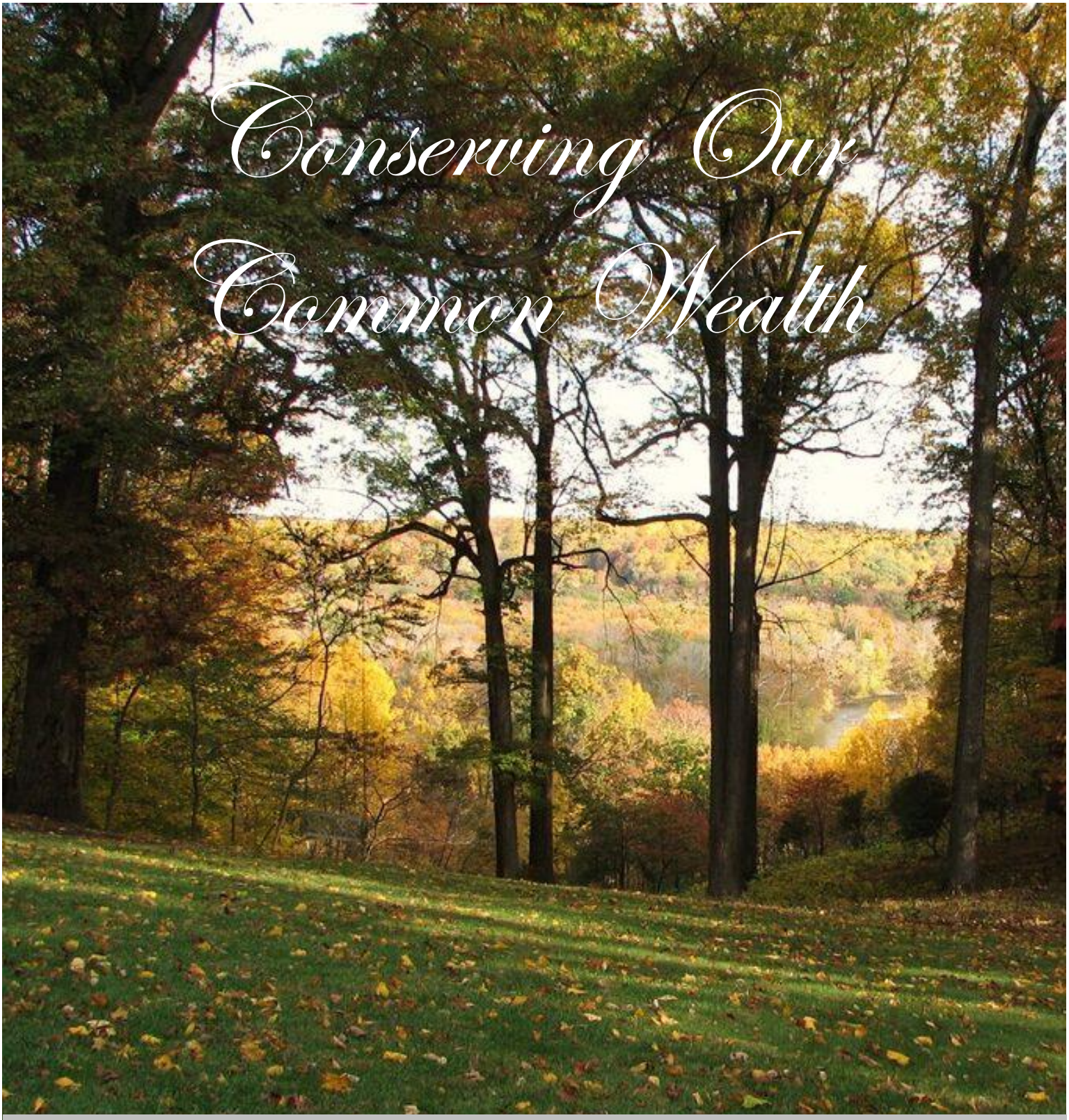

Conserving Our Common Wealth

April 27 – April 29, 2016

Fredericksburg Hospitality House

Fredericksburg, Virginia

Virginia's Tenth Annual Statewide Land Conservation Conference

Schedule at a Glance		
Wednesday, April 27		
1 to 5 PM	Registration Desk Open	Conference Center Lobby
1 to 5 PM	Field Trips	Meet in Conference Center Lobby
5:30 to 7 PM	Social hour with cash bar	Palm Room
	Dinner on your own	
Thursday, April 28		
8 AM to 3 PM	Registration Desk Open	Conference Center Lobby
8 AM to 9 AM	Continental Breakfast	Washington/Jefferson Room
8 AM to 11:45 AM	Contemporary Topics in Virginia Land Conservation	Washington/Jefferson Room
Noon to 1 PM	Lunch – Remarks by Molly Ward, SNR. Speaker: Rebecca Rubin, Marstel-Day LLC	Monroe Room
1:30 to 3 PM	Workshops A – B – C	Madison, Jefferson, and Washington Rooms
3 to 3:30 PM	Networking Break	
3:30 to 5 PM	Workshops D – E – F	Madison, Jefferson, and Washington Rooms
5:45 PM	Board the trolleys	Conference Center Lobby
6 PM	Depart for Belmont House	
	Social Hour, Dinner	Gari Melcher's Studio Pavilion
8:45, 9:00, and 9:15 PM	Buses return to Hotel	
Friday, April 29		
7 to 8:30 AM	Networking Breakfast and Five Roundtable Discussions	Monroe Room and Patrick Henry Room
8 AM to Noon	Registration Desk Open	
8:45 to 10 AM	Workshops G – H – I	Madison, Jefferson, and Washington Rooms
10 to 10:30 AM	Networking Break	
10:30 to Noon	Workshops J – K – L	Madison, Jefferson, and Washington Rooms
Noon to 1:15 PM	Lunch Speaker: Brett Glymph, VOF	Monroe Room
1:30 to 3 PM	Workshops M – N – O	Madison, Jefferson, and Washington Rooms

Conference Schedule

Local Action, Regional Results

Virginia's Tenth Annual Statewide Land Conservation Conference

April 27 – April 29, 2016 ❖ Fredericksburg Hospitality House ❖ Fredericksburg, Virginia

2016 Land Trust Host: Northern Virginia Conservation Trust

Wednesday April 27, 2016

1:00 – 5:00 PM **Registration Open in the Conference Center Lobby**

Field Trips – Meet in Conference Center Lobby

5:30 – 7:00 PM **Social Hour – Cash Bar in the Palm Room**

Dinner on Your Own

Thursday, April 28, 2016

8:00 am – 3:00 PM **Registration Open in the Conference Center Lobby**

8:00 – 11:45 AM **Contemporary Topics in Virginia Land Conservation: Plenary Session and Breakfast Buffet** *Washington/Jefferson Room*

Agenda items include the status of Virginia's United Land Trusts incorporation as a 501(c)(3); federal and state legislative updates; information on a new database of Virginia's easement protections (VOF and DCR); and state agency updates. At 11:00 AM a panel of experts will discuss the Wetlands America Trust (WAT) decision.

Noon to 1:00 PM **Lunch**

Monroe Room **Remarks by Molly Ward, Secretary of Natural Resources**

Speaker: Rebecca Rubin, President and CEO, Marstel-Day LLC

1:30 to 3:00 PM **Concurrent sessions**

Local Tools	***Regional Results***	***National Impacts***
Session A *Madison Room*	Session B *Jefferson Room*	Session C *Washington Room*
Online Tools for Land Trusts	**Indigenous Cultural Landscapes: Benefits of Multi-Cultural Collaboration**	**Land Conservation for Water Quality: New Funding and Approaches**

3:00 to 3:30 PM **Networking break**

3:30 to 5:00 PM **Concurrent sessions**

Local Tools	***Regional Results***	***National Impacts***
Session D *Madison Room*	Session E *Jefferson Room*	Session F *Washington Room*
Restoring Virginia's Longleaf Pine Forests	**Time Travel and Carpe Diem: Seizing the Moment to Understand the Past through Battlefield Preservation**	**Recent Developments in the Law Affecting Conservation Easements** (2 hours – lasts to 5:30 PM)

5:45 PM **Meet in Conference Center Lobby. Buses depart at 6 PM on a journey through historic Fredericksburg and Falmouth, to the Studio Pavilion at artist Gari Melchers' home and studio for dinner. Buses return at 8:45, 9:00, and 9:15 PM.**

Friday, April 29, 2016

8:15 AM – 3:00 PM **Registration Open in the Conference Center Lobby**

7:00 AM to 10:30 AM **Networking Breakfast and Roundtable Discussions –** *Monroe Room*

Roundtable 1 **View from the Sidewalk: Current Topics for Urban Land Conservation**

Roundtable 2 **Positioning VOF for the Challenges and Opportunities Ahead**

Roundtable 3 **Virginia's Wildlife Action Plan**

Roundtable 4 **Terrafirma**

Roundtable 5 **Articulating Messaging around Cultural, Natural, and Recreation Benefits –** *Patrick Henry Room (see session descriptions}*

8:45 to 10:00 AM **Concurrent sessions**

Local Tools	***Regional Results***	***National Impacts***
Session G *Madison Room*	Session H *Jefferson Room*	Session I *Washington Room*
Step Up Your Game: Land Trusts and Social Media	**New Voices for Conservation: Focus on Women Landowners**	**Collaborative Regional Strategy for Mitigating Infrastructure Impacts**

10 to 10:30 AM **Networking break**

10:30 AM to Noon **Concurrent sessions**

Local Tools	***Regional Results***	***National Impacts***
Session J *Madison Room*	Session K *Jefferson Room*	Session L *Washington Room*
Statewide Trails as Conservation Catalysts	**Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve: Success Through Collaboration –** 45 minutes **Approaching Regional Conservation Challenges with Multiple Stakeholders –** 45 minutes	**Your Input Wanted: Standards and Practices Revisions**

Noon to 1:15 PM **Lunch**

Monroe Room **Brett Glymph, Executive Director, Virginia Outdoors Foundation**

Elizabeth Tune, Director of Preservation Incentives, Virginia Department of Historic Resources

1:30 to 3:00 PM **Concurrent sessions**

Local Tools	***Regional Results***	***National Impacts***
Session M *Madison Room*	Session N *Jefferson Room*	Session O *Washington Room*
Financing Solutions for Land Conservation	**Investigating Conservation Easement Adoption**	**A New Approach to Assessing and Planning Your Community Impact**

Session Descriptions

Session A

***Online Tools for Land Trusts*.** The session will introduce participants to a suite of online mapping programs. Jeff Allenby of the Chesapeake Conservancy will demonstrate their conservation toolboxes, which allow small, local partners' to engage with the cutting edge data and resources the Conservancy is developing. Alli Baird, of DCR's Division of Natural Heritage, will demonstrate the Natural Heritage Data Explorer (NHDE), a conservation tool that supports DCR-DNH's mission to protect Virginia's biodiversity. Amy Ewing from the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries will demonstrate their Virginia Fish and Wildlife Information Service (VAFWIS), a system of datasets that allows access to current and comprehensive information about Virginia's wildlife. DGIF is currently rebuilding VAFWIS, and the audience will get to see examples of where it is heading in the near future. Brad McDonald from the Department of Historic Resources will demonstrate DHR's Virginia Cultural Resource Information System, a GIS-based database that provides access to records about the Commonwealth's rich cultural heritage and maps that information.

