



## **Listening & Learning Session in the Chesapeake Watershed June 25<sup>th</sup>, Maryland Hall, Annapolis MD**

Americans have a proud tradition of working together - from the ground-up - to conserve farmland and open space for future generations, restore rivers and streams, protect areas for hiking and biking, preserve beaches and coastlines, conserve wildlife habitat for fishing and hunting, and restore the cultural and historic sites that tell America's story. In fact, community-driven efforts to conserve America's land, water, and wildlife are a major reason why we are blessed with the parks, refuges, forests, and open spaces that we enjoy today.

Starting with the White House Conference on the Great Outdoors on April 16, President Obama launched a national dialogue about conservation in America. As part of this dialogue, we are bringing together ranchers, farmers and forest landowners, sportsmen and women, state and local government leaders, tribal leaders, public-lands experts, conservationists, youth leaders, business representatives, and others to learn about some of the smart, creative ways communities are conserving outdoor spaces.

The June 25th public listening session is an opportunity for leaders of the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to hear from Chesapeake voices on solutions for building a 21st century conservation and recreation agenda and reconnecting people with the outdoors.

### **Agenda:**

- 12:00 Registration table open, main hallway, Maryland Hall. A small café is open during the noon hour on the lower level.
- 1:00 Introductory Remarks, Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior  
Welcome, Governor Martin O'Malley  
Bob Perciasepe, Deputy Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency  
Harris Sherman, Under Secretary, US Department of Agriculture  
America's Great Outdoors Video
- 1:35 Panel Discussion, Sharing Examples of Innovative Land Conservation, Recreation & Citizen Stewardship
  - Robert Etgen, Executive Director, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy
  - Chris Miller, President, Piedmont Environmental Council; Treasurer, Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership
  - Annette Gantt, President and CEO, Earth Conservation Corps
  - Jacqueline M. Carrera, President & CEO, Parks & People Foundation
  - Ta Brant, Pennsylvania Wilds Small Business Ombudsman
- 2:30 Facilitated Break-out Sessions Begin Organized by topic area:
  - Open space and working lands conservation
  - Recreation and public access
  - Citizen stewardship, including youth and environmental education
  - General breakout session
- 4:30 Adjourn