

**America's Great Outdoors
Notes from Listening Session**

Location: Annapolis, MD

Date: June 25, 2010

President Obama launched a national conversation about conservation in America at the White House Conference on the Great Outdoors on April 16, 2010. The President understands that protecting and restoring the lands and waters that we love and reconnecting people to the outdoors must happen at the local level. Therefore, President Obama directed the principal leaders of the Initiative to travel across the country to listen and learn from people directly involved in finding grassroots solutions to conserve our lands, waterways, historical and cultural resources and to reconnect Americans with the Outdoors. The President indicated that the sessions should engage the full range of interested groups, including tribal leaders, farmers and ranchers, sportsmen, community park groups, foresters, youth groups, businesspeople, educators, State and local government, recreation and conservation groups and others. The President placed a special priority on engaging with America's youth. Below are notes from the breakout groups at the Listening Session sorted by Discussion Question. Please feel free to use the ideation tool at <http://ideas.usda.gov/ago/ideas.nsf/> if you would like to share your thoughts.

Discussion Questions

1. What works: Please share your thoughts and ideas on effective strategies for conservation, recreation and reconnecting people to the outdoors.
 2. Challenges: What obstacles exist to achieve your goals for conservation, recreation, or reconnecting people to the outdoors?
 3. Federal government role: How can the federal government be a more effective partner in helping to achieve conservation, recreation or reconnecting people to the outdoors?
 4. What additional tools and resources would help your efforts be even more successful?
- N/A. Not available or not applicable.

Discussion Question 1-4	Comment
1	What works well? We receive recreational benefits from Rock Creek Park (MD) – but it needs help from Land Water Conservation Fund. In Virginia's Mason Neck National Wildlife / State Park – you see pollution coming from DC and entering the bay and this needs to be taken care of. We need more resources from Land / Water Conservation Fund. We need to take care of our places and provide resources for places to look clean and attractive to tourism.
1	We need to be more aware of other resources that may help. In 2011, \$45 million budget (Land Water Conservation Fund?) but other programs are much larger and we need to target those. For example, the Conservation reserve program has \$1.8 billion dollars, the Wetland Reserve Program has \$500 million, the Farmland Protection Program has a lot, etc.
1	Conservation fund. A VA strategy that has worked well is the easement acquisition incentive which was done through legislation. Enhanced income tax

	<p>credit. Where tax credits are transferable. Gov. Kaine set a goal of 400,000 acres of conservation with few state dollars for state conservation, most accomplished through conservation easement donated tax credit program. But also great federal programs for purchase of conservation easement, fed forest legacy program and also military partners.</p>
1	<p>Lives in Shenandoah Valley. We need an emphasis on Shenandoah part of Chesapeake Bay watershed; CREP program gives incentive to get farmers to get interested. Often private firms supplement land trust. Federal government could look at VA examples and think of ways to leverage and expand on programs and create others.</p>
1	<p>The state wildlife action plans have been helpful. What they have done is state agency and all partners develop a collaborative plan that helps endangered species. Funding for program has been successful, but not sufficient to meet goals. Half are being revised to include climate change. This is helpful for states to use to meet conservation goals. Need to use these plans to look regionally but there is not capacity in states to look at regional scale.</p>
1	<p>State forests are looking at ways to keep forests in forests; new markets have potential to do that. The other success story that we have seen is federally assisted state programs through state private forestry that connect resource professionals with land owners to provide assistance. Forest stewardship program has been helpful. Suggests that government leverage limited resources and connect resource professionals to landowners through USDA.</p>
1	<p>We have been working on program funded by USDA called BMP challenge, but farmers need assurance if they do implement BMPs. As we go forward and look at climate change, how can we look at nutrient trading programs down the road, to give farmers incentive to trade off nutrient credits?</p>
1	<p>Environmental markets help supplement on top of federal funding, there will be credits earned by farmers and ranchers that are paid by private rather than federal. Want to hear more information if this can work?</p>
1	<p>Is this cap and trade? Personally opposed to cap and trade. Need to cap and not give provision to expand. Areas of concern in MD farmers – farmers are painted with same broad brush, Ray Wild have conducted water quality studies. Some conventional farmers can have good water quality. All farmers are treated the same. Second issue is ignoring residential sector – chemical contributions to the Bay. USDA bears responsibility. Lots of different messages that are contradictory. Bay has not improved because MD acts as if climate change is not a problem, and roads are not impacting the bay.</p>

1	I am active in Mattawoman Creek. This creek has been well studied by MD DNR. In this case have tracked fish stocks along with impervious surface and can see where hit about 10% fish decline. An obstacle that I see is that the permitting agency (MDE) does not listen to scientist and conservation experts or DNR or COE so they are allowing development and not connecting stream health with development and impervious surface. How do we get the development community to respect special places?
1	How do we build consensus and a coalition to make change? How can we engage in lasting change, build consensus on critical issues so things can last?
1	Agriculture land preservation, farm forest enterprise, need to find common interest between people and government. Forested lands – provide more funding for woodlands workshops, home owners may not know what profit can come from land. How can make more land more profitable. And government is interested in connecting land. Also, marrying agriculture and tourism – for example Mt Pilliar farms in county – excursion with family – getting children out in open.
1	What are some ideas for forests for future? Recently visited forest in North Carolina – landowner had done so many things, planted new forest, he had an agro tourism, water quality component in his farm, he was doing above and beyond to what is required. He had a recreational vehicle land so control and deal with impacts. Many things on his farm and combined, they were profitable. Do we know examples like this?
1	Engage through brook trout, fishing, enroll CREP not for striped bass and crabs, but for native brook trout, so they can fish with kids, we can gain a lot about focusing on local amenities of each area. We have CREP programs, temporary easements; need to migrate to permanent so have ecological function of floodplain. Is there a way to increase flex in purchase easements? States don't have funding sources and want to protect land but don't fit wetland reserve, or don't fit CREP, need to think broader about funding sources.
1	Aligning land conservation priorities, look from state level and look at regionally, if align, call partners can come in and work on same slate. Does allow fed priorities and local priorities to merge. Open space – transfer tax. Looking at ranking based on quality forest, hubs and corridors, so have eco function nailed down. Haven't done as good of a job with agricultural lands. Need to do better job leveraging and all agree on priorities and based on sound formulas.
1	Relate protection of farm and forest land and connecting people. Montgomery County about 30 years ago wanted to protect agricultural stock, so it began a

	<p>program to TDR and over 30 years it has protected 90K acres. Another thing the county has done is hired an economic development coordinator focused on agriculture, to help farmers to be part of agro tourism, and get kids out to farms. If you want to get people connected to land – protect land and allow farms to continue to farm and people are connecting to it.</p>
1	<p>PA Agency owns core of mountain, but foothills are fruit belt and they are struggling now to make it. Create an attraction to draw tourists from Gettysburg and market with agricultural growers and bridge gap. Landscape of apple growers is so tied to landscape in general. Agency is funding a buy local movement. CSAs popping up. Integrating working landscapes.</p>
1	<p>We are all either in the choir or in pulpit and one thing that I hope this movement will lead to is somehow bringing together all of our various interests and tools and constituents because we all have tools and strategies for accomplishing our mission. The frustrating thing is to come up with funding, things get political very quickly. But there is a tremendous constituency that has a connection to nature. How do we harness the power of constituents to harness power from Washington?</p>
1	<p>Out west, we have a problem regarding forests- we don't have enough money to refurbish forests. Out west, reach out to water providers – need to be partner with FWS to help restore lands, otherwise your land and your water will be jeopardized. If you want healthy forests we need your help with forests and maintaining campgrounds and trails so you need to be our partner. How do we get the private sector to join us? They have stake in maintaining the forest community. How do we get new constituents into this?</p>
1	<p>There is a program for children from disadvantaged schools – they build rowboats and it connects kids to nature. He grew up in Maine - building boats was part of his own experience. Boating should be endorsed – he built rowboat in a week with his grandson.</p>
1	<p>There is a schoolyard habitats program that involves kids in every step of the process. Habitat and nature restoration program operates in only a few states and could use more funding to introduce kids to restoration and conservation of the environment. Sec. Duncan and Salazar could talk about this at their meeting.</p>
1	<p>Bring Arlington Echo program attention – it involves kids in stormwater restoration, teaches lessons on how to plant on restoration sites, provides first-hand experience in the environment and provides cheap labor! – Kids go home and talk to their parents about it. Projects that may have had local opposition now are supported because kids have contributed to it.</p>

