



## Chesapeake Conservation Corps

The Chesapeake Conservation Corps is a program that provides service-learning opportunities and green job training for young adults through environmental and energy conservation projects. This initiative, supported by the Trust, Constellation Energy, the National Park Service and the state of Maryland, pairs young adults with organizations that provide hands-on environmental, leadership, and technical training opportunities for a one-year term of service.



## Eleanor Roosevelt High School Eco Murals

The Neighborhood Design Center partnered with Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt, MD, to revitalize eight of their temporary classroom structures with environmental murals that clearly connect to the health, protection, and stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

Eleanor Roosevelt is a public magnet high school specializing in science, math, technology, and engineering. It is one of the largest public high schools in the county and has a student population of 2,504. 2,171, or 86% of students are of color and the student to teacher ratio is 20:1. We determined the main goals of this project to be to: 1) raise student awareness of challenges and solutions to restoring the Chesapeake Bay and watershed health; 2) promote environmental sustainability and stewardship; 3) increase quality of life; 4) promote social and environmental justice.

NDC held two design workshops at the school on April 7th and May 5th in an effort to deliver environmental education lessons, inspire discussion on the challenges and solutions to restoring the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and work with students to finalize their designs. Panelists were invited to come lend their support and approximately 40 students showed up at each workshop. The Mural Preparation period began on

May 31st and lasted until June 3rd, prior to Painting Day on June 4th. Students were responsible for priming the walls and finalizing any last minute design additions and revisions.

NDC worked with Ms. Holland to gather the materials needed to complete the preparation period. Ms. Holland and 5 NDC staff, including myself, went out to the site the night of June 3rd to project and trace the mural designs onto the walls. This method was effective in speeding up the implementation process

The Project Kick Off Painting Day was held on Saturday, June 4th from 10am - 4pm. Painting continued everyday during the week for 2 hours after school up until June 10th. A total of 78 Student Volunteers, 2 Professional Volunteers, 5 NDC Staff, and one school staff participated in the Project Implementation Phase.

**1,152** sq. ft of wall space revitalized

**893** volunteer hours

**7** professional volunteers

**78** student volunteers

CCC Member: Natalie Bezerra



# Project Evaluation

*"I often forget how we're destroying the environment because we nowadays, we take everything for granted. By doing this project, I was able to remind myself to take care of the environment and be aware of what I can do to protect it." -ERHS Student*

*"I want other people to also be aware of an Eco-friendly environment and the danger of damaging the earth." -ERHS Student*

- 82.4% of respondents felt their contribution to the project was valuable
- 38.9% of respondents felt this project impacted their well being
- 94.4% of respondents feel a greater responsibility toward taking care of their environment
- 94.4% of respondents are more likely to take action to improve the health of the environment



The temporary classrooms (top left) were transformed with murals that the students designed, picked and then painted (bottom pictures)

CBT Grant Awarded:	\$1,250
Prince George's County Council Office:	\$1,000
Community Forklift:	\$400
PGCPS School Specialty:	\$500
Ladders:	\$600
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$3,750</b>

## Project Partners:

**the Neighborhood DesignCenter**

