



Outreach and Restoration

This program was established to provide accessible funds to organizations and agencies to implement community-led stewardship efforts that increase public understanding of environmental challenges; implement demonstration-scale, community-based, on-the-ground restoration projects; and expand the base of public support necessary to advance the restoration of Maryland's bays, tributaries, and other natural resources.

Sudbrook School Ground Restoration

We removed 3,150 square feet of impervious surface and replaced it with a native garden, trail and linear rain garden. We incorporated all four magnet programs at our school (Environmental Science, Visual Arts, Performing Arts, World Languages) as we create a Green School garden in the front of our school. All projects have signage in English and in the languages of our World Languages Magnet.



Track 3: Outreach & Restoration

140 sq. ft. of rain garden installed

132 volunteers engaged

462 native plants planted

70 workshop attendees

526 students engaged

This project is part of our continuing greening efforts as a certified Maryland Green School. We were certified as a Green School in 2012 and our four major focus initiatives are Outdoor Habitat Restoration, Structures for Outdoor Learning, Water Conservation, and Waste Reduction. We discussed projects that we could complete that would involve all of our magnet programs. This project will allow our school to target three of the four areas of focus and involve all four of our magnets programs.

We contacted BlueWater Baltimore (BWB) as a consultant to come to Sudbrook to assess our grounds. Ashley Traut of BWB helped to identify two major areas on our grounds that greatly impact the stormwater runoff of our property.

The first area was a large slab of concrete (approx. 70'x45') along the side of our building. This space was unused and was not attractive. It also

had a very low spot next to it where water puddled after storms.

The second area is a highly visible bare spot (approx. 95'x40') next to our front parking lot. When it rained the water immediately flowed onto the parking lot because there was no ground cover to slow the water.

The greatest success in this project was involving so many students at the school in the construction process. It was so rewarding to have students outside at the same time. In fact, we looked like an organized little city complete with site planners, diggers, mulchers, plant movers, and groups that did the watering.

One piece of advice would be to be sure to get enough tools donated from volunteers at your school, project partners, or the Forestry Board so that each student has the proper tool for the job at hand.

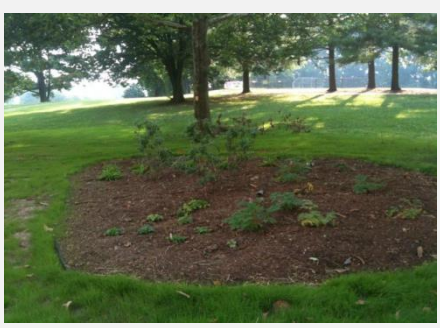


Project Elements

Outreach/Awareness: The people involved in the installation of both phases of this project were students, teachers, and administrators of Sudbrook Magnet Middle School in addition to our project partner Blue Water Baltimore. This included students in the Environmental & Earth Space Science Magnet program, members of the Green School/STEM extracurricular club, science classes, French classes, and technology classes. Also, parents were invited to attend one day of planting during American Education Week, when students in all three grades (6th-8th) were participating in the project completion. Several neighbors in the communities surrounding our school inquired to the project details during construction and were informed of the impact that the rain garden has on their community watershed.

Restoration: This project was completed in two phases over the course of one calendar year (two school years: 2012-2013 & 2013-2014). In Phase One, our school worked with Blue Water Baltimore to remove 3,150 square feet of impervious surface. It was replaced with two native gardens, a stepping stone trail, and a linear rain garden. Mulch was donated by Baltimore County Public Schools and NFWF assisted to offset the cost of concrete removal. The 140 square foot rain garden contained 37 native plants. The total number of shrubs and perennials in the Phase One gardens (including the rain garden) was 135. Volunteers planted a total of 230 shrubs and perennials including four trees and four bushes in the Phase One gardens.

In Phase Two, our school again worked with Blue Water Baltimore to create native gardens and an Outdoor Classroom in the front of our school. Native plants included 6 shrubs, 2 trees, 174 perennials, and 50 perennial plugs. A teacher at our school built 7 benches, which were installed to create an outdoor learning space for our students. In total, 224 students and 11 adults worked on this project in conjunction with our project partner Blue Water Baltimore. Students volunteered for a total of 20 hours with an additional of 75 hours of construction and planting contributed by adults at our school. The total space that was created was 95 ft. x 40 ft., including the gardens and the bench seating.



CBT Funds Awarded:	\$8,373
Blue Water Baltimore:	\$500
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation:	\$4,402
Baltimore County:	\$1,350
Sudbrook Middle School:	\$3,340
Total:	\$18,265

Project Partners:

