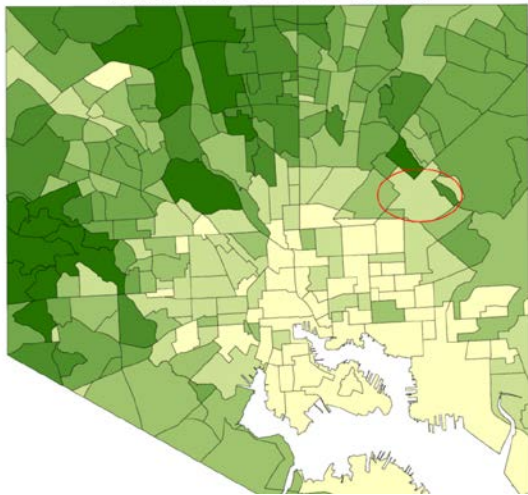




GREEN STREETS | GREEN JOBS | GREEN TOWNS INITIATIVE

The Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Partnership (G3) aims to stimulate the green jobs market and enable families to work where they live and play. Small to mid-sized communities can boost their local economies and protect water resources through the use of watershed planning, design and construction of stormwater best management practices.

Neighborhood Tree Canopy



350 trees planted



147 volunteers putting in 480 hours



19 local green jobs supported during construction



BLUE WATER BALTIMORE

Supporting Community Development through Green Streets in the Belair-Edison Neighborhood

Through this project, Blue Water Baltimore contributed toward the revitalization of a resident-owned vacant lot, and amplified a neighborhood asset, the community library. Residents and the library were interested in giving the library a little facelift. Part of this project included a community planting on the perimeter of the library to beautify the outside of this community gathering place for all ages. The vacant lot, Mr. Dwayne's lot, is owned by a dynamic community leader, Dwayne Richardson. He hosts community events there but had a vision of making it a community center for children. Blue Water Baltimore leveled the lot to make it usable and planted trees for provide shade and treat runoff on the property.

stakes. The city counted these trees towards their tree canopy goal and their stormwater and watershed implementation plan requirements.

Blue Water Baltimore also worked with residents on educational and enrichment activities related to trees, such as pruning, tree ID, planting, and fun activities like creating tree tags outlining the benefits of trees or writing love letters to the trees.



This neighborhood is rated as medium priority for increasing Urban Tree Canopy by Baltimore's Forestry Department. Before the project, it had a very low 14% tree canopy coverage with approximately 900 street trees. This project also leveraged Baltimore City's Forestry Program, TreeBaltimore, who provided match by purchasing trees and tree



PROJECT ELEMENTS

- **Tree Planting** – Native trees and shrubs require less maintenance and absorb rainwater, hold soils in place, and provide food and habitat for birds, pollinators, and other wildlife.
- **Green Jobs and Engagement of local businesses**– Local survey, and engineering firms, and suppliers were used to complete the project, supporting local jobs.
- **Engagement of Local Community**– This project engaged 147 volunteers from the local community to assist in the completion of the project.



SUSTAINABILITY & GROWTH

Blue Water Baltimore met with partners regularly and discussed best practices for both engagement and implementation - Baltimore Tree Trust has already adopted some practices. This new and improved way of outreach is more in line with Blue Water Baltimore's Justice Equity Diversity and Inclusion focus.

Blue Water Baltimore is planning to work with the Baltimore Tree Trust to continue tree planting in the neighborhood- they had 2 different requests for more tree planting on different blocks and look forward to applying lessons learned there.

This project supported the Maryland Port Administration's NPDES permit requirements. Baltimore City will count this project towards the Tree Canopy goal but not their permit. The Sinclair Lane tree planting counts for both the tree canopy goal and NPDES permit for Baltimore City.

This first experience with large bare root trees was not one the group was proud of, with a 75% survival rate in front of homes v. their normal 90% survival rate. One idea was potential overwatering in the spring and the unprecedented flash drought in Aug-September caused even higher death. Certain species did not do well, including redbud, silverbell, bur, scarlet and swamp white oak. When these species were planted as a container they did much better. Blue Water Baltimore is planning on replanting 83 trees in the spring of 2020 and will water this site several times in that year.

Since most funders do not fund tree maintenance directly for older plantings, Blue Water Baltimore built funds into this grant, as with all their other grants, to maintain trees for the first 3 years after planting.

Year Awarded: 2018

Award Amount: \$58,830

Match Amount: \$87,500



Project Partners: Belair Edison Community Association, Belair-Edison Neighborhoods Inc., Blue Water Baltimore, Chesapeake Bay Trust, Maryland Port Administration, TreeBaltimore, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency