



# Prince George's County Newsletter

January 2021

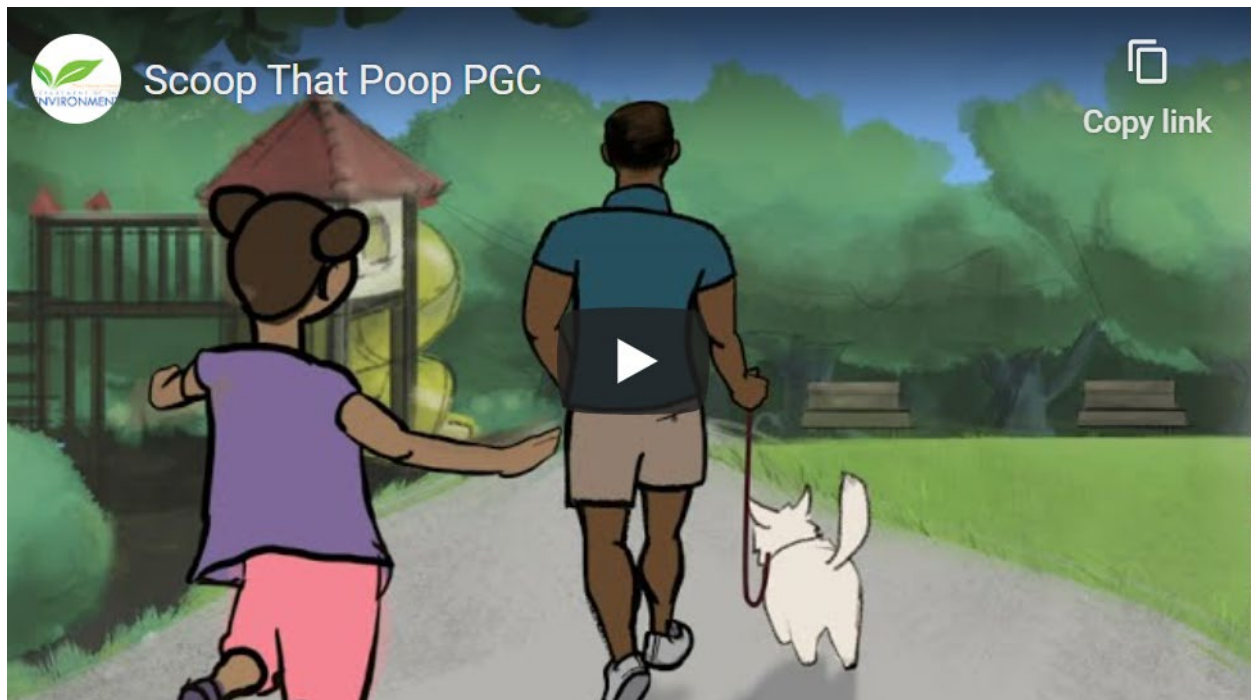
[Chesapeake Bay Trust Mission](#) | [Grant Programs and Opportunities](#) | [Rain Check Rebate Program](#)  
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## News and Projects

*As we continue to 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 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. There is much to appreciate in the beauty of natural resources and those working hard to protect them.*

### Project Highlight: "Scoop that Poop" Pet Waste Education Campaign



In 2017, the [University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center \(EFC\)](#) received an award through the [Prince George's County Stormwater Stewardship Grant Program](#) to

conduct phase II of the Pet Waste Education Campaign. This campaign is an effort to support the larger [Pet Waste Management \(PWM\) Initiative, known as "Scoop That Poop,"](#) launched in 2016 by [Prince George's County Department of the Environment \(DoE\)](#). To date, over 200 pet waste stations have been installed across more than 40 municipalities and homeowners associations (HOAs) through the PWM Initiative. The Pet Waste Education Campaign carried out by EFC's [Sustainable Maryland](#) team was designed to offer outreach, education, and infrastructure support to increase awareness about the issue of pet waste pollution and to encourage residents to pick up their pet's waste.

