

# Help Keep Program Open Space Strong

## Join Partners for Open Space

Maryland's beautiful natural areas, farms and parks are valuable assets treasured and admired. But these assets are now under threat. Since 1969 the state has used money from a dedicated fund called Program Open Space to protect and maintain these areas. This fund, supported by a small fee on the sale of homes, has helped Maryland keep almost 800,000 acres of important lands from development, and has created over 4350 parks and recreational areas.

However, for the past two years Governor Ehrlich has reallocated money from land conservation and parks to the general fund of the state's budget. As a result, the ability to build more areas for our children to play, keep and protect Maryland's valuable farmland from poorly planned development, and maintain vital wildlife habitat has been seriously undermined.

Partners for Open Space is calling on Governor Ehrlich and our legislators to keep the money raised by this dedicated fee in the Program Open Space Fund. Maryland must return to using these funds as intended, to keep the natural areas, farms and habitats that Marylanders so highly value and have intentionally worked to maintain since 1969.

### **Current members of the coalition include:**

American Farmland Trust	Eastside Youth Sports Committee
Chesapeake Bay Foundation	Wicomico County Soccer Federation
Maryland League of Conservation Voters	Salisbury Lacrosse Club
Maryland Recreation and Parks Association	Wicomico Men's Slow Pitch League
The Nature Conservancy	Westside Community Center Advisory Council
Trust for Public Land	Wicomico County Junior Girls Softball Federation
1000 Friends of Maryland	Wicomico County Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism
American Chestnut Land Trust	Mardela Recreation Council
Baltimore Alliance for Great Urban Parks	Delmar Recreation Council
Baltimore City League of Environmental Voters	Friends of Recreation and Parks, Wicomico County
Cleanup Coalition	Wicomico Co. Slow Pitch Women's Slow Pitch Softball
Eastern Shore Land Conservancy	Fruitland Recreation Commission
The Valleys Planning Council, Inc.	Sharptown Recreation Council
MaryPIRG	Salisbury Advisory Council on Youth Activities
Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland	Wicomico Equestrian Board
Land Preservation Trust	Solutions Not Sprawl
Severn Riverkeeper	Clean Water Action
Assateague Coastal Trust	Chapman Forest Foundation
North County Preservation, Inc.	Coalition for Smarter Growth
Friends of Frederick County	F.A.R.M. – For a Rural Montgomery
Maryland Land Trust Alliance	Joppa/Joppatowne Community Council
Mid-Maryland Land Trust Association	Baltimore Alliance for Great Urban Parks - BAGUP
Maryland Ornithological Society	Patapsco Riverkeeper
National Recreation and Park Association	Patuxent Conservation Corps
Parks and People Foundation	Harford Bird Club
Park and Resources Conservation Foundation	Citizens Planning and Housing Association – CPHA
The Conservation Fund	Southern Calvert Land Trust
The Wilderness Society	The Friends of Patterson Park
Audubon Naturalist Society	Scenic Maryland, Inc.
Herring Run Watershed Association	Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage
Friends of Harford, Inc.	Friends of the Patapsco Valley & Heritage Greenway
Waterkeeper Alliance – Chesapeake Program	Oliver Beach Improvement Association, Inc.
Patuxent Riverkeeper	Environmental Defense
Maryland Conservation Council	Potomac Conservancy
Sierra Club – Maryland Chapter	Bowleys Quarters Improvement Association, Inc.
Maryland Alliance for Greenway Improvement & Conservation	National Parks Conservation Association
Appalachian Mountain Club, DC Chapter	The Harford Land Trust
Gunpowder Valley Conservancy	Edible Chesapeake
Jones Falls Watershed Association	Clean Energy Communications

**Return the form on other side to add your organization to this growing list.**

Yes! Please add the following organization to the **Partners for Open Space**. I understand that I will be kept updated regularly by the coalition about the progress of this effort.

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Business \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: Partners for Open Space, 1209 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, MD 21202  
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