1	Working with teachers on SOL. There are hundreds of ways nature can reinforce those SOL. Need to interconnect schools with parks better both physically and with video. Kids can bring parents to the park and say look, ma, at this!
1	SPROUTS is a program for kids (2-5 years) that focuses on “What is a tree? An acorn?” It involves planting and hikes. Teen Rangers (highschoolers) do trail maintenance – it provides enrichment. Scales and Tails is a program focusing on the falcons, raptors, all around us. Civic Justice Corps is a program to help at-risk youth get into the parks for grass and they love it! They say “What is this?” and it is enjoyable, and they go home and explain what they did to their parents and they learn hands on skills like tree planting but also carpentry. The Bay Grass Planting program focuses on temperature variations see how much grass grows in Gunpowder Park or nearby. Advertise in their newsletter or online to parents. There are wilderness survival sessions as well.
1	Building and maintaining trails relates to conservation so as not to erode or trap trash in creeks. Through adults, newspapers, online and at REI they get volunteers. Many in suburbs are less knowledgeable than folks in cities – it’s sad. If people don’t understand how conservation happens they don’t understand the value. Youth are engaged through Americorps, SCA, and Scouts. Some kids are lost but then there is a glimmer of hope when they participate and do something productive.
1	He was part of corps of DC environmental consortium with schoolyard gardens. Conservation and environmental concerns are not relevant to those concerned with survival. In poor urban communities, there is a problem with food access – school gardens impress on people a natural environment with low carbon footprint for food. This also creates jobs – it’s an incredible template for teaching about the environment, watershed if you meet them where they are. There is a nutrition piece and a focus on teamwork, hard work. Edible and community gardens are productive especially on unused public lands that could change the food system and help with runoff. Changing the way we eat can change the way we practice and live and demand. We need more emphasis from EPA in addition to USDA.
1	There was a grant to Commicut City Farm for seeds and making better connection of people with land. Fear and fatalism we fight a lot. Memories of elders and dreams of kids we can put together. Elders baptized in streams and farmed fields here. There was an idea for heroin users to start selling produce instead and it worked and the Marvin Gaye Amphitheatre is now there where the drug dealing was – celebration for the tiniest reason. Kids a short distance away don’t know the Fort Circle Trails. Kids are enthralled when they got through the invasives and

	saw the forests. Government can throw money at it and it will take down.
1	The Harper's Ferry and JTHG partnership project is for middle school students (7 th and 8 th) who have never been in the park. They got in groups and interpreted the John Brown raid for Sesquicentennial. They did podcasts on what Brown did and what it meant to them. For example, a "what would you do" where a debate about slavery demonstrates the conundrum of the Civil War. Service learning in nature and in a cultural environment is a fruitful opportunity to grow a new ethic in youth.
1	Some are inspired by natural resources but some are more inspired by stories of people such as the Harriet Tubman story. They understand the natural landscape through new eyes as a strategy for resource conservation.
1	Target multiple state programs on a single land mass.
1	Best model of land conservation is Pine Barrens in NJ. There is strong local zoning, TDR, and the governing body has a good plan. There is lots of federal funding. This model would work well in Chesapeake. State can do good things such as protecting land along the Appalachian corridor. PA and MD are doing better than VA.
1	Enhanced tax benefits needed. Good example happened in MD (50% of adjusted gross income) caused a bump in protection.
1	Landscape preservation is important. Green Infrastructure, without it is a loss of natural functions. Land conservation needs to be localized at the watershed level. Losing these lands will mean more costs. Papers have made the case for the values, but hasn't been a communication platform.
1	Lots of people moving to the area (Washington-Baltimore). Conservation is absolutely necessary. Work with all levels of government. They can provide institutional support. This has made them successful.
1	Wildlife refuges are a good public-private model. Most have "Friends of" programs. Could be used on a larger scale.
1	Need multiple dimensions to make conservation happen. Ripple effect- multiple kinds of interests and programs and groups. The Clinton Administration had a program that worked well, but it wasn't fully funded: the American Heritage Rivers Initiatives (Loretta Neuman ran this White House initiative). State initiatives have great models, but not nearly enough funding.
1	At the state level, they have greened their own grants program. Grants depend on conservation externalities. Keystone principles- reward the right types of

	developments.
1	Need to promote new technology to make farming exciting to young adults. Groups need to work together, share office space, etc. It all comes down to money. Federal gov't requires a lot of action/goals, but not the money (unfunded mandates).
1	Heritage areas are limited and often "silo"ed. Good examples are Battlefields, Heritage areas. Use various resources at a grass roots level. People will try to find whatever money is under the rocks.
1	"Eat the view" -- Promote farmers markets.
1	To reach youth, protect land that borders youth clubs, rec centers, etc. A portion of funding should go to youth programs.
2	Recognition of the significance of the Bay beyond MD and VA is missing. Need designation of a National Park in each of the 6 states.
2	Problem has been defining Conserved Lands and how they should be managed. Essential that you get people out there. E.g., Fear of ticks keeps people away. Inheritance tax is huge—still need to pay tax on conserved lands.
2	Climate adaptation planning, such as done at MD state level, needs to trickle down to local level. Work being done needs to be shared up and down among levels of gov't.
2	Concerned about the energy usage of family farms. One farm is putting in an energy plant that will account for 6% of P for the state of Virginia.
2	LWCF doesn't go out to states equally because Congressionals don't get credit. Could do a block grant to states for consistency from year to year. Each NGO in a state would benefit. Constituency is not organized. One idea—"principles" tied to the state-side of funds. For the large landscapes, could use federal and state money in the same place. Need constituency advocating for LWCF.
2	Federal authority to acquire property should be expanded to lands bordering federal lands. Use LWCF lands from state and fed to acquire property.
2 and 3	Need physical access to the water and Bay. There are not a lot of places people can go. There are even less people who can get on the water and to the shore. There are obstacles in the Bay Network. Many successful programs are institutional and they are wonderful but many connections are personal through use that is special to them. A person is self-directed, but the institutional context

	doesn't allow that extension of a connection to happen.
2 and 3	There are not enough places to go, especially in the Mid-Atlantic. We need the financial means to make more places happen – federal funding through matching funding such as LWCF or other programs. Working with the delegation should make that happen.
2 and 3	Connecting to grown-ups – that group doesn't know how to do this stuff. NPS has tools such as Junior Ranger and Climate tools and education tools and resources at HFC and at the parks to help. The tool is the place to connect them.
2 and 3	Started a grassroots lobby for historic preservation and there is a caucus in the House and we would really like to be working closely with partners and conservation because LWCF and HPF have the same interests and ability to get things done.
2 and 3	I am a concerned citizen who likes the outdoors and grew up in Yonkers. As Boy Scouts, we had urban overnights and overnight camps that I still remember and the biggest obstacle today is the prevalence of the computer and the indoors. We need to change the obstacle into a tool –using a website created by the NPS or others and TV spots and ads to direct people to an enjoyable summer.
2 and 3	Focus on working lands and recognizing the value of preserving pristine landscapes and keeping land productive and economical. We need to rethink how we fund it. Organizations base their work on donations and industries that do poorly in a weak economy. Financial security will secure a long-term future.
2 and 3	Of special interest to kids of color would be getting the First Family out more often with media so people can see them. We need role models. We need to establish a more robust youth corps and give them jobs to prepare lands for climate change.
2 and 3	Money is tight in this economy and parks are on hold or get shut down or have projects cancelled. We spend time now applying for grants to supplement our funding. We could not apply for some grants based on our narrow geographic scope because our trail was not long enough. A solution could be to reconfigure criteria or have dedicated funding sources for smaller-scale projects.
2 and 3	Tax dollars for agriculture are a subsidy that benefits recipients and not taxpayers. The same goes for cover crops – it's a corporate socialist system. We should ban our representatives from receiving contributions so representatives can better represent the people.
2 and 3	The oil spill in Gulf shows how fragile our public lands are. This should be a focus

	of the AGO.
3	Focus on connected open space network and what values can be portrayed.
3	Forests are 60% of the Bay. They are the lungs of the Bay. The best approach is to save both land types (forests and farms). Need to do more to recognize forest land owners as producers. Especially through Farm Bill delivery.
3	CB Gateways concept is good. Tell stories. Should be fully funded and staffed and permanently authorized. Do education with conservation. Look at transportation funding for connections.
3	Need valuation to private landowners who hold easements. Appraisals need to be done better. Funding needed for all land trusts—not just accredited ones.
3	Need to reinforce value of conservation and place.
4	Copy on federal level what states do: e.g., several agencies coming together to save land. Be more flexible on how money can be used. Idea of an investment board.
4	County gov't has a saying: be careful of accepting state and federal money (“look out for chains and anchors”). Love to have the money, but feds want to tell you how to use it. State of MD keeps it simple. This is more efficient at the end of the day.
4	LWCF should go together with Historic Preservation Fund on projects.
4	USDA, particularly, may find funding to solve the land tenure problem. Beginning farmers can't afford farms, yet they have the most innovative ideas about farming.
4	We are not giving people an emotional reason to protect land in our watershed. Public access part is huge. Lesson in values is getting lost. None of this will happen with money until the emotional connection is made.
4	We have set aside many places for the public. In the 1970s in a recreation in urban areas initiative we created these areas but there is no access for an urban population. The exception is Golden Gate where the Muni bus came out to the beach every Sunday. It was paid for by the city as a deal for making it a park. We don't have a lot of access via buses, public transport and school groups don't always have buses to get places. Need a dedicated item in the transportation budget to get people to parks and schools could compete for that.
4	Mattawoman Creek and bass fishery was threatened by local government efforts

	but it is one of the most pristine watersheds in the state. The federal government should use the bully pulpit.
4	We need full funding of HPF to be partners. Need to be more aware of ties of cultural resources with natural resources. There was a community resource initiative with DOT that focused on cultural resource identification associated with quality of life. There was a focus on job skills by looking at trades such as masonry working with the international masonry institute to restore historic structures. For community gardens, one obstacle is school facilities staff. Need to have brick and mortar folks on board in addition to changing schools' curricula. Listening to people is huge to make them feel they are being heard and they are involved. The IdeaJam site and Facebook page tell people how their dollars are being used and this is all about by the people and for the people. This makes our government stronger and brings people outdoors.
2	How do we get consensus among groups to proceed? We are forgetting that we are the choir, and we want to get people that aren't involved. Three obstacles: 1) Competition – We are really busy and it's hard to connect young people. Need parents to go there despite competing interests. 2) Cash – We don't have funds to take care of what we have. Land water conservation fund has only gotten 50% authorization. Historic preservation fund only received half of appropriation. 3) Condition - Multibillion maintenance log at national parks, how do we expand when we can't maintain? If we are trying to get people engaged and they get there, the condition has to be good.
2	Need to preserve cultural resources because they increase quality of life. Restoration projects across the country have spurred economic revitalization and tourism. There is program that matches federal investment of 150K – it has inspired individuals, local governments, and foundations to bring in the match and that has in turn been anchor in reinvestment into some abandon communities. That match component is essential. Hope program will return after 2011 budget.
2	Young people are growing up in environment of cell phones, computers, and competition. Young people pay attention to popular things. One way to connect youth to outdoors is to promote mountain biking and white water rafting - things that get the blood going and are thrilling and exciting. Youth have been going to music festivals where there is NGO presence and they give us info and tell us how to get involved. NGOs are not in our faces, you come here to see each other, but some see us where we are. What made you so passionate about the outdoors? One young guy responded that he grew up in the suburbs of Atlanta and saw so much sprawl and watched Chattahoochee River turned brown to red because so much of the land has been taken off so now clay enters the river. Being able to

