GREEN STREETS, GREEN JOBS, GREEN TOWNS GRANT PROGRAM INFORMATION SESSION (FY26)

January 26, 2026

Learn more at cbtrust.org/g3

We will begin momentarily. This webinar will be recorded and posted on our website/shared with those who were unable to attend.

Agenda

- Introductions
- Grant Program Overview, Project Tracks, & Project Highlights
- Application Process & Resources
- Q&A

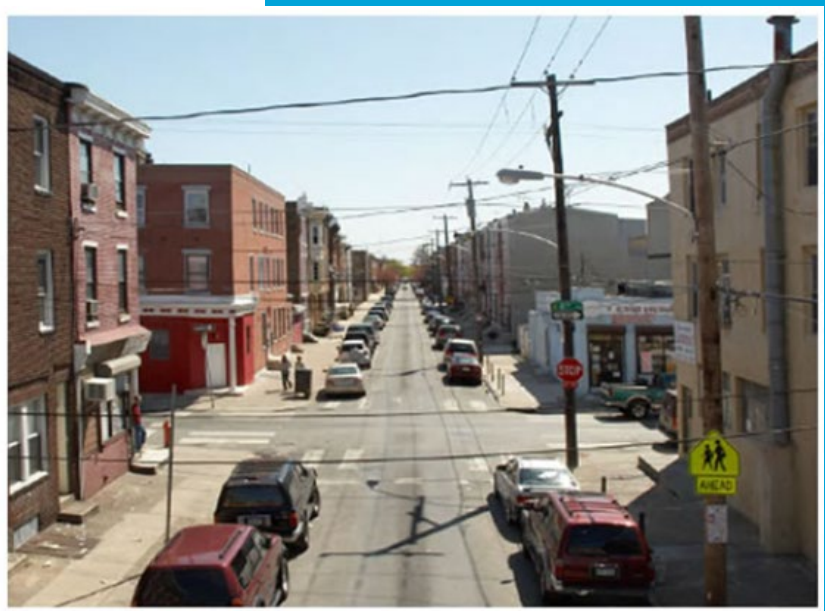
Introductions

The Chesapeake Bay Trust is a nonprofit organization that empowers community-based groups with resources to improve natural resources in their communities.

We partner with the US EPA Region III, Chesapeake Bay Program, and WV Department of Environmental Protection to administer this grant program.

What is a green street?

- A coordinated set of **stormwater management practices** integrated into a street or right-of-way
- May include practices such as **street trees, rain gardens, permeable pavement, and bioretention**
- Designed to **manage runoff efficiently** while supporting safer, more functional community spaces



What are the benefits to having a green street?

- Reduces runoff and limits direct discharge to streams
- Improves stormwater interception and temperature moderation through tree canopy
- Supports safer walking and biking environments
- Enhances the appearance and function of commercial and residential areas

Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns (FY26)

Eligible Locations	Projects must be in the Chesapeake Bay watershed within: DE, MD, PA, VA, DC, WV, & **NY!**
Eligible Applicants	Local governments Nonprofits Neighborhood/community associations
Funding & Deadline	~$1.3M total available Deadline: Mar 13, 2026, at 4:00 PM

New This Year!

Note: This program is not for projects required for new/redevelopment, regulatory mitigation, or offsets

Project Tracks

Track 1

Conceptual Plans for Green Streets/Green Infrastructure Projects (up to $20,000)

Track 2

Engineered Designs for Green Streets/Green Infrastructure Projects (up to $35,000)

Track 3

Implementation/Construction of Green Streets/Green Infrastructure Projects (up to $175,000)

Track 4

Community Greening (up to $50,000)

Track 5

White Papers (up to $20,000)

Track 6

Green Streets Charrettes/Technical Planning Assistance (no direct funding)

Track 1

Conceptual Plans for Green Streets/Green Infrastructure Projects

Request amounts up to $20,000

- First step in the planning process, opportunity for community stakeholders to work together to develop, plan, and brainstorm practices they'd like to see implemented, as well as develop an overarching vision.
- Should be connected to a larger greening vision.
- Large-scale, high performing green streets/green infrastructure projects must treat over one inch of runoff.
- Should be developed with an intent to implement.

