

**Assateague Coastal Trust, Inc.**

**2007 Annual Report**

# 2007 Annual Report



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### Mission Statement

Assateague Coastal Trust works to protect and enhance the natural resources of the Atlantic Coastal Bays watershed through advocacy, conservation and education.

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## Assateague COASTKEEPER®

In conjunction with the Natural Resources Defense Council, Assateague **COASTKEEPER** Kathy Phillips released NRDC's "Testing the Waters" 2006 report through a major local media campaign. This effort garnered television coverage of water pollution at Public Landing, a public swimming beach in Worcester County, MD and publicized the need



for Worcester County to more aggressively pursue their program to target aging septic systems in the 1000' Critical Area of our shorelines. This county program uses Chesapeake Bay Restoration funds to replace old systems with newer technology systems in order to lower nutrient loads going into the bays.

At Glen Riddle, a 500-home development built in a very sensitive portion of the Atlantic Coastal Bays watershed, the Coastkeeper has established a coalition between the Glen Riddle homeowners association, the developer (Centex Homes), and the Maryland Coastal Bays Program (a National Estuary Program) to develop policies to protect critical area buffers and vegetative buffers around storm water ponds. This coalition has also developed a homeowner outreach program to educate new residents about eco-friendly landscaping methods.

Kathy Phillips has become an active member of the Maryland Stormwater Consortium, an alliance of environmental and advocacy groups in Maryland. In August, this group presented to the Maryland Department of the Environment a list of Environmental Site Design (ESD) principles that, if followed, will effectively implement the intent of Maryland's 2007 Stormwater Management Act (HB 786). This is an ongoing project that will now enter a stage of public forums and lobbying to ensure a complete overhaul of the state's Stormwater Manual to include ESD as the primary guidance.

Also in August, the Coastkeeper made public comment to the Federal Aviation Administration regarding a proposed expansion of the Ocean City, MD airport. She testified against a plan to relocate Worcester County Route 611, which would negatively affect



important woodlands and wetlands comprising the headwaters of Herring Creek, which is on the Maryland 303d list of “impaired bodies of water.”

In partnership with the **WATERKEEPER** Alliance, the Coastkeeper is helping to build a possible legal case against targeted Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) on the Pocomoke and Wicomico River watersheds that are contributing to illegal discharges of nutrient-rich waste water into those rivers.

The Coastkeeper is building a separate potential legal case against Ocean City, MD restaurants that are illegally dumping waste water and food substances (grease) into city storm drains that empty directly into the Atlantic Coastal Bays.

The Coastkeeper sought the support of Worcester County state delegates in an effort to open a dialogue with MD DNR officials regarding policies pertaining to aquaculture bottom leases within 300' of the shoreline on the basis that current DNR granting of these leases blocks public access to state waters. The goal of this effort is to negotiate a resolution that allows for commercial aquaculture business in our Atlantic Coastal Bays, without denying public access to citizens and visitors.

Finally, Ms. Phillips is part of an incipient coalition between ACT, the Maryland Coastal Bays Program, and the Lower Shore Land Trust (all located in Worcester County, MD) to develop a large-scale, collaborative project targeted to promote conservation in the Atlantic Coastal Bays watershed.

## Coast Kids Program

Coast Kids is an environmental education program that provides opportunities for kids and their parents to experience and learn about coastal Delmarva. The program's mission is to help participants to develop a sense of place—a geographical and ecological awareness that will result in more enjoyment, and ultimately more stewardship, of the environment.

Coast Kids is a membership program that runs from spring to spring. At the close of 2007, we were in the middle of our fifth membership year with 150 members. The program has been supported this year by membership fees (\$20 per member), grants from the Maryland Coastal Bays Program and the E. Bowen and Frances Hyde Quillin Foundation, sale of Coast Kids merchandise, and private donations.

