



Prince George's County Newsletter

August 2020

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News & Updates

As we face the uncertainty of this health crisis together, please know that your well-being is of the utmost importance to all of us at the Chesapeake Bay Trust and Prince George's County Department of the Environment. We understand how tough the situation is that you and your loved ones may be facing. We understand how difficult it has been for everyone who must attempt as much normalcy as possible while following the latest reopening guidance. We also realize there are many entities right now on the front line of COVID-19, and we respect the needs of those entities and are very grateful for their work to keep our population safe and healthy.

We continue to spend this time working hard to keep the Prince George's County grant-supported projects and the Rain Check Rebate programs going and to make sure that the Chesapeake and other natural resources keep improving. In the meantime, we would like to offer you an update on the programs and share their resulting success stories through our monthly newsletter. There is much to appreciate in the beauty of natural resources and those working hard to protect them.

Prince George's County Stormwater Stewardship Grant Program is Now Open!



The Prince George's County Government and the Chesapeake Bay Trust are excited to announce the seventh year of our partnership for the [Prince George's County Stormwater Stewardship Grant Program](#)!

What this funds: This grant program funds on-the-ground restoration activities that improve neighborhoods, improve water quality, and engage Prince George's County residents in the restoration and protection of the local rivers and streams.

Who can apply: Non-profit organizations, municipalities, watershed organizations, education institutions, community associations, faith-based organizations, civic groups, and more.

How much can be awarded and project types:

- Water quality projects (track 1) for \$50,000 to \$150,000
- Tree planting projects (track 2) for \$50,000 to \$100,000
- Citizen awareness and engagement projects (track 3) for \$5,000 to \$30,000

Application process: Review the [Request for Proposals](#) and submit your grant application through our online system [here](#).

Review Process: All applications go through a Technical Review Committee. The technical team reviews the proposals based on cost benefit, experience, suitability for implementation, consistency with the Request for Proposals (RFP), sustainability, and other selection criteria that are relevant to the proposal and that are published in the RFP.

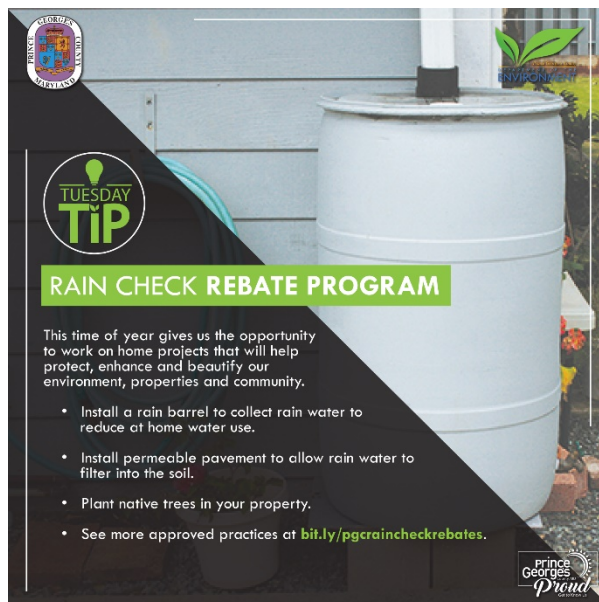
See past project for ideas and potential collaborations: Visit [Prince George's Stormwater Stewardship Grant Projects](#) to view past successful projects.

[Learn More about this Grant Opportunity](#)

Want to Beautify Your Community and Practice Environmental Stewardship? Check out the Rain Check Rebate Program

As the fall season draws closer, the [Prince George's County Rain Check Rebate Program](#) is a great opportunity to keep in mind! This program offers incentives to homeowners, businesses, and others to install practices that will improve stormwater runoff quality, reduce runoff quantity, and improve local streams and rivers. Eligible applicants have the opportunity to be reimbursed for installing any of the seven approved stormwater practices, which include rain barrels, rain gardens, cisterns, urban tree canopy, rain gardens, pavement removal, permeable pavement, and green roofs.

While each of the seven eligible practices offer unique environmental and community beautification benefits, all are great ways to manage stormwater on your property!



[Learn More about this Opportunity](#)

Engaging Diverse Groups in Environmental Stewardship is Essential



In 2015, Maryland League of Conservation Voters Education Fund, working through their Chispa Maryland (Chispa) program, received an award through the [Prince George's County Stormwater Stewardship Grant Program](#) to engage members of the County's Latino community in educational experiences designed to improve local water quality and the health of the community. Chispa also sought to establish strong, longstanding leadership within the community through this project.