Project Highlight

Robin Waterfront Park Concept Plan
Town of Millington, MD

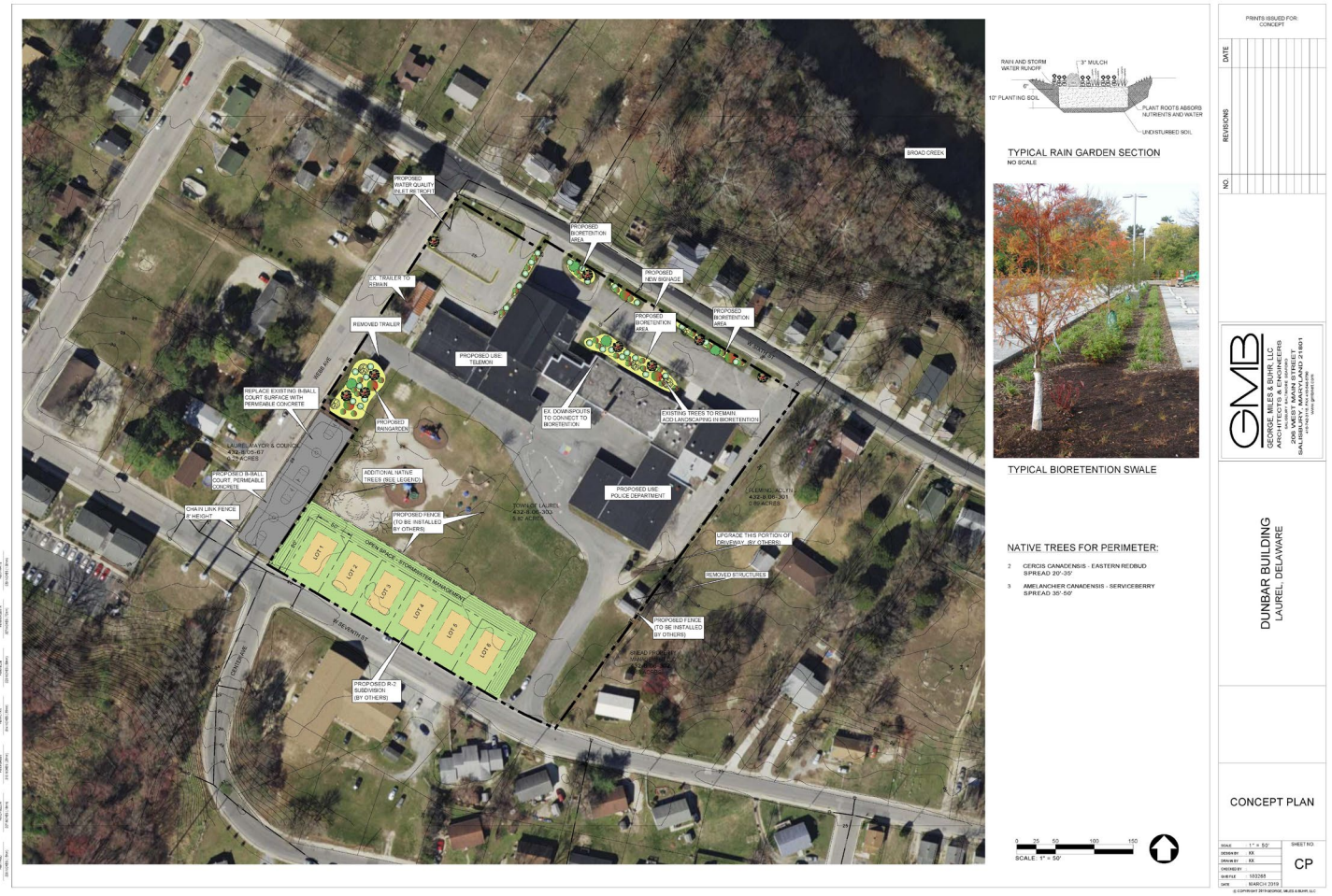
Award Amount: $9,995

Description:

Development of a concept plan for greening and community gathering spaces at the Robin Waterfront Park. The plan includes recommendations that will improve public access and opportunities for community members.

Project Highlight

Conceptual Plan for the Dunbar Building
Town of Laurel, DE



Award Amount: $10,000

Description:

Development of a conceptual plan that identifies locations for potential green infrastructure practices at the Dunbar building. The conceptual plan includes native plantings and bioretention areas.

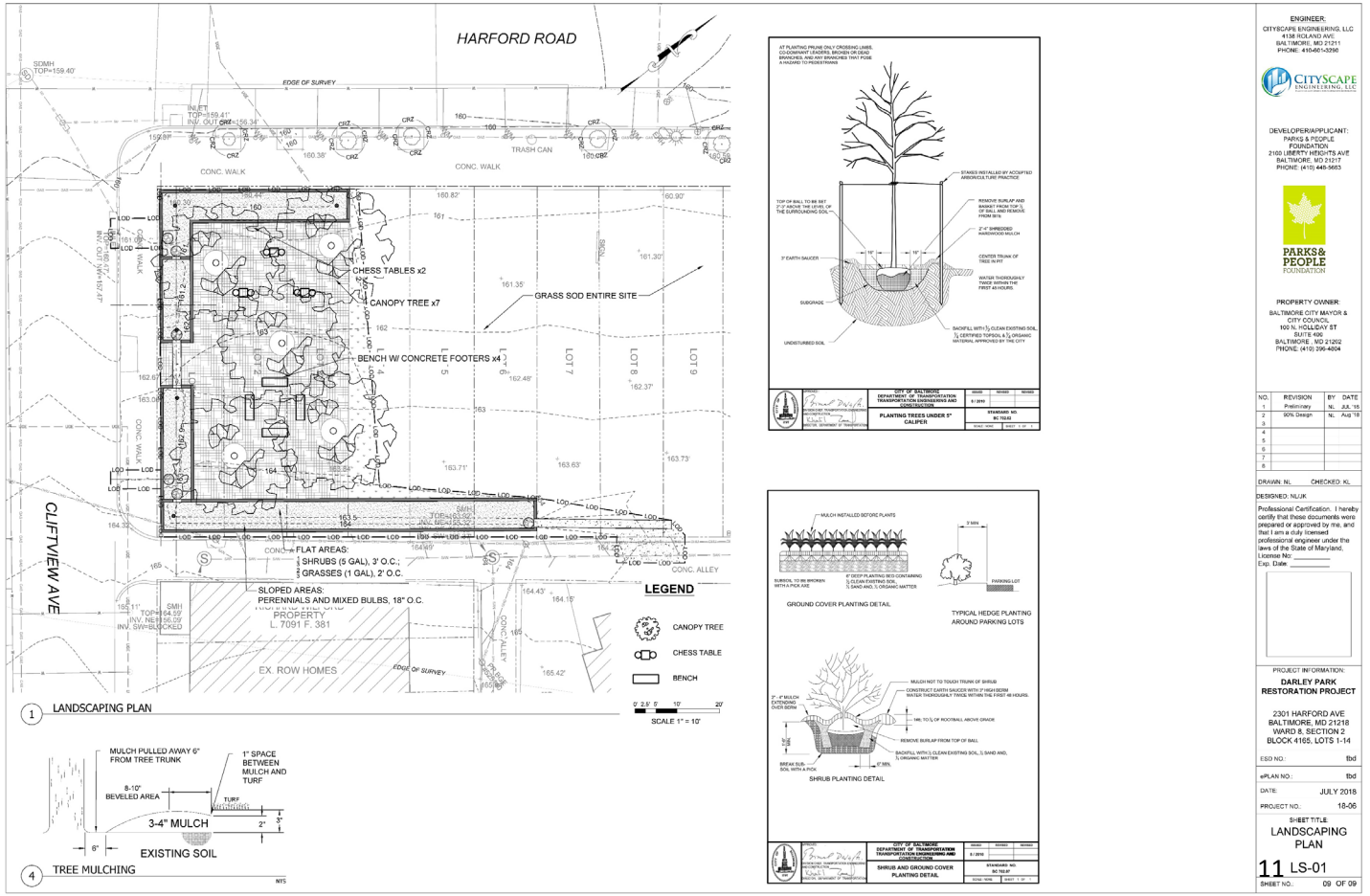
The Town went on to apply for funding for engineered designs and construction of the bioretention areas.

