

Maryland Conservation Corps

Program Overview and Easement Project

Maryland Conservation Corps

Began in 1984 as a Summer Conservation Corps for Youth

In 1992 the program expanded to a 10 month program to include 40 members ages 17-25 at for state parks

Currently 35 members at 7 state parks in Maryland

MCC Member Recruitment

Americorps Partnership

Governor's Office for
Service and Volunteering



MCC Program provides:

Housing on State Park Property

Educational Award and Livable Wage

Uniforms

Trainings and Certifications

MCC Trainings:

Trees and Trails

Basic and Advanced Chainsaw

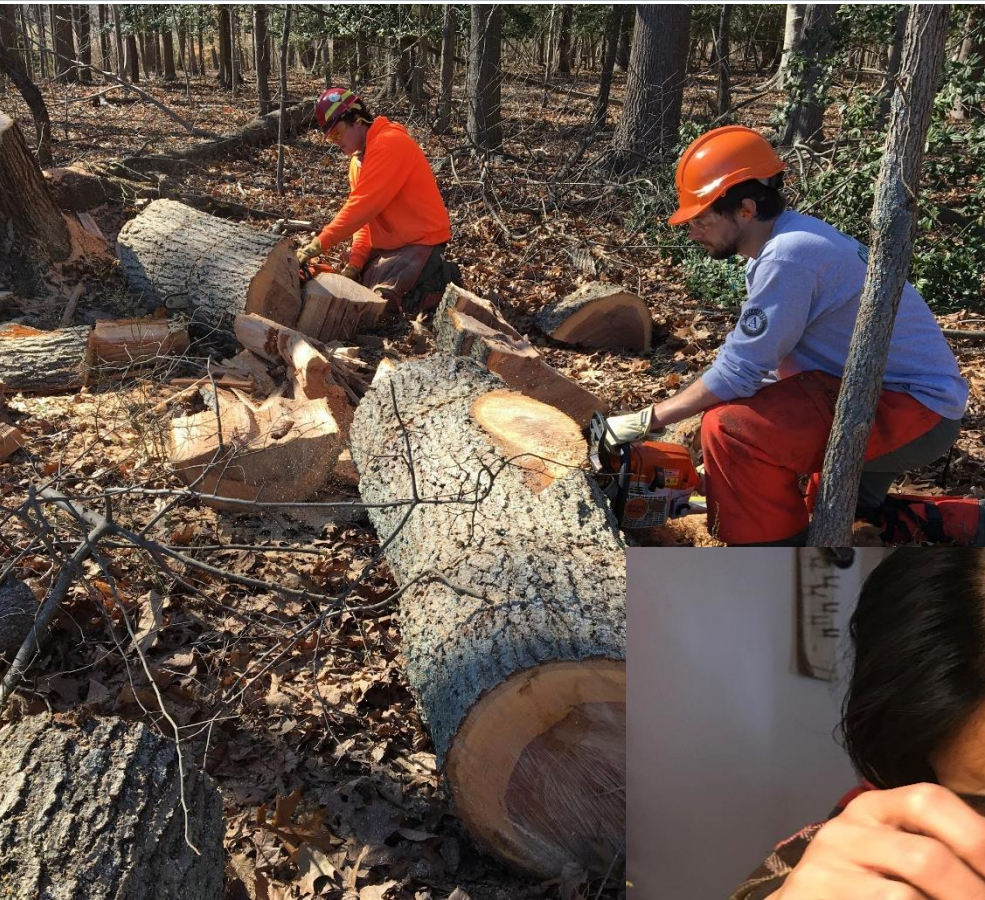
Emergency First Responder

Interpretive Programming

Wildlife Restoration and Management

Archery and Small Water Craft Safety

Water Rescue and SAR Training



MCC Locations:

Assateague Island State Park

Tuckahoe State Park

Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary

Deep Creek State Park

Susquehanna State Park

Gunpowder Falls State Park

Patapsco Valley State Park

Accomplishments

Annual Spring Project

Emerald Ash Borer Treatments – Ongoing
Ash Trees (500 annually)

Woolly Adelgid (goal is 3000 Hemlock Trees)

