

Chesapeake Bay Stewards Newsletter

July 2018

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NEWS FROM THE TRUST



Trust Announces Nearly \$700,000 to Support Local Green Infrastructure Projects

On June 28th, the Trust in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the City of Baltimore Office of Sustainability announced \$693,791 in funding for the Chesapeake Bay <u>Green Streets</u>, <u>Green Jobs</u>, <u>Green Towns Grant Program</u>. These grants help communities develop and implement plans that reduce stormwater runoff, increase the number and amount of green spaces in urban areas, improve the health of local rivers, streams, and the Chesapeake Bay, create "green jobs," and enhance livability in cities and communities.

Awards were made to 21 innovative green infrastructure projects that span across Delaware; Maryland; Pennsylvania; Virginia; Washington, D.C.; and West Virginia.

The Town of Bath, West Virginia (widely known as Berkeley Springs), one of the 21 grant recipients for this round of funding and a second-time Green Streets grantee,

was the host location for the grant announcement.

"Towns and communities throughout our region are eager to enhance their streetscapes and improve our waterways through green infrastructure projects," said Dr. Jana Davis, executive director of the Chesapeake Bay Trust. "We are proud to combine forces with our funding partners to ensure that local jurisdictions have the resources they need to take action for our communities and for our rivers and streams."

Read more about the Streetscape Renewal Plan that Bath, West Virginia, is implementing with their grant funding and see the full list of grant awards here.



Chesapeake Conservation Corps Capstone Project: Nature Discovery Place at Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary

Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary and Chesapeake Conservation Corps member Shelby Cross recently hosted a grand opening celebration for the new Nature Discovery Place at Jug Bay's Waysons Corner preserve. Cross designed and built the play space as the capstone project to her year of service in the Chesapeake Conservation Corps.

Funded by a grant from the Trust, the play space incorporates recycled materials and features an oversized bird's nest made from invasive bittersweet vines, a rope bridge for building balance, tires for climbing, a sunken canoe, and more.

Click <u>here</u> to see a video of Cross sharing her top three favorite features and read more about the project here.



It's Ribbon Cutting Season!

Last month, the Trust had the opportunity to attend ribbon cutting ceremonies celebrating two newly completed grantee projects.

Rock Creek Conservancy gathered community members, partners, local officials, and supporters to celebrate the completion of their Crabbs Branch Conservation Landscaping project, which will prevent thousands of gallons of stormwater from flowing into Crabbs Branch, a tributary of Rock Creek. The project was funded through the Montgomery County Watershed Restoration & Outreach Grant Program, a parternship between the Montgomery County Department of Envrionmental Protection and the Trust.

Read more about this project <u>here</u>.

South River Federation commemorated the completion of their Twin Harbors Living Shoreline & BMP project with a Friday night barbeque with members of the Twin Harbors community, partners, and supporters. The project, which replaced a failing bulkhead with a natural living shoreline in order to improve water quality, reduce erosion, and create habitat, was funded through the Anne Arundel County Watershed Restoration Grant Program, a partnership between the County and the Trust.

Read more about this project here.





Did you know the Trust is on Instagram?

Follow us: @chesapeakebaytrust

AROUND THE BAY

- For a Healthy Bay, Take a Healthy Interest in Your Local Stream: This summer, as you're splashing through a creek in a kayak, fishing off your boat in the bay, or wading in a local stream to catch crayfish, think about your connection to your local waterway. Check out this article to learn what you can do to ensure it is healthy for years to come.
- Gardening for the Chesapeake: Gardening for the Chesapeake may conjure images of planting oysters, but land-based gardens filled with native plants and grasses are a significant part of the water quality puzzle. Learn more about the University of Maryland Extension's Bay-Wise master gardener program and other plant-based solutions to water quality issues in this article from Chesapeake Bay Magazine.
- Enjoy the Outdoors at a Public Access Site in Maryland: If you're looking

to get out and play on the water this summer, Maryland's many public spots to fish, swim, boat, and recreate are a great start. Nine new sites were added in 2017. Learn a little more about them in this article from the Chesapeake Bay Program.

WAYS TO GIVE

Monthly Giving

At any level, monthly giving 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 <u>here</u>.

Treasure the Chesapeake License Plates

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 <u>online</u>, through a tag agent, or in person at the MVA.

Make your Prime Day shopping count

Prime Day starts July 16, 3pm ET. Shop deals at **smile.amazon.com** and Amazon donates.





Shop Prime Day to Help the Bay!

Amazon's Prime Day is one of the biggest shopping events of the year and your shopping can make a difference for the Bay!

When you shop Prime Day through **AmazonSmile** at <u>smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1454182</u>, Amazon donates a percentage of every purchase to the Trust.

Deals start July 16 at 3 pm ET and run through July 17.

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.

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