Track 2

Engineered Designs for Green Streets/Green Infrastructure Projects

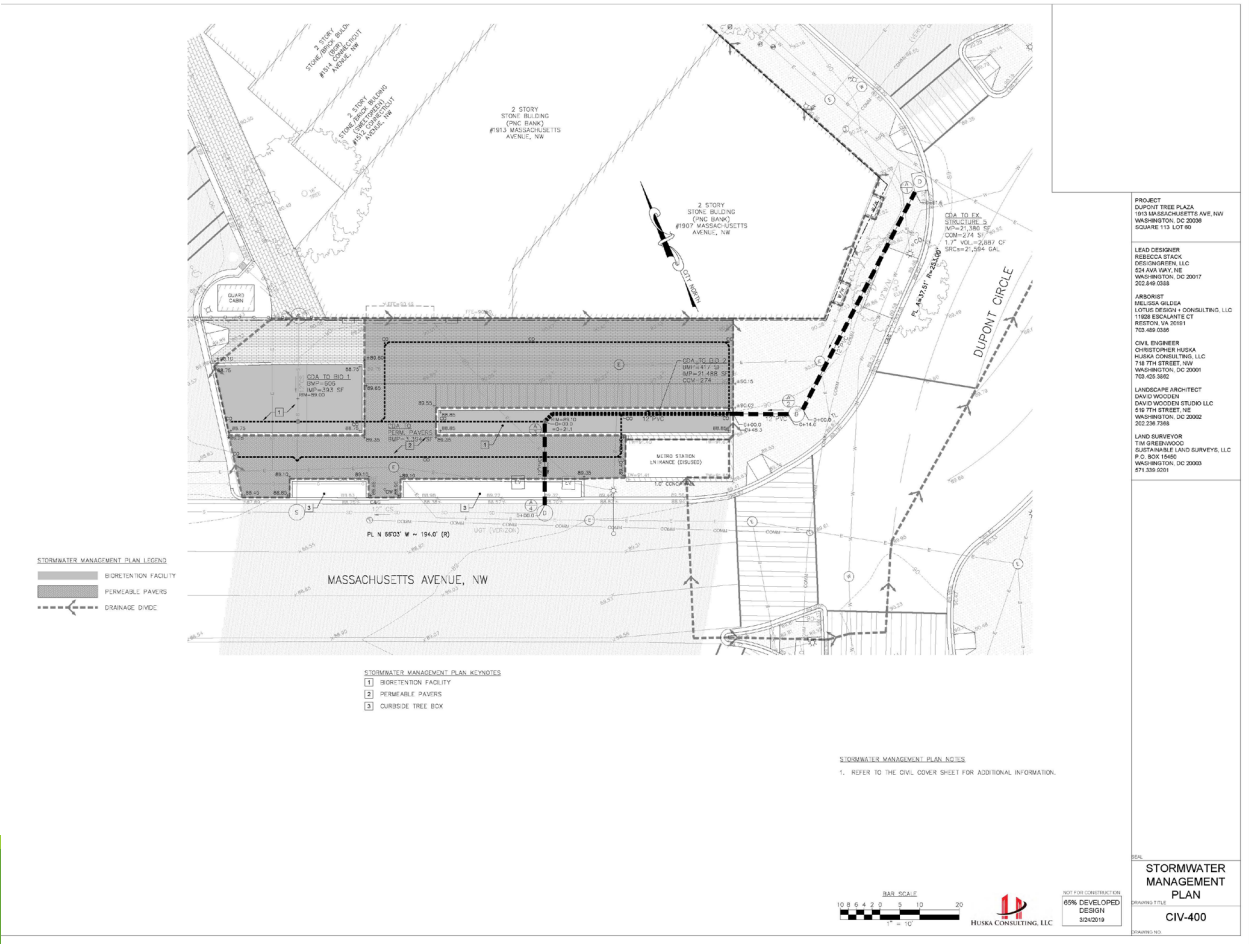
Request amounts up to $35,000

- Takes idea developed in the concept plan phase and creates in depth (permitted) designs that will be used for implementation
- Should be connected to a larger greening vision
- Large-scale, high performing green streets/green infrastructure projects must treat over one inch of runoff
- Should be developed with an intent to implement
- Must be permittable by the appropriate state environmental agency and all other appropriate local, state, and federal entities
- Final designs should be at least 90% complete



Project Highlight

Tree Plaza Stormwater Connections for Dupont Circle in the District of Columbia Engineered Design Restore Mass Ave



Award Amount: $30,000

Description:

Engineered designs for bioretention cells, permeable pavement, and street trees.

Transforms a portion of a traditional street into a green street that captures and treats stormwater runoff and provides increased shade and cooling at a busy pedestrian intersection.

Track 3

Implementation/Construction of Green Streets/Green Infrastructure Projects

Request amounts up to $175,000

- Bioretention cells
- Rain gardens
- Permeable pavement
- Green roofs
- Other green infrastructure practices
- Stream restoration design and implementation in West Virginia (See Appendix B of the RFP for detailed information)

Track 3 Guidance

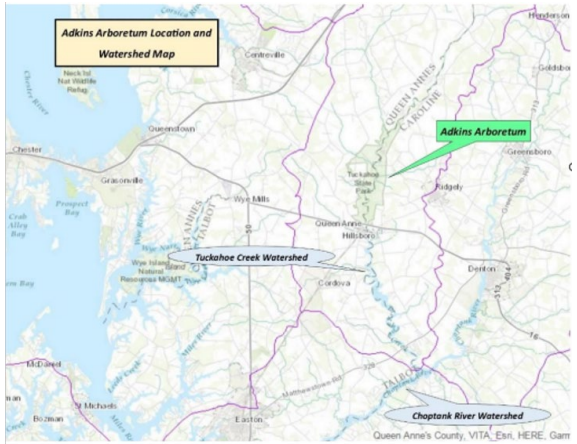
- The most competitive proposals will result in a complete green street that leverages funding from other sources for the gray infrastructure components

- Should have completed engineered designs

- Applications should include:
  - calculation of total drainage area treated
  - calculation of impervious acre treated
  - estimated cost per acre treated
  - estimated nutrient and sediment load reduction calculations for nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediments
    (the Green SIMPLE tool can help with this)

Funders consider a very cost-effective project as one that costs less than $100k per impervious acre treated (at a one-inch runoff level), not including costs of gray infrastructure elements.

