



Bay County Conservancy, Inc.

The Land Conservancy of Northwest Florida

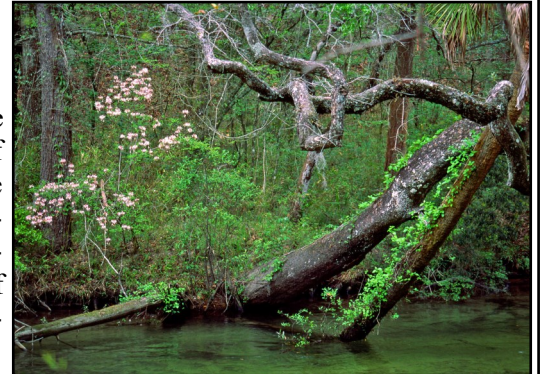
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Fall 2022 Newsletter
www.baycountyconservancy.org

New Habitat Preserved for Wildlife

Gerry and Ted Wilson Preserve

Dr. Ted and Mrs. Gerry Wilson have generously donated their 32-acre property on Econfina Creek to Bay County Conservancy. Located south of Walsingham Bridge in Washington County, the property includes more than 200 feet of shoreline on the beautiful creek. At present, the only access to the property is by canoe, but it is hoped that the road will be improved in coming years. Dr. Wilson is a long-time member of the Board of Directors of BCC. Econfina Creek supplies a major source of Bay County's drinking water and is a popular recreation site.



Two Donations of Timberland

Two Panhandle businesses donated parcels of timberland to Bay County Conservancy in 2022. **Marlen Development Company**, which developed Mowat Highlands subdivision, donated 49 acres of land in northeast Bay County. It is in an area that once burned, which explains why it is accessed by "Burn Out Road"!, but the land is regenerating, and much of the property is in a wetland drainage area.

And attorney **Robert Kerrigan** donated 20 acres of timberland in Calhoun County near the town of Altha. This property is north of Highway 20 and west of Highway 73. One corner of it is in a wetland, as well.

We are grateful to these donors who allow us to expand our network of properties where native wildlife can thrive in natural habitat.



Stop by and visit the Palm Preserve on October 10th



For the last few years, BCC has partnered with the **Sweetbay Chapter** of the **Florida Native Plant Society** to create pollinator-friendly habitat and garden areas at BCC's **Mary Ola Reynolds Miller Palm Preserve** in downtown Panama City (next to **The Gallery of Art** at 36 W. Beach Drive). **Susan Llorca** and **Teresa Nooney** work at the preserve, keeping the gardens and walking paths maintained for visitors to learn about native Florida plants and pollinator habitats. On **Monday Oct. 10th, from 8-10**, please join us for an informal walk around the preserve. Interested folks can also then caravan over to visit the **Community Food Forest in Millville** from appx.10:30-noon. The Food Forest has been established by **Sam Mello**, founder of **Living Healthy. Simplified.** in partnership with the **Panama City Quality of Life Department**.

Interested in Volunteering on BCC work days?

With cooler weather on the way, BCC will be ramping up efforts to clear brush and maintain trails on some of our preserves. We notify volunteers by email in advance of planned work days.

To be notified of scheduled Volunteer Opportunities, please send an email to: Teresa Nooney at:

nooneyt1963@gmail.com

There is something for everyone to do!

Mission Statement

The Bay County Conservancy is a land trust dedicated to the preservation of environmentally sensitive lands in Northwest Florida.



BCC Property Manager- Michel Blais



Michel describes himself as a Jack of all Trades and master of none! He grew up in Canada and enjoys hiking and seeing the country's landscape through travel in our State and National parks. He has a 40-acre plot of land outside Altha and works to keep it a safe haven for wildlife.

Michel joined BCC because Urban sprawl is eating up our wetlands and he wants to ensure people can see the real Florida as we try and preserve it for others.

BCC Welcomes Lisa Tubridy to the BCC Board of Directors



A retired engineer from the Navy Base who enjoys hiking, Lisa is the current President of the Bay County Master Gardeners. Her family first came to Florida in 1926 when her grandfather worked on the railroad to Key West. Being from south Florida she witnessed the destruction of the Everglades by developments. Now as an adult, she sees her legacies as providing an education for her children to enable them to be successful adults and providing a piece of Florida for future generations. Both of her adult sons graduated college and are independent. With that box checked, she is interested in supporting the Bay County Conservancy to fulfill her goals.

Board of Directors

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Candis Harbison

Vice President

Jacalyn Kolk, Esq.

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Ron Houser

Joseph Parell, M.D.

Ted Wilson, M.D.

John Bente

Brian Dusseault

Carrie Fioramonti

Bonnie Blue

Lisa Tubridy

Executive Assistant

Teresa Nooney

Property Manager

Michel Blais



BCC Membership/Donation Form

Yes! I want to help the Bay County Conservancy save open space, wetlands and wildlife habitat.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Level: (circle one):

\$25-\$49 Contributor	\$200-\$999 Benefactor
\$50-\$199 Supporter	\$1,000+ Lifetime

**Clip and mail with your check to: Bay County Conservancy, Inc.
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