

# Greenbury Point History



Courtesy The Historic Properties of Anne Arundel County by Donna M Ware



<https://www.losttownsproject.org/research/archaeological-sites/providence-1649/>



By James E. Kelly - New York Public Library Digital Collections, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/index.php?curid=76603444>



*"At 3 p.m. we made the mouth of the Severn River, but the ignorance of the people on board with respect to navigation was so great, first on Greenbury Point, from whence with much exertion and difficulty we got off."*  
— President George Washington

Period	Subsided	Context Type
Historic	17th Century	Cellar
Historic	17th Century	Pit (unidentified type)
Historic	17th Century	Post Hole
Historic	17th Century	Cellar
Historic	17th Century	Cellar
Historic	17th Century	Cellar

Courtesy of Maryland's Archeobotany website at maryland.gov



The original radio towers which were erected in 1918 and 1922 are seen here in a photo from 1935.



<https://www.navy-radio.com/commsta/anna.htm>



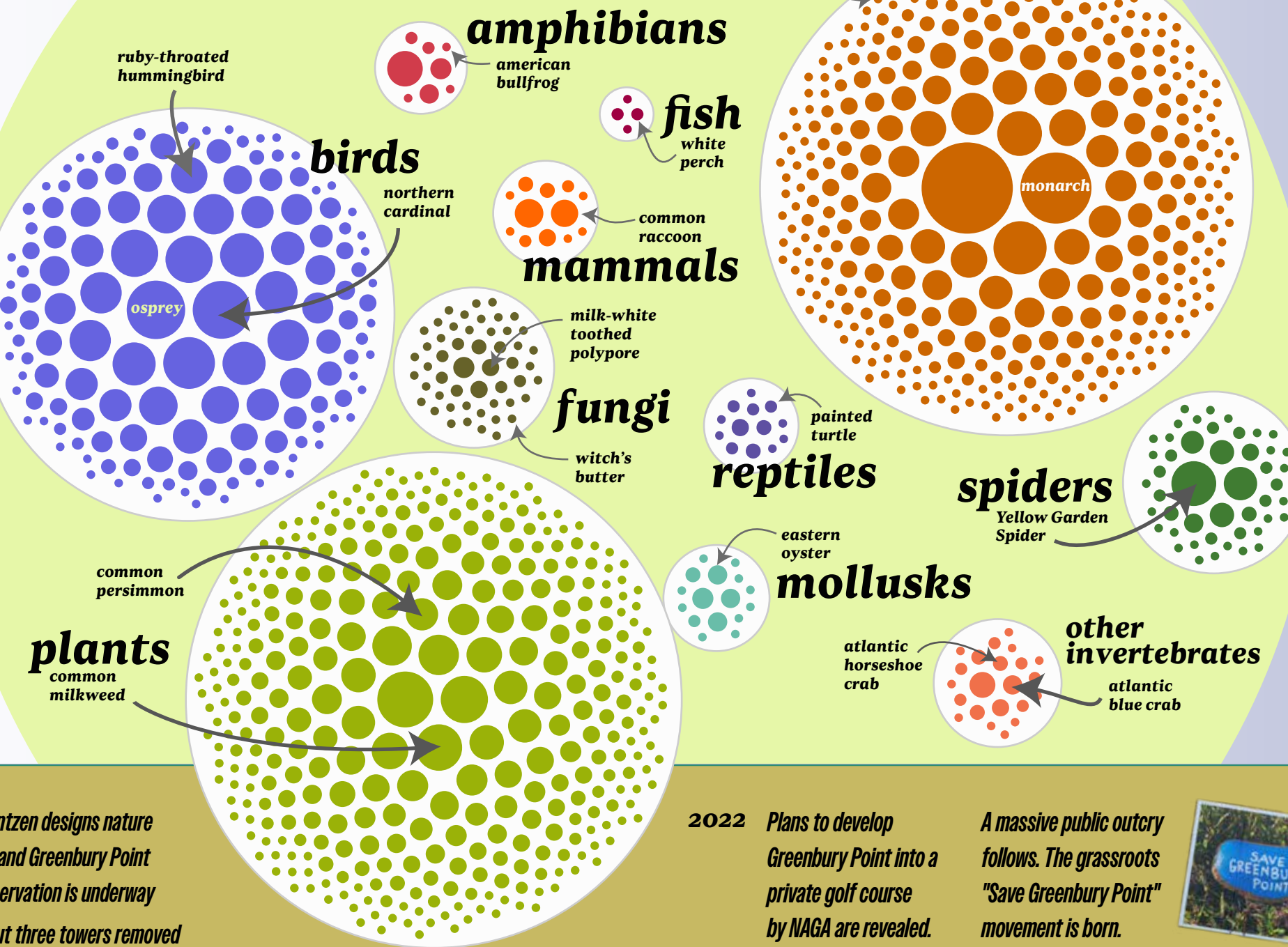
# Greenbury Point Nature Flourishes



Set aside for Conservation!

## The Sikes Act

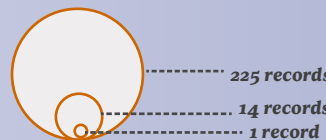
Set aside for Conservation!



ABOUT THE DATA  
IN THIS CHART:

scientific name: 1100 categories  
common name: 996 categories  
taxon family name: 316 categories  
taxon species name: 817 categories

This chart demonstrates all counts recorded in iNaturalist from 2020-early 2025. The size of the circle indicates a larger count of the species.



“One of the last remaining natural areas at the mouth of the Severn River on the Chesapeake Bay in Annapolis and a popular public destination for nature lovers, runners, anglers, and dog walkers, faces risk for development into an exclusive golf course. Such a development would cause serious and irreparable damage to the environment.”

-- Change.org

- 1550 - Pre-colonial hunting grounds for the Susquehannock Indians
- 1649 1st European settlement in AA County Providence
- 1655 Battle of the Severn - a Naval skirmish between Protestants and Catholics
- 1660s Towne Neck. Upper-middle class domestic site was located at Greenbury Point
- 1791 Off Greenbury Point George Washington's ship is grounded
- 1885 Lighthouse at Greenbury Point. (Discontinued in 1891).
- 1911 Birthplace of Naval aviation. 1st Naval airfield established at Greenbury Point
- 1918 Naval Radio Transmitting Station began on land purchased in 1909 by the Navy
- 1945 Towers at Greenbury Point used to radio North Atlantic Fleet in WWII
- 1975 Decommissioned and plans for conservation underway
- 1977 The Sikes Act is passed requiring military installations to enact conservation plans for wildlife and natural resources
- 1989 Lorentzen designs nature plan and Greenbury Point Conservation is underway
- 1999 All but three towers removed
- 2022 Plans to develop Greenbury Point into a private golf course by NAGA are revealed.
- A massive public outcry follows. The grassroots "Save Greenbury Point" movement is born.
- 2023 Language added to National Defense Authorization Act to provide some protection for public access.