Project Highlight – Adkins Arboretum



After

- 1,060 sq. ft. bioretention area created
- 17,000 native plants installed
- 35 trees planted
- 2,520 sq. ft. pervious surface installed
- 3,580 sq. ft. impervious surface removed

Year Awarded: 2018
Award Amount: $75,000
Match Amount: $266,155

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Before

Project Highlight

A Bath for the Bay Phase 1 and 2
Town of Bath (Berkeley Springs), WV

Phase 1:

- Award Amount: $20,000
- Match Amount: $75,000
- Total Project Cost: $95,000

Phase 2:

- Award Amount: $42,000
- Match Amount: $55,300
- Total Project Cost: $97,000

Description: Transform Washington Street into a green street. This included removing pavement and replacing it with permeable pavers and silva cell systems containing native plants and trees.

Track 4

Community Greening

Request amounts up to $50,000

- Native plant/pollinator gardens
- Conservation landscaping
- Meadows
- Reclaiming vacant lots to install site appropriate practices
- Community gardens and urban farms
- Tree plantings
    - For projects in Maryland whose main element is tree planting, we encourage applicants to apply to the Urban Trees Grant Program https://cbtrust.org/urban-trees/

Project Highlight

Making Trash Bloom in Fairfax County, VA
Sustainability Matters

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ink4Wxn5Ti8

Award Amount:
$42,627

Description:

Installation of pollinator meadows at the Fairfax County's I-66 Transfer Station. Specifically converting the turf grass on top of closed landfill cells to meadows.

Track 5

White Papers / Tools

Request amounts up to $20,000

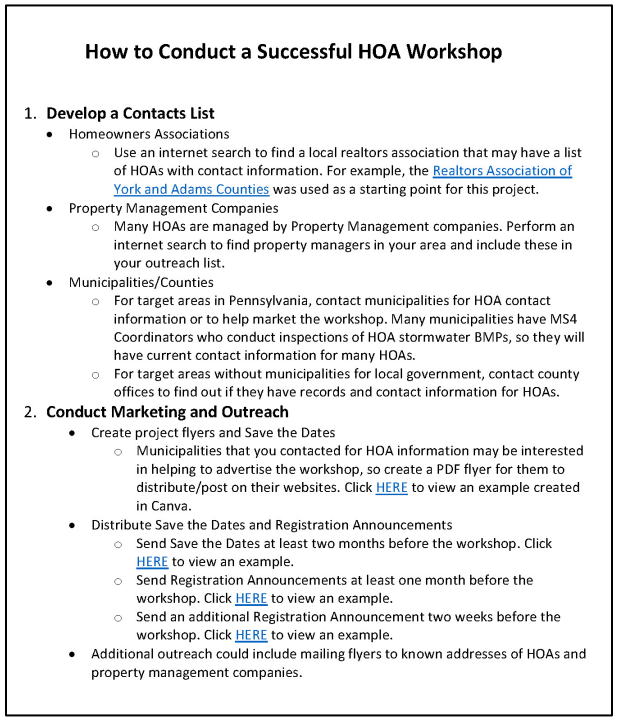
- **White papers that summarize the analysis of one or more aspects of green infrastructure**
- **Tools that promote green infrastructure efforts**

- Innovative strategies and techniques for improving long-term project maintenance
- How to incentivize maintenance operations and reduce maintenance costs
- How green streets and green infrastructure help drive local economic development by creating green jobs
- Increase our understanding of the potential impacts of changing precipitation patterns and extreme weather impacts and how green infrastructure can help make communities more resilient
- How to increase incorporation of green infrastructure in municipality public works and planning operations

Project Highlight

Engaging Homeowners Associations (HOAs) in Green Infrastructure and Stormwater Management in York and Lancaster Counties, PA

Watershed Alliance of York



How to Conduct a Successful HOA Workshop

1. **Develop a Contacts List**
   - Homeowners Associations
     - Use an internet search to find a local realtors association that may have a list of HOAs with contact information. For example, the Realtors Association of York and Adams Counties was used as a starting point for this project.
   - Property Management Companies
     - Many HOAs are managed by Property Management companies. Perform an internet search to find property managers in your area and include these in your outreach list.
   - Municipalities/Counties
     - For target areas in Pennsylvania, contact municipalities for HOA contact information or to help market the workshop. Many municipalities have MS4 Coordinators who conduct inspections of HOA stormwater BMPs, so they will have current contact information for many HOAs.
     - For target areas without municipalities for local government, contact county offices to find out if they have records and contact information for HOAs.
2. **Conduct Marketing and Outreach**
   - Create project flyers and Save the Dates
     - Municipalities that you contacted for HOA information may be interested in helping to advertise the workshop, so create a PDF flyer for them to distribute/post on their websites. Click HERE to view an example created in Canva.
   - Distribute Save the Dates and Registration Announcements
     - Send Save the Dates at least two months before the workshop. Click HERE to view an example.
     - Send Registration Announcements at least one month before the workshop. Click HERE to view an example.
     - Send an additional Registration Announcement two weeks before the workshop. Click HERE to view an example.
   - Additional outreach could include mailing flyers to known addresses of HOAs and property management companies.

https://support.cwqe.org/section/100-stormwater-management-workshop-toolkit-for-hoas

Award Amount:
$20,700

Description:
Conduct a workshop for HOAs in York and Lancaster Counties to learn about stormwater management and develop a plan for their community and develop a toolkit that other HOAs and communities can use.