Created and Maintained over 36 miles of trails since
October 2017

Since October 2017

Over 16 tons of Invasives
removed annually

2900 Native Trees and
Plants

1007 Interpretive
Programs for families,
school groups and park
visitors



Outlined over 100 projects
for summer youth
employees

Re-shingled roofs for park
cabins

Led Bio-Blitz programs
across Maryland

Planted over 5 miles of
wetland grass to improve
shoreline erosion



- Prescribed burns
- Trout stocking
- Water quality sampling
- Construction and woodshop projects
 - Roofing, perches, small bridges, bat boxes
- Tree treating
- Boundary Painting / Reclamation



The variety of work is one of the best parts about MCC. Having such a high concentration of public lands, we have a wide variety of options for conservation work.



- Fire tower tours
- Aviary cleaning, feeding and programming
- School group programs
- Creating informative displays for the public to view in our nature center
 - Invasive species, Aviary Adoption Program, submerged aquatic vegetation, guide to the Discovery Center Animals
- Programming and care for indoor reptiles, amphibians and fish
- Special Events
 - Ramp Cook off
 - Bird Fest
 - Art in the Park



Outcomes:

85% of members continue in Natural Resource Management and Conservation Careers

15% of members complete a second year of MCC

24% of MD Park Rangers are former MCC members

Over 20,000 Ash trees treated (EAB)



Maryland Environmental Trust and Maryland Conservation Corps Easement Project

- Project Scope (Phase 1)
 - Land Owner Notification 11/20/2017
 - 42 Properties
 - Google Drive Folder for Each Monitoring Team
 - File Naming System and Property Identifiers

- Instructions for Kobo Monitoring Reporting Software
 - Completing reports in the field
 - Field Explanations
 - Follow Up and Uploading reports

Overview of Project

Allows members to work with other environmental conservation agencies

Allows members to gain knowledge of environmental easement guidelines

Members identify possible environmental hazards on properties

Members get to see beautiful properties

Great Learning Experience & Awards Ceremony



Updated contact information for landowners needed

Landowners not present at property during easement (caretaker was present)

Uncomfortable monitoring experiences with landowner (public trust of government agency)

More training on interviewing and surveying public – guide for appropriate questions to ask

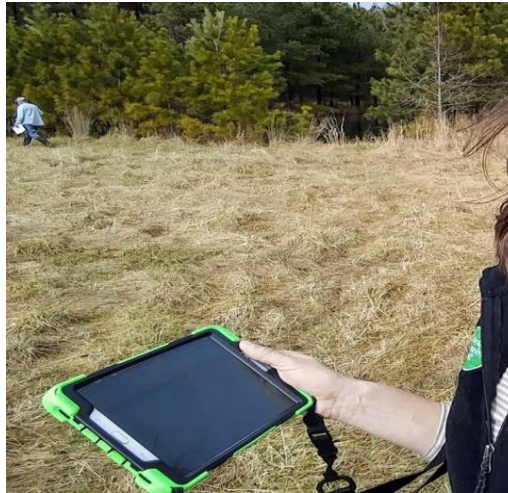
Increased response from MET for guidance about specific situations



Next Phase



Field Data Collection App- Training for MET Volunteer Monitors



Overview:

- Brief history/overview of the MET Monitoring Toolset
- Continue to address stewardship challenges
- Training and using new technology with monitors
- Further enhancing our monitoring procedures



