Chesapeake Conservation and Climate Corps 2023-2024 Placements

Acadia Kyle (She/They)  
Center for Watershed Protection  
*Fulton, Howard County*

Acadia will serve their year at the Center for Watershed Protection, where she will work on a variety of projects including supporting water quality monitoring at stream restoration sites, learning about current climate change models, and assisting with the Clean Water Certificate training program which increases opportunities for under- or unemployed adults looking to secure a living wage job in the green infrastructure industry. Acadia recently completed a term of service as a Maryland Conservation Corps Crew Member with AmeriCorps.

Adeline "Adi" Daniels (She/They)  
The Community Ecology Institute  
*Columbia, Howard County*

After interning for an organization that focused on building regenerative agriculture farm projects for refugee women abroad, Adi has become interested in the role climate mitigation and environmental stewardship practices can play in how traditionally marginalized and oppressed people cultivate self-sufficiency and sustainability. During their Corps year, Adi will assist CEI with coordinating both onsite and offsite community gardening initiatives, experiential education programming, and volunteer projects.

Anna "Annie" O'Connell (She/They)  
University of Maryland: Environmental Finance Center  
*College Park, Prince George's County*

During their placement at the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center (EFC), Annie will serve as a project assistant helping to advance EFC’s climate and resilience program. She will develop skills in conducting greenhouse gas inventories, project management, and educational content development and help facilitate discussions, coordinate convenings, and network with climate and sustainability professionals. Annie recently graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park with a degree in Environmental Science and hopes that during the Corps year she will connect with not just an organization, but with people that share their same love for nature.
Anthony Johnson II (He/Him)
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: Chesapeake Bay Office
Annapolis, Anne Arundel County
During his year at the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office, Anthony will assist NOAA’s Observations and Habitat Science Programs’ data collection platforms that inform habitat restoration and monitor Bay conditions. Prior to joining the Corps, Anthony was a graduate student at the University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, and Earth Science and is expecting to receive his Master of Professional Science Marine Conservation. This year Anthony hopes to gain new knowledge while working towards his goal of increasing diversity in the field of Marine Science.

Anthony "Dan" McCrary (He/Him)
Garrett County Government
Oakland, Garrett County
While with the Corps, Dan will assist the Garrett County Government with environmental protection, conservation, and educational efforts related to watershed protection. He will identify key watersheds in need of restoration and protection as well as help design and lead community-based education projects related to watershed protection. Dan graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County with a degree in Geography & Environmental Systems. Last summer he had an internship at the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory at Solomons Island and worked part-time as a Naturalist at Point Lookout State Park.

Attia Robinson (She/Her)
Stillmeadow Community Fellowship
Baltimore, Baltimore City
During her year in the Corps, Attia will support Stillmeadow Community Fellowship by coordinating environmental restoration efforts, creating and leading outdoor education and community outreach events, and facilitating urban farming programming around healthy eating. Attia recently returned from studying abroad in Australia where she learned about bio-geography, behavioral ecology, the impacts of climate change on human development, and more. During her year in the Corps, Attia hopes to continue learning and taking on new challenges.

Autumn Conley (She/Her)
ShoreRivers
Easton, Talbot County
Autumn is a recent graduate from Shepherd University where she earned a degree in Environmental Science. As an Eastern Shore native, Autumn has had a lifelong connection with, and interest in, the Chesapeake Bay watershed, which influenced her decision to pursue a career in environmental studies. This year Autumn will work with the Riverkeeper Department conducting water quality monitoring, safe-swimming bacteria testing, and underwater grass monitoring and restoration. She will also support ShoreRivers’ environmental education programs that work to engage and empower students.
Brian Spinner (He/Him)
American Chestnut Land Trust
Prince Frederick, Calvert County
Brian will work with American Chestnut Land Trust to manage the daily operations of ACLT’s one-acre sustainable agriculture farm and support farm-related community outreach. He will also help to organize community conservation action groups and will participate in the Maryland Master Naturalist program. Brian recently graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park where he studied Environmental Science and Policy with a concentration in Environment and Agriculture.

Brianna Hutchins (She/Her)
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Annapolis, Anne Arundel County
Brianna majored in Environmental Science and Studies and minored in Public Health at Towson University and recently returned from a study abroad experience in Costa Rica. During her Corps year, Brianna will work to support the Maryland Department of Natural Resources’ Phytoplankton and Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Monitoring Program’s goals of tracking changes in phytoplankton communities, HABs, algal toxins, and, ultimately, of safeguarding public health.