Phase II culminated in the creation of an [educational pet waste video](#). This minute-long video explains the harmful impact that pet waste can have on human health when left on the ground. Pet waste that is improperly disposed of can be carried away into local streams and rivers, where it decays and releases excessive nutrients that contribute to decreased oxygen levels. Pet waste bacteria can spread human diseases, making local waters unsafe to swim and fish.

Fortunately, proper disposal of pet waste is easy – especially when the right tools, such as pet waste stations, have been made readily available. Prince George's County wants you to "Scoop That Poop" for more beautiful, healthier communities and cleaner waterways!

[Read More about this Project](#)

## Naturally Latinos Conference Announces Environmental Champions



LEGACY ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION  
**JULIAN CARRILLO**



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION  
**SINDY BENAVIDES**



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION  
**PINAR ATEŞ SINOPOULOS-LLOYD**



REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION  
**ALONSO ABUGATTAS**



REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION  
**ABEL OLIVO**



LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION  
**BRENDA V. PEREZ AMADOR**



LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION  
**CARLOS LAM**



YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION  
**CARLOS SANCHEZ GONZALEZ**

This past December, the [Audubon Naturalist Society](#) held the third Naturally Latinos Conference, virtually. This conference created a space for diverse local, regional, and national environmental leaders to come together as "Una Comunidad, Many Voices."

Eight of these leaders were honored as the 2020 Environmental Champions for their extraordinary work, including two members of the Prince George's County-based nonprofit, [Defensores de la Cuenca](#). Abel Olivo and Carlos Lam of Defensores de la Cuenca both have a long history of working to connect the Latinx population of Prince George's County and surrounding areas to their natural environment. Congratulations to them and all the 2020 Environmental Champions!

### Learn More about the Champions and Conference

#### Be Featured in Our Newsletter!

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



### Events and Opportunities

#### Trash Cleanup at Oxon Cove Park

Saturday, January 30 - 9am to 3pm  
Potomac Riverkeeper Network, Oxon Hill Farm Park

*Join Potomac Riverkeeper Network for a major river cleanup of the Oxon Cove shoreline. Kick off the new year enjoying the outdoors of this often-overlooked park, Oxon Hill Farm, while making a positive impact in your community. [Learn more](#)*

#### Overlooked Life History: Butterfly and Moth Overwintering Ecology

Thursday, February 4 - 7pm to 8pm  
Natural History Society of Maryland, Online

*Where do butterflies and moths go in the winter when resources are scarce? Join this webinar to learn about the life stages, habitats, and locations of overwintering Lepidoptera with a focus on the fauna of the Mid-Atlantic United States. [Learn more](#)*

#### Water and Wastewater Industry Virtual Student Career Fair

Friday, February 12 - 9am to 5pm  
CSAWWA and CWEA, Virtual

*This career fair is specially designed for college and/or graduate students who don't have full-time work experience in the industry.*

#### Winter Mushrooms: Observing Cold-Loving Fungi Close to Home

Wednesday, February 17 - 7pm to 8pm  
Audubon Naturalist Society, Online

*Join mycologist and Naturally Latinos Conference Co-chair, Serenella Linares, in her adventures through the forests of Maryland (and beyond) this winter. Take a peek at the cold-loving mushrooms she discovered and learn to find them in your neck of the woods! [Learn More](#)*

#### How to Organize a Cleanup

Wednesday, March 3 - 6:30pm to 7:30pm  
Alice Ferguson Foundation, Virtual

*Join this virtual workshop to learn how to safely organize a trash cleanup within your community during a pandemic. [Learn more](#)*

#### Permaculture Design Course

Saturday, March 27 to Sunday, March 28 - 9am to 5pm  
Forested, Bowie (primarily)

*In this course you will plunge deeply into the vision and practice of creating dynamic and resilient edible ecosystems using temperate deciduous forests as models. The teaching team will offer lectures, site walks, exercises and skills training to help you move forward with your permaculture goals. [Learn more](#)*

*This is an opportunity for students to make connections with employers! [Learn more](#)*

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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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