres

Partners

Boots and BBQ 2017 was all about "Celebrating the Great Outdoors". NNLC partnered with area dog trainers and decoy carvers for special demos along with our 20 environmental partners and their interactive exhibits. The A. Mason Brent Family was named the Northern Neck Land Conservancy's "Conservation Champion". Outdoor education was paired with delicious BBQ, fried oysters, craft beer, wine, homemade desserts and a stunning September day at Historic Grove Mount Farm in Richmond County for a winning combination.



Perpetuity

As NNLC prepares for the future, we have updated our Strategic Plan that focuses on Places (conservation goals), Partners (community outreach goals) and Perpetuity (organization sustainability). Conservation easements require care and attention as well as funding for stewardship and legal defense. The NNLC organization also must be sustained and an endowment fund has been started to allow that goal to be met.

You can help as you:

- Become a member at nnconserve.org (and get our new decal sticker and special e-newsletters)
- Get the Northern Neck specialty license plate (a portion of the proceeds goes to NNLC)
- Volunteer to help with events, field work or office work.

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