Camryn Arnstein (She/Her)
Maryland Department of the Environment
Baltimore, Baltimore City
Camryn will work with the Maryland Department of the Environment in their nonpoint source watershed planning program to develop outreach materials, integrate climate change, hazard mitigation, and environmental justice into water quality planning, and perform fieldwork. Camryn is an outdoor enthusiast and is passionate about being outside and inspiring environmental stewardship in others. She credits her love for the outdoors to the environmental education field trips she participated in as a Calvert County student.

Caroline Underwood (She/Her)
National Aquarium
Baltimore, Baltimore City
Caroline recently graduated from Syracuse University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology focused on Environmental Science. She likes working directly with aquatic organisms as it allows her to develop a personal connection to the environment. While at the National Aquarium for her year with the Corps, Caroline will work to support conservation efforts including community-based habitat restoration, data collection on urban biodiversity and water quality of Baltimore’s Inner Harbor, and community engagement primarily within the Baltimore area.
Caroline Etherton (She/Her)
US National Park Service: Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine
*Baltimore, Baltimore City*

Caroline graduated from Towson University where she received a Bachelor of Science focusing on Cell and Molecular Biology. She credits her Environmental Studies and Conservation study abroad experience in Costa Rica as the start of her desire to pursue a career in the environmental field. This year Caroline will support Fort McHenry’s efforts to research and provide recommendations on a variety of topics including solar street light rehabilitation, electric replacements for landscape maintenance equipment, and more.

Charles "Charlie" Davies (He/Him)
Anacostia Watershed Society
*Bladensburg, Prince George's County*

Charlie is coming to the Corps after working as an Educational Associate at Discover Cayuga Lake in Ithaca, New York. He is passionate about weaving together storytelling, art, and science and are excited to play a role in passing this passion on to others. During his time with Anacostia Watershed Society, Charlie will be engaging diverse communities in general watershed education, conducting class visits, providing professional development to teachers, and leading meaningful watershed-based lessons and programs.

Charles "Charlie" Olmsted (He/Him)
Southern Maryland Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.
*Leonardtown, Saint Mary’s County*

During the course of Charlie’s year, he will assist with Southern Maryland RC&D’s activities and programs related to healthy ecosystems, enterprises, and communities. Charlie is a graduate of the University of Maryland where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Government and Politics. He looks forward to bringing a political science and historical perspective to his work. In his free time, Charlie likes to read, listen to music, hike, and generally be outside.

Chloe Qualls (She/Her)
Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore, Inc.
*Baltimore, Baltimore City*

Chloe will support Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore’s work to engage Baltimore residents in outreach and activities that involve the marine ecosystem of the Baltimore Harbor. She will also help maintain floating wetlands, plan kayaking events, and give EcoTours at the waterfront. Chloe is a graduate of the University of Maryland where she earned a degree in Environmental Science and Technology and worked as a laboratory technician after graduating. She hopes that her year in the Corps will allow her to continue to investigate the importance of walkable communities and urban green spaces.
Christian Riordan (He/Him)
Maryland Department of the Environment
Baltimore, Baltimore City
Christian will work with MDE on their climate action plan, specifically State of Maryland goals surrounding the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. He will also support outreach efforts about climate change mitigation to underserved, under-resourced, and vulnerable Maryland communities. Christian is passionate about engaging and empowering communities of color in environmental justice work and will bring a unique perspective on environmental justice work gained during his study abroad experience in Thailand last summer.

Ciara O'Brien (She/Her)
National Wildlife Federation
Baltimore, Baltimore City
During her placement with the National Wildlife Federation, Ciara will be an integral part of the Mid-Atlantic Education and Community Conservation team while also supporting NWF's Climate Adaptation and Coastal Resilience programs with projects focusing on climate change, the creation of equitable greenspaces, and community engagement. Ciara is a graduate of McDaniel College and has an interest in exploring the intersections between food, people, and the environment. In her free time, Ciara enjoys tending to her garden, reading, and practicing/teaching yoga.

Claire Joseph (She/They)
Anacostia Riverkeeper
Washington, D.C.
Claire will serve her year at Anacostia Riverkeeper where she will support Maryland water quality monitoring programs by sampling water quality, managing volunteers, communicating monitoring results on social media, and more. Claire graduated from Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon with dual degrees in Environmental Studies and English concentrating in creative writing. As part of their thesis, Claire wrote a children’s book about bats with the goal of combatting the often negative perception of bats.

