

COVE POINT NATURAL HERITAGE TRUST, INC.
Request for Proposals

The Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust provides grants for field inventory, monitoring and ecological research on common and rare plants and animals and natural communities at Cove Point marsh in Calvert County, Maryland. Proposals from faculty members, undergraduate and graduate students, and independent researchers are welcome. Awards generally range from \$1,000 to \$3,000 per year, but larger amounts will be considered. Multi-year projects are encouraged, but renewed support will be dependent on successful fieldwork in the first year and submission of an approved interim report. Projects may be conducted in the marsh or in surrounding uplands.

Cove Point marsh is a 190-acre freshwater marsh and barrier dune system that occupies much of the land area of Cove Point, a cusplate foreland that extends prominently into the Chesapeake Bay in southern Calvert County. Dominion Resources, Inc. owns the property and operates Dominion Cove Point LNG LP, a liquefied natural gas (LNG) import and distribution facility at the site, including an off-loading pier a mile offshore. A residential community borders the marsh to the south. The marsh and over 400 acres of forested upland have been under conservation easement since 1994. Prior permission from the owner is necessary to access the site.

The federally listed Northeastern Beach Tiger Beetle has been monitored on the barrier beach at Cove Point for more than a decade. Field inventories of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians, and odonates have been completed, and two studies have looked at the geomorphology of the cusplate foreland and the Bay shoreline at this site. New studies of major invertebrate groups, marsh hydrology and water quality, plant-animal interactions, the effects of invasive species, and shoreline change are encouraged. Studies must not involve significant disturbance of plant or animal communities in the marsh or on the barrier dune.

Proposals should be submitted electronically, as well as in hard copy at least 3 months before work begins. Proposals are reviewed biannually in January and July.

A list of completed studies is on the website: <http://www.covepoint-trust.org>.

To obtain a copy of proposal guidelines and contract, description of the site, or to arrange a site visit, contact:

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Please include in the proposal a statement of purpose, budget, timetable, Curriculum Vitae, and contact information for both work and home.