Build Forms



Gather Data



Analyse Data

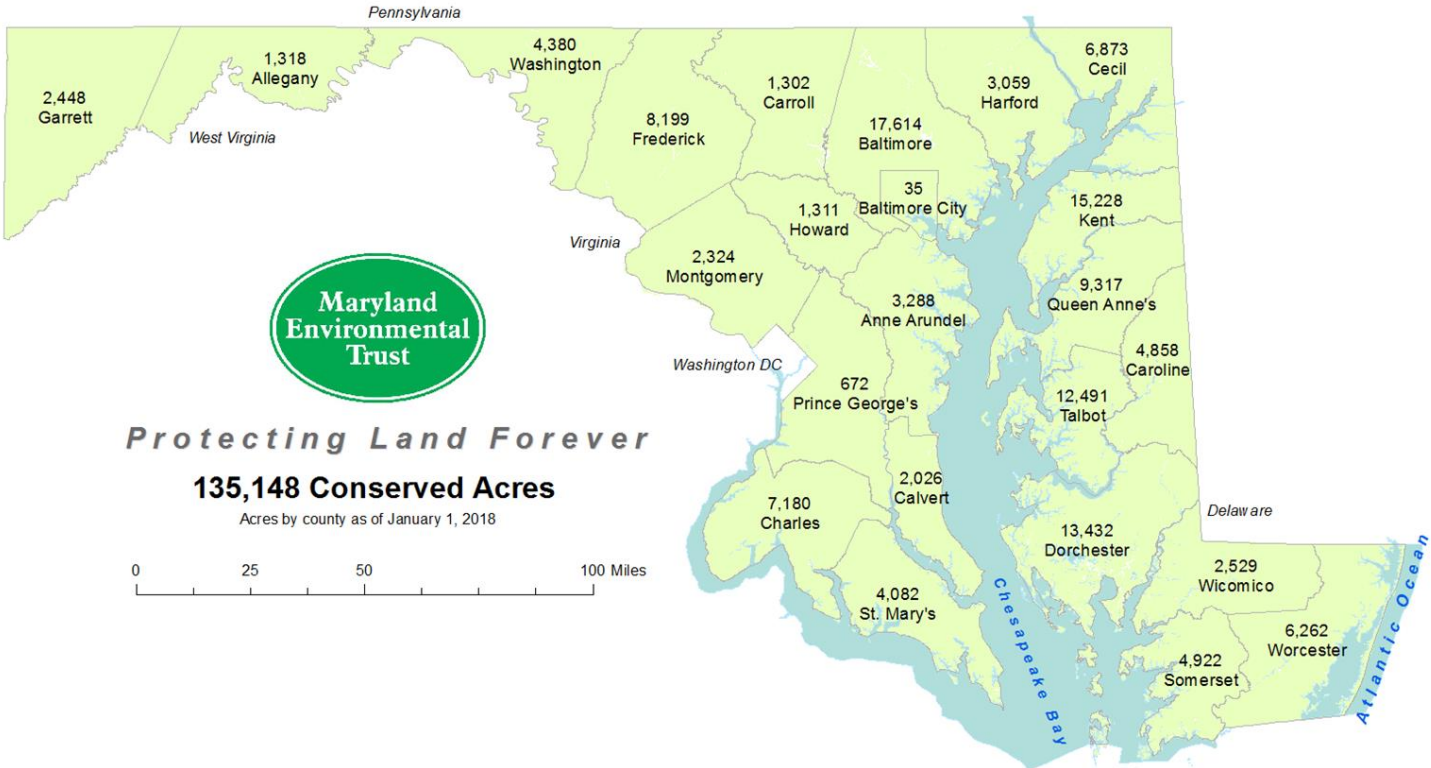


Why is this important for Maryland stewardship?

- Essential functions for collecting monitoring data
- Exchange of monitoring history and property info
- Geo-locates photographs and creates a photopoint map, photo contact sheet, and downloadable photo zip file
- Can be provided at minimum cost to other land trusts
- Number of users/volunteer monitors is unlimited



Stewardship across the state



Protecting Land Forever

135,148 Conserved Acres

Acres by county as of January 1, 2018



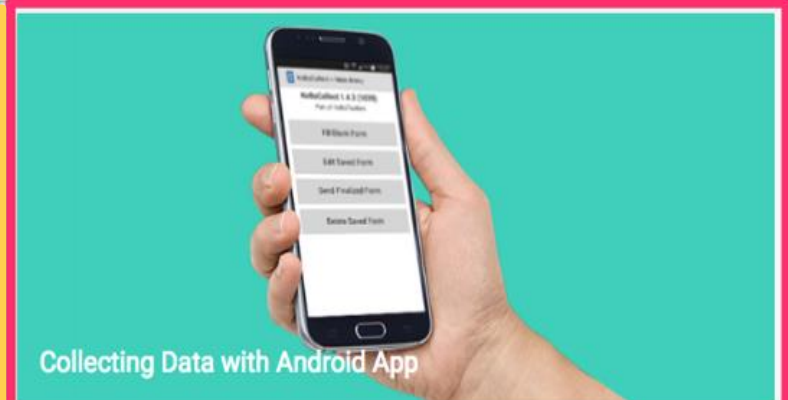
Web-based Monitoring:



Collecting Data with Web Forms

[Learn more →](#)

Open the link to the **Web Form**



Collecting Data with Android App

[Learn more →](#)

Download and use the
KoboCollect App
on your Android device

Unique Field Data Collection App design specifically for Maryland Land Trust Easement Monitoring

The screenshot shows a mobile browser interface for the 'Maryland Land Trust Easement Monitoring Report' form. The browser's address bar displays the URL 'https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/x/#YSg9'. The form is titled 'Maryland Land Trust Easement Monitoring Report' and features a list of sections: Easement, Visit, Structures, Waterbody / Buffer, Land use, Natural land change, Management plans, Additional Comments, and Photo. Below the list is a disclaimer: '*By checking this box, I attest I am the monitor indicated above and the observations captured in this Monitoring Report are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.' This is followed by a radio button labeled 'OK'. At the bottom, there is a checkbox for 'Save as Draft' and a blue 'Submit' button with a checkmark icon.

Maryland Land Trust Easement Monitoring Report

- ▶ Easement
- ▶ Visit
- ▶ Structures
- ▶ Waterbody / Buffer
- ▶ Land use
- ▶ Natural land change
- ▶ Management plans
- ▶ Additional Comments
- ▶ Photo

*By checking this box, I attest I am the monitor indicated above and the observations captured in this Monitoring Report are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

OK

Save as Draft

▼ **Waterbody / Buffer**

*Waterbody present

- No
- Yes

*Buffer present

- No
- Yes

*Buffer width (feet)

*Buffer condition

- Adequate
- Inadequate

*Buffer type

- Short grass
- Shrub / trees / tall grass

Buffer comments

▼ **Land use**

Concerns / observations

- Dumping / storage
- New trail / road / access
- Commercial / industrial activity
- Timber harvesting
- Excavation / dredging
- Large / numerous signs
- Encroachment
- Other

