

CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST

Bay Stewards Newsletter -- FEBRUARY 2022



AMPLIFYING VOICES IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Our vision at the Trust is that the Chesapeake Bay and local watersheds are healthy and safe, our waters are fishable and swimmable, local communities benefit from these healthy resources, and everyone participates in restoring and protecting our natural resource treasures. We know when communities and groups own their work and sustain the outcomes, they are empowered to be part of long-lasting solutions to the challenges facing our natural resources.

We are committed to sharing the successes of our grantee projects so that you are aware of the empowered groups and organizations having an impact in our local communities. Our February feature is a community of "Water Watchers" in Washington, D.C. that are owning and protecting their local stream. To find more projects in your area, please use our [AWARDED PROJECTS MAP](#).

WARD 8 WATER WATCHERS: Champions of Their Stream & Community

Ward 8 Water Watchers (W8WW) of Washington, D.C. created seven family-friendly watershed education and community engagement events, providing out-of-school educational and engagement opportunities for families to enjoy nature together. This programming built on existing projects from The Green Scheme, educational opportunities at Audubon Naturalist Society, and programs at The Well at Oxon Run. The Well at Oxon Run is an innovative urban agriculture hub now under construction by DC Greens. The Well has already begun bringing fresh produce to the surrounding community with a focus on nutrition and health. W8WW complemented the early development of The Well throughout 2021 by extending the focus of food justice to community and watershed health and showing how all three are related, while empowering the community to get involved in planning for Oxon Run's restoration in the future.

The Green Scheme, Audubon Naturalist Society, DC Greens, and partners engaged residents of the neighborhoods near Oxon Run Park and began building community around a shared vision for Oxon Run. Community members are invited to become Ward 8 Water Watchers and take ownership of the program as it extends into the future. W8WW has now become the first long-term program at The Well. The program activates the existing power of Ward 8 families to be champions for their stream and environment. The events explore the intersections between water quality,



food justice, environmental justice, and public health as factors that have influenced the community. Events have included free, fresh produce pickups, nature education, storytelling, stream cleanups, and stream walks.

W8WW shared that the greatest success of the project, by far, has been the excitement of the community to participate and learn about their watershed and stream. Participants joyfully explore the Oxon Run stream channel, learn about the fish and benthic macroinvertebrates that live in streams, learn about urban agriculture and nutrition from plants grown in and near the watershed, and learn to see the stream channel itself (as well as the park that surrounds it) as a key community asset.

LEARN MORE about Ward 8 Water Watchers

LEARN MORE about The Well at Oxen Run



--- AROUND THE BAY ---

Stories and Happenings from the Chesapeake Region

[New EPA Regional Administrator is Ready to Advance Restoration in Chesapeake Bay Watershed](#)

[Chesapeake Heartland Project Puts Kent County Black History on the Map](#)

[Community Volunteers Breathe New Life into Potomac River Island](#)

[Bill Seeks to Untangle State's Regulation of Invasive Vines and Nonnative Plants](#)

[Kent Narrows Opens For Oyster Harvesting Thanks To Improved Water Quality](#)



--- CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST ---

February 2022 Open Programs



With the support of our funding partners and donors, the following programs are open and accepting applications. These programs fund our grantees' hands-on restoration, outreach, and environmental education projects throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

CURRENTLY OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS:

Applications Due March 3, 2022

[Chesapeake Conservation Corps Member Application](#)

[Chesapeake Conservation Corps Equity Fellowship Opportunity](#)

[Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns](#)

[Urban Trees Grant Program](#)



Applications Due March 17, 2022

[Anne Arundel County Watershed Restoration](#)

Applications Due March 24, 2022

[Chesapeake Conservation Corps](#)

[Leadership Training Contractual Services](#)



Rolling Deadlines

[Anne Arundel Community Tree Planting Mini Grant](#)

[Charles County Forestry](#)

[Community Engagement Mini Grant](#)

[Prince George's Rain Check Rebate](#)

[Sponsorship Program](#)

[Veteran's Engagement Mini Grant Program](#)



FINDING PROJECTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Our Interactive map currently displays over 2,000 awards throughout the watersheds of the Chesapeake Bay, Maryland Coastal Bays, and Youghiogheny River. Updated annually, the map allows you to search projects by area, funding partner, and/or environmental topic. Find projects in your community or see what's happening across the region!