Session B

Indigenous Cultural Landscapes: Benefits of Multi-Cultural Collaboration – An indigenous cultural landscape (ICL) contains natural and cultural features that together could have supported indigenous communities in the past. ICL identification can inspire opportunities for collaboration, public interpretation, resource management, and conservation. Panelists will describe the concept, recent applications, and stewardship implications, and share GIS-enabled probability modelling for the Chesapeake tidal region. The audience will identify potential applications in their own landscapes and state-wide. Deanna Beacham, National Park Service Chesapeake Bay, American Indian Program Manager; Suzanne Copping, National Park Service Chesapeake Bay, Resource Protection and Partnership; Chief G. Anne Richardson, Chief, Rappahannock Tribe; Scott Strickland, Archaeologist, Instructor & Researcher, St. Mary's College of Maryland; Hill Wellford, Retired Attorney, Hunton & Williams.

Session C

Accelerating Land Conservation for Water Quality: New Funding and Approaches – A Chesapeake Bay Funders Network 2015 study, conducted by the Land Trust Alliance, makes clear that water is a key driver for many land trusts. This session will review the study's findings and announce the Chesapeake Bay Land & Water Initiative, a $1.3 million competitive grant program to accelerate land conservation for water quality in the watershed. Two remarkable projects on the Rappahannock River will showcase new funding opportunities. Greg Evans, VA Department of Forestry (VA DOF); Megan Gallagher, Chesapeake Funders Network and Hillsdale Fund; Mike Kane, Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC).

Session D

Restoring Virginia's Longleaf Pine Forests – The session will provide an overview of a multi-partner campaign to restore one of Virginia's rarest natural systems: longleaf pine savannas. Topics include: building stewardship capacity through interagency habitat management teams, cultivating "conservation heroes" to advance restoration on private lands, and working to broaden and accelerate fundraising efforts. While focused on the southeastern coastal plain, Virginia's longleaf initiative provides an organizational framework of potential relevance to forest conservation efforts across the state. Tom Craig, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Dean Cumbia, VA DOF; Rebecca Gwynn, VA Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries; Rick Myers, VA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation; Brian Van Eerden, The Nature Conservancy.

Session E

Time Travel and Carpe Diem: Seizing the Moment to Understand the Past through Battlefield Preservation – Early battlefield preservation efforts in the late 19th and early 20th centuries resulted in the creation of some of Virginia's preeminent military parks such as Manassas, Fredericksburg, and Richmond. However, between the 1930s and the 1990s thousands of acres of battlefield land were lost to development. Today's challenge is to acquire battlefield land impaired by modern development and rehabilitate it to its historic

condition to the extent possible. This requires agility and flexibility in land acquisition strategies, steady funding sources to offset the costs of acquisition and rehabilitation, and a thoughtful approach to land stewardship. Gillian Bearns, VA Department of Historic Resources (DHR); Joanna Wilson Green, DHR; Tom Gilmore, Civil War Trust (CWT); Adam Gillenwater, CWT.

Session F [Note: two-hour session, lasts to 5:30 pm]

Recent Developments in the Law Affecting Conservation Easements – This session will cover recent Tax Court decisions affecting conservation easement transactions, including rulings pertaining to "perpetuity" and IRS efforts to expand requirements for perpetuity; amendments in light of recent IRS pronouncements; syndications of conservation easement deductions and credits; disguised sales of tax credits; tax credit appraisal issues; and other recent developments in the law. Participants should leave the seminar with an understanding of new issues in deductibility relevant to drafting and managing conservation easements, and with a critical eye for potential abuses. Tim Lindstrom, Esq. *CLE credit pending.*

Breakfast Roundtable 1: View from the Sidewalk: Current Topics for Urban Land Conservation – This session is a workshop to explore "best ideas" on selected topics, including identifying the value equation for protected land in urban settings, alternatives to easements/permanency, branding (competing with rural imagery of land conservation), re-purposing land for conservation, community land trusts and housing initiatives, and, given all of this, engaging and developing a donor base. Bring your "best ideas" and your most complex problems! Peggy Stevens, Northern Virginia Conservation Trust.

Breakfast Roundtable 2: Positioning VOF for the Challenges and Opportunities Ahead – VOF seeks the insights and ideas of land trust partners as it positions itself to meet the Commonwealth's short-term and long-term land conservation goals, as well as its increasing stewardship challenges, in the face of shrinking public funding. Brett Glymph, Virginia Outdoors Foundation.

Breakfast Roundtable 3: Terrafirma – Terrafirma is the Land Trust Alliance's Risk Retention Group that provides insurance for up to $500,000 in legal defense costs. Its first and largest payout—more than $140,000 so far—has been to the Land Trust of Virginia over a landowner's construction of a road prohibited in the easement. The roundtable is an opportunity for land trusts enrolled in Terrafirma to learn how the program is working and for those that have not yet signed up to hear about the process of doing so. Grant Smith was elected to the Terrafirma Members Committee as the mid-Atlantic representative at the end of 2015. He leads the all-volunteer Land Trust of the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia, which has 48 easements covering almost 4,800 acres of farmland and forest. Grant Smith, Terrafirma Members Committee and Land Trust of the Eastern Panhandle, West Va., and Leslie VanSant, Land Trust of Virginia.

