



Private Land Conservation in Practice: Learning from The Nature Conservancy and other US-based Conservation Organizations

1.

Join us for the 7 days study tour
from 20 to 26 of September, 2020

The European Landowners' Organization together with The Nature Conservancy invite you to join a week-long study tour of conservation sites in the US' Mid-Atlantic region.

This study tour is organized within the EU LIFE project "Land Is For Ever" and is designed especially for invited European private landowners and managers, decision makers and private land conservation stakeholders.

The 7-day tour will combine class-room sessions with in-field experiences and offer participants the opportunity to meet with local landowners, site managers, conservation organisations, land trusts and state representatives. During the study tour we will visit a range of privately owned and managed areas in a (5 travel days) round trip, starting and finishing in Washington DC.

Besides the interesting presentations and discussions we will have an opportunity to visit important conservation sites and estates and of course, spend quality group time learning from one another.



2.

Nature conservation and restoration on private land in the US: What, Why and How can Europe learn from their initiatives?

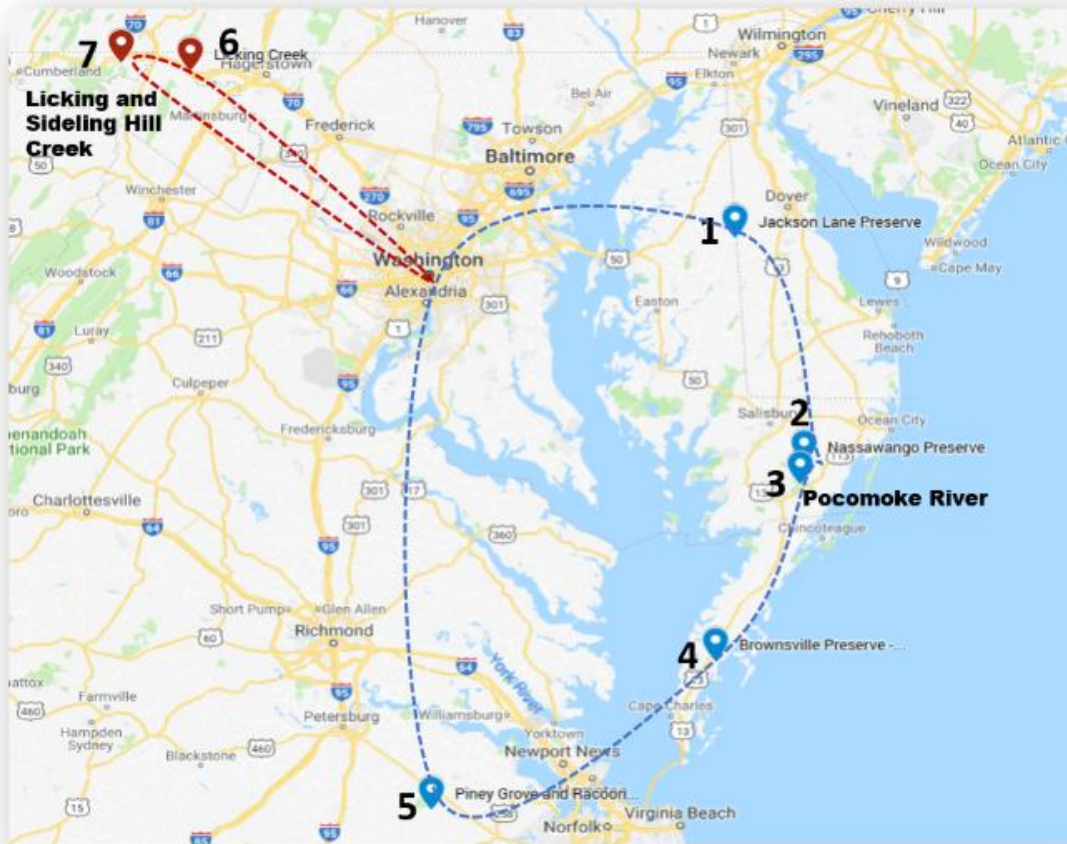
Participants will be introduced to successful examples of mechanisms for private land conservation in the US. There will be ample time for discussion of lessons-learned and to assess opportunities for building a sustainable private lands conservation framework in Europe.

Experts will guide participants during class-room sessions and field trips to learn about a variety of conservation topics, including:

- Biodiversity restoration, nature conservation, bird protection, aquatic connectivity and nature protection from agricultural pollution
- Funding programs for private land managers
- Product Certification
- Conservation easements, public and private collaboration, Farm Bills, Forest Stewardship Plans, etc.

There will be time for organized discussions and a debriefing session where we will consider the lessons of private land conservation in the US and their applicability for Europe as well as the potential for European policy makers to consider a sustainable private nature management framework .

3. Logistic and details



- **When?** 20-26 September, 2020.
- **Where?** The US Mid-Atlantic region; the tour will start and end in the Washington DC metro area.
- **Price?** This tour is 'all-included' and will cost €1500* (estimated) per person (excluding flight cost.) The organization will arrange all accommodations, transport and catering. Participants will be offered the option to extend their stay at their own cost and initiative.
- **How to participate?** Registration will open February 2020. The number of participants is limited. Secure your participation now and reserve your spot by sending an e-mail to: anne-sophie.mulier@elo.org

**Price offer is subject to change depending on the number of participants and will be finally determined at the time that registrations closes in February, 2020.*

4.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1
September 20

Arrival at Dulles International Airport

Day 2
September 21

Welcome at The Nature Conservancy HQ's office. Afternoon visits to US Department of Agriculture, US government agency, the Land Trust Alliance or others involved in facilitating private land conservation.

Day 3 & 4
September 22-23

Field visits arranged by TNC in Maryland

1. Jackson Lane Preserve: Wetland Restoration
2. Nassawango Preserve Certification program
3. Pocomoke River: Floodplain Restoration

Day 5 & 6
September 24-25

Field visits arranged by TNC to land trust sites in Virginia

4. Brownsville Preserve: Land Trust Program
5. Piney Grove and Raccoon Creek: Conservation, Protection and restoration Program

Meeting at TNC offices in Arlington for debrief and lessons learned during site visits.

Day 7
September 26

Free time for Washington, DC visits and afternoon departure* from Dulles Airport.

**Participants may extend their stay at their own cost and initiative.*



[The European Landowners' Organization](#) (ELO), created in 1972, is a unique federation of national associations from the 28 EU Member States and beyond which represents the interests of landowners, land managers, and rural entrepreneurs at the European political level. Independent and non-profit making, ELO is the only organization able to stand for all rural entrepreneurs. ELO promotes a prosperous countryside through private property dynamism. Its Secretariat is based in Brussels.

[The Nature Conservancy](#) (TNC) owns and manages the largest network of privately protected areas in the world. TNC has been pursuing its mission of “protecting the lands and waters on which all life depends” from the organization’s founding in 1951. With others, TNC has also helped to build the private lands conservation movement, particularly in the US, which has enabled private landowners and NGOs working together achieve nature conservation goals while fulfilling the interests and objectives of private landowners.

More information on the project on: landisforever.eu
For any questions please contact: anne-sophie.mulier@elo.org