

(Sample letter to the editor. Your letter should express your own views in your own words as much as possible.)

(Date)

Dear Editor,

I am very concerned about losing the wonderful quality of life we enjoy here on the Eastern Shore. In just the next 25 years, the Shore is expected to grow by 160,000 people. Our local leaders must take strong steps to manage growth more effectively before it is too late; before the Eastern Shore we know and love is gone forever.

The Eastern Shore Land Conservancy's new *Eastern Shore 2010* agreement leads the way on how our counties should strengthen growth management. It asks our local officials to achieve goals for: increasing land protection; strengthening the farming, fishing, and forestry industries; locating and pacing development; and developing alternatives to a new Bay crossing.

I urge my county's elected officials and everyone concerned about the future of the Eastern Shore to support the new *Eastern Shore 2010* agreement. We must manage growth more effectively if we want to protect what makes the Eastern Shore a special place for ourselves, our children, and their children.

Sincerely,

(Your name)

(Your town)

(Your day time phone number) (The newspaper will want to verify the letter with you before printing.)