Breakfast Roundtable 4: Wildlife Action Plan – In Virginia, almost 900 wildlife species are considered to be of greatest conservation need. The biggest challenges involve loss or degradation of habitats. If these issues aren't addressed, many of these species will become endangered. Endangered species conservation is costly, time consuming, and often impacts landowners, businesses, and municipalities. DGIF has recently completed Virginia's Second Wildlife Action Plan, which was designed to find ways to keep species from becoming endangered. Learn about the major themes covered in the updated action plan and tools that are being created to support Virginia's conservation community. An implementation strategy is being developed for the Wildlife Action Plan, and DGIF would like meet with conference attendees to discuss collaborative conservation opportunities. Chris Burkett, Va. Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF), Wildlife Action Plan Coordinator.

Breakfast Roundtable 5: Articulating Messaging around Cultural, Natural, and Recreation Benefits – Through the Chesapeake Conservation Partnership, non-profits, land trusts, and federal and state agencies are collaborating to articulate compelling long-term landscape conservation goals and messaging around protecting farms, forests, habitat, and heritage. Following a brief case statement, share your experiences and perspectives in response to draft regional conservation goals that agencies and organizations can tap to rally more documentation, land protection, and funding for conservation. Kevin Case, Land Trust Alliance; Jonathan

Doherty, National Park Service (NPS); Lori Scott, NatureServe and LandScope Chesapeake. ***Note: this Roundtable will be in the Patrick Henry Room.***

Session G

Step Up Your Game: Taking Your Social Media Presence to the Next Level – In this session, we will explore how to set up a social media plan that will connect you with new audiences, increase reach and engagement, and do more in less time. Participants will learn about creating engaging posts, using analytics to gauge the success of your content, and related topics. We will also spend time discussing what has and hasn't worked for other attendees in the room, so come with your questions and ideas. Marco Sanchez, PEC.

Session H

New Voices for Conservation*: *Focus on Women Landowners – Outreach to women landowners could open up thousands of acres with high potential conservation benefits. USDA data shows women control nearly 40 percent of US farmland, which could increase greatly in the next dareeSecade. Surveys indicate women value conservation but are underrepresented in cost-share programs. Participants in this interactive discussion will learn why this model has been successful in Virginia and other states, explore the science behind it, and find out how to participate. Jim Baird, American Farmland Trust; Casey Dietzen, VA Natural Resources Conservation Service; Heather Dowling, Virginia Department of Forestry; Ebonie Alexander, Black Family Land Trust; Kim Woodwell, American Farmland Trust.

Session I

A Collaborative Regional Strategy for Mitigating Infrastructure Impacts – Through the Chesapeake Conservation Partnership, non-profits, land trusts, and state and federal agencies are developing a strategy to more effectively respond to major linear infrastructure projects. A process that advances resource documentation, ensures recognition of resource values, and engages project advocates can maximize protection and increase conservation funding when impacts are unavoidable. Following our presentations, we will solicit input on a mitigation strategy that taps our collective strengths to maximize conservation when faced with new development. Jonathan Doherty, National Park Service; Sharee Williamson, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Elizabeth Kostelny, Preservation Virginia; and Chris Miller, Piedmont Environmental Council.

Session J

Statewide Trails as Conservation Catalysts — Scenic views along trails are a critical part of trail experiences. Recognizing this, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, the James River Association, and the National Park Service are taking steps to identify and protect significant viewsheds and watersheds along trail networks. Learn about public and private efforts to identify and conserve these important landscapes. A state trail advisory committee was formed in 2015 to work on the development of specialty trails, including old-growth forest trails, across the Commonwealth. Provide your feedback during the interactive discussion to take back to the committee as they explore this topic. Donald Briggs, Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, NPS; Andrew Downs, Appalachian Trail Conservancy–Appalachian National Scenic Trail; Justin Doyle, James River Association–Envision The James; Jennifer Wampler, DCR Trails Coordinator.

Session K

Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve: Success through Collaboration – Protection of Crow's Nest was a strong collaborative effort between Stafford County, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, and many others. This effective collaboration has continued since the dedication of Crow's Nest as a preserve in 2008. Ongoing stewardship is provided by several entities and includes efforts toward sustainable public access. A unique partnership with Virginia Department of Transportation will allow more people to enjoy Crow's Nest in the near future. Kathy Baker, Stafford County; Paul Milde, Stafford County; Michael Lott, DCR; Patrick Coady, NVCT. 45 minutes.

Approaching Regional Conservation Challenges with Multiple Stakeholders: The Climate, Environment, and Readiness (CLEAR) Plan – This session will provide a roadmap for robust stakeholder outreach to support regional conservation efforts, highlighting the Climate, Environment, and Readiness (CLEAR)

Plan in the George Washington Region. This plan develops a regional approach to protection of natural resources and ecosystem services. Outreach initiatives for the plan incorporate input from nearly 200 stakeholders to identify regional goals and provide a road map for preserving and improving natural environments, economic health, and quality of life. 45 minutes. Rebecca Rubin, Marstel-Day LLC, and Dr. Richard Finkelstein, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at University of Mary Washington.

Session L

Your Input Wanted: Standards and Practices Revisions – The Land Trust Alliance is leading a collaborative process to revise Land Trust Standards and Practices to reflect changes in the legal and operational environment of the land trust community. This session will discuss the background and approach to the S&P revisions process and collect high-level feedback on an initial draft, which will supplement a detailed online input process. Participants are encouraged to download the S&P Discussion Draft from the Alliance website in advance. Sylvia Bates, Land Trust Alliance.