Dana Sanchez (She/Her)
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
Silver Spring, Montgomery County
At NOAA, Dana will be working on a variety of projects supporting ecological research and monitoring at Mallows Bay-Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary. Dana graduated from Penn State University with a degree in Environmental Resource Management, specializing in Plant Science and Sustainable Agriculture, with minors in Marine Science and Watersheds and Water Resources. Since graduating, she has worked as a Water and Nutrient Management Research Technician at the Penn State Groh Watershed Management Laboratory.
Emily Dunsmore (She/Her)
American Chestnut Land Trust
Prince Frederick, Calvert County

During her year of service Emily will focus on science restoration initiatives at ACLT, working with and leading volunteer groups in activities such as invasive species removal, meadow establishment, hiking trail maintenance, and more. Emily is a recent graduate from Washington College where she majored in Environmental Studies and minored in Music. She was a coxswain on the Washington College Rowing Team and appreciated how rowing allowed her to see the beauty of the Bay and its tributaries every morning from inside of a boat.

Emma Horne (She/Her)
C&O Canal Trust
Williamsport, Montgomery County

During Emma’s year in the Corps, she will support work to deepen connections between the C&O Canal National Historical Park and traditionally underrepresented audiences through engaging youth in environmentally focused programming. Emma recently completed a Bachelor’s degree in Public Relations and Strategic Communication at Salisbury University. Emma feels passionate about the education of young people on environmental topics such as sustainability and believes it is important to instill an excitement in students to take action to help sustain and improve the environment.

Emme Tissue (She/They)
Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center
Millersville, Anne Arundel County

Emme graduated from Skidmore College with a degree in Environmental Sciences. In recent summers, Emme worked on a small regenerative farm in Tennessee investigating how regenerative farming practices impact carbon levels in the soil. For their year with the Corps, Emme will support Anne Arundel County Public School's Environmental Literacy and Outdoor Education Office as they engage students in direct environmental programming and empower young stewards to make positive change in their own communities.

Faith Waaramaa (She/Her)
Anne Arundel Watershed Stewards Academy
Millersville, Anne Arundel County

Faith will support AAWSA’s 5-year strategic plan for deepening their existing role within Anne Arundel County and expanding into new and innovative areas, especially related to restoration and diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice. Faith believes that everyone deserves the equal opportunity to explore the environment and that equitable educational programming and community-centered projects are essential to guaranteeing widespread environmental stewardship. Most recently Faith was an educator at the Pickering Creek Audubon Center.
Grace Dho (She/Her)
Nature Forward
Chevy Chase, Montgomery County
Grace graduated from the College of William & Mary with a degree in Biology & Integrative Conservation. For her year with the Corps, Grace will support Nature Forward’s efforts to restore the habitats of its headquarters, Woodend Nature Sanctuary, through invasive species management, restoration planting, habitat surveys, and wildlife monitoring. An avid birder, Grace is looking to spread her love of the natural world to the people around her and is passionate about spreading a stewardship mindset to others.

Grace Weeks (She/Her)
Severn River Association
Annapolis, Anne Arundel County
During her placement with Severn River Association, Grace will engage in watershed restoration projects, coordinate and manage volunteers for a variety of opportunities, and assist in a river-wide water quality monitoring program. Grace graduated from the College of William & Mary with a major in Psychology and a minor in Marine Science. She believes that teaching children about the importance of protecting the environment is critical for passing along the knowledge and hope that will be the foundation for future work and science.

Hannah Emmons (She/Her)
Patapsco Heritage Greenway
Ellicott City, Howard County
During her year of service, Hannah will work with Patapsco Heritage Greenway supporting initiatives focused on diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice, programs focused on water quality monitoring and education about the impact of and response to climate change within the Patapsco Valley, and community events such as stream cleanups. Hannah is a graduate of Susquehanna University with dual degrees in Environmental Studies and Spanish and studied abroad at the University of Alicante in Alicante, Spain.

Isabel Bendel-Simso (She/Her)
Robinson Nature Center
Columbia, Howard County
Isabel will serve her year with Robinson Nature Center. Her primary role will be supporting environmental education programming. She will teach programs to people of all ages, take care of a live animal collection, and learn about the behind the scenes work that makes a large nature center run smoothly. Isabel recently graduated from Washington College with a major in Environmental Studies and minors in Anthropology and Museum, Field, and Community Education. Isabel first realized her passion for environmental education after a summer volunteering at the National Aquarium in Baltimore.
Jaidyn Kee (She/Her)
Alice Ferguson Foundation
Accokeek, Prince George's County
During her year Jaidyn will work with the Alice Ferguson Foundation focusing on Environmental Education and Community Engagement initiatives and will facilitate field studies for students that promote stewardship of natural resources and cultural heritage of the Potomac River watershed. Jaidyn is a graduate of Duke Ellington School of the Arts, and she enjoys learning about and meeting new people and exploring new cultures. She is excited to make lasting, positive impacts on the community while learning from her mentor and other Corps members.

