



Chesapeake Bay Stewards Newsletter

April 2018

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NEWS FROM THE TRUST



Start here. Make a difference.

Chesapeake Conservation Corps

Applications Due
April 13, 2018
by 5 pm

Chesapeake Conservation Corps Application Deadline is Friday!

Applications for the 2018-2019 Chesapeake Conservation Corps Cohort are due **April 13, 2018 at 5 pm.**

Start your green career here! Recent college and high school grads gain vital green job skills and build connections in the environmental field through this dynamic program.

This one-year term of paid service places young adults (ages 18-25) with nonprofits or government agencies focusing on environmental issues to work full-time in the Chesapeake watershed.

Learn more about this life-changing program [here](#).

“Above and beyond! My time management, communication, working with a team, problem solving, volunteer coordination, and program planning have hugely benefited from this position and will give me the experience and people-skills I need to get the next job. Plus, I got to network with many Baltimore greeners, gardeners, organizations, partners, government officials and even spoke with the EPA regional administrator.”

—Jamison Douglas, Chesapeake Conservation Corps Member, Parks & People Foundation, 2015-2016



Community Engagement Mini Grant Program Now Has Additional \$100K+ for Fiscal Year 2018

The Trust's Community Engagement Mini Grant Program, designed to increase new applicants and engage groups that have traditionally been under-engaged in environmental issues, has been allocated just over \$100,000 in additional grant funding for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2018 (ending June 30, 2018). This program, typically depleted of funding by this point in the year, supports projects that engage Maryland residents in activities that enhance communities and improve natural resources.

Eligible projects include tree plantings, rain gardens, stream cleanups, storm drain

stenciling, and more. Additionally, the Trust offers a mentorship program to assist first-time applicants through the grant application process. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

To see how this unique program can benefit your organization and to apply, click [here](#).

"Bloom the Boulevard is an interactive community greening day that educates and engages Pigtown residents on the impacts their actions have on the health of the Bay. Support from the Chesapeake Bay Trust has enabled us to rent tools to contribute to our cleanup, donate supplies to residents who clean their blocks throughout the year and has allowed us to host two Bloom the Boulevards each year."

—Ben Hyman, Executive Director, Pigtown Main Street

Governor Appoints Two New Members to Chesapeake Bay Trust Board of Trustees

Two Baltimore-based professionals, Coretta Bennett and Thomasina Poirot, have been appointed to the Chesapeake Bay Trust's Board of Trustees by Governor Larry Hogan. Their appointments fill spots vacated by departing Board members, Terence Smith, PBS NewsHour Special Correspondent, and Steve Linhard, Chief Operating and Financial Officer for Chesapeake Medical Imaging.

Bennett is Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Bithenergy, an award winning renewable energy development and engineering firm.

Poirot is an associate with the Baltimore office of Venable LLP, a nationally ranked general practice law firm.

"We are thrilled and very fortunate to have Coretta and Thomasina join the Trust board, and greatly appreciative of the service of Terry Smith and Steve Linhard, who have been with the Trust for over eight years," said Benjamin Wechsler, chairman of the Trust's Board of Trustees. "Coretta and Thomasina are both highly respected in their fields, have a track record of dedicated service to their communities, and each brings a unique and relevant perspective that will strengthen the Trust's grant programs and operations as we take on new and exciting opportunities."

Read more [here](#).



Coretta Bennett



Thomasina Poirot



Grantee Spotlight: Tree Keepers Program

Town of Forest Heights Keeps Street Trees Healthy and Thriving

Learn about the Tree Keepers, a unique program that combines street tree maintenance with job training and mentorship for high school students. This project was funded by the Prince George's Stormwater Stewardship Grant Program, a partnership between the Trust, the county, and Prince George's County Department of the Environment.

Read more on our blog [here](#).

AROUND THE BAY

- **By the Numbers; 877,000:** Building the next generation of environmental stewards starts with engaging students in a Meaningful Watershed

Educational Experience, or MWEE. These experiences are ultimately shaped by the input of the students and allow them to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, all while interacting with their local natural environments. Recent studies by the Chesapeake Bay Program have shown that 877,000 public school students in the region are attending a school district that offers MWEEs. Read more about this student-driven method of learning [here](#).