Session M

Financing Solutions for Land Conservation – Virginia Resources Authority was created by the General Assembly to assist local governments in obtaining financing for water and wastewater infrastructure projects. Since then, VRA's project areas have grown, and participants in this session will learn about VRA's financing tools available to localities interested in land conservation projects. The Conservation Fund's loan program offers flexible financing as well as sustained and expert technical assistance to land trusts and other organizations aiming to protect key properties in their communities. Funds from this continually revolving $50 million pool of loan capital have helped local conservationists protect more than 120,000 acres across 34 states. Stephanie Jones, Virginia Resources Authority (VRA); Kimberley Adams, VRA; Reggie Hall, Conservation Fund.

Session N

Investigating Conservation Easement Adoption Using Spatial and Social Analyses: Practical Implications – This session will examine how best to predict the places where conservation easements are most likely to be adopted by landowners. This is part of a study that provides a new way of exploring adoption patterns, which involves traditional social science techniques as well as spatial analysis, and helps clarify some of the reasons why these patterns might exist. Practical implications from the research will be discussed. 45 minutes. Tyler Hemby, Virginia Tech.

Session O

A New Approach to Assessing and Planning Your Community Impact – Come learn about a new framework that shows how land trusts can assess their current conservation projects and programs and plan for new ones that build broad and deep support for your mission. The framework was created by a group of land trust representatives and the Land Trust Alliance to help land trusts understand and apply the principles of community conservation. Participants will have ample time to discuss their own projects and ask questions of others. Rob Aldrich, Land Trust Alliance.

Speakers

Rob Aldrich is the director of community conservation at the Land Trust Alliance, where he was director of communications, and also director of information services. Rob has worked for the private sector and USDA, and was a Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala. He has a BS in plant and soil science and a master's in urban planning.

Lillian "Ebonie" Alexander, Executive Director of the Black Family Land Trust, Inc., has more than 25 years of senior management experience with nonprofit organizations in the field of land-based community economic development. The BFLT is one of the nation's only land trusts dedicated to the preservation of African-American and other historically underserved land assets by utilizing the core principles of land conservation and land-based community economic development to achieve their goals.

Kathy Baker is Assistant Director of Stafford County Planning and Zoning, and serves as PDR Administrator. She has assisted with interim management and maintenance of the Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve since the County's joint purchase with DCR in 2008. Kathy has a Master of Natural Resources from Virginia Tech.

Alli Baird is the Coastal Zone Locality Liaison at the Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation's Division of Natural Heritage. She has also worked as a Riparian Buffer Specialist at DCR, as a senior planner for the City of Richmond, and as a landscape architect in private practice. Alli has an MLA from the University of Virginia and a BA in Art History from Colby College.

Jim Baird, Mid Atlantic Director for the American Farmland Trust, has 30 years of experience in nonprofit program management and private consulting in agriculture, conservation, and sustainability. He works with partners in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia to promote adoption of conservation practices, allocation of permanent funding to protect farmland, and development of policy and programs that reflect concerns of the farming community. Recently, Jim has been instrumental in launching a new program to engage women landowners and provide them with resources to implement conservation practices.

Sylvia Bates is the Director of Standards and Educational Services for the Land Trust Alliance and leads the Alliance's work on *Land Trust Standards and Practices,* land trust assessments, the Standards and Practices Curriculum and related cutting-edge issues, such as easement modification and termination. She is currently leading the Standards and Practices revisions process. She has worked in the land conservation field since 1987, most recently as an independent consultant, and was formerly the director of land protection for the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. Sylvia has a degree in environmental biology from Yale University and has done graduate work at the Yale School of Forestry.

Deanna Beacham is the American Indian Program Manager for the National Park Service's Chesapeake Bay Office. She is the concept author and coordinator for the Indigenous Cultural Landscape team, which includes staff and partners from the National Park Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, states in the Chesapeake watershed, American Indians, and members of the academic community.

Gillian Bearns is Easement Program Stewardship Counsel at the Department of Historic Resources. Gillian assists with the drafting and negotiation of new easements, development of easement templates and program policies, and works with the Office of the Attorney General on enforcement of the approximately 650 easements administered by DHR. Gillian obtained a master's degree in Regional Planning from the University of Massachusetts, a JD from Western New England College School of Law, and a BA from Vassar College.

Donald Briggs is the Superintendent of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail, a partnership administered by the National Park Service (NPS) to develop and sustain a network of trails for recreation, transportation, health, and education. Don holds a BS in Natural Resources from Ohio State University and two master's degrees, in American Studies and in Community and Regional Planning, from the University of Wyoming.

Chris Burkett is the Wildlife Action Plan Coordinator at the Va. Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries. His duties at VA DGIF include working with agency personnel and partners to identify opportunities to implement proactive wildlife conservation. Previously, Chris worked for the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Burkett earned his bachelor's in Environmental Sciences from the University of Alabama and earned his master's degree in Geography from the University of Wyoming.

Kevin Case is Northeast Director for the Land Trust Alliance. Kevin, in his 11th year working with the Alliance, designs and implements programs that create land trust success across the Northeast. Kevin has also worked for the National Park Service and served as Executive Director of the Farmington River Watershed Association in Connecticut.

Pat Coady was a founding board member of the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust in 1994 and now serves as Chairman. His career is in investment banking, and since 2009 has focused on financing land conservation. During his tenure as Executive Director of the World Bank, Pat headed the U.S. Delegation to create the Global Environmental Facility. Pat is a Senior Fellow at Conservation International.

