FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September, 23,2013
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## Mathews, Virginia Waterfront B&B awarded the GreenLeaders™ status by TripAdvisor®

Mathews, Virginia – The Inn at Tabbs Creek has been awarded the coveted Gold Status as part of the new TripAdvisor® GreenLeaders™ program, which helps travelers plan greener trips by identifying environmentally-friendly accommodations across the U.S. Less than 10 of the 684 B&Bs listed on Tripadvisor in the state of Virginia have achieved this status.

TripAdvisor GreenLeaders have met a set of environmental standards developed for TripAdvisor by a leading environmental consulting firm, with input from expert partners. The more green practices a hotel or B&B has in place, the higher its GreenLeader level, which is shown on the property's listing on the TripAdvisor site. Travelers can now search for accommodations that have a GreenLeaders status on the TripAdvisor site, and view a detailed list of environmentally-friendly practices that they can expect at each location. GreenLeader properties are eligible for one of the four badge levels: bronze, silver, gold and platinum. Badge levels are determined by a property's overall level of participation in environmentally friendly activities.

"TripAdvisor GreenLeaders are leading the hospitality industry in making efforts to improve their environmental footprint," said Jenny Rushmore, director of responsible travel at TripAdvisor. "We greatly applaud these accommodations (like The Inn at Tabbs Creek) and are pleased to share their eco-friendly practices with our online audience of more than 200 million travelers."

The Inn at Tabbs Creek has embraced green design and Eco friendly practices since its inception in 2008 when they purchased the Inn and embarked on an extensive "green" renovation of the entire property. Since opening for business in May of 2009, they have partnered with Carbonfund.org to pay for their guests' carbon offsets, and then were honored with the first annual "Green facility Program of the Year" award for 2011 from Virginia Green and the Virginia Tourism Council. Earlier this year, they were also named among the top Eco-Friendly B&Bs in North America by BedandBreakfast.com.

Below is a listing of some of the initiatives undertaken to help improve the Environmental impact of the business and it's guests, as well as ongoing efforts to help preserve their beloved Chesapeake Bay.

- \*In the remodel and restoration of the Inn in 2008, the worked with a green remodel contractor to reuse or recycle as many materials, fixtures, and furniture as possible. Sustainable building materials such as cork, bamboo, and low VOC paints and insulation were used throughout the property.
- \*They improved the carbon and water footprint of the property by installing new argon filled, low e windows, replacing outdated heating and cooling systems with more energy efficient systems, replacing old inefficient water heaters with "tank less" water heaters, and adding water conserving toilets in all of the guests bathrooms.
- \*By partnering with carbonfund.org, they are paying carbon offsets for the guests travel.
- \*They have an extensive recycling program both in the guest rooms and on site.
- \*Whenever possible, they provide locally grown organic produce, (mostly from their own garden), as well as other organic and all natural food products and certified organic and Rain Forest Alliance coffee.
- \*All of the gardens at the Inn are fertilized and treated with all natural and organic products.
- \*They offer organic garden tours to help inform guests on how to implement such practices at home.
- \*Their pool is Chlorine Free which eliminates the backwash of chlorine into the Bay as well as enhances the guest experience.
- \*By installing Dual Flush toilets in the guest rooms, they save approximately thousands of gallons of water per year.
- \*Rather than providing individually packaged soaps, shampoos, and conditioners which use plastic packaging and create waste, they provide all natural bath and body products in refillable dispensers.
- \*By using only earth friendly cleaning products and phosphate free detergents, they are also helping to save our waters and cut down on chemical pollution.

## About The Inn at Tabbs Creek:

The main Inn is a refurbished 1800's farmhouse purchased and remodeled in 2008 by Greg and Lori Dusenberry. Opened for business in May 2009, the distinguished waterfront Virginia Bed and Breakfast featured 6 guestrooms including 4 standard and 2 luxury suites all well-appointed and with water views. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.innattabbscreek.com">www.innattabbscreek.com</a> or call Lori Dusenberry at 804-725-5136. *PRESS KIT ATTACHED*