



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY NEWSLETTER

May 2022

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News



Treekeepers of Forest Heights



Project Highlight

In the summer of 2015, the Town of Forest Heights conducted its Tree Keepers program aimed at maintaining street trees and educating the community about the value of trees.

The Tree Keepers consisted of eight high school students, one college graduate student, and a community elder. To begin, the Tree Keepers participated in a three-day workshop taught by two certified arborists to learn about tree species, maintenance and care procedures, and the importance of street trees. In total, the Tree Keepers identified, examined, and maintained 150 street trees throughout the Town. Maintenance of the trees included watering and mulching and pruning.

Additionally, Tree Keepers engaged Town residents through an educational campaign that focused on sharing the benefits of trees. Trees help clean the air and provide shade during hot, summer months. They also prevent erosion, slow runoff during rain storms, and provide habitats for wildlife.

This project was funded by the [Prince George's County Stormwater Stewardship Grant Program](#), a partnership between the [Prince George's County Department of Environment](#) and the Chesapeake Bay Trust. To see a list of this year's awards, [click here](#).

[Read the Full Story Here](#)

Spring 2022 Green Scene Newsletter

Have you read the latest edition of the Green Scene newsletter? Read all about the virtual and in-person activities that were held throughout April to celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd. The newsletter shows how easy it is to upcycle household items instead of throwing them away and present the Waste Diversion and Recycling Award winners.

Also, check out the section about the [Rain Check Rebate](#) and [Stormwater Stewardship](#) grant programs on page 18!



[Read the Newsletter Here](#)

Celebrating Prince George's County's first ever Municipalities Week!

Prince George's County is home to 27 municipalities, the largest number of any County in the State of Maryland! Each municipality is filled with its own history, so join County Executive Angela Alsobrooks as she shares fun facts about each one.

[Learn More Here](#)

Happy National Pollinator Week!

Pollinators can come in all shapes and sizes, including bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and even bats! Without pollinators, many of the foods that we love and the flowers that we marvel at during the spring would be in jeopardy.

Looking for ways to support our local pollinators? Plant a native pollinator garden! Native plants are well-adapted to Maryland's conditions which mean they'll thrive with less water and maintenance, support pollinators, and still provide you with a beautiful landscape.



[Learn How to Choose Native Plants Here](#)

Doing some spring cleaning? Consider reusing, recycling, or donating your items!

Consider donating your gently used appliances, clothing, furniture, or other household items to a friend, local charity, or non-profit organization before placing the items at the curb or throwing them away. Many thrift stores also accept various items for donations. Not only will you be helping divert items from the landfill, but you will also be helping others in our community!

Some organizations that accept donations in good/working condition:

- [Community Forklift](#)
- [Goodwill](#)
- [GreenDrop/ Purple Heart](#)
- [Habitat for Humanity](#)
- [MD Recycles Directory](#)
- [MOM's Organic Market](#)

Have some books to donate? The Prince George's County Memorial Library System currently is not accepting donations, but third-party bins are available at Accokeek, Beltsville, Bowie, Greenbelt, Largo-Kettering, Oxon Hill, and South Bowie library branches. If you have some space in your neighborhood, maybe consider creating a [Little Free Library](#) for your community!

Internship Opportunity

We're looking for a Rain Check Rebate intern! The intern will play an important role in assisting the Trust's programmatic team with the administration of the [Prince George's County Rain Check Rebate Program](#) and grant-related administrative tasks. This is a **paid** position at \$16/hr for 24hrs/week from approximately June 1 through October 1.

[Learn More About the Position](#)

Be Featured in Our Newsletter!

Send us any news, photos, project success stories, and upcoming events to Whitney Vong at wvong@cbtrust.org to be featured in an upcoming newsletter.



Events and Opportunities

Second Annual World Turtle Day

May 22nd from 10am to 4pm

Natural History Society of Maryland, 6908
Bel Air Rd, Baltimore, MD, 21206

World Turtle Day was created in 1990 as an annual observance to help people celebrate and protect these beloved creatures and their vanishing habitats around the world. There are 17 types of turtles that call Maryland home. Of those, 12 species are threatened by habitat loss and 9 are experiencing population decline. All four sea turtle species found in Maryland are protected by the Endangered Species Act. Meet and interact with over a dozen species, learn about the latest conservation efforts, and see specimens from the NHSM collections including the first bog turtle found in Maryland in 1940! Fees apply for this event. [Register here](#)

Native Plant Gardens of Woodend

May 28th from 10 am to 11:30am

Audubon Naturalist Society, 8940 Jones
Mill Rd, Chevy Chase, MD, 20815

Join Garden Manager, Alice Sturm, in the exploration of the many native plant gardens that Woodend Nature Sanctuary has to offer. Learn what native herbs do well in certain conditions and leave with ideas for your own home garden! Fees apply for this event. [Register here](#)

Defensores Youth Corps- Spring Camp Out

May 21st starting at 4pm

Defensores de la Cuenca, 6565 Greenbelt
Rd, Greenbelt, MD, 20770

Join us for an overnight camping experience on Saturday, May 21 at Greenbelt Park located at 6565 Greenbelt Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770 at 4pm. We will be camping overnight in C Loop. Meals will be provided, as well as tents and sleeping, if needed. Come learn how to pitch a tent, build a fire, enjoy nature in community. No experience needed. This is family friendly event, must have parent or guardian accompanying. [Register here](#)

Únase a nosotros para una experiencia de campamento durante la noche el sábado 21 de mayo en Greenbelt Park ubicado en 6565 Greenbelt Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770 a las 4 p.m. Estaremos acampando en C Loop. Se proporcionarán comidas, así como carpas y sacos de dormir, si es necesario. Ven a aprender a montar una carpa de campaña, hacer fuego, disfrutar de la naturaleza en comunidad. No se requiere experiencia. Este es un evento familiar, debe estar acompañado por un padre o tutor. [Registrar aquí](#)

National Harbor River Cleanup

Every third Saturday of every month from
May to October

Potomac Riverkeeper Network, Parking Lot
for the National Harbor Carousel

As a part of Potomac Riverkeeper Network's Trash-Free Potomac Campaign and Alice Ferguson Foundations Trash-Free Initiative, the Potomac Riverkeeper Network are hosting River Cleanups

throughout the watershed from May until October! Join them to help tackle the Potomac Rivers trash pollution!

Volunteers of all ages are welcome to help remove single-use plastics and trash that has accumulated along the shoreline. Please be prepared and dress accordingly. Wear clothes you don't mind getting a little wet and muddy. Please bring water (in your reusable water bottle, of course) and snacks.

Our National Harbor registration begins 30 min before the start time of the event and will meet in the parking lot for the National Harbor Carousel. Gloves, bags, and trash pickers will be provided at the registration table. Any minors participating must have a parent or legal guardian attend with them and sign their waiver. [Register and sign the waiver here](#)

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 shares a bold vision for a restored and protected Chesapeake Bay watershed and other natural resources in our area—from the Coastal Bays to the Chesapeake to the Youghiogheny River. We uniquely empower local community-based groups on the ground with the resources they need to take on a meaningful and measurable role in restoring forests, streams, rivers, bays, wildlife, and more in their own communities.

The Trust empowers these groups by providing grants and technical assistance. Every year, about 400 groups are awarded project money or provided other assistance to accomplish environmental education, community outreach, and local watershed restoration projects. Since 1985, the Trust has awarded \$140 million in grants and engaged hundreds of thousands of resident stewards in projects that have a measurable impact.

The Trust has received the highest rating from Charity Navigator for over two decades: on average 90 percent of the Trust's expenditures are directed to its restoration and education programs.

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