Suzanne Copping is the Chief of Resource Protection and Partnerships for the National Park Service, Chesapeake Bay Office. She supervises projects that include indigenous cultural landscape research and GIS applications for resource protection. Suzanne has a BA from Rhode Island School of Design, a master's degree in Historic Preservation from the University of Maryland, and a Certificate of Graduate Study in Natural Resources Management and Policy from Virginia Tech.

Timothy Craig is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Region 5 South Zone Fire Management Officer at the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in Suffolk, Virginia. Tim has worked for federal land management agencies for 29 years in fire and law enforcement positions.

Dean Cumbia is the Director of Forest Management with the Department of Forestry in Charlottesville, VA. In this role, he coordinates programs to assist to private forest landowners in achieving their goals through care and use of their forests.

Casey Dietzen recently joined the Warrenton Service Center NRCS Team as a Soil Conservationist. Previously, she worked at the Verona Service Center and the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District. Casey also serves as the Federal Women's Special Emphasis Program Manager for Virginia. She has a BS in Conservation Recreation Management and a master's degree in Natural Resources from Virginia Tech.

Jonathan Doherty is Assistant Superintendent for the National Park Service Chesapeake Bay Office, which manages the John Smith Chesapeake Trail and co-sponsors the Chesapeake Conservation Partnership. Previously he served as Executive Director of the Columbia River Gorge Commission, and as the Mid-Atlantic region's NPS chief of planning.

Heather Dowling has been an Area Forester with the Virginia Department of Forestry for 15 years, in the counties of Amelia, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Nottoway and Powhatan. In 2007, Heather created the Women and Land Workshops in Dinwiddie County. These workshops have been reproduced throughout Virginia and copied by various other states.

Andrew Downs is Central and Southwest Virginia Regional Director at the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. Andrew is a "born and breaded" North Carolinian who holds a degree in Cultural Resource management from Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina and a Masters in Natural Resource Management from NC State University in Raleigh.

Justin Doyle has been Community Conservation Manager at the James River Association since 2013. Prior to that, he was a planner with the County of Henrico. Justin has a BA in Geography from the University of Mary Washington, and a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Greg Evans leads the Va. Dept. of Forestry's Chesapeake Bay program. He helped found the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust and rejoined the board in 2012. Greg has served as President of the Virginia Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts and on the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation board and the Governor's Commission on Natural Resources Funding. Greg has a BS from Bryant University, an MBA from George Washington University, and Master of Natural Resources degree from Virginia Tech.

Amy Ewing serves as Environmental Services Biologist and Fish and Wildlife Information Services (FWIS) Biologist Manager in the Bureau of Wildlife Resources at the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF). Amy is responsible for reviewing projects, policies, and permits for impacts upon wildlife, wildlife habitats, and programs for which DGIF is responsible.

Richard Finkelstein is Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Mary Washington. He leads the university's regional collaboration with dozens of other stakeholders from business, local government, and not-for-profit agencies for the Climate, Environment, and Readiness (CLEAR) Plan in the George Washington region.

Megan Gallagher is co-chair of the Chesapeake Bay Funders Network Land Trust Working Group, which developed the Chesapeake Bay Land & Water Initiative. A 25-year veteran of land protection and conservation advocacy campaigns,

Megan was founding executive director of the Virginia Eastern Shore Land Trust, former executive director of the Lowcountry (SC) Open Land Trust, and recently retired director of the Shenandoah Valley Network. She lives on a farm under easement near The Plains.

Adam Gillenwater, State and Local Relations Associate, Civil War Trust. Adam focuses on state and local relations for CWT's Government and Public Relations team. Prior to joining the Trust, Adam was a Senior Associate on the Family Self Sufficiency team at ICF International. He received his Bachelor's degree in Government and Master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Virginia.

Tom Gilmore is Director of Real Estate for the Civil War Trust. Tom is responsible for real estate-related matters at the Trust, including acquisition of property in fee or conservation easement, disposition, GIS mapping, and procuring federal and state government grants. Tom joined the Civil War Trust in 2005 after a twenty-one year career in the health care and finance industry. Tom grew up in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, and holds a BA in Economics from the College of William and Mary and an MBA from George Mason University.

Joanna Wilson Green serves as the Easement and Stewardship Archaeologist for DHR, specializing in easements on battlefield and archaeological properties. Joanna has worked for twenty years as a professional archaeologist and anthropologist. At DHR, she is also the point of contact for issues involving the identification, restoration, and protection of cemeteries and for permits for the archaeological investigation of human remains. Joanna received her master's degree in Anthropology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and her BA in anthropology from the University of Wyoming.

Brett Glymph has been Executive Director of the Virginia Outdoors Foundation since 2013. Before that, Brett worked as assistant attorney general in the Real Estate and Land Use Section of the Virginia Attorney General's office. She earned her JD from the William and Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law in Williamsburg, and she also holds a BA in Foreign Affairs from the University of Virginia.

Becky Gwynn is the Assistant Bureau Director for eastern Virginia for the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and has been with the agency since 1988. She coordinates the agency's aquatic and terrestrial wildlife and habitat management and conservation programs and guides the management of its lands and facilities in the region.

Tyler Hemby is a Master's Candidate in the Dept. of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation where he studies the human dimensions of natural resource conservation and management with Dr. Marc Stern. He was born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama, and received his Bachelor's degree in Geography from Auburn University.

Mike Kane, Director of Conservation at the Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC), has nearly two decades of land conservation experience in the Mid-Atlantic region. Mike directed the start-up of the Loudoun County PDR program before he joined PEC in 2006 as the Land Conservation Officer in Loudoun and Fauquier Counties. He chairs the Blue Ridge Coalition, the Loudoun County Preservation & Conservation Coalition Conservation Committee, and the Washington Smart Growth Alliance Conservation Committee.