### Monthly Events In 2007

- January:** Raptor show at the UMES Coastal Ecology Lab
- February:** Building bat houses at the Ocean Pines Library
- March:** Guided "Life of the Dunes" trail on Assateague Island
- April:** Earth Day at the Salisbury Zoo, with a focus on sandbar sharks
- May:** Bird/mammal/herp search on Golden Quarter Farm
- June:** Canoeing on the Pocomoke River
- July:** Crabbing at the Public Landing pier
- August:** "Treasure hunt" at the Assateague State Park Nature Center.
- September:** Maryland Coast Day festival, sea creature craft booth
- October:** Guided bike ride in the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
- November:** Night prowling at the Pocomoke River State Park
- December:** Shark tales at the Life-Saving Station Museum in Ocean City



### Monthly Coast Cards in 2007

- May:** The coastal bays are estuaries
- June:** Sandbar sharks
- July:** Ghost crabs
- August:** Ospreys
- September:** Geography of the coastal bays
- October:** Bottlenose dolphins
- November:** Oyster reefs
- December:** How our local animals deal with winter



## Coast Kids Program, con't.

### Membership gift and publicity strategy of 2007/2008: Critter Cards

With the help of local designer/illustrator M. Scott Datman, we created a deck of standard playing cards featuring illustrations of local coastal animals with fun facts. The cards have served not only as part of the 2007-2008 membership package, but also as a tool for increasing the visibility of Coast Kids. The cards prompted articles about Coast Kids in the press during the fall when they came out, and are now available on the web and at area stores for purchase. Information about ACT and the Coast Kids program is included with the cards. A major sales effort will be launched during spring 2008.



## Foster Horse Program

ACT continues to manage the Foster Horse Program for the Assateague Island National Seashore (AINS). In the past year, over 1332 foster packets were sold at the Visitor's Center. An additional 950 were sold by ACT through mail order and on the internet bringing the total for the year to 2282.



A portion of the proceeds are given to AINS and are used for their horse maintenance and educational programs. This year, ACT made a total payment of \$21,418 to AINS and their programs. ACT has raised a total of \$59,860 for AINS since they began the management of the Foster Horse Program.

In 2004, ACT began soliciting renewals from Foster Parents. When they continue their support from year to year, they receive the Spring and Fall newsletter as well as an updated bio or photo of their horse. This part of the program has consistently grown since it was introduced. In 2007, there was an increase of renewals of 60% over the prior year, bringing the total renewals to 340.

Since 2003, ACT has worked with the National Park Service to raise funding to create a new interpretative park video on the wild horses of Assateague Island. In 2007, ACT received a grant from University of Maryland Eastern Shore in the amount of \$5,000. A grant of \$8,000 was received from the Maryland Office of Tourism Development to be used towards the same project.

## Development Program Review

In the area of development, 2007 was marked by transition, new beginnings and ongoing support from a diverse range of funding sources.

On the transition front, Steve Farr joined ACT in October as our first full-time Development Director. Steve came to ACT after spending more than 20 years in the strategic philanthropy practice of a Washington, D.C.-based global public affairs agency where he managed the design, development and implementation of charitable giving initiatives for corporate and private foundation clients. He now manages ACT's development program, including foundation grants, membership giving and major gifts.

On the new beginnings front, ACT established the Founders' Endowment with memorial contributions honoring two of ACT's founders, Judy Johnson and Ilia Fehrer. The endowment is managed by the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore. By year's end, the endowment had grown to more than \$20,000.



On the ongoing support front, ACT maintained a diverse portfolio of funding sources, including several fundraising events and activities (led by the increasingly successful Foster Horse program), membership dues, annual appeal contributions, and foundation grants.

For 2008, ACT is focused on further diversifying its foundation grant sources, adding new fundraising events, and launching a significant effort to bolster the Founders Endowment to ensure long-term stability and sustainability.

ACT greatly appreciates the support from all those who generously contributed to the organization in 2007. A complete listing of contributors is included at the end of this report.

