



CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST

bay stewards newsletter

What's happening in your community?

Bay Stewards Newsletter

July 2022

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--- COMMUNITY NEWS ---

Impacts and Projects Throughout the Chesapeake Region

Over \$1 Million Announced to Support Green Infrastructure Projects to Improve Communities in MD, PA, VA, and WV

The Chesapeake Bay Trust, in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection announce that \$1,058,720 in funding has been awarded to 13 projects across Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia as part of the Chesapeake Bay Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Grant Program. These awards help communities develop and implement plans that reduce stormwater runoff; increase the amount of green spaces in urban areas; improve the health of local rivers, streams, the Chesapeake Bay and the human populations within the communities; create "green jobs;" reduce energy use; and enhance livability in cities and communities.



"We congratulate all grantees for putting forth projects that will support clean water and strong neighborhoods," said EPA Mid-Atlantic Regional Administrator Adam Ortiz. "This program helps communities reinvigorate gray and green infrastructure projects that reduce stormwater runoff and pollution to local waters and the Chesapeake Bay, while improving their economy, quality of life and community beautification."

This green infrastructure program is designed to facilitate and encourage communities implementing traditional "gray" infrastructure projects, such as repaving roads or reconfiguring intersections, to add green elements at little additional cost. These green elements then offer cost-effective savings on stormwater treatment, flooding abatement, and other community benefits.

"The projects announced today show the value of adding green stormwater elements when other infrastructure improvements are planned," said Alana Hartman, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection's Potomac Basin Coordinator. "These projects, led by communities and local organizations, will serve as a model for the entire region while helping to protect, preserve and enhance the quality of our water resources in the South Branch of the Potomac and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed."

The Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Initiative was started in 2011, led by water experts at EPA and then expanded into the program it is today. To date, 245 projects have received funding and \$14.4 million has been invested into greening communities.

Greening local communities has been shown to have multiple human benefits, from savings on energy costs that hit the wallet via provision of shade to reduction of illnesses to reduction in crime. Studies show that time spent outdoors in green spaces leads to improved mental health, reduced absenteeism in employees, improved heart health, and more.

"Green infrastructure projects are one of those rare win-win-win scenarios: They improve communities in various ways, they improve human health, and they also benefit our waterways," said Dr. Jana Davis, president of the Chesapeake Bay Trust. "This program lets us take advantage of projects that communities want to do for themselves that just also happen to benefit the larger natural system way downstream."

[CLICK TO VIEW AWARDED PROJECTS](#)



WHAT IS PLASTIC FREE JULY?

A global movement born in 2011, Plastic Free July helps MILLIONS of people be part of the solution to plastic pollution. The most effective way to reduce plastic pollution is to refuse, rethink, and reduce our consumption. Less plastic leads to cleaner streets, safer waters, and healthier communities.

The movement has inspired over 100 million people in 190 countries to make a change. Each individual refusal of a single use plastic makes a massive difference not only locally, but globally. Finding great alternatives in July can lead to new plastic free habits forever!

FOLLOW US to learn what others are doing and how your small change can make a big impact!



--- AROUND THE BAY --- Stories and News from the Chesapeake Region

[DC Water Treatment Plant Powers Up for Cleaner Energy](#) - Bay Journal

[MD & VA Officially Adopt New Crab Harvest Limits](#) - Chesapeake Bay Magazine

[Eagles Again in Need of Protection](#) - Virginia Public Radio

[Susquehanna Greenways Deliver Recreation, Eco-Tourism](#) - Bay Journal

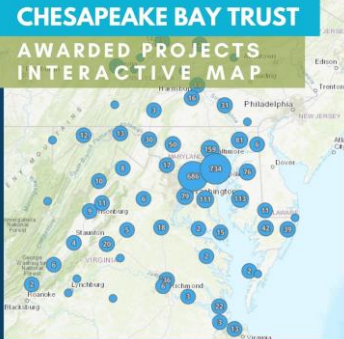




With the support of our funding partners and donors, the following programs are open and accepting applications. These programs fund our grantees' hands-on restoration, outreach, and environmental education projects throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Programs Currently Open for Applications

CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST
AWARDED PROJECTS INTERACTIVE MAP



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](#)



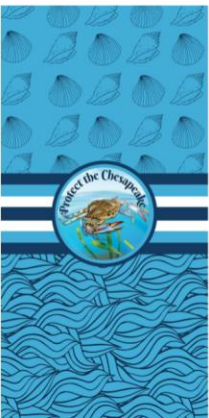
Make a splash with our **NEW BAY INSPIRED BEACH TOWELS!**



Limited Edition



Limited Edition



Show your LOVE OF THE BAY while having fun in the sun!

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 2022 Beach Towel Collection

Find Other Bay Inspired Items



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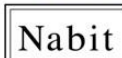


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Charlie Conklin, In Recognition of the Many People and Organizations Volunteering at the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy

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Find Ways To Give

There are a number of ways to make your tax-deductible gift to the Chesapeake Bay Trust. Your gift to the Trust will help to achieve lasting results, providing support for environmental education, community outreach, habitat conservation, and local watershed restoration projects.

----- 11 Ways to Give -----

Donate When You Shop
with AMAZON SMILE

ABOUT THE CHESAPEAKE BAY 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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