Jamal Childs (He/Him)
Chesapeake Conservancy
Annapolis, Anne Arundel County
Jamal will be a vital staff member assisting with the Chesapeake Conservation Partnership, which works to conserve and restore valuable lands within the Bay watershed. He will spend time researching, analyzing, and preparing memoranda and presentations on key strategies to support CCP’s goal of conserving 30% of watershed lands by 2030. Jamal has a Bachelor’s degree in Health Science from Coppin State University where he also served as a Sports Medicine Intern. In his free time, Jamal can be found playing lacrosse.

Jamie Pan (She/Her)
Civic Works, Inc.
Baltimore, Baltimore City
During her year in the Corps, Jamie will work with Civic Works to develop a community-based outreach campaign with new educational tools and materials that target low-income Baltimore City residents for an electrification pilot program and rooftop solar installation program. Jamie has a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Studies from Roanoke College. She is deeply invested in clean water for all and passionate about serving her community. She recently created a pop-up Free Shop for students of Roanoke College to shop for items they need at no financial cost.

Jamileth Mendez (She/Her)
Town of Edmonston
Hyattsville, Prince George’s County
Working with the Town of Edmonston, Jamileth will serve as the Town’s Environmental Program Manager for the year. During the year she will be working on projects that involve urban forestry, community engagement and education, and the development of the Town’s climate change action plan. Jamileth graduated from Trinity Washington University with a major in Business Administration and minors in Environmental Justice and Early Childhood Education. This year, Jamileth hopes to expand her leadership experience and build on her knowledge of sustainability and environmental justice.
Jhoana Duran Miranda (She/Her)
EcoLatinos
Cheverly, Prince George's County
Jhoana will work with EcoLatinos during her year with the Corps. She will serve as a Bilingual Communications and Outreach Specialist to help develop content, website, and social media communications. They will also support event coordination and educational projects. Jhoana recently graduated from Trinity Washington University with a degree in Biology. During the summer before her final year at University, Jhoana worked as a chemistry lab assistant where she conducted her own experiment and presented the results at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students conference in California.

Jordan Sessoms (He/Him)
Global Health and Education Projects, Inc.
Riverdale Park, Prince George's County
Jordan earned his Bachelor's degree from Salisbury University in Marketing with a minor in Biology. He studied abroad during college in Scotland. Throughout the next year, Jordan will serve as a Digital Environment Fellow, co-leading community engagement and education activities that support GHEP’s urban tree planting program. His passion for wildlife conservation was inspired by his childhood role model, Steve Irwin.

Julia Moya (She/Her)
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Annapolis, Anne Arundel County
During her year with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Julia will work on a variety of climate change focused tasks including habitat restoration, protection, and assessment, wildlife surveying and monitoring, environmental outreach and education, and environmental justice. Julia graduated from Rutgers University with a degree in Biological Sciences and a minor in Marine Science. This past summer, Julia conducted research at the Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology in Baltimore.

Julia Smeltzer (She/Her)
The Nature Conservancy
Bethesda, Montgomery County
Julia will serve her year at the Nature Conservancy, where she will research forest health and resilience in the Central Appalachians, coastal resiliency and marsh migration on the Eastern Shore, and the cultures of indigenous communities in the region. She will also support various land stewardship activities. Julia is a recent graduate of Haverford College where she double majored in Biology and Environmental Studies. She wrote her senior thesis on field work she conducted at the Global Change Research Wetland, a salt marsh in Edgewater, Maryland that is part of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center.
Justyn Pinkney (He/Him)
Maryland Environmental Trust
Crownsville, Anne Arundel County
Justyn graduated from Salisbury University with a degree in Urban and Regional Planning and most recently interned at the Community Action Agency. Justyn will be supporting Maryland Environmental Trust with their work to maintain positive relationships with property owners and other conservation partner groups. He will provide resources in the form of direct on-the-ground project assistance, coordinating and training volunteer land stewards, and holding educational seminars for stewards and landowners on natural resource improvement programs.