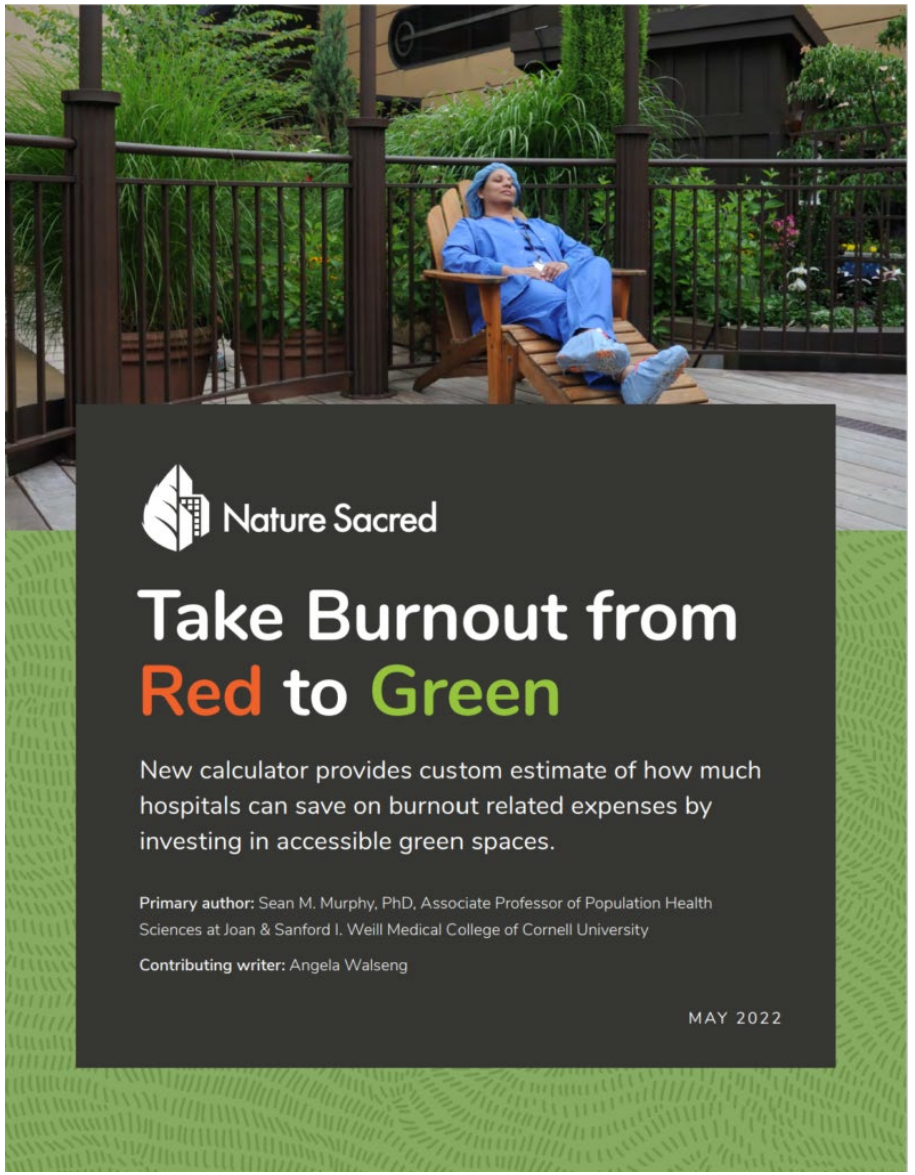
Project Highlight

Take Burnout from Red to Green Nature Sacred

Award Amount:
$20,000

Description:
A white paper examining cost-savings that health facilities can have by investing in green spaces which includes a calculator to estimate these savings.

Download the paper:
https://cbtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/NatureSacred-TakeBurnoutFromRedToGreen_May2022.pdf



Track 6

Green Street Charrette / Technical Assistance Planning

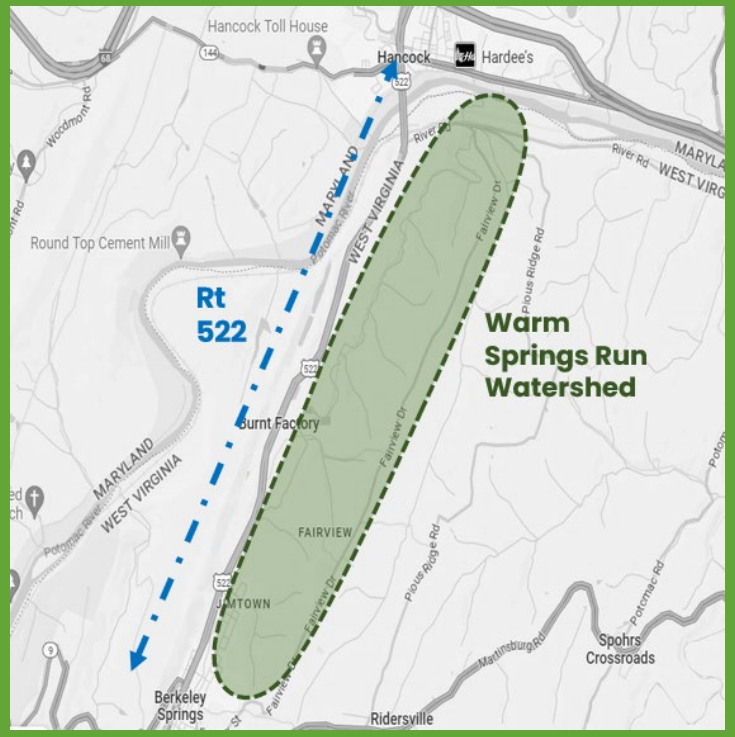
No direct funding

- A charrette is a planning or visioning session where community members, planners, developers, and other key stakeholders collaborate on the development of a green plan, vision, or design for a project

- Awardees in this track will not receive direct funding, and instead will work with funding partners who will provide contractual support.

Project Highlight:

Technical Assistance for the Warm Springs Run Watershed Association - Developing a Comprehensive Reforestation Plan



What was the need?

- The Towns of Bath and Berkeley Springs experienced significan associated with construction of the Berkeley Springs Bypass.
- Bypass construction resulted in extensive tree removal, leaving clear-cut and prompting the need for a coordinated reforestati

What was the purpose of the charrette?

- The Warm Springs Run Watershed Association convened a planning charrette, led by **Design Green LLC**, to identify opportunities to restore tree canopy in Berkeley Springs.

The charrette produced:

- A long-range framework for reforestation along the corridor
- Preliminary budget considerations and potential funding pathways
- A community outreach and engagement approach
- Recommendations for long-term maintenance and stewardship

What was the outcome?

- The charrette resulted in a comprehensive reforestation plan intended to inform future collaboration with the West Virginia Department of Highways.
- The plan provides a model for incorporating tree and shrub planting into transportation corridor design and construction considerations for future projects.

