



C H E S A P E A K E
LEGAL ALLIANCE

2011 Annual Report



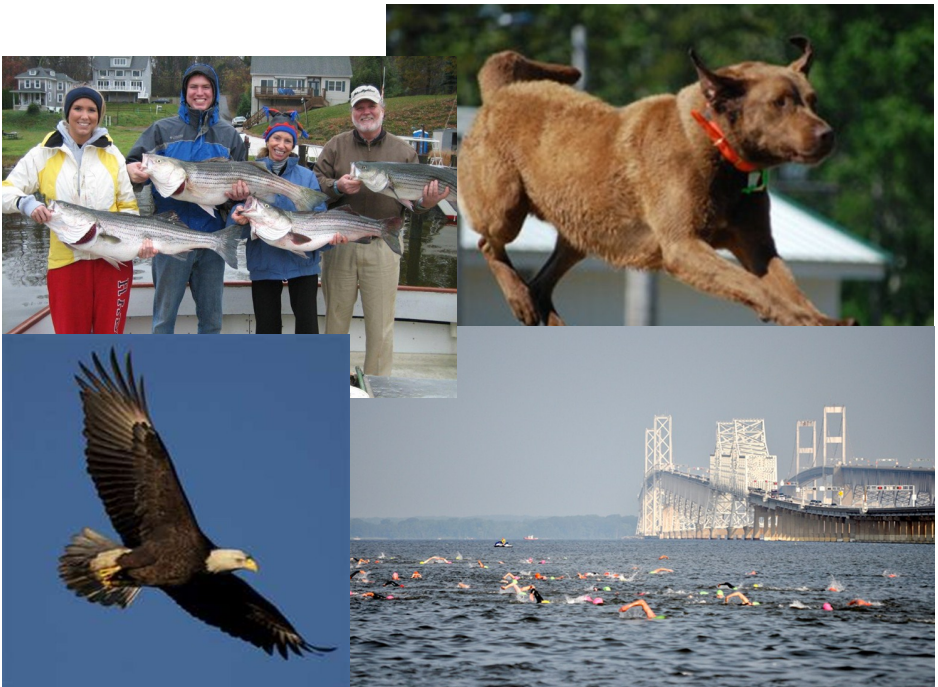
Chesapeake Legal Alliance · 67 Franklin Street · Annapolis, MD 21401
Phone (410) 216-9441 Fax (410) 216-7077 www.chesapeakelegal.org

ABOUT THE CHESAPEAKE LEGAL ALLIANCE, INC.

The Chesapeake Legal Alliance, Inc. (CLA) is a network of lawyers and legal professionals who provide free legal services to individuals, environmental organizations, and citizens groups working to improve the Chesapeake Bay. It was organized in 2009 as a Maryland corporation and is qualified as a tax-exempt charitable organization under the Internal Revenue Code.

OUR VISION

The problems afflicting the Chesapeake Bay are due in large part to the inadequate enforcement of the laws designed to reduce pollution. The agencies charged with administering and enforcing these laws are chronically under-resourced and are under constant pressure from commercial interests represented by well-paid lawyers, while individuals and organizations working to clean up the Bay are typically handicapped by lack of funds to retain effective counsel. Redressing that imbalance by making legal services more readily available to support environmental interests will contribute greatly to the goal of achieving a clean and healthy Chesapeake Bay.





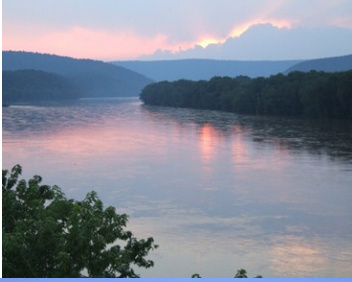
OUR PEOPLE

We conceive of CLA as a network of clients and attorneys. Our mission is to connect individuals and groups working to save the Chesapeake Bay with legal professionals who are willing to donate their time and skills to providing them with legal services they could not otherwise afford. In the past year, we have increased significantly the number of volunteer lawyers and added many new law firms to our network, including attorneys in Virginia and from the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

Our Board of Directors is a key element in our strategy, as each member of the Board serves as a node in the network as well as performs the usual functions of a board member in a non-profit organization. Our Board consists of 19 members who live and work in the District of Columbia, Annapolis and Baltimore (listed in this Annual Report). As we grow, we plan to add directors from all six states within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The results of the Board's first formal retreat and strategic planning session in March 2011 shape and guide CLA's goals and objectives.

In January 2011, we hired our first Executive Director, who opened CLA's office in historic Annapolis, Maryland. In August, we added a Communications Coordinator to the staff. These full-time staff members have allowed CLA to expand operations more rapidly and more extensively. In the summer of 2011, CLA initiated our summer legal intern program with two law students from D.C. law schools. We plan to continue and grow our intern program each year in order to provide opportunities for students to explore career paths in the environmental community.





OUR WORK

To date, CLA has worked with over forty clients, some on a repeat basis, on a variety of matters. Our clients include civic associations, community groups, riverkeepers, citizen activists, advisory groups, homeowner associations, land conservation organizations, and other Chesapeake Bay-focused organizations. During 2011, our volunteer lawyers assisted with nearly thirty new and ongoing matters including enforcement actions, zoning appeals, review of and comments on proposed federal regulations and legislation, mergers, and applications for tax-exempt status. This work represents thousands of attorney work hours and over \$1,000,000 in *pro bono* legal services.

