



# Chesapeake Bay Trust

## bay stewards newsletter

What's happening in your community?

Bay Stewards Newsletter

February 2023

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### --- COMMUNITY NEWS ---

Impacts and Projects Throughout the Chesapeake Region

## Study the Past. Define the Future.



In 2016, the Druid Heights community and partners had the vision to turn a vacant lot into a nature play space for children and families to enjoy. In 2018, the Trust, alongside the City of Baltimore funded \$66k to the [National Wildlife Federation](#) for the original installation of the nature space. The space was officially opened in 2019 and was named after Congressman Elijah Cummings, a local to the community.

The space was envisioned to bring an outdoor refuge to children and wildlife, as well as to educate neighbors on the importance of green spaces in urban areas and the positive impact they create for pollinators and wildlife.

The space is filled with color, with two large murals lining the entrance, a garden full of bright native plants, and multi-colored jumping logs. There are multiple places to engage and educate the public, including a stone maze, a wooden teepee, and a beautiful rain garden. The space offers local youth many opportunities to use their



imaginations to explore and learn in a nature setting right on their own block.

More learning and community engagement opportunities were funded in the summer of 2022 when another \$5k was funded to revitalize the space by offering bi-weekly maintenance days with community volunteers, a large community Spruce-up event, and to install fencing on the site. The space continues to be a great resource for the community, not only for engagement and education but just an escape from typical urban settings by offering a unique play space.

To learn more about the Elijah E. Cummings Nature Play Space in Druid Heights, visit [@StateMaryland](#) on YouTube or use the blue button below for a direct link.

[Elijah E. Cummings Nature Play Space Video](#)



**Protect Our Wetlands**



Coastal wetlands are critical to a healthy environment. They sequester and store large amounts of carbon, provide habitat for local wildlife, and improve our water quality. This is why the Chesapeake Bay Trust provides resources for projects that protect and restore these areas.

Thankfully, at the Trust there are a number of ways to give, so that you can find the way that works for you. Your gift will provide support for critical wetland restoration projects, helping to achieve lasting results across the Chesapeake Bay region.

[Discover Ways to Give](#)



**We're not shy about it... We LOVE our donors!**

To all those that thoughtfully give and allow us to continue empowering communities across the Chesapeake region to make lasting impacts on our natural resources, **THANK YOU.**

If you would like to know how your gifts are put to work, view our 2021-2022 Annual Report.



## --- AROUND THE BAY ---

### Stories and News from the Chesapeake Region

[DNREC Appoints Dr. Katera Moore as State's First Environmental Justice Coordinator](#) - Delaware News

[A different type of fishing: Magnets pull trash and treasure from Baltimore Harbor](#) - WYPR (Baltimore, Md.)

[Can Interactive Mapping Tools Guide Shellfish Restoration?](#) - Modern Farmer

[Elementary School Students Mix Art, Science & Sturgeon](#) - ShoreRivers



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.

#### [Programs Currently Open for Applications](#)



#### 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](#)



# PROTECT OUR CHESAPEAKE



## SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR THE BAY YEAR ROUND!

YOUR PURCHASES FUND PROJECTS AROUND THE CHESAPEAKE REGION and empower community-based groups with the resources they need to protect and improve forests, streams, rivers, bays, wildlife, and more in their own communities.

[Shop Our Seasonal Collection](#)

[Shop Other Bay Inspired Items](#)

**Local wildlife is in danger.  
Your tax donation can help!**

*A donation on line 35 of your MD state taxes can help protect these and other endangered animals.  
Learn more about the Endangered Species Fund*

**Did you know...** YOU can easily donate to help restore the Bay and save Maryland's endangered species right on your Maryland state tax form?

**LINE 35 supports the [Chesapeake Bay and Endangered Species Fund](#).**

[Learn How Donating on LINE 35 Helps Our Endangered Species](#)

[Find a CPA for a Healthy Bay Member Near You](#)



Chesapeake Bay Trust

Save the Date

**MAY 4, 2023**

6-9:30PM at the BALTIMORE MUSEUM of INDUSTRY  
TICKETS \$100 | SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

**Treasure the Chesapeake**  
THE GALA FOR THE CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST

Presented By  
Sandy Spring Bank

CBTRUST.ORG/TTC

[Learn More About Treasure the Chesapeake or Register as a Sponsor](#)

**SPECIAL THANKS  
TO OUR 2023 TREASURE THE CHESAPEAKE  
PRESENTING SPONSOR**



**ABOUT THE TRUST**

The Chesapeake Bay Trust shares a bold vision for a restored and protected Chesapeake Bay watershed and other natural resources in our area—from the Coastal Bays to the Chesapeake to the Youghiogheny River. We uniquely empower local community-based groups on the ground with the resources they need to take on a meaningful and measurable role in restoring forests, streams, rivers, bays, wildlife, and more in their own communities.



The Trust empowers these groups by providing grants and technical assistance. Every year, about 400 groups are awarded project money or provided other assistance to accomplish environmental education, community outreach, and local watershed restoration projects. Since 1985, the Trust has awarded \$140 million in grants and engaged hundreds of thousands of resident stewards in projects that have a measurable impact.

The Trust has received the highest rating from Charity Navigator for over two decades: on average 90 percent of the Trust's expenditures are directed to its restoration and education programs.



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Chesapeake Bay Trust

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