Statement of Public Policy Values

Forever Maryland is dedicated to the conservation of our state’s land, water, wildlife, and other natural resources. Everyone who lives or works in Maryland, or who visits Maryland, should have the opportunity to experience and cherish these invaluable natural treasures that sustain healthy, vibrant, and economically resilient communities.

There is no room in our work on behalf of the people of Maryland for racism, injustice, or acts of exclusion. The principles and values of equality, justice, and inclusion guide us and will be honored by Forever Maryland in all that we do.

2022 Forever Maryland Legislative Agenda

- Support Full cash funding of Maryland’s Program Open Space and Repayment of $167M in promised Program Open Space payback funds

- Support the Maryland the Beautiful “30X30” Conservation Bill (SB791/HB1031) as a way to dramatically increase the conservation of Maryland’s most precious lands and critical habitat, including:
  - Sets a goal to protect 30% of Maryland land by 2030 and 40% by 2040;
  - $1 Million Funding towards the Mel Noland Woodland Incentives Fund;
  - The creation of a new Land Trust Rapid Response Revolving Loan Fund Program; and
  - The creation of a Urban Greenspace and Equity Program

- Support the Great Maryland Outdoors Act (SB541/HB727)

- Support the 2022 Maryland Conservation Finance Act (SB348)

- Support the Maryland Heirs Law Uniform Partition Act

- Support the Easement SDAT Disclosure and Reform Act to ensure individuals and organizations that purchase previously eased lands understand the roles, responsibilities, and legal implications of purchasing conserved lands

- Support the 2022 Irreplaceable Natural Areas Bill (HB784) to halt species decline and identify and protect natural areas on lands managed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources

- Support Full Funding for the Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund (RMPIF) to support conservation oriented non-profit organizations