Elizabeth Kostelny has been Executive Director of Preservation Virginia since 2001, and before that was curator of collections for 11 years. Elizabeth has a master's degree in Art History from the University of South Carolina, Charleston, and a BA in Art Education from Longwood College. Preservation Virginia is the nation's first statewide historic preservation organization, founded in 1889 as the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

Timothy Lindstrom is a nationally recognized specialist in conservation easement law who has written and lectured extensively on the topic. He helped to initiate the Virginia Land Preservation Tax Credit, and also helped to draft and lead the national effort to enact the federal Farm and Ranch Protection Act (section 2031(c)) of the Internal Revenue Code), which has helped protect family farms and ranches throughout the United States. He is the author of *A Tax Guide to Conservation Easements* and *The Citizens Handbook to Virginia Zoning and Planning Law*. He and his family have contributed conservation easements on farms in Michigan and Virginia.

Michael Lott is the Northern Region Steward with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, where he manages the Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve. Before joining DCR, he was an environmental planner for Stafford County. Michael has an M.S. in Environmental Science from Florida Atlantic University.

Brad McDonald is Easement Program Stewardship Coordinator at the VA Dept. of Historic Resources. Brad has more than 25 years of professional experience in the fields of archaeology, historic architecture, and cultural resource management. In his current role, Mr. McDonald coordinates the active stewardship of more than 650 easements administered by DHR. Brad

earned his BA in Historic Preservation from the University of Mary Washington and his MA in Anthropology and North American Archaeology from the College of William and Mary.

Paul V. Milde III serves on the Stafford County Board of Supervisors. He founded and serves as Chairman of SaveCrowsNest.com, a campaign to increase public awareness of the importance of protecting Crow's Nest Peninsula from development. Paul was appointed to the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation in 2014.

Chris Miller has been Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC) President since 1996. An attorney with expertise in environmental and transportation policy, he serves on steering committees for the Coalition for Smarter Growth and Choose Clean Water Coalition, and on the boards of the Virginia League of Conservation Voters, Virginia Conservation Network, and Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership.

Nicholas Moy is currently the LandScope Chesapeake Coordinator at NatureServe. Nicholas uses GIS, multimedia, and infographics to connect conservation map data to the public. He is a recent graduate from Virginia Commonwealth University, where he received a Masters from the department of Biology and a GIS graduate certificate. He did his undergraduate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Rick Myers is VA DCR's Natural Areas Stewardship Manager. Rick worked at Clemson and Purdue doing research in forest management and ecology for 18 years. In 1998 he began directing management of a growing system of state natural area preserves in Virginia. He now supervises a state-wide team of 15 natural-area stewards and coordinates DCR's longleaf pine restoration efforts.

Chief G. Anne Richardson has been Chief of the Rappahannock Indian Tribe of Virginia since 1998, the first woman Chief to lead a tribe in Virginia since the 18th century. Under her tenure, the Tribe purchased 119.5 acres in 1998 to establish a land trust, retreat center, and housing development. She is also executive director of the MPM higher-education Native consortium.

Nikki Rovner is Associate State Director for External Affairs at The Nature Conservancy in Virginia. Nikki served as Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources in the administration of Governor Tim Kaine between 2006 and 2010. She also was a staff attorney with the Virginia Division of Legislative Services, serving as counsel to the General Assembly's natural resources committees. Nikki holds a BS in wildlife biology from Penn State University and a JD from the University of Richmond.

Rebecca Rubin is President of international environmental consultancy Marstel-Day, LLC, which she founded from her commitment to conservation of habitat, open space, energy, and water. She is a White House Champion of Change for Community Resilience and serves as Chairman of the Board for the National Wildlife Refuge Association.

Marco Sanchez has been a Communications Coordinator with PEC since 2012. He focuses on engaging with citizens through email alerts, online advocacy, website updates, and social media.

Lori Scott is the Chief Information Officer for NatureServe, a leading source for information about rare and endangered species and threatened ecosystems. She also serves as the Project Director for LandScope America and its regional LandScope Chesapeake hub, a shared conservation priority system for the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Grant Smith joined the board of the Land Trust of the Eastern Panhandle in 2001 and was elected president in 2005. Previously, Grant had a 38-year career in the U.S. Department of State, where he rose to the position of Ambassador. He holds a BA in Public and International Affairs from Princeton University and a Masters in International Affairs from Columbia University.

Peggy Stevens is Executive Director of Northern Virginia Conservation Trust. She has served as an officer in the Massachusetts Land Conservation Coalition and now serves as Chair of Virginia United Land Trusts. She holds a Bachelor's degree from Connecticut College and a Master's degree from UNC-Chapel Hill.

Scott Strickland is an archaeologist and faculty member at St. Mary's College of Maryland. His research interests include the use of GIS in archaeology and its applications for Contact and 17th Century archaeology in the Chesapeake. He is currently researching indigenous cultural landscapes in the Chesapeake Bay tidal area. Scott has a BS in Archaeology from St. Mary's College, and a Master of Science in Archaeological Computing from the University of Southampton.

Elizabeth Tune is the Director of Preservation Incentives at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. She oversees Virginia's rehabilitation tax credit program. The Office of Preservation Incentives also includes DHR's easement program,

which protects over 600 of Virginia's most significant historic properties. Before coming to DHR, Elizabeth managed Maryland's easement program for the Maryland Historical Trust. Elizabeth received her BA in history from the University of Richmond, and a MFA in Historic Preservation from the Savannah College of Art and Design.

