

# Mount Pleasant Open Space Foundation "Fact Sheet"

## ***MISSION***

*To enhance the quality of life for all East Cooper residents through education and preservation of open space by promoting protection, acquisition and stewardship of our land resources.*

### **When was the Mount Pleasant Open Space Foundation created?**

Established by the Town of Mount Pleasant in 2002 as the first urban land trust in South Carolina, the Mount Pleasant Open Space Foundation began officially operating as a private, non-profit, tax-deductible organization in December 2004.

### **How many members do you have?**

We are in the midst of a membership campaign with a goal of securing 200 members by June 30, 2009. Membership donations range from \$15 to \$5,000. There are levels for everyone and every business. See brochure for membership levels.

### **Is my donation tax deductible?**

Yes, the Open Space Foundation is a nonprofit organization that received federal exempt status from the federal government and you will receive a receipt from the Foundation's office within 3 days of joining.

### **Where will my donation go?**

Your donation will go towards many different Foundation activities like - educating the public about the importance of open space, our education programs - camps, nature walks, etc.; our conservation programs; and it equips us with the things we need to get out and talk to property owners about preservation, to possibly purchase a piece of land in the future through a bargain sale—just to name a few.

### **Who is on your board?**

We have a working board composed of community leaders knowledgeable in their respective fields of law, real estate and forestry, among others, which help develop a strategic plan for facilitating land acquisition, stewardship and protection. See list at bottom of page

### **How much land have you protected?**

In addition to today's 3.37 acre land donation, we have protected 133 acres of undeveloped land as the holder of a conservation easement with Oakland Associates. Work continues with multiple property owners in the East Cooper area.

### **What are the future plans for your protected properties?**

The 133 acres at Oakland Plantation will provide the perfect opportunity for guided nature hikes, led by MPOSF environmentalists. The headwaters to Shem Creek will be utilized as an outdoor classroom/field study location for James B. Elementary School of the Charleston County School system. Both properties will provide limited public access and preserved unobstructed views.

**Together let's work as a community to further preservation of significant natural areas.**

---

#### *Mount Pleasant Open Space Foundation Board of Directors*

Susan Duffie, Chairman  
Clayton Taylor, Vice Chairman  
Tom Mikolajcik, Chair Emeritus  
Theodore Manos, Treasurer/Secretary  
Robert Hopkins, Environmentalist  
Gray Taylor, Real Estate Attorney  
Stuart Saunders, Real Estate Appraiser  
Gary Collins

Jefferson Fort  
Jose Hernandez  
Kevin Kelly  
Karen McNamara  
William Miller  
Timothy Keane  
Joseph Wren