Project Highlight:

Technical Assistance for the Jonestown Borough, PA to Develop a Concept Plan for Green Infrastructure

What was the need?

- Jonestown Borough acquired an open, vacant lot along Market Street, located within a half mile of both the Lebanon Valley Rail Trail and Swatara Creek.
- The Borough identified an opportunity to transform the site into a community asset while also advancing environmental benefits through green infrastructure.

What was the purpose of the charrette?

- The charrette was designed to explore how the site could incorporate a pocket park, parking, native plantings, and tree canopy.
- It also provided an opportunity to bring community members and local stakeholders together to develop a shared green vision for the space.

What was the outcome?

- Jonestown Borough developed a concept plan for an outdoor community space along Market Street.
- This pocket park concept serves as an early implementation step and a component of a larger, long-term vision for revitalization in the Borough.

What's the difference between Track 1 and Track 6 and which should you apply for?

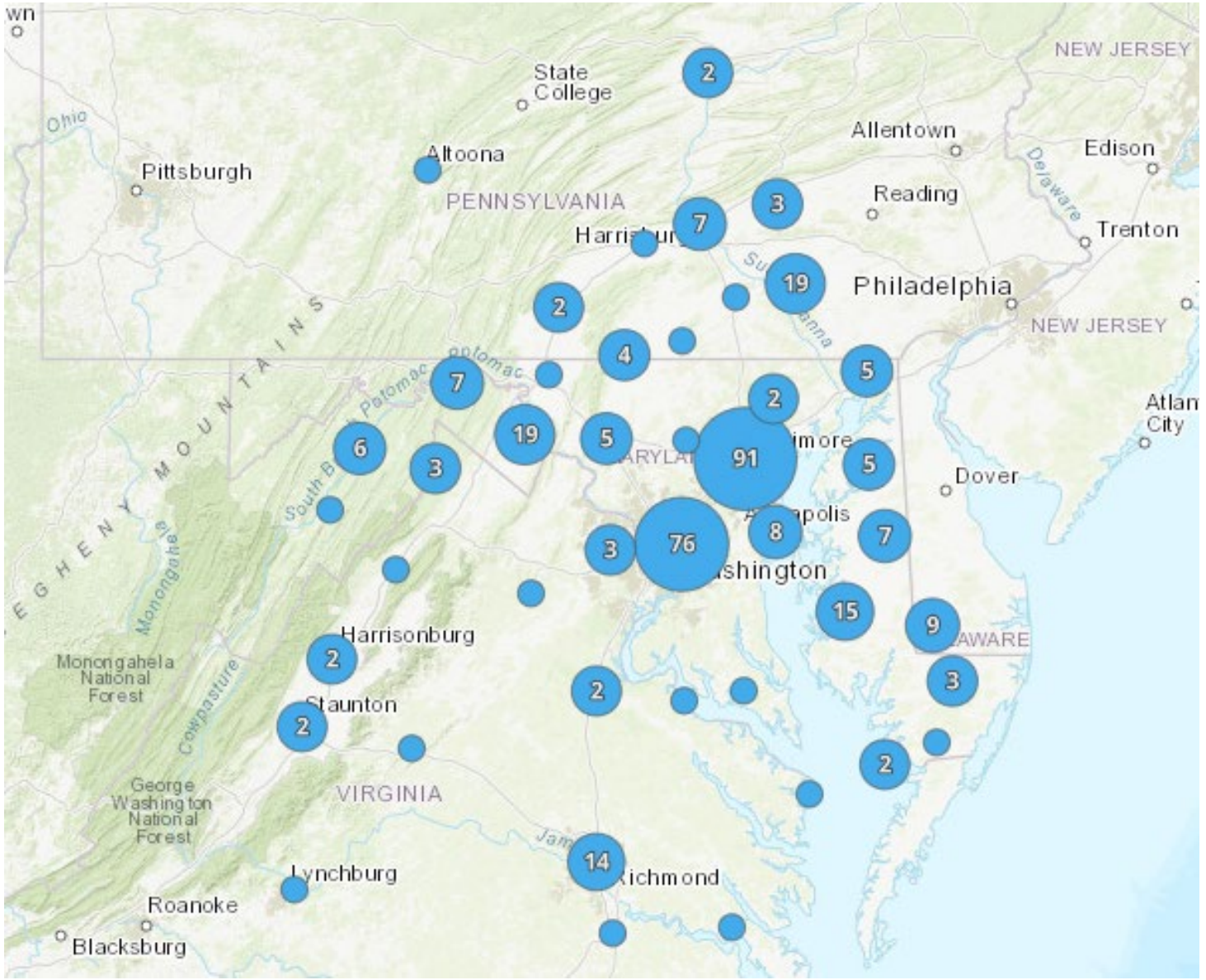
Does your organization have the capacity to conduct all aspects of the project on your own?

OR

Does your organization need assistance to conduct all aspects of the project?

Aspects of the project include:

- releasing an RFP
- selecting a contractor
- managing the contractor
- grant reporting/budgeting and management



Learn More about Previously Awarded Projects

Chesapeake Bay Trust Awarded Projects Map
https://cbtrust.org/impact-of-our-work/

Green Streets Grant Program Webpage
https://cbtrust.org/g3

Application Process

1. Read the Request for Proposals (RFP)
2. Schedule a meeting or site visit with us
3. Identify project partners
4. Compile application pieces
5. Send a draft of your application to us for feedback
6. Submit the online application

SUBMIT EARLY!

We strongly encourage applicants to submit a few days prior to the deadline given the potential for high website traffic on the due date. The Trust cannot guarantee availability of online system technical assistance on the due date.

After Submitting Your Application…

The Trust processes applications after the deadline

The Technical Review Committee (TRC) reviews the applications

The TRC's recommendations are presented to the Trust's Board of Trustees for approval

The Trust sends out decision letters by email to the applicant

The average approval rate across the last three rounds of this grant program is approximately 45%, including both fully and partially funded applications.