Chispa developed a curriculum and delivery plan that best served the needs of the Latino groups they were working with. The curriculum combined both in-class and hands-on learning experiences, which [Anacostia Watershed Society](#) helped facilitate through boat trips. After the in-class and hands-on experiences took place, a group of committed participants went on to receive leadership training. This project graduated a total of 13 promotores (trained individuals who take on an educational role), who will serve as environmental leaders in their communities.

The [Prince George's Stormwater Stewardship Grant Program](#) funds impactful projects that improve neighborhoods, improve water quality in the County's waterways, and engage County residents in stormwater issues.

Read More About this Project

Be Featured in Our Newsletter!

Send us any news, photos, project success stories, and upcoming events to Kathy Somoza at ksomoza@cbtrust.org to be featured in an upcoming newsletter.



Events and Opportunities

**Coffee and Chat with Council Member
Derrick Leon Davis**

Wednesday, August 26 - 6:30pm
Office of Council Member Derrick L. Davis and
M-NCPPC, Virtual

Be a part of this virtual coffee and chat for updates from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) regarding regional parks, trails, and general Park and Planning offerings for Fall 2020.

[Learn more](#)

**Monitoring Trash and Engaging
Communities**

Friday, August 28 - 1pm to 2pm
Anacostia Watershed Society, Webinar

Join the Anacostia Watershed Society for a discussion about linking Trash Trap data to community engagement and watershed advocacy! [Learn more](#)

The Woods in Your Backyard

Monday, August 31 to Tuesday, November 9
University of Maryland Extension, Online

Registration is now open for the Fall session of "The Woods in Your Backyard" online course. This course will help landowners convert lawn to natural areas and enhance stewardship of existing natural areas. [Learn more](#)

Nature Nuts Outdoor Program

Session I: Wednesday, September 9 to Friday, October 16
Alice Ferguson Foundation, Accokeek

Nature Nuts is an outdoor enrichment program led by experienced educators for early childhood and elementary-age students. Safety note: COVID-19 CDC and Maryland State Guidelines will be followed. [Learn more](#)

The Language of Birds

Wednesday, September 9 - 7pm to 8:30pm
Pickering Creek Audubon Center, Webinar

All around us, birds are constantly telling us who they are and what they are doing. Nathan Pieplow, author of the Peterson Field Guide to Bird Sounds, will provide an accessible and entertaining introduction to "The Language of Birds." [Learn more](#)

Virtual Native Plant Week

Monday, September 14 to Friday, September 18
Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Virtual

Celebrate native plants with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay! Throughout the week of September 14th - 18th, The Alliance will be sharing videos related to their love for native plants. [Learn more](#)

**Intro to Maryland Fossils and Fossil
Hunting**

Thursday, September 17 - 7pm to 8pm
Natural History Society of Maryland, Virtual

Join the Natural History Society of Maryland for an introduction to Maryland's rich fossil record presented by avid fossil hunter Mason Hintermeister. [Learn more](#)

Watershed Stewards Academy

Virtual Session: Tuesday, September 29 to
Tuesday, November 17
Anacostia Watershed Society, Virtual

The Watershed Stewards Academy equips community leaders to recognize and address local pollution problems in local waterways. Virtual and in-person class options are available. [Learn more](#)

Farm Apprenticeships

Fall season, 3-month term
ECO City Farms, Bladensburg and Edmonston

ECO's apprenticeships present an immersive, hands-on opportunity to learn about sustainable urban agriculture by working directly with experience farm staff. [Learn more](#)

Due to COVID-19's impact on our region, many in-person events have moved to remote meetings, were postponed, or were cancelled. As information becomes available, the County's updates and resources are [here](#).

Stay safe and healthy, Prince George's County!

ABOUT THE CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST

The Chesapeake Bay Trust is a nonprofit, grant-making organization dedicated to improving the streams, rivers, 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 \$120 million in grants and projects that have engaged over 2 million dedicated individuals in efforts that are making a difference for all of our local systems—Chesapeake, Coastal Bays, and Youghiogheny.

For nearly two decades, the Trust has received a "4-star rating" from Charity Navigator, the nation's leading independent evaluator of nonprofit organizations.

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