Brian van Eerden is the Southern Rivers Program Director for The Nature Conservancy's Virginia Chapter. He has worked as a botanist, stewardship ecologist and land protection specialist over his 16-yr. career with TNC and oversees the organization's forest management and conservation programs in southeastern VA.

Leslie VanSant joined the Land Trust of Virginia as Executive Director in 2015, bringing with her more than 20 years of non-profit leadership and communication experience. Leslie is a lifelong equestrian and resident of the Virginia Piedmont for 15 years.

Jennifer Wampler has been Trails Coordinator at the Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation since 2005. Before that she was a park planner for Chesterfield County. Jennifer has a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Molly Ward is a native of Hampton, Virginia and a graduate of the University of Virginia and William and Mary Law School. Molly was elected Mayor of the City of Hampton in 2008 and 2012, and was appointed to serve on the Virginia Outdoors Foundation by Governor Tim Kaine. Governor Terry McAuliffe appointed her Secretary of Natural Resources in 2014.

Hill Wellford is a former law partner at Hunton and Williams, recently retired. His family owns multigenerational lands on the Rappahannock River, including the marsh from which Rappahannock Indians greeted John Smith's shallop with arrows. He is an advocate for environmental and historical preservation and land conservation.

Sharee Williamson is associate general counsel at the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She focuses on litigation, policy advocacy, and corporate legal support. Sharee received her JD from Washington University School of Law in St. Louis and spent six years as a litigation associate before joining the National Trust.

Kim Woodwell is Project Coordinator for the Virginia Women Landowners Conservation Project at the American Farmland Trust, working to provide women landowners with the resources and knowledge to implement conservation practices on their land. Kim is also Executive Director at the Shenandoah Forum, a group of Shenandoah County residents and landowners working to support sustainable community development.

Notes

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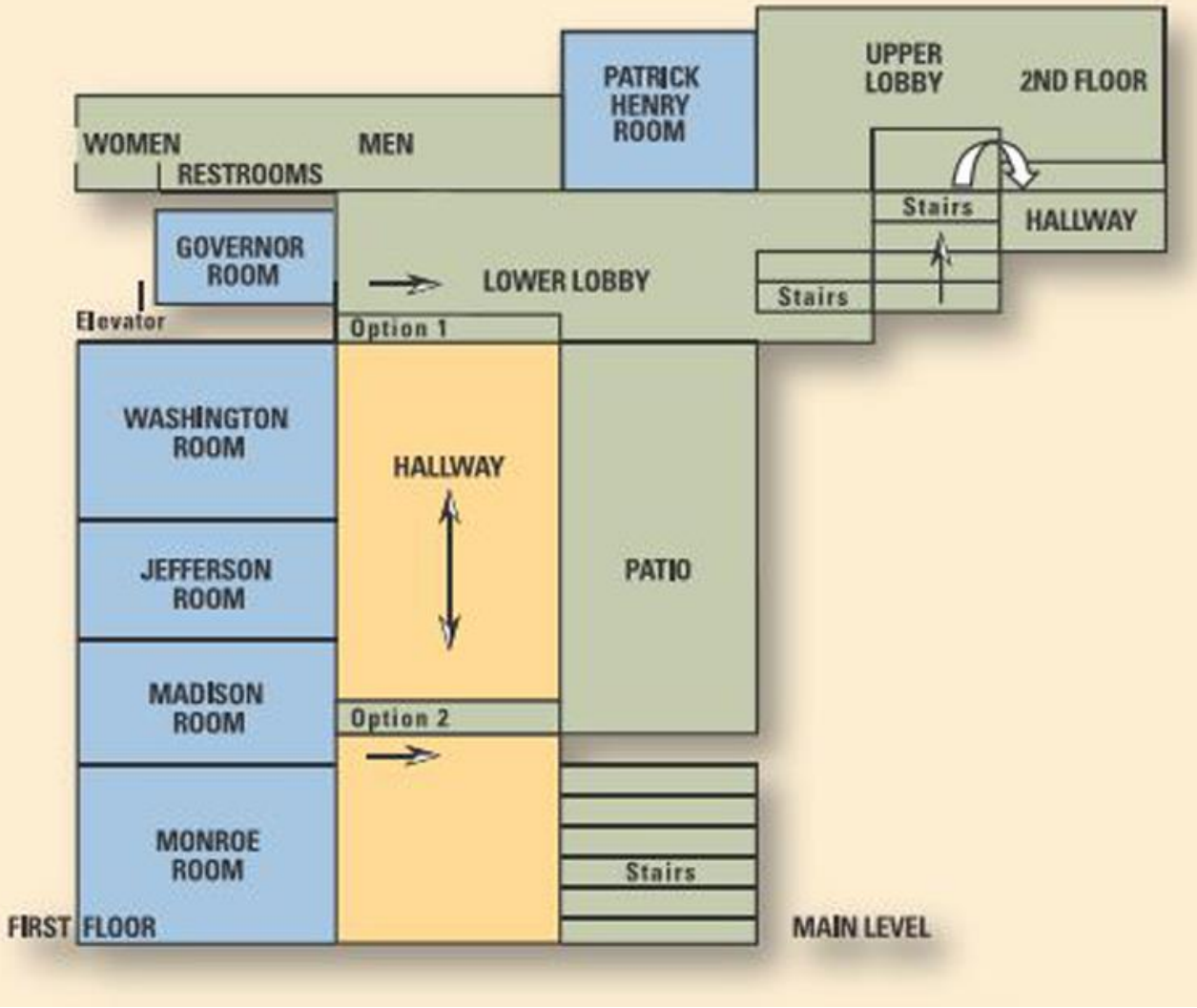
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