

Assateague Coastal Trust Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Statement

Environmental Justice means equal protection from environmental and public health hazards for all people regardless of race, income, culture, and social status.

Everyone who lives in, or visits, our coastal watershed should have the same access to clean water and feel included in the work Assateague Coastal Trust does to protect our communities from pollution. We strive to make certain everyone feels they have an equitable seat at the table and to fairly represent the diverse communities within our watershed by making our Assateague COASTKEEPER, Coast Kids, and Trash Free Assateague programs inclusive.

Assateague Coastal Trust, as an organization, recognizes the diverse demographics of our watershed and is committed towards an inclusive environment in the workplace, and on our Board of Directors.

ACT is committed to bringing Environmental Justice change to Maryland Department of Environment and other state agencies through improved policies and regulations that will advance Environmental Justice in Maryland.

On August 18, 2020 ACT, joined by community leaders, sent this letter to Governor Hogan outlining our concerns that Maryland was falling behind other states in addressing environmental injustices to communities that are predominately people of color.

[Governor Hogan Letter](#)

On March 19, 2021 ACT, and partners, sent this letter to MDE Secretary Ben Grumbles recognizing MDE's efforts to establish EJ guidelines within MDE's offices, but we outlined needed critical regulatory and policy changes still needed at the state level.

[Secretary Grumbles Letter](#)