[**EXPLORE THE MAP**](#)



SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR THE BAY THIS VALENTINE'S DAY!

When you shop the Chesapeake Bay Trust, you're not only receiving fantastic products but you are **FUNDING PROJECTS AROUND THE CHESAPEAKE REGION** that make an impact in our communities. Shop with love this Valentine's Day and give back to the Bay!

[SHOP THE CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST](#)

Save the Date

MAY 5, 2022

Treasure the Chesapeake

The Gala for the Chesapeake Bay Trust



EXTEND YOUR IMPACT: 10 Ways to Give

Direct Donation:

Go Green with the Trust and make your direct donation [here](#). You can mail your contribution to: Chesapeake Bay Trust, 108 Severn Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403.

Estate Planning:

Considering the Chesapeake Bay Trust in your estate plans through a bequest, life insurance, or other planned gift. Call the office at 410-974-2941 x107.

Chair's Circle:

Created to engage those who want to make it possible for the Trust to meet the increasing demands of restoring and protecting our natural resources. Read more and join [here](#).

Amazon Smile:

You shop, Amazon gives. There's no additional cost to you. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price on eligible purchases when you choose Chesapeake Bay Trust as your [favorite charity](#).

Federal, State, and Local Campaigns:

Federal, state, and local campaigns are tailored to meet the needs of employees, including U.S. postal workers, state employees, and U.S. military at home and overseas. Visit your human resources department or campaign coordinator to learn how you can give to the Chesapeake Bay Trust through federal and state campaigns.

Monthly Giving:

At any level, monthly giving is an easy and efficient way to invest in the Chesapeake Bay's recovery. Your monthly gift will ensure that the Trust can provide everyday citizens with the resources they need to accomplish projects that have a measurable, positive impact on the health of the Chesapeake and its rivers and streams. You can easily start, change, or stop your gift at any time. Sign up to make your monthly gift to the Trust [here](#).

Fishers, Boaters, and Hunters:

When obtaining a boating registration and/or fishing and hunting license online through the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) compass system, there is an option to donate to two funds that go to programs supported by Chesapeake Bay Trust. The [Maryland Outdoor Recreation and Clean Water Fund](#) supports fish and wildlife habitat, clean water, wetlands, and K-12 student field trips. The [Healing, Hunting, and Fishing Fund](#) allows us to provide competitive grants to nonprofits working with veterans that support efforts such as therapeutic outdoor activities, outdoor recreational activities (hunting, fishing, etc.), or workforce development for green jobs.

Line 35: Chesapeake Bay and Endangered Species Fund

Marylanders can make a tax-deductible contribution of any amount on their state taxes (April 15 deadline has been extended to July 15) on line 35, Chesapeake Bay and Endangered Species Fund. This fund is split evenly between the Chesapeake Bay Trust and Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Learn more [here](#). Find a CPA that supports a healthy Bay [here](#).

Chesapeake Bay License Plates:

Did you know that sales of the Chesapeake Bay license plates support our work in Maryland? You can upgrade to a Bay Plate at any time [online](#), through a [tag agent](#), or in person at the MVA. As a Chesapeake Bay plate owner, you are invited to join our Plate Perks program, giving you preferred parking or discounts at a growing number of businesses!

Shop the Chesapeake Bay Trust

The iconic images of the Bay Bridge, crabs, grasses and blue skies all resonate with Marylanders far and wide and are now available on selected items curated by Trust staff through our online [shop](#).

ABOUT THE TRUST

The Chesapeake Bay Trust is a nonprofit, grant-making organization dedicated to improving the bays, streams, rivers, forests, parks, and other natural resources of the Chesapeake region through environmental education, community outreach, and local watershed restoration.

Since 1985, the Trust has awarded more than \$100 million in grants and projects that engage hundreds of thousands of dedicated individuals in efforts that are making a difference for all our local systems—Chesapeake, Coastal Bays, and Youghiogheny.

For nearly two decades, the Trust has received the highest possible "4-star rating" from Charity Navigator, the nation's leading independent evaluator of nonprofit organizations.



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