If awarded:

Review, sign, and submit the award agreement, review and submit the award's requirements, and complete the work outlined in the application

If declined:

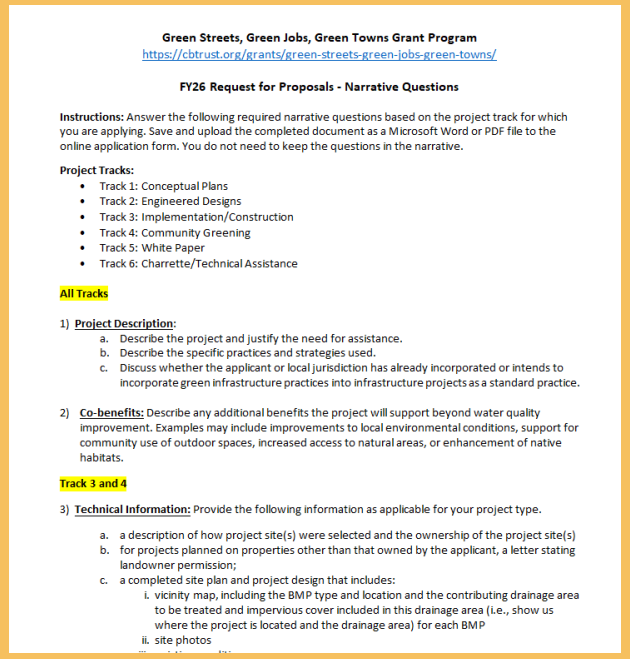
Reach out to the Trust to schedule a debrief. The Trust will provide a summary of the TRC feedback and recommendations on how your application could be improved and resubmitted to a future program.

Application Pieces

Narrative

Download and answer the required narrative questions

FY26-Green-Streets-Grant-Program-Narrative-Questions.docx



Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Grant Program
https://cbtrust.org/grants/green-streets-green-jobs-green-towns/

FY26 Request for Proposals - Narrative Questions

Instructions: Answer the following required narrative questions based on the project track for which you are applying. Save and upload the completed document as a Microsoft Word or PDF file to the online application form. You do not need to keep the questions in the narrative.

Project Tracks:
- Track 1: Conceptual Plans
- Track 2: Engineered Designs
- Track 3: Implementation/Construction
- Track 4: Community Greening
- Track 5: White Paper
- Track 6: Charrette/Technical Assistance

All Tracks

1) **Project Description**:
   a. Describe the project and justify the need for assistance.
   b. Describe the specific practices and strategies used.
   c. Discuss whether the applicant or local jurisdiction has already incorporated or intends to incorporate green infrastructure practices into infrastructure projects as a standard practice.

2) **Co-benefits:** Describe any additional benefits the project will support beyond water quality improvement. Examples may include improvements to local environmental conditions, support for community use of outdoor spaces, increased access to natural areas, or enhancement of native habitats.

Track 3 and 4

3) **Technical Information:** Provide the following information as applicable for your project type.

   a. a description of how project site(s) were selected and the ownership of the project site(s)
   b. for projects planned on properties other than that owned by the applicant, a letter stating landowner permission;
   c. a completed site plan and project design that includes:
      i. vicinity map, including the BMP type and location and the contributing drainage area to be treated and impervious cover included in this drainage area (i.e., show us where the project is located and the drainage area) for each BMP
      ii. site photos

Supporting Documentation

Gather supporting documentation
- **Letters of Commitment**
- **Site photos**
- **Site map**
- **Concept plan/design**
- **Planting plan/plant list**
- **Maintenance plan**

Budget

Obtain cost estimates

Download the Financial Management Spreadsheet and complete the "Application Budget" worksheet

https://cbtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/Financial-Management-Spreadsheet_011921.xlsx

Provide budget justification

Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns (G3)

The Chesapeake Bay Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns (G3) Grant Program is funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region III, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, and the Chesapeake Bay Trust. This grant program supports design and implementation of green streets, community greening, and urban tree canopy projects that enhance livability in cities and communities, in addition to white papers that address these topics. The goal of this grant program is to 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 waters and the Chesapeake Bay, and enhance quality of life and community livability. This program is a key component of EPA's Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns (G3) Partnership, which promotes sustainable community greening and stormwater management solutions.

What this funds: This program can support projects within the Chesapeake Bay watershed portion of Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Washington D.C., West Virginia, Virginia, and *(new to this year!)* New York. Use the map below or use this kmz file of the Chesapeake Bay watershed boundary in Google Earth to determine if your project location is eligible, or contact us for assistance.

Applicants can request funds from the following project tracks. View the RFP for detailed information.

- Track 1: Conceptual Plans for Green Streets/Green Infrastructure Projects (up to $20,000)
- Track 2: Engineered Designs for Green Streets/Green Infrastructure Projects (up to $35,000)
- Track 3: Construction/Implementation of Green Streets/Green Infrastructure Projects (up to $175,000)
- Track 4: Community Greening (up to $50,000)
- Track 5: White Papers (up to $20,000)
- Track 6: Charrette/Technical Planning Assistance (no direct funding)

Who can apply: Local governments such as municipalities, non-profit organizations, neighborhood/community associations, and other nonprofit entities.

Is match required? Match is encouraged but not required.

Application Process: Grant applications are submitted through an online system. Click the "Get Started" button to access the online application.

Review Process: All applications go through a Technical Review Committee composed of external subject matter experts. The technical team reviews the proposals based on the evaluation criteria outlined in the RFP.

G3 Implementation Project Calculator: Applicants applying for implementation/construction projects will be asked to use the G3 Implementation Project Calculator spreadsheet to show the breakdown of Green Infrastructure costs. Click the button below to download the spreadsheet.

Program Status: OPEN

Deadline is Friday, March 13th, 2026 at 4PM ET

Click Here to View the Request for Proposals (RFP) (.pdf)

Click Here to View the Required Narrative Questions to Answer (.docx)

Attend Our Information Session

A virtual information session will be held on Monday, January 26, 2026 at 6pm ET on Zoom. During the session, we will provide an overview of the program, eligible project types, the application process, resources for applicants, and answer questions.

Register Here

Attend Our Office Hours – Thursdays 1-2pm (Starting Jan 29th)

Join us for weekly Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns (G3) Program Office Hours every Thursday from 1–2 PM. These sessions are informal and designed as a drop-in space to ask questions about the G3 program, your project ideas, or the application process. There is no presentation or set agenda – feel free to pop in for a few minutes or stay the full hour.

