





Prince George's County Newsletter

October 2018

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Prince George's County Rain Check Rebate Program

Property Owners Help Keep County Waterways Healthy and Clean



Prince George's County property owners are committed to improving their communities and making a positive impact on the environment. Through the Prince George's County Rain Check Rebate program, property owners can receive rebates for installing approved stormwater management practices. These practices not only reduce pollution and improve the health of local streams and rivers, but they can also beautify the property, reduce water costs, and reduce erosion, pooling, and flooding.

What is a Rebate?

A rebate is a partial or full refund that is provided by

There are seven eligible stormwater management practices that property owners can install to receive a rebate. These practices include <u>rain barrels</u>, <u>cisterns</u>, <u>urban tree canopy</u>, <u>rain gardens</u>, <u>pavement removal</u>, <u>permeable pavement</u>, and green roofs.

the County to the property owner after the purchase, installation, and approval of the stormwater water management practice.

The refund amount is dependent on the type of practice installed, the property type, and final receipts/invoices.

In order to receive a rebate, the property owner must submit an application and gain pre-approval from the Rain Check Coordinator. Additionally, the project must follow program guidelines and criteria.

See the Rain Check Application Instructions, and each practice's fact sheet, linked above, for guidelines about what types of practices are allowed and the rebate allowance for each practice per property type.

Learn more about the program and see how you can participate by visiting the Rain Check Rebate website. The process for applying to the program is simple with a short online form and a site visit by the Rain Check Coordinator, Bre'Anna Brooks. Contact Bre'Anna at rebate@cbtrust.org with questions or to discuss ideas.

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This is a very worthwhile program to help protect our local waterways and the Chesapeake Bay. We planted over 15 trees on our property and are looking forward to the increase of beautiful spring flowers and fall foliage to come in our yard.

Jessica and FranklinPrince George's County Property Owners

Five Tips to Prepare Your Rain Check Yard for Winter



As winter approaches, it is important to maintain and prepare your stormwater management practices for the cold temperatures and to ensure that the practices continue to function properly.

Here are five tips to help you prepare your Rain Check Yard:

- Drain and disconnect rain barrels.
- Remove leaves and other debris from rain gardens and permeable pavement.
- Apply a new layer of mulch in rain gardens and trees.
- Use salt, *not sand which can cause clogging*, in moderation to melt ice on permeable pavement.
- Continue to water young trees this fall if they do not receive 1.5 inches of rain per week.

What is a Rain Check Yard?

A Rain Check Yard is a property that has installed one or more of the seven eligible practices.

Rain Check Rebate participants can receive a yard sign to proudly display their commitment to keeping our waterways healthy and clean!

Read more about how to winterize your stormwater management practices and learn about maintenance for the seven Rain Check Rebate practices on the Trust's blog, here.

We Want to Hear from You!

Send us your photos, project success stories, and upcoming events to Nguyen Le at nle@cbtrust.org to be featured in a future newsletter.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities



Tree Workshop

Saturday, November 3rd - 10am to 12pm College Park Public Works, Davis Hall

Come learn how to prune a tree properly, learn about what trees to plant and when, and learn about City incentives for planting **Trash to Treasure Green Craft Fair** Saturday, November 10th - 10am to 4pm Watkins Nature Center

Join the Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation for the 10th annual Green Craft Fair! Learn more...

Leadership Training: Growing the Community Forest

Thursday, November 8th - 9am to 4pm Hyattsville City Hall

Join Sustainable Maryland for a workshop to learn about the benefits of a healthy community forest, funding sources and technical assistance available for maintaining and growing your town's tree canopy, and more! Learn more...

View more events and volunteer opportunities on the Chesapeake Bay Trust's event calendar.

ABOUT THE 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 \$100 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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