	walk (not needing a car) to access the Chattahoochee National Recreation Areas allowed him to sit quietly. Also, his parents banned video games.
2	This person works for a private foundation that provides grants to students in conservation. Often, a connection to a specific place has gotten people to turn their lives to conservation. Need to make sure those places are available and nearby so next generation can connect.
2	Need to go to the general public in addition to the water company. The pump died and you could see from the pipe how the water had gone down. The problem is that the water comes from VA which has been paved. If public knew that somewhere the water is affected, they would do something.
2	It's important to develop shared interests. For example, maybe people don't care that it helps urban environments to narrow streets, but community groups may see them as a benefit because they encourage slower speeds. There can be a shared goal for different reasons. Good economic sense = good environmental sense.
2	Voluntary private landowner program – we have capacity to deliver those programs. How do we get new landowners? Need flexibility to work with new landowners. Doesn't matter who owns land but just want protection.
2	Save America's Treasures, National Trust Historic Preservation is a public-private partnership – we have such common ground here and yet we feel like the afterthought, but we cohabitate in so many different places. For example, Historic Annapolis has a student program where they take kids on a boat to familiarize kids with the Bay and teach history and teach how Annapolis was developed because of the Bay. Parents are telling people that when their children come home, they are very enthusiastic, more so than when they are in school. We need to have a strong alliance between environmentalists and historic preservationists. For National Park Trails, thank the Save America's Treasures Program, because through them funding is secured.
2	How can we blend this with other objectives and goals? For example, Farm for the Future in NC happens to have a Civil War site so get in guided tour to enhance. They are open to new combinations and approaches.
2	There are parks but places where students do not want to go. Parks are where gangs are, and outside is dangerous, inside is safer. Those kids are getting obese. Going outside is actively discouraged, safety is issue.
2	What are the obstacles? I am involved in fish testing and have seen the decline in Mattawoman. It's getting more impacted, and not only in the inner city but even

	<p>in the country now. We're working hard to get kids to learn about nature but the air is not safe to breathe. Water, they can't touch. How can we teach kids about nature, but we say don't touch water because you will get sick and don't breathe the air. But before we make new laws, we need to enforce what is in place. Until we come up with a growth boundary line, sprawl is killing the Bay and we won't be able to get kids out. We need a growth boundary line.</p>
2	<p>In Baltimore, Johns Hopkins partners with heritage organization partners on walking trails. This is affiliated with the National Parks Conservation Association – Natural conservation programs should look at the national conserve act.</p>
2	<p>Scientific communication is key in effective conservation. Show them how they can protect the butterfly. Bring science and make science exciting to the public.</p>
2	<p>Follow up on having enough resources and local access to enjoy the outdoors. Have adequate protections and enforce the laws that we do have. Mineral extraction is affecting the quality of special places. Taking another look at outdated mining laws is important to preserving the outdoor experience for the future.</p>
2	<p>We have all these great ideas, but the message comes from the top. Need to involve the public in the message and keeping it simple. NPS has amazing resources but you get stuck in hole when on its web site. It is hard for general public to extract meaningful info. We need to get the fed government to simplify its message for general public - it is as simple and short as "Get outdoors." That is the message we need to embrace.</p>
4	<p>Land conservation – where has the federal government made a big difference? From the federal government, we need the scale and plan component. It really took state wildlife agencies forward. That was a federal requirement. States took money and invested in a plan knowing that there will be little money to focus on their mission. The stateside land water conservation fund has been consistent for states to do outdoor planning and that got states into the open space planning business. How about we take that to local government level? How do we get local communities to do local open space planning?</p>
4	<p>Without Montgomery County purchasing TDRs, nothing would have happened. The federal government should help groups to stay. Need more leadership that is tied to environmental policies that have environmental and health and historic preservation benefits.</p>
1	<p>Virginia has also enacted several transfer taxes specifically in the Piedmont area. We have to meet people where they are and talk about what concerns them in the Chesapeake watershed. Connect urban and rural populations. Where do</p>

	people buy local food? Send out information to locals on where you can buy local food to support your local agriculture. It helps urban citizens understand the relationship they should have with the rural agricultural region.
1	Partnerships and LWCF funds to protect lands paired up with a middle school next to a historic battlefield. The principal supports the project; it has become part of the curriculum (history, geography, physical education) to learn about the Appalachian trail. They made a pledge to hike a certain distance of the trail while the teachers wrote specific activities based on locations.
1	Environmental trust, a non-transferable tax credit for MD like in VA, sparked rapid growth driven by the federal tax deduction. We need to get state tax credits going through Congress to take the next step.
2	I haven't heard anything about climate change today. What's going to happen to our conservation efforts without consideration of climate change. We need national strategies and funding for what is going to change and how we can adjust our strategies. Rising sea-level is going to change everything and the federal government needs to dedicate funding to gain a better understanding of conservation techniques based on the changing environment. We are already seeing the changes in the environment.
2	Education regarding climate change – focus on how the landscape could be a viable resource to communities that could lose the wetlands and forests. They need to understand that these natural habitats are protecting their communities from natural threats.
2	Analysis paralysis: "We need better GIS". There's a lack of communication between local and state/federal levels. They need to share this information so that they aren't repeating themselves. More time needs to be spent on the ground doing the work - local organizations aren't getting the information to the federal levels. GIS is hampering movement forward because we're always looking to improve GIS systems. If we can make all of the GIS information available, Federal, State and Local organizations won't be repeating the same data collection, waiting to make decisions.
2	There is uncertainty around federal tax incentives - owners are putting easements on hold until they figure it out in Congress. Make it permanent, it's supported already! Conservation easements - decline in land values and development pressure have resulted in lower easement appraisals - especially working farms that need the money. Problem with a lien on a property - banks are giving us trouble with easements because they are being too conservative. Banks need reassurances or incentives to allow them to make investments in easements.

	Banks with pressures from foreclosures are usually the most conservative.
2	There is a lack of funding. There are properties in federal parks that are intended to be part of the park but are still in private hands. There are developments in areas where there shouldn't be. Need to create a competitive program for easements on private land that promotes the historical aspect. Provide more tools for neighbors of refuges to do great things. When other federal organizations don't respect federal conservation, such as highways going through wetlands, it undermines the protection from environmental organizations. The park culture is outwardly focused. That is great. It used to be inwardly focused rather than rallying with other federal organizations. Need to support this outwardly focused culture.
2	Regarding water quality credits, PA has thousands of credits but there isn't any demand. The EPA needs to enforce the law or else the credits have no value and there is no demand. The sewer authorities are borrowing from their clean water funds to build infrastructure rather than addressing the point source problems of pollution. This affects land use. Best management tactics are important.
3	State organizations don't have power over local authorities. Need more incentives to promote smart growth. That could change the bad local planning.
2	Make it cool to be outdoors for the kids. They don't need gadgets to enjoy the outdoors. Make the parks more interactive. DNR - you can form a parent - kid team to get free admission for up to 10 parks over the course of the summer. You would have to do some kind of challenge, like hike a certain distance & fill out sheets based on what you learned. These parks should be made more affordable compared to going to a baseball game or movie. Increase domestic visitorship to parks!
2	The budgets continue to be cut - agencies are already underfunded and under staffed - what is the federal government going to do to counter the cuts in funding?
3	The estate tax expired in 2009 - some tax will be put back in place. HR3050 to be introduced into the senate - estate tax to be partially exempt from easements with a cap. Expand the exclusion and the cap, they are old and outdated with inflation!
3	Mattawoman creek - more public education about the ecological services that aren't being documented. Laws aren't being enforced. The federal government is essentially subsidizing the loss of the ecological habitat and citizens are forced to pay for restoration. Stop the problem before it happens, enforce the laws.
3	NPS stewardships - if an easement is violated and no regulatory action is taken, the easement is lost and few people will follow suit with more easements. FCC forced broadband into other areas so that these areas can compete especially

	with GIS.
3	Regarding the excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment, make a similar tax for other equipment that would be given to conservation organizations and trusts.
2 and 3	Concerned about proposed casino on the Journey Thru Hallowed Ground 3000 feet from Gettysburg battlefield. It is difficult to defeat the proposal; the decision is left up to PA Gaming Control Board. Concerned about impact on battlefield. Need a buffer zone to limit casinos around National Parks i.e. like Vicksburg.
1	Responsible for 8 county National Heritage Area with two National Parks – Cedar Creek and Shenandoah NP. It is facing similar challenges; they are tasked with protecting ten battlefields. They work with willing landowners to protect land in Rockingham and other counties. They have received grants through the American Battlefield Protection Program. They’ve found that the most effective strategy is to sit down and engage with landowners to engender a sense a pride. They started a dialogue with landowners on possible tools to conserve lands and have developed a land conservation strategy specific to each parcel. Key strategy is getting recognition of battlefields incorporated into the county’s comprehensive plan to ensure a common vision among key decision makers.
2	Feels that the Chesapeake Bay is a national asset. Federal and state governments have stewardship responsibility for the Bay on behalf of the entire country. The same principle applies nationwide to public lands. For example, the Red Rock Lands in Utah are a federal responsibility, and should have a multiple use strategy. During the Bush Administration, the BLM did not recommend a wilderness designation for this area. They can’t unilaterally rule in this way.
2 and 4	Fort Monroe is a 560 acre area at the confluence of the James River and Chesapeake Bay – it’s an Army base that will close in 2011. The City of Hampton tried to turn it into gated community. Local citizens are advocating for the site to be a National Park; they have gathered 7000 names on a petition. The site would provide Bay access and trails, beaches, and promenades. Her group is trying to overcome the challenge of how to convince leaders to allow it to be a combination of state and national parks.
3	Notes that a big issue in the last two comments is that they will cost money. He feels strongly that there is a need to fully fund LWCF. It’s how federal agencies pay for land acquisition. He supports efforts in Congress to require OCS revenues to be spent on LWCF.
2 and 4	Over last 30 years, his organization has conserved 200,000 acres of lands and the headwaters of 72 watersheds. Endorses LWCF funding. They have garnered \$220M from LWCF over last 20 years. He recognizes that they can’t buy all of the

