



## IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE

about how a conservation easement can assist you in protecting your land from development while possibly reducing your taxes, please contact us in one of the following ways:

**Contact Tom Woodward** at **410-757-0867** or at **gthomaswoodward@gmail.com** or **Sally Hornor** at **410-647-6254** or at **sally.hornor@gmail.com**.

Even if you don't have undeveloped land to protect, you can still help the Magothy River Land Trust by becoming a member or by sending a donation to:

### **Magothy River Land Trust**

P. O. Box 126  
Severna Park, MD 21146

Members assist the land trust in a number of ways, including helping identify eligible properties, contacting landowners, and assisting with compliance monitoring.



**Magothy River Land Trust**  
P. O. Box 126  
Severna Park MD 21146



**DO YOU HAVE**  
SOME WOODED LAND  
IN THE MAGOTHY RIVER  
WATERSHED THAT  
YOU WOULD LIKE TO  
SEE REMAIN AS IT IS  
FOREVER?



## **THE MAGOTHY RIVER LAND TRUST**

PRESERVING THE MAGOTHY RIVER  
TO SAVE THE CHESAPEAKE BAY



## THE MAGOTHY RIVER



### If so, we invite you to consider donating the development rights to your property to the Magothy River Land Trust.

We are an all-volunteer group of conservation-minded residents who work to help property owners in our watershed keep their land in an undeveloped state. By retaining forests, we help provide habitat for migratory songbirds and we increase the storage of carbon which helps reduce greenhouse gases, among many other benefits. Property owners keep the lovely shade trees on their land, which absorb stormwater and help keep soil and nutrients in the ground instead of being swept into our streams and rivers and the Bay.

The Magothy River Land Trust was formed in 1990 by a group of concerned citizens who were interested in protecting the undeveloped land in our watershed. Since that time, we have been able to preserve 445 acres of land, most notably the 380-acre wooded tract on North Shore Road in Pasadena known as the Magothy Greenway



**WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEAVE A LEGACY OF WOODS AND OPEN SPACE FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN?**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BENEFIT FROM A REDUCTION IN TAXES IN RETURN FOR PRESERVING YOUR WOODED LAND?**

Natural Area. This parcel, as well as other sites on both the north and south shores of our river, is home to some very unusual wetland habitats known as bogs. One of the most interesting aspects of bogs is the presence of carnivorous plants such as the rare pitcher plant, which is featured in our logo. These plants live in nutrient-poor wetlands and supplement their diet by trapping and ingesting insects. Such plants can be readily harmed by exposure to nutrients and sediments in stormwater so we work especially hard to try to protect the land surrounding bogs.

■ **What is a Land Trust?** It is a nonprofit corporation working independently of government that assists landowners in protecting their land through conservation easements.

■ **What is a conservation easement?** A legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust that permanently protects property. A conservation easement does **not** grant public access to the land; the land remains private property.

■ **How does a landowner benefit from donating a conservation easement?** A landowner continues to own their property or may sell it or pass it on to heirs yet they ensure against future development. In addition, the landowner will no longer have to pay Anne Arundel County property tax on the land and the donor may be eligible for a federal income tax reduction equal to the value of the donation.

■ **Why is it important to preserve undeveloped land in our watershed?** There is not a lot of open land left and we have learned over the years that the best way to protect the Magothy River's water quality is to keep land in its natural state. Wetlands and woodlands absorb stormwater, preventing runoff of sediments and nutrients into the river; they also provide critical habitat for migratory songbirds, owls, frogs and turtles. Preserving land now is critical to the well-being of our watershed and fish and crabs in the River and the Bay.

*Drone photos courtesy of Charles Germain and other photos courtesy of Tom Caperna.*