## 2007 Coast Day

On September 15, 2007, approximately 3,000 visitors flocked to the barrier island of Assateague for the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Maryland Coast Day. Twenty-five vendors presented a variety of exhibits. Highlights of the day were DNR's Scales N Tales' with live owls, hawks, vultures, snakes and turtles and touch tanks full of sea creatures. Some of the demos included: AMSA surf casting, marine animal rescues, beach erosion and decoy carving. The event also included local live music and food vendors serving local fare. There were also crafts for kids of all ages.



The MD Coast Day committee consists of Maryland Coastal Bays Program, Assateague Island State Park, Assateague Island National Seashore, Friends of Assateague State Park, and Assateague Coastal Trust.

The program is sponsored by Delmarva Power, Bayshore Development Corp., Town of Ocean City, Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, Choptank Electric CoOp, Sun Signs, and Kirk McBride.

ACT receives generous support from volunteers (over 30 hours of volunteer time were logged for ACT alone!). This year Foster Horse and Coast Kids were our main exhibits along with our Assateague Coastkeeper.

### International Coastal Cleanup

The cleanup was held on Sept 15 in Ocean City and Assateague Island. Three other sites (roadside along Nassawango Creek, Porter's Crossing, Taylor's Landing and Truitt's Landing) were cleaned later in September. The total number of participants was 312. Weight of debris collected was almost 3 tons (6,000 pounds). Distance cleared was about 30 miles.

## Oyster Gardening Wrap-up

In 2007 the ACT Oyster Gardening Program was ended for several reasons such as loss of grant funding and disease, but not for lack of enthusiasm and support by our oyster gardening volunteers. Our heartfelt thanks goes out to all who participated.

## 2007 Financial Report to the Board

**Assateague Coastal Trust, Inc.**  
Statement of Financial Position  
December 31, 2007 and 2006

	2007	2006
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 99,838	\$ 96,328
Investments	116,093	94,121
Accounts receivable	14,000	-
Grants receivable	-	9,315
Prepaid expenses	1,616	1,608
Inventory	11,519	3,473
Total current assets	243,066	204,845
<b>Property and Equipment</b>		
Equipment	6,873	6,873
Boats & boat motors	19,000	19,000
Less: accumulated depreciation	(23,582)	(14,958)
Net property and equipment	2,291	10,915
<b>Total Assets</b>	245,357	215,760
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	2,489	6,873
Payroll liabilities	2,378	1,243
Total current liabilities	4,867	8,116
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted	222,490	207,644
Temporarily restricted	18,000	-
	240,490	207,644
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	\$ 245,357	\$ 215,760

See Independent Accountant's Report.  
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

## 2007 Financial Report to the Board

**Assateague Coastal Trust, Inc.**  
Statement of Activities  
For The Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

	2007			2006 Total
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total	
<b>Revenue &amp; Support</b>				
Grants		\$ 56,685	\$ 56,685	\$ 44,940
Contributions	\$ 42,231		42,231	31,527
Bequest	10,000		10,000	-
Membership dues	11,520		11,520	11,775
Fundraising events	30,722		30,722	16,449
Program income	88,657		88,657	80,561
Realized and unrealized gain (loss)			-	
on investments	2,019		2,019	1,954
Gain on sale of equipment	-		-	1,742
Dividends & interest	1,860		1,860	1,850
Rental of facilities	5,700		5,700	7,700
Merchandise sales	2,499		2,499	
Other income	2,085		2,085	1,056
Donated time, space and materials	1,696		1,696	1,150
Net assets released from restrictions:				
Satisfaction of program restriction	38,685	(38,685)	-	
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>237,673</u>	<u>18,000</u>	<u>255,673</u>	<u>200,704</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Program services				
Coastkeeper	42,988		42,988	53,226
Foster horse	46,793		46,793	48,297
Oyster restoration	63		63	1,330
Education	248		248	12,842
Newsletters	3,412		3,412	4,326
Coast Kids	13,497		13,497	18,119
Other programs	10,602		10,602	11,997
Total program services	<u>117,603</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>117,603</u>	<u>150,137</u>
Management & general	72,122		72,122	67,206
Fund raising	33,101		33,101	18,460
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>222,827</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>222,827</u>	<u>235,803</u>
<b>Change in net assets</b>	14,846	18,000	32,846	(35,099)
<b>Net assets at beginning of year</b>	<u>207,644</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>207,644</u>	<u>242,743</u>
<b>Net assets at end of year</b>	<u>\$ 222,490</u>	<u>\$ 18,000</u>	<u>\$ 240,490</u>	<u>\$ 207,644</u>