	<p>important lands. They are now doing a lot of community-based work as well. Also taking a top down approach. They have been able to get legislation in PA passed that mandated that all 58 municipalities along the Appalachian Trail must adopt trail friendly land use controls. But they are tasked with trying to support these municipalities. His volunteers are a connection to these communities. Obstacles: information, technical assistance and financial support. Many counties that the trail passes through lack land use controls and planning staff. State funds are down. They would benefit from modest seed grants to provide temporary support to counties and municipalities trying to develop local land use controls.</p>
3 and 4	<p>Citizen conservation. He provides pro bono legal help to protect National Parks. He has found that the best strategy is to tap into the love that the American people have for National Parks. He has worked on protecting Valley Forge NP and is now working on trying to protect the Wilderness Battlefield in VA. He sees that historic parks also provide recreation for local residents. He feels that we should use National Parks as a core for landscape preservation. Economics are the offsetting factor. He sees that communities don't understand the economic value of having parks. County granting authorities take a short term view on supporting land uses that offer jobs. NPS could do better job on selling itself to local communities on the economic value they bring to local communities. NPS could be more assertive in protecting its lands. During the Bush Administration, the "cooperative conservation" initiative was taken by NPS to mean "roll-over" and it had an adverse effect. Need to provide guidance to National Parks on how to be more assertive without being combative.</p>
4	<p>Visiting National Parks has been one of most inspiring impacts on my life. Feels that a new National Park in the Chesapeake Bay would be critical to increasing understanding of the value of the Bay, and to helping residents to appreciate nature.</p>
2 and 3	<p>Her group has been fighting a lot of battles on the Mattawoman Creek, one of best tributaries to the Chesapeake Bay. There is a new highway proposal threatening the watershed. Need to work on educating local planners and politicians on the value of local land use planning. Need a national toolbox for communities for areas that need to be protected. Need to protect the best tributaries to the Chesapeake Bay. Need a national blueprint for green and blue infrastructure that syncs up with transportation planning that makes these types of projects ineligible for fed funds. There are opportunities through the new livability initiative and reauthorization of federal transportation act. Should also prioritize providing transit access to national parks.</p>
3	<p>He covers region from ME to TX. Has encountered many local successful</p>

	<p>projects. Each time there have been a couple of people that are catalytic; a primary reason community has connected with project. Need new army of conservationists. This could be helped along by investing in future leadership – there are many programs like this now (i.e. National Conservation Leadership Institute) that could be supported nationally. It gets corporate support and is attended by federal and state agencies; it could be a national model.</p>
4	<p>Would also like to see the Historic Preservation Fund fully funded. It provides funding to State Historic Preservation Offices. Would like to see more funding made available to develop local ordinances. Anne Arundel County has county ordinances requiring that cultural resources be considered when development is proposed.</p>
3	<p>Keep your friends close and your board of supervisors closer. Feels that educating kids is a key to building public support for national park protection. If the park had a major education program 20 years ago, recent hearings regarding the proposed development on the Wilderness Battlefield would have gone better.</p>
1, 3, 4	<p>His organization raises matching funds to match federal and state funding to acquire battlefield lands. It was created 20 years ago by Congress. Key tools are the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP), the Farm and Ranch Land Program, and Transportation grants, which provide funding for conservation easements to help preserve lands and keep them as working lands. Want to maintain viewsheds in productive agricultural lands; don't want to pay for maintenance. What works? Having matching grants in order to ensure local folks have a stake in projects and are engaged in public private efforts. Recommendation: Keep funding for ABPP; make permanent conservation easement tax credits. Ensure that LWCF funds can be used to acquire inholdings (the issue is the lack of funding, not a policy towards acquisition of inholdings). If NPS had funding to buy out partners (like CWPT), it would allow partners to reinvest their funds in other projects. Ask for a mileage buffer around battlefield parks.</p>
4	<p>Need to work on the National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS), codified in 2009. What has worked: gateway communities; work a lot with youth. Obstacles: No one has heard of NLCS. Best tool: Need a Secretarial order to mandate conservation prescription for these lands. It would help with management. Better partner: Would like to see NLCS raised as a priority within BLM.</p>
3 and 4	<p>Feds should work on landscape level efforts and increase/provide full funding for LWCF. The 150th anniversary of the Civil War is an opportunity to promote LWCF and battlefields preservation. Need also to focus more on cities – need to provide</p>

	better help for smart growth planning, and need to have parks in cities to provide opportunities.
4	Wants a buffer around every National Park and National Military Park. Need to act within the next 7 months in order to have an impact on the GETT battlefield casino threat.
4	Need funding for wildlife management and conservation to ensure that future generations have access to National Wildlife Refuges, which are severely underfunded. Need funding for State wildlife grants program and Teaming with Wildlife program. The Clean Water Act needs to be expanded to cover isolated wetlands and intermittent streams. Need a national invasive species management program (a lot more needs to be done on invasive species – there are good efforts underway in Florida).
1 and 3	One of biggest problems on the Appalachian Trail is the threat to the trail from energy projects – there are proposals for three major transmission lines, gas lines and ten wind generation projects. Need a national GIS system which identifies important resources married with a look at federal incentives that are fueling projects that would compromise these values.
3	One effective tool is the EPA Smart Growth office which provides education for local governments and empowers them. Need to do more peer to peer work. Key partners would be National Association of Counties, Municipal League, AASHTO.
3 and 4	Supports full funding for LWCF. Likes the Go Colorado program as a model. Need to bring private capital to initiatives. Need to activate Chesapeake Treasured Landscape Initiative federal leadership committee.
3 and 4	Federal teeth are lacking to guide county actions. Supports Senator Cardin’s legislation to give EPA more authority to enforce the Clean Water Act. Need to have DOI help develop ecosystem services markets to develop parameters and to engage people.
1	Getting people engaged in the outdoors; we have to get them out – on the water & on the trails. Here in Annapolis – the “hidden gems” are the street ends. These street ends often lead to water – they offer people water access and the opportunity to put a kayak in. Need increased parking and increased awareness that these places exist. Some areas permit only 2 hours of parking which is very restrictive. What works: Making the lands open to the public so they can get out on the water.
1	A program that has impact here and nationally is the NPS Rivers and Trails

	<p>Conservation Assistance program (RTCA) – it is woefully underfunded. It gets more traction and leverage with communities than other federal programs do. There are a number of examples where RTCA has linked up local, state and federal agencies with non-profits. (Tom Ross used to manage it.) One way to make it better is to fully fund it. The budget has been cut in half. I’m not sure everyone is aware of how much leverage this program has.</p>
1	<p>Our organization used RTCA to help with long-range facilitation planning. That program has helped hundreds of communities around the country.</p>
1	<p>RTCA recommended to the YMCA that they should partner with the American Hiking Association. Eleven million members of the Hiking Association are under 17 years of age – what an ideal way to reach that group!</p>
1	<p>RTCA is high on my “what works” list. They play a really important role – they are experienced planners and they serve as an extra set of hands, and we (MD DNR) don’t have to pay them. Of all the NPS programs, this one is the best because it gives back to us. Regarding boating and public access facilities: a great program, managed through the FWS, is the Sport Fishing & Recreation Grant Program – they provide an enormous amount of funding to the states. Recreation Sport Fishing money is funneled through the states to create access sites. I would hate to see the program cut. The Sport Fishing & Recreation Program is well established – these people know boating better than most NPS employees do. These people and the program are incredibly important.</p>
1	<p>The RTCA program is critical to our water trails program in Virginia. Outreach in the communities is critical. The other program that’s essential is the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) – the funding allows us to fund our parks and to fund water access. Through VA Game and Inland Fisheries we can only fund motor boat access – LWCF allows us to fund non-motorized boat access! The program is so important to all of our parks, and to our population.</p>
1	<p>The Northern VA Regional Park Authority manages the Occoquan Water Authority. The outstanding rowing facility gets people down there – about 1,000 kids on the water in the springtime. They go down there for the rowing, not the environment - but they are seeing beaver, woodlands, etc. They bring their parents on the weekends – 2,000-3,000 people on the weekends. Through this experience, they “get” the importance of the outdoors. This is one of the few reservoirs that is open to the public – that concept should be expanded.</p>
1	<p>Thank you to those who run RTCA and Trust Funds. There is not a magic universal wrench that works for everything. We need specialized tools. \$8 million per year is provided for services via boat registration fees. RTP is a smaller program –</p>