- **Becoming an Outdoors Woman:** Every fall, the Delaware Department of Natural Resources hosts the Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) program. This program allows women 18 and older to experience and learn more about a variety of outdoor activities that they may have never been exposed to. This 3 day program engages women from a variety of backgrounds and fosters a supportive environment that allows participants to feel comfortable in engaging in activities that include camping, wilderness survival, archery, fly fishing, deer hunting, and much more. You can read learn more about this program and read a firsthand account of last year's session [here](#).
- **Anacostia Rising; What's Next for Washington's 'Forgotten' River:** The Potomac and Anacostia rivers may surround Washington DC, but one is known as "America's River" while the other is known as one of the most polluted rivers in the country. [This incredible photo essay](#) shows the turbulent and complicated history of the Anacostia River and the people and communities that have surrounded it. Older local residents remember a time when they could swim in the river, but years of environmental abuses have destroyed the river and threatened the health of people who lived nearby so that the river has not been swimmable for decades. This is a story of environmental justice, community organizing, local history, and proof that a concerted effort between multiple parties can make tremendous strides towards a restored watershed. The Anacostia is now expected to be swimmable again within a few years.
- **Severna Park Osprey Cam Is Live:** Whether you're an avid birdwatcher, in need of something new to watch, or just want a peek outside while you're sitting in your house or office, be sure to check out the Severna Park Osprey Cam, which is a 24/7 livestream of a nesting osprey pair. The pair returned to the area around St. Patrick's Day, so the 2018 season is just getting started! You can read more about the partnership between a local couple, BGE, Comcast, and HDOnTap, as well as watch the livestream [here](#). The Chesapeake Conservancy's popular Kent Island Osprey Nest cam is also live and active. You can learn more about this partnership and livestream [here](#).
- **Chesapeake Oysters get Seed Money; Maryland Gov. Allocates \$750,000:** Maryland Governor Larry Hogan announced that he is including \$750,000 in the 2019 state budget for Maryland's oyster seed and shell program. This program has the potential to plant around 100 million oysters in the Bay, as well as benefit local communities and the state's economy. You can read more about this program [here](#).
- **If Birds Left Tracks in the Sky, They'd Look Like This:** Photographer Xavi Bou spent 5 years traveling around the world trying to photograph the paths of birds in motion, a topic that had fascinated him since he was a child. Using modern technology he was able to make his vision a reality and capture some stunning images of the path birds make in the air, much like a snake might leave prints in the sand. You can learn more about this project, "*Ornitografias*," and see some of the unique pictures from this project [here](#).

TREASURE THE CHESAPEAKE



Do you have your tickets for the 20th Annual Treasure the Chesapeake yet? Get them now because...

The Oyster Bar is Back! Join us for delicious oysters provided by the Oyster Recovery Partnership!

Plus! Honored guest and world-class sailor, Gary Jobson, will treat guests to a special presentation on "Wind and Water" at this year's event. Jobson's sailing credentials are unparalleled and his connection to the Chesapeake runs deep, making his presentation a superb centerpiece for the gala event.



All the more reason to join us for an evening of Chesapeake-themed food and fun on the Baltimore waterfront to support the Bay and a cleaner, greener, healthier Chesapeake Bay watershed!

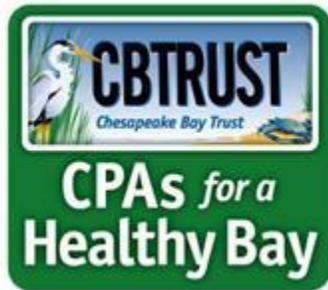
The Trust's Annual Treasure the Chesapeake Gala celebration raises funds to support our restoration, education, and community outreach grant programs.

Visit cbtrust.org/treasurethechesapeake to learn more and purchase tickets.

**Thursday, May 17, 2018
6:00 pm-9:30 pm
Baltimore Museum of Industry
1415 Key Highway, Baltimore, MD 21230**

Register Now!

TAX SEASON OPPORTUNITIES



Tax Season is Almost Over!

Still need help with your taxes? **Contact one of our "CPAs for a Healthy Bay"** to work with a Bay-friendly professional! The full list of participants is available [here](#).



Do Good While Doing Your Taxes!

Tax time is an opportunity to look out for the Bay and local at-risk species. Donations made to the **Chesapeake Bay and Endangered Species Fund through your Maryland Tax form (Line 35)** are split between the Trust and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Wildlife & Heritage Service. The funds cannot be diverted for any other use. [Learn more today.](#)

WAYS TO GIVE

- **Monthly giving, at any level, is an easy and efficient way to support the Trust's efforts to restore and protect our bays, rivers, streams, forests, and parks.** You can easily start, change, or stop your gift at any time. Sign up to make your monthly gift to the Trust [here](#).
- Did you know that sales of the **Treasure the Chesapeake license plates** support our work in Maryland? You can upgrade to a Bay Plate at anytime [online](#), through a [tag agent](#), or in person at the MVA.
- You can give to the Trust all year long when shopping through **AmazonSmile** at smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1454182. Amazon donates a percentage of every purchase to the Trust. Plus, it's easy! When you go to the above link, follow the prompts and select Chesapeake Bay Trust as your charitable organization of choice. Then shop as usual!

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 \$90 million in grants and projects that engage hundreds of thousands of dedicated individuals in efforts that are making a difference for all of our local systems—Chesapeake, Coastal Bays, and Youghiogheny.

Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

Demonstrate your commitment to your community and the health of the Bay by sponsoring our 20th Annual Treasure the Chesapeake.

To learn more, visit:
cbtrust.org/20th-annual-treasure-chesapeake

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