The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is America’s premier federal program that reinvests offshore energy revenue into conservation to ensure that we all have access to the outdoors. Whether it is a local community park or playground, or the vast expanses of our federal public lands, Congress created the LWCF over a half-century ago to guarantee America’s natural, historical and outdoor recreation heritage.

TELL YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS ABOUT YOUR CONNECTION TO THESE LWCF PLACES NEAR YOU.

Project overviews courtesy of the LWCF Coalition. lwfcollection.com

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**Project Name/Unit:** Piscataway Park (NPS)

**LWCF Contribution:** $12 million

**Stakeholders Involved:** The Trust for Public Land

**Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance):** Recreation access, historic preservation, development pressure

**Short Description:** The view across the Potomac from Mount Vernon was first targeted for protection as a pilot project to protect parklands from suburban sprawl. Piscataway Park was conceived in 1952 to preserve the river view as it existed during George Washington’s day. Since that time, numerous organizations have joined in partnership with the NPS to ensure the protection of the historic viewshed. Federal LWCF funding provided to Piscataway Park has allowed the NPS, the Mount Vernon Ladies’ Association, private conservation groups, willing landowners, and other partners, to protect 232 acres of critical shoreline since 1995. Other area properties have been protected but several remain vulnerable to development or other view-spoiling uses.

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**Project Name/Unit:** Chesapeake & Ohio (C&O) Canal National Historical Park (NPS)

**LWCF Contribution:** $44 million

**Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance):** Recreation access, historic preservation

**Short Description:** Stretching from Georgetown to Cumberland, Maryland, the C&O Canal is a critical outdoor educational and recreational resource for residents of Maryland and the D.C. metro area. It spans over 180 miles and tells the story of our nation’s history of transportation, engineering, the Civil War, immigration, industry, and commerce. Today, residents of one of the densest areas of the country can enjoy hiking trails, kayaking and canoeing, biking paths, and beautiful views from the iconic Billy Goat Trail. There has been over $44 million in LWCF funds invested in the C&O Canal – continuing to provide historic and recreational opportunities in Maryland.
Project Name/Unit: Captain John Smith National Historic Trail (NPS)
LWCF Contribution: $2.2 million
Stakeholders Involved: Chesapeake Conservancy, Partnership for the National Trails System
Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access, historic preservation
Short Description: The Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, America’s first national water trail, traces the Captain John Smith’s route through coastal Virginia and Maryland, and up the Nanticoke River into Delaware. Providing ample access to water recreation, the LWCF funded projects along the trail have boosted this part of the recreation economy in the region and encouraged paddling adventures from day trips to long journeys.

Project Name/Unit: Appalachian National Scenic Trail (NPS, USFS)
LWCF Contribution: $10,889,000 across the entire trail
Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access
Short Description: The “granddaddy” of the National Trails System is the Appalachian National Scenic Trail envisioned by Benton MacKaye in the 1920s and 1930s and stretching 2,180 miles from Georgia to Maine. The Appalachian Trail (AT) is a centerpiece of conservation efforts throughout the East. Acting as a spine that connects large tracts of forests, wilderness and more developed parkland, it traverses 14 states, runs through 88 counties, connects more than 75 public land units (federal, state and local) and has upward of 2.5 million visitors each year. The trail is managed and maintained by volunteers, providing substantial cost savings to federal agencies. To date, LWCF has helped protect nearly 200,000 acres of the highest valued lands within the Appalachian Trail corridor, from the birthplace of the AT in New York’s Bear Mountain State Park, to Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee, up the Blue Ridge Parkway to George Washington National Forest in Virginia and beyond. Recent trail protection projects at Crocker Mountain in Maine and Rocky Fork in Tennessee were funded in part through LWCF. Future projects are targeted in Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Vermont to protect the remaining unprotected miles of trail and lands along its corridor.

Project Name/Unit: Antietam National Battlefield (NPS & American Battlefield Protection Program)
LWCF Contribution: $7.5 million (NPS), $1.6 million (American Battlefield Protection Program)
Stakeholders Involved: Civil War Trust
Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Historic preservation, recreation access
Short Description: With over 23,000 dead, wounded or missing, the Battle of Antietam is considered the bloodiest day in American history. Over 12 hours, the Union army engaged in several offenses, ultimately resulting in victory. Following Lee’s retreat, President Lincoln issued a preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, establishing that a Union victory also meant the end of slavery. LWCF funding of Antietam National Battlefield has protected this significant point in U.S. history and ensured that the hallowed grounds are preserved for generations. unprotected miles of trail and lands along its corridor.

LWCF EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 30, 2018
TELL YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS WHY THE FUND IS SO IMPORTANT TO OUTDOOR RECREATION AND HOW PROTECTING PLACES TO PLAY OUTSIDE DIRECTLY FUELS YOUR BUSINESS. #SAVELWCF