	<p>there are opportunities for growth – the focus is on non-highway recreational activities, including snowmobiling, etc. Trail maintenance is the key to success. Funding ongoing maintenance is terribly important. I'd like to raise an opportunity. Currently in our country we spend \$8,000 on health care per person per year. This is a lifestyle-induced situation. People eat poorly, smoke, use alcohol and drugs, etc. If you took 70% of the population times \$8,000 – we could use that funding to curtail our health expenses if we alter lifestyles. The medical community is catching on to this. A physician now may prescribe 10,000 steps per day (on trails) to a patient. The physicians could offer parking passes for their patients to park and walk! It is a tremendous opportunity. A special Town Hall on health and the great outdoors is in the planning stages; national groups are asking for this Town Hall to occur.</p>
1	<p>The two things we need to focus on are: awareness and benefits. We fail at the national/state/local level to articulate why it's important to protect a place or to invest in a certain activity. We fail to articulate our message that both physical and mental health are tied to outdoor activities. The key ingredients are: awareness overall and awareness of the public benefits.</p>
1	<p>When we emphasize hiking, kayaking and canoeing, we emphasize conservation - not just fun. We're getting people actively involved in removing invasive species at several state parks. We're encouraging them to do something useful in nature. The "Save the Mattawoman Creek" campaign has been powerful because we pulled in local groups. We're focused on it – we are conducting major events throughout the summer. We're going to provide kayaking and hiking tours to offer people a chance to get to know about the issue.</p> <p>www.mattawomanwatershd.org</p>
1	<p>These folks (above) are doing a great job of getting the word out. Everywhere I go (including here), I hear about the "Save the Mattawoman Creek" campaign.</p>
1	<p>We need to take full advantage of available right of ways including levees, power line openings, railroad lines, etc. Any sort of right of ways. Make the public use(s) compatible with the original intent of each right of way.</p>
1	<p>How can we work with you (federal programs) to make these things work? The key is to work together.</p>
2	<p>I lived in Maryland for many years. Now I'm on the coast in Virginia. I feel like I'm in the wilderness. One big issue in that area is the amount of access to the water is extremely limited; far less than Boston, New York or San Diego. A study was done regarding water access around the nation – we passed the study on to local governments (in VA) and it fell on deaf ears. Local governments don't understand</p>

	<p>or appreciate how important public access to the water and access to open space are. Not everywhere is advanced as Maryland is. How do we get local governments to understand the importance of access? Seven acres of live oaks were in jeopardy in Ocean View because the city wanted to sell the area to developers. Concerned citizens took the case to the city, the local court, and then to state court – they won at the state level. These people had to sue their own city to preserve seven acres of open space! We need to distribute more information regarding how people can obtain access to the water and to open space.</p>
2	<p>I live in Bethesda, which is increasingly urban. The “age” of the people making decisions is an issue – they are disconnected with the outdoors. Open space is seen as wasted space. Other academic fields promote development. The prevailing attitude is if people want to go walking and exercise, they should join a gym. What about enjoying trees, and the outdoors while you exercise? The issue of providing shade is never heard. On the west coast – there’s much more open space everywhere – it’s a priority there. My daughters moved there because they were fed up with the attitudes here in the east.</p>
2	<p>Funding is a problem. The Sport Fishing & Recreation Access Fund is good, but non-motorized boat access is still limited in Virginia. We reviewed the problem for the Secretary of the Interior – we interviewed the states. The outcome was: it is a “user pays/user benefits” program. Motorized boaters contribute to the Access Fund, so they benefit from it! Manufacturers of kayaks and canoes should come up with a funding mechanism to promote development of soft landings, etc., to promote non-motorized boating.</p>
2	<p>From a programmatic standpoint, one of the biggest obstacles is the fact that folks do not have the knowledge and the skills to recreate appropriately. Folks don’t have the income to try recreational activities to find out if they like them or not. Through “Get Outdoors Pennsylvania” folks are introduced to recreation and it’s free! People can camp, hike, kayak, etc. Single parents are one targeted audience. The equipment is available to check out. Each time they come back to the park, they can check out fishing rods, kayaks, and other equipment.</p>
2	<p>Virginia does a great job developing easements on private land. However, the easements do not currently include public access to the lands. A little more credit (transferable tax credit) should be provided to the landowners if there is more public benefit included in the easement. Perpetual easements are given in Maryland and Virginia to figure out where the land will go/how it will be used. We should put a clause in the easements stating that “the land may be a park in 50 years,” or something similar.</p>

2	<p>Listening sessions are important. Here are examples that are “scale-able.” Kids won’t go where they don’t feel they’re wanted. In Los Angeles, there’s a park sign that has ten different “no” postings. We have to invite the kids - truly welcome them – otherwise they’ll go to the mall. We do need to overcome the incredible dearth of awareness about where open areas are! (Lack of) public transportation is an issue. Also, people don’t want to travel outside their “ethnic boundaries.” On the metro and on buses, we need to advertize how to visit Rock Creek, etc. That is not happening now.</p>
2	<p>There is inconsistent messaging across the public landscape; a mosaic of messages. The user doesn’t differentiate between federal, state and local agencies and organizations. We need to create consistent messages regarding public use. We need to derail the negative messaging. Our messages cannot be conveyed only in English – we need bilingual signage. Spanish is the dominant language. We need to commit to bilingual signage.</p>
2	<p>I do a lot of kayaking and canoeing and when I’m out there I’m wondering “Why aren’t there more people out here?” Because generally there’s an eight hour commitment from put in to take out (on a river). People are not comfortable committing that much time to a recreational activity.</p>
2	<p>I also kayak a lot and I use bridges to access water. We need to work with the Department of Transportation (DOT) to create (boat) access at bridges.</p>
2	<p>There’s a problem with safety and health due to the way our parks are managed. We’ve exceeded carrying capacity for the white-tailed deer – Lyme disease is horrific and it has ruined my life. Where is the wildlife management in our state parks? We have to improve the plant and wildlife communities – and indirectly benefit the people.</p>
2	<p>We have to make the connection that public access and our parks are important for education. Kids aren’t getting outside because the parents aren’t taking them. We need more opportunities for people - kids especially - to get out. This is all tied to environmental sustainability. We need to invest in this – public access is so important – we should tie it to education. We need to get the schools (students) out a little more. Standards of Learning in Virginia have restricted field trip numbers – this is something that could be easily changed with funding.</p>
2	<p>Public access is very important. We have a dedicated funding source for Program Open Space in Maryland. We have an excise tax for water access. Those special funds are raided on a regular basis! If you are concerned about this you should contact your local elected officials and let them know. There is no mechanism to restore the funds to these programs once they’ve been removed. Carrying</p>

	<p>capacity is also an important issue. The call for more public access is drowning out the need for a study regarding carrying capacity for these sites. There's a reason there are only two parking spaces in particular areas – those sites can't handle 25 cars, and the nearby communities cannot handle 25 cars. Look at the sensitive areas – are we balancing their protection with appropriate amounts of public access? From state side, everyone is so interested in these efforts – we're seeing a federal effort that's "pushing down" on the states. The state's efforts need to be respected and looked at before the federal programs override them. We have many studies and programs already in place. The feds are forgetting that the states have already done a lot of work – they truly need to work with the states.</p>
2	<p>We need to get rid of our old thinking that spending time outdoors is a waste of time. We still have that attitude! Public policies are behind the times thanks to the Puritans. We know that spending time outdoors is not a waste of time - we need to rethink how we encourage people to use their time.</p>
2	<p>Young people don't go outdoors; my friends don't. I wondered why they don't go camping, kayaking, etc. It's because they lack the knowledge that the sites are there and the outdoors is available in general. There's also the fear of the outdoors. My boyfriend is from New York and he's afraid of deer!! We have to acknowledge this – people are fearful, especially around water! Boating can be scary. Providing assistance and training is very important. Also, the financial barriers are real – again, with water - boating is expensive. Even to rent a kayak or go on a guided tour costs about \$60 – most families can't afford that. Young kids make the family's schedule very hectic – we need urban (close by) parks. Families can't afford to drive an hour just to get to the site!</p>
2	<p>We're trying to engage youth in the outdoors? The best way to engage youth is with an adult in the outdoors. We need to focus on the adults in order to get the kids out there! We need to influence family choices. I'm with Ducks Unlimited – if you take a kid waterfowl hunting, you'll change his/her life.</p>
2	<p>I have a concern and a question. Climate change is a huge issue and our policies are not keeping pace with the changes on the ground. What legislative changes will make a true difference? I'm a spiritualist – I work with our American Indian tribes. Why don't we require Ecology 101 for our legislators?</p>
4	<p>Regarding efforts to bring children outdoors - the public schools should have a role in doing this. During the Bush years, we reverted to a test-driven school system and with "No Child Left Behind" the kids are indoors so much! Public schools have cut back on field trips – private schools are great, but the public schools don't encourage kids to spend any time outside. We need more field trips – not just to museums – but to outdoor sites. Reintroduce these parks to the</p>