Matters in which we are providing *pro bono* counsel include:

- A challenge to the location of a high power conversion facility adjacent to a natural preservation area.
- A lawsuit against the Maryland Department of the Environment seeking to require it to strengthen its permit requirements for poultry operations.
- A lawsuit against the owner of the Sparrows Point steel plant for violations of the Clean Water Act.
- Opposition to a quarry project in West Virginia that would cause deforestation and adverse water quality impacts to a tributary of the Potomac River.
- A lawsuit to fight zoning changes to the Anne Arundel County Comprehensive General Development Plan.
- Assistance with the merger of two land trusts.

- Guidance to several organizations in the development of a coordinated strategy to tackle the obstacles to cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay.
- Assistance to several environmental organizations with corporate structure and employment matters.
- A lawsuit charging the contractor of the I-495 HOT lanes in Virginia with repeated violations of its construction storm water permit.
- Working with the Choose Clean Water Coalition on monitoring and commenting on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) promulgation of the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), the most important initiative developed in decades to improve the Bay's health.
- Review and comments on the draft Watershed Implementation Plan developed by Maryland in response to the requirements of the EPA.
- *Amicus* support to EPA in a lawsuit challenging EPA's pollution diet for the Bay.

CLA continues to engage in a number of outreach efforts to publicize its services to individuals, community groups and environmental organizations and *pro bono* opportunities to lawyers interested in assisting with matters. As part of its outreach efforts, CLA published its first quarterly newsletter in October 2011, made significant enhancements to its website and has added social networking via Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. With the volunteer assistance of a professional consultant, we also completed the development of an integrated database that allows us to track and manage our matters and keep up to date with our donors and supporters.



OUR FINANCES

Our financial statement for FY 2011 is set forth below. Since the end of the fiscal year, three new foundation grants and individual contributions have brought our total assets to approximately \$181,000. The Chesapeake Legal Alliance is now supported by The Abell Foundation, Dealy Foundation, the Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment, Town Creek Foundation, McKenna Long & Aldridge Foundation, Rauch Foundation, Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP, Hollingsworth LLP, Latham & Watkins LLP, and Wiley Rein LLP.

Chesapeake Legal Alliance, Inc.
Balance Sheet
(Cash Basis) June 30, 2011

Support and Revenue

Foundation contributions	\$ 50,000
Individual contributions	32,835
Law Firm contributions	<u>11,500</u>
Total Support and Revenue	\$ 94,335

Expenses

Payroll	\$ 43,337
Fundraising	7,836
Printing/Reproduction	2,631
Advertising/Promotions	2,607
Contract Services	2,050
Insurance Expense	1,672
Office Rent	1,300
Office Supplies	1,281
Telephone	998
Processing	914
Other	<u>2,036</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 66,662

Change in Net Assets	\$ 27,673
Net Assets, July 1, 2010	<u>\$ 68,609</u>
Net Assets, June 30, 2011	\$ 96,282

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Russell B. Stevenson, Chairman – Georgetown University Law Center

Ridgway M. Hall, Vice Chairman

Thomas M. Barba – Steptoe & Johnson LLP

John Butler – World Shipping Council

Patrick J. Coyne – Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP

Dick D’Amato

Geraldine E. Edens – McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Charles P. Goodell – Goodell, DeVries, Leech & Dann, LLP

Joseph Hollingsworth – Hollingsworth LLP

Stephen Kurzman

Daniel H. Margolis

Roger R. Martella, Jr. – Sidley Austin LLP

Renee Martin-Nagle

Roy Mason – Mason & Cawood, P.A.

Michael K. Murphy – Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Eric M. Rubin – Rubin, Winston, Diercks, Harris & Cooke, LLP

Kenneth Weinstein

David B. Weinberg – Wiley Rein LLP

Allison M. Zieve – Public Citizen Litigation Group

STAFF

Jacqueline Sincore Guild – Executive Director

Terri Bartos Eckert – Communications Coordinator

CHESAPEAKE LEGAL ALLIANCE NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!

We depend on contributions from people like you—people with a passion to restore the Chesapeake Bay— to continue our work. **Please send your tax-deductible contribution to the address below or visit our website at www.chesapeakelegal.org to contribute online.**

OUR CLIENTS SAY:

"The creation of the Chesapeake Legal Alliance is helping to level the playing field. By connecting community organizations with first rate legal talent willing to donate their time, CLA empowers community organizations in their efforts to protect their communities and the Bay."

Robert Gallagher, Chairman, West/Rhode Riverkeeper, Inc.

"I'm not a lawyer. There are times I wish I was one - a good one. In the past, we had to make do with other lawyers and expert witnesses being on the side of developing the great and important lands left on the Chesapeake Shores. Now those standing up to inappropriate developments have a legal team to turn to, and more than a chance [with] the Chesapeake Legal Alliance."

Mike Shay, Front Line Community Organizer
SACReD: South Arundel Citizens for Responsible Development



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