See Independent Accountant's Report

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## Our Generous Donors 2007

ACT and the Assateague Coastkeeper are profoundly grateful for the cash and in-kind donations that were received in 2007. We are unable to list everyone who made a vital contribution in 2007, but that does not mean that we valued it any less. Following is a partial list of contributors:

\$10,000 - \$35,000

Estate of Ilia J. Fehrer

Estate of Judith C. Johnson

Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment, Inc.

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Charles Delmar Foundation

E. Bowen & Frances Hyde Quillin Foundation

Frazier Foundation, Inc.

Maryland Coastal Bays Program

Strickland Foundation

Mr. & Mrs. Macky Stansell

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Mrs. Louise Armstrong

Mr. & Mrs. K. King Burnett

Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore

Mr. Robert L. Dwight

Frank M. Ewing Foundation, Inc.

Guildford Garden Club

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth M. MacMullin

Norcross Wildlife Foundation

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth D. Wolf

\$500 - \$999

Saralynn T. Clark

Ms. Carolyn Cummins

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Patton

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald W. Pilling

Mr. Richard Wechsler

## Our Generous Donors 2007

\$100 - \$499

Ms. Sandra L. Andrews

Bank of Ocean City

Ms. Shirley Barton

Mr. & Mrs. Gene P. Bond

Ms. Elizabeth C. Brand

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel B. Brewster

Mrs. Juanita C. Brittain

Mr. Gary A. Burch & Ms. Marie Timm

Ms. Patricia A. Butler

Mr. & Mrs. G. William Carlson

Mr. & Mrs. Luther Carter

Ms. Phoebe Cascaden

Ms. Mary A. Childress

Ms. Patricia A. Connors

Ms. Sally F. Davidson

Delmarva Power

Dorchester Garden Club

Ms. Ellen W. Dupuy

Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Dypsky

Mrs. Alice W. Eastman

Mr. & Mrs. Ed Ellis

Mr. & Mrs. Richard W. Emory

Ms. Barbara Francisco

Garden Club of Cumberland

Mr. & Mrs. Craig T. Garrison-Mogren

Ms. Myrlene Hamilton

Mr. Reginald Hancock

Dr. & Mrs. Frederik Hansen

Mr. & Mrs. Frederick D. Hartman

Mr. & Mrs. Saunders C. Hillyer

Ms. Jeanne Hochreiter

Ms. Amanda W. Hopkins

Dr. J.T.H. Johnson

Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kalt

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Marsh

Dr. H. Berton McCauley

Mr. John McGovern, Ocean Creek Apparel

Ms. Debra Keeling, Nick's Original House of Ribs

Ms. Susan Milligan & Mr. Philip McGuire

Ms. Valerie Murphy

Mr. & Mrs. Garrett W. Kowaluk

Mr. Ralph W. Lee, III

Mr. Mark Leiner, Bonfire Restaurant

Mr. & Mrs. David Morningstar

Ms. Elizabeth B. O'Connor

Mr. & Mrs. William Ochse

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth A. Palmer

Mr. Mitchell Parker – The Parkel Corporation

Mr. & Mrs. Frank H. Parlier

The Pew Charitable Trust

Ms. Joyce G.Ponsell

Mr. Troy Purnell, Resort Real Estate, Inc.

Prudential Foundation

Mr. & Mrs. David Quillin

Mr. & Mrs. Chandler S. Robbins

Dr. Geoffrey Robbins, Atlantic Dental Associates

Mr. & Mrs. Roman Rome

Mr. Robert S. Schaeffer, Tubby's Inc.

## Year in Review



## Year in Review





**ACT To Preserve Our Coastal Bays**

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