Please note: There will be no office hours on Thursday, February 19.

Click Here to Join Our Office Hours

View the Request for Proposals

View the Required Narrative Questions to Answer

A recording of the session will be posted here

Office Hour – Every Thursday until the close of the Program

To start a new or work on an existing application

Start a New Application

Get started with a new grant application

Get Started

Manage an Existing Grant

Manage an existing grant or continue an application

Manage Grants

Online Portal to Access Application

Please Sign In

Welcome to the Chesapeake Bay Trust Online System

If you are a new applicant, click on the "New Applicant" link to create an account.
If you are a returning applicant, log in with your existing credentials.

Please Note:
- If you are submitting an application, log in using the email address of the Project Leader for the proposed project. The email address used to submit the application must be that of the Project Leader to ensure proper distribution of future correspondence.
- If you have been awarded and are trying to access reporting requirements, please log in with the credentials that are associated with the award.

E-mail

Password

New Applicant?

Forgot Password?

Login

Watch Our “How to Apply for a Grant” Video

For a detailed and thorough explanation of the application process, view our “How to Apply for a Grant” video using this link: https://cbtrust.org/grants/

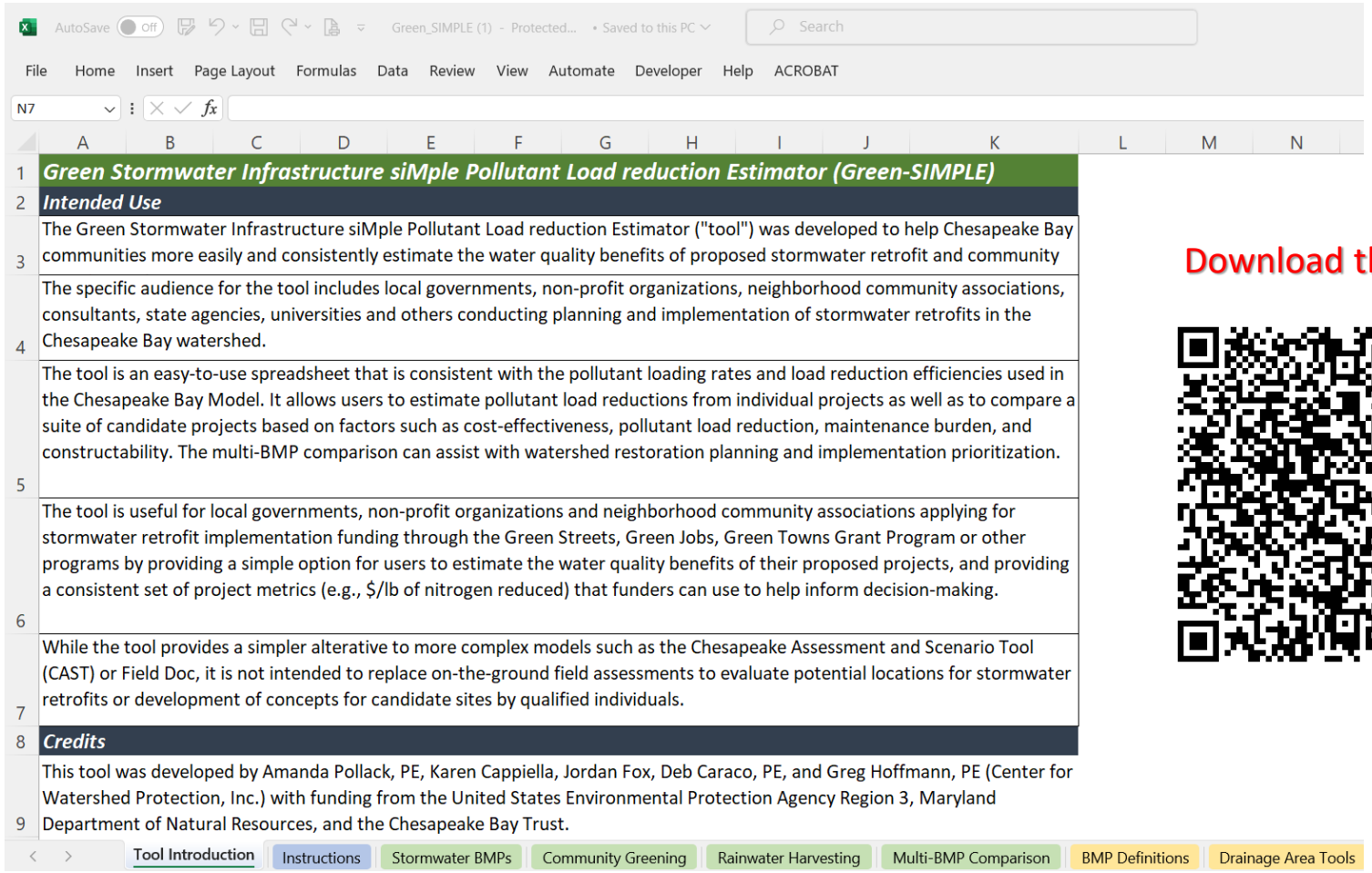
Green Stormwater Infrastructure siMple Pollutant Load Reduction Estimator (Green SIMPLE)

Developed through a previous G3 grant awarded to the Center for Watershed Protection.

Developed to help communities more easily and consistently estimate the water quality benefits of proposed stormwater retrofit and community greening projects.

An Excel spreadsheet that allows users to estimate pollutant load reductions for individual projects as well as to compare a suite of candidate projects based on factors such as cost-effectiveness, pollutant load reduction, maintenance burden, and constructability.

This tool is consistent with the pollutant loading rates and load reduction efficiencies used in the Chesapeake Bay Model.



Download the tool:

Additional Resources

https://cbtrust.org/additional-resources/

- Native Plant Guide
- Maintenance Guides and Maintenance Plan Template
- “How to” for Obtaining Restoration Project Cost Estimates
- Signage Examples

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Please note: There will be no office hours on Thursday, February 19.

Schedule a One-on-One Meeting
Prefer to meet individually?
Schedule time using my Calendly link:
https://calendly.com/mdiehl-cbt

Contact: Megan Diehl
mdiehl@cbtrust.org
410-974-2941 x139

Thank You!
Any Questions?

For more information visit **cbtrust.org/g3**