Katherine "Katie" Philipp (She/Her)
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Annapolis, Anne Arundel County
During her placement at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Katie will play a key role in continuing existing and implementing new freshwater mussel assessment and restoration projects for the Department. Katie recently graduated from Cornell University with a degree in Biological Sciences focusing on Microbiology. Before the Corps, she was an intern at the Oyster Hatchery Intern Program at UMCES and is interested in exploring the connection between academia, environmental research, and conservation.

Kayla Brennan (She/Her)
Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Annapolis, Anne Arundel County
Kayla will serve her year at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation where she will support habitat restoration, regenerative agriculture, environmental education, and oyster restoration work. Prior to joining the Corps, Kayla graduated from Duquesne University where she majored in biology and minored in environmental science. Kayla hopes the Corps will provide her with the opportunity to expand her knowledge of ecology and further her understanding of the link between research and community involvement.

Kelsey Poisal (She/They)
Maryland Coastal Bays
Berlin, Worcester County
Kelsey graduated from Salisbury University with dual degrees in Biology and Environmental Studies. Most recently Kelsey served in the Maryland Conservation Corps at Assateague State Park where she completed a project about the positive impact bivalves have on local waterways. During their Corps year, Kelsey will assist with monitoring the health of tidal wetlands and support climate resiliency restoration projects such as living shorelines, oyster gardening, fish sampling, and horseshoe crab, colonial nesting bird, and terrapin monitoring.
Kyle Bryant (He/Him)
Maryland League of Conservation Voters Education Fund
Annapolis, Anne Arundel County

During his year in the Corps, Kyle will support the Maryland League of Conservation Voters by working directly with Black community members in the Baltimore region, listening to their environmental priorities and providing outreach and education about environmental issues affecting community health and well-being. Kyle attended the University of Maryland where he received a degree in Environmental Science and Policy. In his free time, Kyle loves to read, write blog posts, watch anime, and go on walks.

Maggie Bockart (She/Her)
US Geological Survey: Eastern Ecological Science Center
Laurel, Prince George’s County

Maggie is a graduate of the University of Nebraska where she earned a degree in Biology with a minor in Anthropology and most recently worked as an Emergency Veterinary Diagnostic Assistant. This year she will work primarily on Poplar Island monitoring a variety of avian species trends to inform adaptive management. Maggie will also have the opportunity to perform work with ArcGIS and engage in interagency collaboration on tasks such as wildlife management. She is passionate about preserving wild spaces and mitigation of human-wildlife conflict.

Muna Abdur-Rahman (She/Her)
Charm City Land Trusts
Baltimore, Baltimore City

Muna will work with Charm City Land Trusts during her Corps year. She will work alongside a team of urban farmers and volunteers to steward community-owned green spaces, grow healthy food in a food desert, provide environmental education, and more. Muna is a native Baltimorean and is a Certified Maryland Master Naturalist dedicated to her passion for all things nature and social justice. Muna credits Baltimore with giving her the space to grow and transform and she wants to show her appreciation by tending to its roots.

Nadeeah Fleming (She/Her)
City of Greenbelt Department of Public Works
Greenbelt, Prince George’s County

Nadeeah majored in Environmental Studies at McDaniel College and had her first environmental job at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. Her hobbies include walking in nature, watching movies, horticulture, and hanging out with family and friends. While working with the City of Greenbelt, Nadeeah will work on multiple projects centered on natural resources management and sustainability. These projects will include mobilizing volunteers, conducting invasive plant management, and acting as a liaison with community groups, schools, and local nonprofits.
Nancy Barrett (She/They)
ECO City Farms
*Riverdale, Prince George's County*

Nancy graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park with a major in Environmental Science and Policy and previously completed an AmeriCorps service year working at the Literacy Lab. She has a strong desire to address the injustices and inequities that are created and exacerbated by how we interact with our earth by engaging with and empowering vulnerable communities. This year Nancy will support ECO City Farms’ work to cultivate sustainably grown food year-round, turn local food waste into rich compost, and educate local youth and families about food, health and the environment.

Olivia Pineda (She/Her)
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
*Edgewater, Anne Arundel County*

Olivia is a recent graduate from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She is passionate about giving back and getting involved within her community and is especially interested in the impact of urban pollution on our waterways. During her time with SERC, Olivia will gain experience in public engagement in science, science communication, project development, and environmental education. She will serve as a connector between researchers and faith communities, helping to find areas of overlapping needs and interests, as well as work to develop and implement environmental monitoring and environmental education programs.

