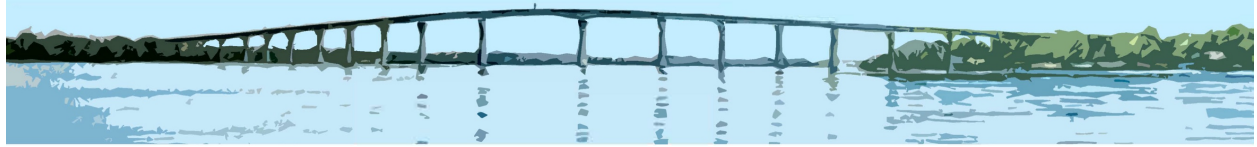


Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust

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PTLT's Latest Easement an Agricultural and Environmental Success

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 12, 2021

Leonardtown, Maryland – On February 10th PTLT acquired another conservation easement in St. Mary's County for a 117-acre farm on Queentree Road in Mechanicsville owned by Robert and Jennifer Beale.

“We’re particularly pleased with the completion of the Beale Farm easement,” said PTLT President Frank Allen. “This project simultaneously touches on various aspects of land conservation. Mr. and Mrs. Beale’s farm shows how such government agencies as Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plan and the Forest Stewardship Plan – along with PTLT’s perpetual protection – can promote sound agricultural practices while safeguarding critical watershed resources. Hopefully, this easement will encourage other Southern Maryland landowners to consider the same for their properties.”

This beautiful tract with farm fields and forest occupies an upland ridge between two streams valleys that feed the headwaters of Cat Creek, a tributary of the Patuxent River. The 81.36 acres of forest, managed under an active Forest Stewardship Plan, include 42.92 acres of riparian

stream buffer that abut the streams and feed into 5.28 acres of palustrine non-tidal wetlands. Agricultural fields, managed under a Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plan, total approximately 29 acres and occupy a majority of the site's prime agricultural soils. With the inclusions of this easement, PTLT now protects over 5,722 acres of land in Southern Maryland forever.

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The mission of the Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust is to sustain the region's biodiversity and water resources through a network of protected landscapes. The organization recognizes that forest and farmland and the region's unique historic and scenic character are vital to a healthy economy and citizens' sense of well-being. PTLT acquires land and conservation easements by purchase or donation. It has conserved more than 5,722 acres of land in perpetuity. For more information, visit www.PTLT.org.