	<p>children and send the information home to the parents so the parents will want to visit. In Montgomery County, we have no problem connecting people to the outdoors on the Capital Crescent Trail. It is used by thousands of people every week. Our county council voted to plan the Purple Line – they’re going to bulldoze 17 acres of mature forest. It’s good to build up the city around the metro stations but losing trees means our quality of life will be diminished. We’re a “walking community” – we should not lose that! We shouldn’t have to drive to Rock Creek Park. It’s a noble effort to close the Red Line but the non-destructive alternatives have not been studied. The county is proposing to spend \$1.68 billion to do the most destructive proposal to create the Purple Line. The State is furloughing state employees and asking the federal government for funding! This is a very misguided initiative.</p>
4	<p>There’s an overall lack of planning in these parks. Various trails are built but no parking is planned. Horse trails are developed but there are no places to park the horse trailers. In Howard County, there are parks surrounded by houses but there’s no access provided from the houses to the parks.</p>
4	<p>We need to have the Administration do something huge – “Put every kid in a park.” Ken Salazar said many good things today; at one point he said “I want a meeting between me, Bill Saxton and Lisa Jackson and Education. “ One thing we can do is get rid of the Standards of Learning. The Obama Administration should champion a re-alignment around education and the outdoors - it is unacceptable to perpetuate this broken system. Such a re-alignment would support Michelle Obama’s “Kids Outdoors Program.”</p>
4	<p>Marketing is the key; take the parks to the people. At a number of water parks, we bring the naturalists to the staging areas in water parks so they can reach the people (kids). Then the people (kids) start coming to the nature centers and education centers – they never would have found the centers without this contact. A larger idea: create trails that pay for themselves and make money on top of that (through easements and fees) – we have a model of that. Bring in the Secretary of Transportation and look at our utility lines across the country – see if there’s some way to use them for non-motorized trails; create a national program.</p>
4	<p>“Pennsylvania Wilds” is a successful landscape initiative involving state, local and non-government entities—it is an ecotourism initiative. We get a lot done. “Treasured Landscapes” is a great idea—get different agencies to look at the Lower Susquehanna and the upper Chesapeake Bay. LLC – USFWS – a “landscape cooperative” gets a lot more done.</p>
4	<p>Conduct a series of listening sessions with young folks. Talk to them directly. Gear</p>

	does cost money – offering the equipment for free is an important concept.
4	I've worked in national parks. They have the tools—biologists, ecologists, etc. - doing all these surveys regarding park management practices that benefit ecology and wildlife. The Park Service is not listening to its own experts. You need to listen to the strategies they are recommending in order to increase biodiversity. Implement their strategies. There are great published papers out there developed by Park Service personnel!
4	We need to consider private access incentives. One example: someone has private land they're willing to put into an easement; add an incentive to encourage them to include public access within the easement. Offer "another carrot" to gain increased water access for the public.
4	Stewardship grants issued by the federal government should be expanded and tied to kayaking and boating; and go hand-in-hand with stewardship messages. Regarding boating: clean water makes for good boating. Contrary to the popular misconception, boaters are "first in line" for cleaner water. Make a renewed commitment to the Clean Water Act – bring water trades, industry, etc. into the conversation.
4	Some of the funding is tied to matching grants. Change some of the grant administration policies because many of us don't have matching funds. Maryland has a fantastic program for forest conservation and we're starting to see efforts regarding agricultural conservation. There is no widespread tax break for the forest conservation program. Some of the land is on private lots – the people on those lots don't respect the intent of the easement because they do not directly benefit from it (as the overall landowner does). Provide a tax incentive for each individual participant.
4	We need sidewalk access to urban parks. Complete the "streets policy." Government space is the street system itself – promote more trees and landscaping.
4	Obesity is a huge issue in our country and no one is mentioning it. 38% of children (under 18 years of age) in Delaware are overweight. We are about to do a project working with pediatricians to start issuing prescriptions to make the kids go outdoors. People make bad leisure time choices and poor food choices. How do we work with the manufacturing system in our country to deal with obesity? The Center for City Parks, the Trust for Public Lands – they should initiate impact surveys. We need to do economic impact studies regarding the importance of parks in our country. We need to focus on areas "close to home" first vs. the national parks!

4	Congratulations on the recent actions of the EPA – good marks! Look at all of these things from a reasonable viewpoint – the federal government must lead.
4	Provide public access via private lands – explore what’s going in Santa Barbara and Montecito – they are creating biking trails across private lands.
4	Look to the states –they already have information and programs in place. Give them the support they need; increase their capacity.
4	We need matching funds for stewardship - invasive species removal projects.
1	Pennsylvania Wilds has a youth outreach concept/initiative which is a marriage of outdoors & technology. An example of this is geo-caching. Kids like to do things that involve technology & outdoors. A good strategy is to lure them in with technology, such as social networking marketing and then lead them to the outdoors. An iPhone app, like one currently in existence that uses GPS to track trails, can be very helpful.
1	Kids need safe places in urban and suburban environments that are nearby and easily accessible. We need places where kids can feel comfortable being in the outdoors. So we need not just the big parks, but also the small parks nearby that kids can safely explore. We also need local mentors to teach kids and to help them to be comfortable in nature.
1	National Audubon Society and Audubon Society of VA have a program called Audubon at home which sends ambassadors to people’s homes to convert their yards into more natural landscaping and habitat for wildlife. They also do that with schools and local governments. There isn’t that much land left to acquire they feel that it is better to work with private landowners. These kind of program help children because they bring the experiences close to home.
1	Remember that poor kids can’t purchase technology; and poor kids don’t have yards and safe places to go. We need to work with over strapped underfunded school systems that aren’t focusing on the outdoor experience. We need more funding in school systems for outdoor educational programs. And we need to target young children to help them to become comfortable outdoors; children can be molded to think anything is cool if they’re young enough.
1	We need to reach parents if we want to reach youth. Beyond school programming, we also need to emphasize family quality time. For example our family participates in outdoor activities like trail restoration. Historic places are also important places to get kids outside and engaged. One of my kids is much more likely to want to go to someplace historic. Finally, we need to empower

	local organizations that are already there, rather than focusing on new programs.
1	We also have to remember some kids don't want to fish and play outside. We can't reach everyone.
1	We start with what is common & familiar, e.g. nature, history; then we work backwards to try to make the point about preservation. We think about how to engage the five senses when we are structuring programs. Children appreciate that. We find that word of mouth is the best way to market our programs.
1	At National Aquarium in Baltimore we had outreach programs that targeted very young children. Daycares are a good place to start. It's good to start when children are little. We sometimes try to get sponsors to help pay the entrance fees for kids to visit sites. Multi-year programs are the best way to really reach kids; providing multiple encounters. They can start with activities in school or close to home when they are younger or just starting, then can do more advanced activities as they grow up. Schools don't always apply to become partners so we have to do outreach to them. Teachers aren't always comfortable with losing instruction time. Non-science teachers were not comfortable with external programs. Teachers once they are fully trained, then become more comfortable using the programs that are available. Teachers didn't want to do training during the summer. Funding was helpful to get teachers trained for environmental education. Children going off-site can be facilitated by sponsors. Getting into the school system and into their curriculum is essential. Also need to work with private schools.
1	Kids want and need hands on encounters—the chance to see it and touch it. Groups like Sierra Club, Chesapeake Bay Foundation can help by bringing hands-on specimens to classes.
1	Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission. We have to understand childhood development. Consider Maslow's hierarchy of needs, such as economics. Start with core principals of youth development to think about outcomes. Skill-building promotes self-esteem and community. The ability to earn even a modest wage builds self-esteem. Positive relationships with adults determine success of programs. Parks provide stress relief. We want to change behavior and we need to change institutions to do that. Need to teach and develop staff to do outreach.
1	Can encourage teenagers to teach younger kids. City of Annapolis interns work on green jobs programs. We need to look at this as stewardship, taking care of something that doesn't belong to us. Think about demographics; think about the opportunity to increase diversity in the environmental community. As

	government officials, look at multi-family housing when it comes in for approval. Encourage connections between trails, environmentally safe areas, storage for recreational equipment, environmental design. Give people ownership through small backyards.
1	We teach environmental stewardship. I'm vitally interested in fishing for native trout, and our streams at risk for an invasive species—Didimo (and algae that coats the stream bottom and chokes off all other life). Invasive species is a rallying cry for recreational use of water. Collaborative effort—environmental monitoring and outreach helps make people feel like they are a part of this. Kids can map river bottom.
3	Need additional tools to support the No Child Left Inside Act. Amendment of Elementary Education Act could provide funds. Maryland's Children in Nature plan is developed. Seeking to embed the ideas of No Child Left Inside within the Elementary Education Act to get outdoor and environmental education integrated as part of core curriculum. Small amount of money to these educational plans could open window. Consider how to leverage funds that are already being spent to connect kids to the outdoors. Try to get environmental education into the core curriculum of public schools. Doesn't always have to be reliant on transportation; it can be on-grounds garden or changing operation of school building and grounds.
3	Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. State Department of Health partnership—CDC grants to build health awareness. Great opportunities if the programs can speak the same language. Physical exercise relates to the outdoors. There could be connections with No Child Left Inside Act & the FLOTUS goals.
3	Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act. Tree canopy is in the MS4 permit. Need to encourage/incentivize jurisdictions to submit the preservation and enhancement of parks in their Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act processes. There is an opportunity to connect with green infrastructure initiatives within EPA.
3	Need to look at green infrastructure more comprehensively in permits.
3	The Federal government can help to nurture small organizations through the technical assistance they provide. Beyond the know how they bring, the personal assistance that Federal staff provide can be critical to the growth and development of organizations such ours. The staff of the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network has been enormously helpful to the development of the Annapolis Maritime Museum. The individuals in the federal government have been helpful.
3	Youth are a good resource. Think about how youth can teach adults. Youth-led

