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Our Mission: To preserve the rural quality of life on Edisto by protecting lands, waterways, scenic vistas, and heritage through conservation and education.

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The Northern Cardinal is a year-round resident of Edisto Island that lives in brushy habitat. The easiest time to spot these brilliant songbirds is when our forests shed their leaves each winter.



STEPPING UP ACQUISITION EFFORTS

As you may be aware, residential development pressure is mounting at an alarming rate at the southern end of Charleston County, even on Edisto Island. About six housing developments with a hundred or more homes each have been proposed, approved, or are under construction in the Ravenel-Hollywood area. EIOILT has long since anticipated this urban sprawl from Charleston towards Edisto and the secondary threats it will pose to protecting Edisto, but we could never have predicted this incredible rate at which it is spreading today.

On top of this, developers are creating new strategies and finding regulatory loopholes to circumvent the comparatively strict zoning regulations on Edisto Island and southern Charleston County. It is safe to say that the threats to Edisto Island are mounting rapidly, and more are yet to come.

In response, we are redoubling our efforts to protect land on Edisto Island and, thanks to all of your support and the generous contributions this year from you and several major donors, we have the resources to begin to make those efforts a reality. So far this fall, EIOILT purchased a one-acre parcel on Little Edisto to expand our Legacy Live Oak Memorial Park, secured a contract on two other prominent parcels along the Edisto Island National Scenic Byway, and is in negotiations on several other conservation projects.

We hope to accelerate our pace of land protection further and, with the help of our partners in conservation, buffer Edisto Island from this mounting development pressure. However, we need your help to do so!

Purchasing land outright is expensive and the Edisto Island Open Land Trust primarily relies on voluntary conservation easements to protect Edisto Island. However, conservation easements require willing land donors who want to conserve their land and see it protected forever. If you own, or know someone who owns, property on Edisto Island or in the Meggett-Hollywood-Ravenel area, please consider contacting John and Tom to see if a conservation easement is right for you. Conservation easements are tailored to each individual property and landowner's needs and allow you to continue owning and using the land within the limits agreed upon in the easement and they also apply to every successive owner.

EIOILT can apply for grant funding to help pay for the legal fees of creating an easement and also to pay the landowner for a portion of the land value they relinquish. Easement donors may also qualify for local, state, and federal deductions to income and property taxes. If you are interested in protecting your land and the Edisto area, please call or send an email. We would love to hear from you and help you protect what you love most about your land!

**Start the conversation about protecting the land you love.
Email john@edisto.org and land@edisto.org, or call the office at 843-869-9004**

FINDING STRENGTH IN OUR SHARED HISTORY

Today, the Hutchinson House stands as a shining example of the strength and resilience of an important family on Edisto Island. The house represents the high level of craftsmanship and design that African Americans were able to achieve in their own homes after the abolition of slavery. This is also a story about land cooperatives among freedmen, where members pooled their money to purchase large tracts of land, then distributed parcels based on the shares each person contributed. The Hutchinson House was built on property that was part of one such co-op in 1875. Many uplifting and tragic events took place on the Hutchinson land, and we will all be better for learning this history on the site where it happened.



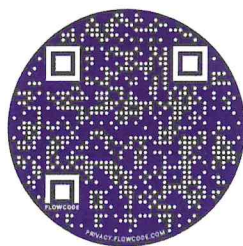
Left: The Hutchinson House in 1900, with the family out front.

Right: Henry and Rosa Hutchinson and their daughters posing in a field.

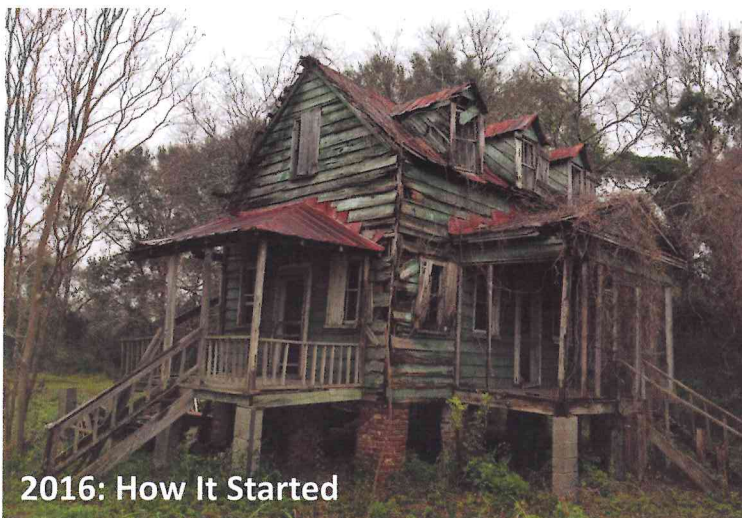
BRINGING NEW LIFE TO THE HUTCHINSON HOUSE!

Donations to **The Hutchinson House Project** will support the work to fully restore the historic structure and share the story of this important heritage site.

We have completed half of the work, and now have a goal to raise \$275,000 to finish the restoration and replication of all the original features of the house, including the wrap around porches, and then open the home to the public. Please consider becoming a part of something special for Edisto by bringing this story to life!



Scan code to learn more!



2016: How It Started



2021: How It's Going!

MAKING A DIFFERENCE ONE MONTH AT A TIME

My wife, Melinda, and I wanted to increase our yearly land trust contribution and help make a bigger impact. We found that the easiest way to do that was to begin making monthly donations, allowing us to donate more on an annual basis than we had given in the past. By joining the new monthly giving club, The Sandlappers, we are now able to give a larger annual amount. We were also able to become members of the Saltmarsh Society, the land trust's group of donors who give \$1,000 or more each year.

We encourage you to consider monthly gifts, at any amount, that will allow you to increase your impact. Before you generously give your next contribution, please think about joining us and others who strive to make a greater difference to help preserve and protect Edisto.

- Bob Hare, EIOLT Board Chair



If you have questions or would like to find out more about the many ways you can support the land trust, call or email John Girault at 843-869-9004 or john@edisto.org. Thank you!

WE HAVE ENCLOSED AN ENVELOPE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE AN ADDITIONAL DONATION IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF SOMEONE SPECIAL.