Concerns / observation comments

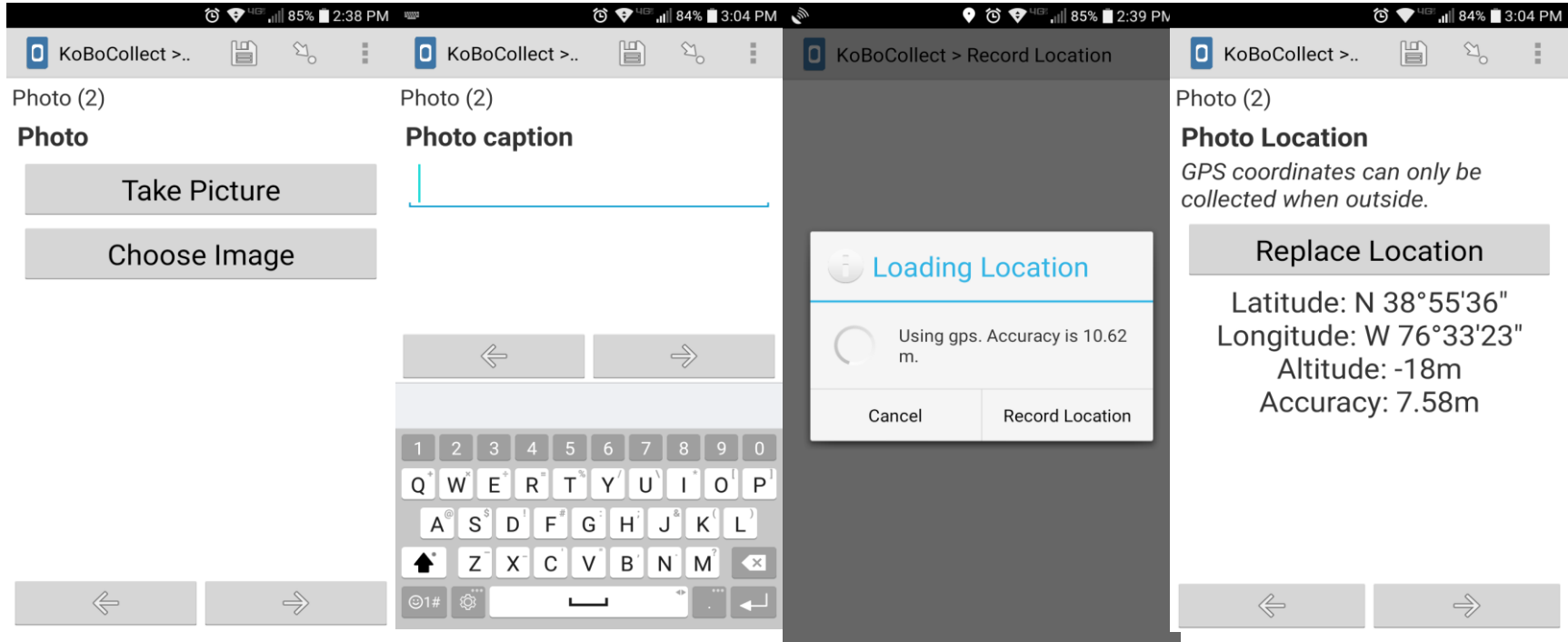
▼ **Natural land change**

Natural land change observations

- Blowdown
- Flood
- Wildfire
- Insects
- Invasive species
- Other

Natural land change comments

Photo Capture:



MCC Interns and Volunteer Monitors

- 35 MCC Interns training Fall 2017
- 41 easements monitored and reports processed
- 38 additional volunteers trained Spring 2018 with assignments currently out



Conservation Easement Monitoring Report
0102DAN10.BACO



VISIT DATE
2018/04/17

VISIT TYPE
Ground

ORGANIZATION
Maryland Environmental Trust

ACCOUNTS

TIME
From 11:50 pm to 12:30 pm

MONITOR
Lynette Tully

Comments

Follow up required?
Yes

Overall impressions
No issues observed. Much multiflora in understory. Cold and overcast

Recommendations for future visit
Arrange thru Robin 555-890-8907

Land owner comments or future plans
None. Unlikely to develop any time soon

Follow up opportunities
Need to verify whether FSP is in place.

Other comments
No short term plans; keep for hunting

Landuse

Observations

Comments
Mostly woodland with small clearing containing barn foundation & old shelter

Management plans

Forest mgt. plan **Soil mgt. plan**
Absent NA

Report reviewed, synced with Locate and follow-up action addressed

Name: Lynette Tully

Signature:

Date: 4/21/2018

Visit

Total time
3 hours **Owner at time of visit**
IFarm Hill Properties LLC
(Joe Smith)

Also present
Property manager **Portion of property view**
Central vantage
Landowner contact
Access
Email

Natural land change

Residences
0 **Observations**
Invasive species

Accessory structures
1 **Comments**
Multiflora rose growing through
deer browse is intensive

0102DAN10.BACO

Visit date: April 17, 2018



1. Access road



2. Meadow fr E



3. Woods uphill fr clearing



4. Old barn fsh

0102DAN10.BACO

Visit date: April 17, 2018



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles



Completed reports:

Maryland
Environmental
Trust



Avenza Maps

Avenza Maps

Click the wrench to :

Draw and Measure

Record GPS Tracks

Find by Coordinates

Open View in Google maps

Plot Photos

0435WIL98-Aerial-2016-CBEC

38.94851, -76.23202

CHESAPEAKE RIVER

DISCOVERS

0435WIL98.QUEE

0436CON98.QUEE

0435WIL98.QUEE
Aerial Map

Chesapeake Bay
Environmental Center

0 250 500 1,000 Feet

Date Printed: 2/13/2018
Date of Aerial Image: 2016

Maryland
Environmental
Trust

Recommended Apps to support your Monitoring Efforts:



GPS Status & Toolbox



Avenza Maps



Compass (No Ads)



Open Camera

Lynette Tully- Stewardship Specialist

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