	organizations, such as the Statewide Youth Board on Obesity Prevention Program can be a model. Facilitators take youth who are already interested in the outdoors and they encourage other youth to get involved. It resonates better than having adults talk down to youth.
3	We need more funding allocated for baseline environmental monitoring for the state of Maryland coldwater resources and fishing in general. We don't have recreational catch data.
3	Need to promote jobs that connect the youth to the outdoors. USAJOBS is not easy to navigate; and many nonprofits don't have great websites. Need better advertising of internships and job opportunities in the environmental and outdoor recreational fields.
3	National Wildlife Refuges have programs that are not well-advertised to universities and the public.
3	The federal government could be a clearinghouse for environmental jobs for young adults.
4	Pass the No Child Left Inside Act.
4	Need more staff at refuges to be environmental educators rather than relying so much on volunteers—many of whom are elderly and it's difficult for them to get out. Disability focus—accessibility for children & adults and the less-able.
4	National Wildlife Refuges in the city.
4	The media are highlighting dangers of being outside. The federal government could try to present positive side of being outside.
4	NPS has an order for partnerships (DO-21) that is so burdensome to the partners that it imperils the idea of partnerships. It is difficult for federal land managers to work with. Unfortunately there was previously no organizational guidance on partnerships; now we have burdensome guidance instead.
4	The President and FLOTUS should provide leadership on being outside.
1	From Portland Maine- helps kids from disadvantaged situations. Have kids build rowboats. Does this with his own grandkids. Personal love of water environment. Takes a week to build a rowboat.
1	Restore habitat on school grounds. He is involved with program that introduces kids to nature. Operates in 2 -3 states, needs more funding. Introduce kids to importance of conservation. Meeting between Sec. Salazar and Duncan, that's

	something that they can consider.
1	County schools build a restoration project and the kids develop the project. It's a unique way to give kids a firsthand experience. Invest kids in the environment. Kids go home and talk to parents, kids became advocates.
1	There is a partnership between Fairfax county schools (elementary schools) and parks. Work w/ teacher's standards for kids in different grades. Need environmental education standards. Use parks to reinforce issue. Connect park to school. Use park to educate kids. 4 th grade kid bring parents out and kid shows them something.
1	Works with Americorps. It got him involved in many programs. The Junior ranger program gets kids out to parks and teaches them. Sprouts is a program for 2-5 yr olds. They start young and plant acorns. Must connect on playful level. Advertise to parents on web. They build something out of sheets and kids are excited no matter what. Teen rangers perform trail maintenance and show kids the wildlife. Civic justice corps is a program that brings disadvantaged youth into park. It is amazing for kids and the parents learn from the kids. Kids learn trades. There is a Bay grass planting program. Kids get involved, they can see the grass grow. Gunpowder falls are state falls.
1	Trail maintenance is needed. There shouldn't be runoff into creeks. Advertise in outdoor retail stores, people in suburbs are sometimes more ignorant of nature than those in the city which is sad. People don't appreciate the physical labor that built this country. Likes Americorps, but thinks that kids in general are lost because the kids don't know what to do. He wants kids to start working with land. Wants kids to hike the Appalachian Trail.
1	Farms are part of a DC environmental education consortium. Forest communities include people only concerned with survival. Childhood obesity is real problem. Growing your own food impresses on young people how important low cost, low carbon imprint food is. Expose kids to natural world, draw kids in, meet kids where they are and teach them. Teach teamwork, teach about parks. Edible gardens are an opportunity for people sitting around not doing work. Put them to work in gardens. Agricultural runoff is #1source of pollution. Wants DOI and EPA to work on this.
1	Parks and People in DC recently got a grant. It does work in the inner city area, combats "fear of land," and fatalism. The memory of elders is powerful. In the inner city, there are elders who remember spending time in the land, there are kids who want to connect. Kids sell produce, it replaces the drug market. Simple things can be done, show kids that they can lead the way. The tiniest reasons will

	keep kids away. Kids don't know about what is out there. They need to be enthralled with what is out there. Bring back the magic of the outdoors, government can help.
1	Service learning- there is a partnership with NPS and a middle school to get kids out to the park. Kids lived in the area, but never visited the parks. Got kids to interpret the trail, they created a podcast. Kids discussed what the park meant to them in a contemporary setting. Look at issues like slavery and civil war. NPS uses podcasts for interpretation for youth.
2	Have to discover what excites people. Engage imagination. Some people like stories. The landscape in Dorchester County, Harriet Tubman traveled through there. People enjoy hearing about her story – the story is present in the landscape.
2	Lack physical access to bay. There aren't places where they can get to water. Even if you're physically able get to the Bay, it's very hard to find places to get on the water. Programs that run through an institution are the best way to reach people. People must use the outdoors in way that is special to them in order to engage. Can do it through an institution, but people need to know how to do it on their own. Find ways to connect so they can do outdoors activities by themselves.
2	Lives outside of Philadelphia, there are not enough places for people to go. Need to finance. Land and water conservation fund should be funded. Work with programs we already have. Invest in local communities.
2	Worried about group that cannot teach others about wildlife. We have a lot of educational tools and we must get the kids out there.
2	Have caucus in the House of Representatives. Work closely with others. Historic preservation fund is important. Land and water conservation should be funded.
2	Just here as a concerned citizen, no professional connection. Got interested in outdoors through boy scouts. Had camp in NYC. Remembers what he learned. The prevalence of computers is an obstacle. Need to change that obstacle into a tool. Sponsor websites that are aimed towards kids. Get TV/ radio time to direct kids to conservation websites.
2	Potomac Institute in DC focuses on working lands. Use land for production of products. Financing and funding needs to be rethought. Connect to industry. Ecosystem services markets need to understand the value of resources.
2	The Sierra Club connects kids to the outdoors. Need to get kids from all

	backgrounds. Get First Family out there. Need good role models. The Obamas, with two daughters, would be great role models. Climate change is an obstacle. Need corridors. Establish a youth corps and get the kids out there to prepare for climate change.
2	Want to discuss funding. Budgets have been hit. Parks on borderline. Had to stop projects. Spend a lot of time applying for grants. Reached out to government but her organization couldn't apply because the grants were only available for national programs. Her organization didn't qualify because the trail wasn't long enough. The Federal government should look at the grant funding scope. Municipalities should be included.
2	The MD Green Party thinks that the Federal money that government has to hand out represents a subsidy from taxpayers to efforts. Conservation people will lobby to get tax money for their cash flow. Taxpayers are paying the cost of doing business. Same for cover crops or corn. Corn sold to chicken farmers, chicken waste goes into the Chesapeake Bay. Thinks we have a corporate socialist system. Government officials are bought by campaign donations. They are spokesmen for corporate sponsors. Very worried about representation. Green party doesn't accept donations.
2	Concerned about public lands. Need to designate land as protected.
4	Prepare model legislation relating to the problem. Urban planners want everything to be concrete. Worried that there will be no conservation. Need a model zoning code related to the conservation of resources. Same way transportation built highway. Need a model curriculum for colleges that teach urban planning. Have rural planning and suburban planning. Need a model program that says incorporate these things in the program. Need a Masters program for landscape/green infrastructure.
4	Concerned about access. The government has set apart many places for people to go. There are many public lands. The typical urban population doesn't know these lands are available. Bus from SFO goes every Sunday to beach and every Sunday the beach gets more visitors as a result from a population that doesn't regularly visit beach. NPS doesn't have access to the Department of Transportation to plan with them. School groups don't have access, NPS can't send buses out, Department of Transportation could.
4	Areas should be named as national treasures. Put pressure on development watershed. Corps of engineers and DOI should work together.
4	Fully fund historic fund. Feds should take care of cultural resources and

	sustainable community innovation. Culture is so important.
N/A	Job skills for youth are very important. Partner with international masonry for historic place preservation.
N/A	As a parent, the idea of a community garden is good. The stumbling block is school facilities folks, they slow down construction. The mortar folks need to be involved.
N/A	People should feel like they are involved. Many people haven't heard of DOI, or the online idea jam site and Facebook page. People should know. More advertising is needed. Likes that Sec. Salazar was out here at this listening session. Make people aware so that they can enjoy. Helps get people to great outdoors.
N/A	We hosted an Earth Day event with 650 kids in attendance. We could have used more. DC testing precluded participation. The calendar needs to be looked at, so that events can be held. It's not easy to find children's activities through the National Park Service. Need to add special section on the website.
N/A	A new website, "Service.gov" or "Volunteer.gov", would be a great way to connect with kids and teens. Need to develop an I-phone app where people can enter "Here are my coordinates, show me what to do in this park."
N/A	Activities for children are skewed for younger children. Need to engage middle school students. Need to engage the faith based community. Kids in Montgomery county go on Earth Day to pull invasive species in Rock Creek Park. We need to work on partnership skills. Need to facilitate relationships. How do you streamline things so that there isn't double reporting?
N/A	For those with funding issues, connect with your schools and universities. Ask for help with a neighborhood design center. Find a landscape architect who is starting out and partner with a university to help out with local parks and trails. Good source of free design skills.
N/A	All participants should go to the NPS website and urge completion of national trails system. In 1960, Congress created the National Trails system and according to the website, only one (Appalachian Trail) has been completed. Participants should also vote on priority projects on the AGO website.
N/A	We need to ask what we can do better. May include real life issues like providing meals for kids.
N/A	Tap into your private sector, develop private funds. We host 2 fundraisers, one for corporate sponsors, and another for regular members. Try getting together over