Reece Johnson (He/Him)
Minary's Dream Alliance
*Chestertown, Kent County*

Reece will assist in educating Spanish and English-speaking local youth and families about food, health, and the environment. He will conduct outreach and establish community opportunities for sustainable gardening, climate control, and environmental restoration. Reece was born and raised on the Eastern Shore and credits learning to connect with his local environment to gain a sense of inner peace from his family. Reece believes that in order to guarantee a future of stewards that we must connect future generations with the natural resources and spaces in need of stewardship.

Riley Kuehn (She/Her)
Arundel Rivers Federation
*Edgewater, Anne Arundel County*

While serving at Arundel Rivers Federation, Riley will work with local communities to achieve clean, fishable, and swimmable waterways for present and future generations. She will work within the monitoring and restoration programs on projects such as water quality monitoring, stream and shoreline restoration, environmental education, and more. Riley graduated from Dickinson College in Pennsylvania with a degree in Environmental Science. While at college, Riley supported, researched, and helped coordinate the installation of a green roof on Dickinson’s science building.
Ron Roberto (He/Him)
Cylburn Arboretum Friends
Baltimore, Baltimore City

At Cylburn Arboretum, Ron will be creating new programs to pilot in Cylburn’s Nature Education Center and adjacent Teaching Garden, creating an herbarium of Cylburn flora, organizing and hosting a BioBlitz, creating a compost plan for the property, and working to improve wayfinding within the park. Ron has incorporated sustainable practices in his own small business. He grows uncommon tropical plant varieties, most in the philodendron genus, which he sells at a local farmers market and online.

Sarah O'Toole (She/Her)
Howard County Office of Community Sustainability
Ellicott City, Howard County

During her Corps year with Howard County Office of Community Sustainability, Sarah will work on expanding the County's residential stormwater program, with an emphasis on making it more accessible to vulnerable residents and incorporating elements of climate resiliency and mitigation. Sarah is a recent graduate from Saint Vincent College with a degree in Environmental Science and a minor in Biology. Most recently, Sarah worked as an environmental educator at Winnie Palmer Nature Reserve in Latrobe, Pennsylvania.

Sharon Zhang (She/Her)
Maryland Department of the Environment
Baltimore, Baltimore City

At the Maryland Department of the Environment, Sharon will be creating a notification and tracking system for tidal wetlands mitigation projects, evaluating living shoreline projects for providing climate resiliency to underserved communities, and collecting information about living shoreline projects that impact submerged aquatic vegetation. Sharon recently graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in Agricultural and Resource Economics. In her free time, Sharon enjoys playing tennis, reading, going to the gym, and playing video games.

Sharon Niedringhaus (She/Her)
US Fish and Wildlife Service: Patuxent Research Refuge
Laurel, Prince George’s County

During their year of service, Sharon will be working to map invasives, enter data from a recent bird survey, and restore an area of previously developed land. Sharon is a recent graduate of Washington College where she majored in Environmental Science and minored in Biology and Chesapeake Regional Studies. Her career interests include conservation, restoration, and land management in forest ecosystems and in her free time, Sharon likes to read, knit, hike, and spend time outdoors.
Shyanne Wells (She/Her)
Baltimore Tree Trust
Baltimore, Baltimore City

During Shyanne’s year in the Corps she will support Baltimore Tree Trust’s mission to enhance and protect Baltimore City’s urban tree canopy through strategic planting initiatives, broad-based engagement, and local workforce training. Shyanne recently completed her degree in Environmental Science from the Community College of Baltimore County. In her free time, Shyanne enjoys going to the gym, playing video games, reading, and spending time in nature while exploring new places.

Silas Smothers (He/Him)
Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works
Annapolis, Anne Arundel County

Silas is a native Baltimorean who feels deeply connected to the earth. He is passionate about ecosystem preservation which stems from his work with honeybees. He learned about the threats to honeybee populations such as invasive mites, disease, environmental pressures, poisoning by pesticide and herbicide, and other man-made issues. While in the Corps, Silas will work with other County agencies, community organizations, and schools to provide interpretation and information about water quality and stormwater issues.

Vanessa Holloway (She/Her)
Howard County Office of Community Sustainability
Ellicott City, Howard County

While working with the Office of Community Sustainability, Vanessa will learn the inner-workings of local government, and will implement initiatives identified in the 2022 Climate Action Plan. Working with experts in energy, climate change, stormwater, agriculture, and restoration, she will conduct outreach and provide technical assistance to underserved communities. Vanessa graduated from Goucher College with a degree in Environmental Studies. Her hobbies include crocheting, writing, longboarding, and drumming.