	cocktails. Conserved over 13M acres using affluent sponsors. Look for other companies to sponsor.
N/A	Launched a program at a park, getting kids more involved, and developing job skills. At a high school in Calvert County, students attended an archeology class in a 560 acre park with limited staff. This class created a cell phone tour. They researched oral history, spoke with the archeologist, transcribed, wrote the script, recorded it, developed marketing and signage. They developed serious skills. HS seniors created a system where visitors can call a number and learn all about the archeological site. Replaces staff. Involves students. Gives them job skills, and buy-in. Very successful.
N/A	State of MD hiring freeze. Losing key employees. Local government's red tape to hire employees. Job descriptions are limited. Government bureaucracy.
N/A	Public housing right next to St. John College. Writing a proposal for neighbors to learn about rain barrels. The Math and Science curriculum is very restrictive. How do we include Environmental education? Can there be electives? How can we get the freedom to do what needs to be done?
N/A	Our county is on a peninsula – surrounded by water. We have a ChesPax program. All students, grades 1-7 spend a day in the county on their "Environment Day". Sixth grade students concentrate on archeology. There are different topics for each grade. It's important that it's required by the County. It meets Maryland service learning, which means the County doesn't pay for it. They plant trees, native gardens, and visit the landfill. Landfill visit consists of tours. Younger grades are given donated (from local stores) brown grocery bags. Students draw pictures, write conservation messages, and advocate recycling. Then grocery stores hands out bags in Calvert County.
N/A	For preservation of land, the challenge is historic structures on historic lands. They are mothballed, or run as historic houses, due to lack of funding. They could do so much more with funding, but it's not there. Would be excellent sites for social studies and history curriculum. The challenge is that the social studies program isn't supported in PG county. 27,000 acres have been preserved.
N/A	Outdoor education centers are very successful where schools are required by state law to have students attend one day each year. Encourage grassroots efforts in outdoor education. Counties don't have money for this education. 400-800 attendees have been involved in outdoor education with support from parents. If parent demand these activities, counties will provide.
N/A	They have 1500 members that hike, canoe, and bike. Stewardship is key. Partnering is what helps them. Partnerships supply labor. One example, they

	partner with federal government on National Public Lands Day. On Assateague, members spend hours per day, cleaning up trails, and providing free labor. The park provides free campsites. Gives people ownership of that park since they worked on it. One weekend in National parks – free camping – work.
N/A	Need top down support in education for these environmental programs. Sponsor programs where high school students teach middle school students. Very meaningful experience for high school students. They have a good relationship with USFWS to teach outdoor education classes. Plan and sponsor urban outdoor camping. Develop community partnerships with the local government and museums. Make it fun. Too much do as I say not as I do. Kids see through that. We must walk the talk. Kids are not dumb.
N/A	Takes teachers from Title 1 schools that go to national parks during busy season, providing volunteer staff. Take this environment back to the classroom. Stats: 84 teacher rangers resulting in contact with 230,000 people, taught 24,000 students. Intermountain region unable to hire as many as they needed.
N/A	Encourage citizen engagement. By monitoring water quality, they become engaged. Government must value that engagement. Give the citizen credibility. Gives them a role in conservation.
N/A	Community service, etc. can be service learning. One challenge she faces in federal service. Information is "silo"ed. Information is not shared between agencies. Today is great example of sharing.
N/A	Budget crisis is the biggest roadblock to the outdoor experience. Two park staff were laid off (parks and rec). Annapolis has 200 acres of parkland. They have to rely on volunteers such as Girl Scouts. They use "Volunteer Voice," a weekly announcement on the local AM (WNAV) radio station. Weekly interview where need for volunteers is aired. This way really connects to the public. Also use Volunteer website: http://www.volunteerannearundel.org/
N/A	Whatever you do to engage children must be fun. Start early. Show job opportunities to your children so that they're environmentalists early. They have a pilot program: Woolly mascot, buddy bison. Where has buddy bison been? This is for Grades preK – 8. It comes with a toolkit and local park maps. The Buddy Bison website is: Buddybison.org . There are twenty-one pilot schools and new education centers in California, Nevada. The program uses photos, stories, and artwork. It's a national grassroots movement. It connects kids throughout the country. The biggest obstacle is transportation. Set up a program that's funded by scholarships for bus funds. High school organizations say if DOI would give jobs that are available, along with course work, developing skills, they could increase

	hiring in the DOI. Little kids to older students; Simple and scalable. Teachers love it.
N/A	National Trails Day introduces people to the outside to engage. During 2008-2010, there were 1900 events including a theater hike, Bronco football player hike, geocaches, and giving the kids temporary tattoos. Need to get edgy. The obstacle is national trails funding. It's all about the funding. There are many requests for trail head signs, maps, etc. Need the money.
N/A	Feels easements on private lands are a key conservation strategy. Federal highway transportation enhancement program has matching requirements – states have to match federal funds along with a local sponsor. County budgets make it difficult to make the 50% matching cost of purchase easements to establish butters along transportation corridors (i.e. Antietam Battlefield). If match requirements were reduced, county governments could do more to protect these lands.
N/A	Look at programs that work and give them priority for funding. Land and water conservation and the rivers and trails program connect people in the community. Focus on existing federal holdings in their ecosystem setting and connect them to the Chesapeake bay watershed. There's room for more national parks that would provide more access, protect more natural and cultural resources.
N/A	See that more historic sites with natural resources get funding. Support the expansion of national parks and monuments including USDA monuments and the Antiquities Act. People are reluctant in the field because of public interest with locals and site managers.
N/A	Tension between private ownership and desire for more public access. How to make it easier or more fun or more lucrative to give more public access. Create a different incentive.
N/A	Private property adjacent to public land with no public access to public land. Someone needs to cover my insurance for people coming through my land to get to the public areas. If I am not around to grant access, then I'm liable. ANSWER: You are protected by Recreational Liability Act – most states protect landowners who allow public access.
N/A	Education for climate change and ecology in middle and elementary schools. More information for kids to understand what the career options are - internships like STEP and SCEP. If they don't get introduced to the field when they're young, they're less likely to pursue a job in an environmental field.
N/A	To retain private working lands they have to be profitable. Credits are a huge source of income. The USDA rural developments have to be provided as grants rather than loans. Equity investment for beginning farmers & emerging businesses.
N/A	Grants.gov is too complicated of a system to use. Volunteers need an easier way

	to get money for programs. It's much easier to get a permit than a grant - Improve the site! Eliminate funding programs based on no money in the budget. Lack of reliable dedicated funding for national historical preservation fund.
N/A	MD local land trusts work really hard so we know what's worth saving. We need more funding, not more data analysis. Need more money to purchase land and to build capacity to empower land trusts (even \$25,000 goes a long way). Make tax benefits permanent!
N/A	Higher education can inspire change. There are specific classes that can spark interest to get kids involved. Actively get involvement rather than teach the problems.
N/A	Chain of habitat - connection between protected lands. Arlington - a bridge was built to enable people to get from Rosslyn (urban) across the highway down to the park. Find the missing link to enable people to get from urban areas to parks.
N/A	Emphasize the state tax credits (transferability of those credits). The majority of easements have come after the tax credits were enacted, mostly after they were made transferable. Conserves about 6 acres per hour in the state of VA. This way the easements don't get lost with the investment. Many new landowners don't have the income to leave easements instead of allowing development. Many of the landowners reinvest the money in the land and community if an easement is agreed on. Preservation trust fund uses money to offset the costs of creating easements which is often the difference to get owners onboard. This pays for transactions including lawyers etc.
N/A	Everything I learned about the outdoors was from the boy scouts. No other organization introduces this number of kids to the outdoors and encourages them to stay involved. They also own large areas that need preservation.
N/A	Protect & preserve habitat for waterfowl by focusing on the entire continent (migratory birds). Land conservation between Canada, the US and Mexico but it is implanted locally. What areas need to be prioritized? Track populations through migration to focus efforts.
N/A	In VA, the system of natural heritage for natural area preserves needs a strategy. Talk about GIS like you love it. GIS is great because it is strategic for targeting areas. Funding from LWCF can create state organizations to find the valuable land and habitat. It's important to get the leaders to understand the necessity of GIS.
N/A	We should tie in the programs of Piscataway park and the forest but we need more oversight from state and federal agencies. Sometimes the local land use decisions are made for short term profit instead of considering a more long term vision that keeps giving to the people. Mattawoman has been considered important for many different species but it might be lost because the local vision

	contradicts the more long term goal which would continue to give back to the public. Smart growth!
N/A	A threat can really rally a lot of different people to save an area. Wilderness battlefield threatened by Wal-Mart brings together several different organizations. The programs from the federal government need to engage volunteers. It's great to get different ages involved and contributing to conservation.
N/A	In order to have access to the outdoors there has to be public access. Ex: Forests along the Potomac River in Charles County were due to be developed but were stopped by the grassroots level until the state of MD bought the land and created areas for public access. Ex: Hard Bargain Farm - working farm that also gives environmental education. Ex: Charles County public schools include, as part of their curriculum, visits to working farms.
N/A	(MD has funding (real estate transfer taxes, agricultural land conversion to communities, conversion taxes). Inclusion of GIS from DNR to create priority areas.
N/A	We have 125,000 acres preserved through easements. We want to bring land owner tax incentives back and make them permanent.
N/A	The programs touch so many different areas for preservation and agriculture, including the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts. It has become an administration-wide effort, not just focused on the problem areas that were mentioned earlier. These were simply examples of the areas of focus, but not limited to the scope of conservation efforts.
N/A	MD has funding (real estate transfer taxes, agricultural land conversion to communities, conversion taxes). Inclusion of GIS from DNR to create priority areas.
N/A	Special places – treasured landscapes – connect people to outdoors. Need to make a story and then people will relate to a place and make the protections expand.
N/A	Youth need to have interim programs to do land service projects, not just “get a job” because they need the money. Need a Green ROTC program and need to bolster Americorps. Conservation is the “Moral equivalent of war.”
N/A	For the next Farm Bill, count voluntary BMPs, have more conservation easements, and need to have minimum conservation programs in place. Ag programs are often the first cut out of school budgets. Need to continue researching new Ag technology and energy to get farmers interested in working and living light on the

	land. What's permanent? Need to have people on the land—otherwise what is the point of conserving land. Buy fresh-Buy local.
N/A	Farming looks similar everywhere, but isn't. Farm Bill should be administered differently on different landscapes. Role of land trust should not be forgotten.
N/A	Enhanced tax incentives very important. Need additional incentives and continuation. State funding for land conservation is in jeopardy.