



Prince George's County Newsletter

February 2019

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News & Updates



Prince George's County Sustainability Instructor, Antonia Bookbinder, Receives Outdoor Educator of the Year Award

The [Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education](#) (MAEOE) Robert Finton Outdoor Educator of the Year Award recognizes an individual who demonstrates leadership and innovation in environmental and outdoor education. This year's award was presented to Antonia Bookbinder, Sustainability Instructor with the Special Programs Division for the [Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation](#) (the Department).

Antonia has worked to expand the Department's outreach efforts to engage youth and the community in environmental stewardship. She has organized outreach events and coordinated service projects to educate the public about stormwater management, native plant landscaping, and litter reduction. With support from the [Prince George's County's Department of the Environment](#) and the [Chesapeake Bay Trust](#), Antonia engaged volunteers to plant over 1,000 trees in the last two years which support stream health, reduce erosion, and support habitat for birds and other wildlife.

Antonia makes a positive impact on those around her and teaches the value of our natural environment. Learn more about the Robert Finton Outdoor Educator of the Year Award [here](#) and read more about Antonia [here](#).

Congratulations, Antonia! Thank you for your dedication to engaging youth in our communities and our environment!



Chesapeake Bay Trust Seeks Rain Check Rebate Intern

The Chesapeake Bay Trust (Trust) seeks a summer intern to assist with the [Rain Check Rebate](#) program. Through this paid internship, the successful candidate will gain experience in grant-related administration, engaging with citizens who want to beautify their property through the Rain Check Rebate program, and assisting with data entry. The intern will also have an opportunity to conduct an independent project related to the Trust's grant portfolio.

Learn more and [apply today!](#) The position is open until filled.



Chesapeake Bay Trust Seeks Chesapeake Conservation Corps Members

Soon-to-be college grads and high school seniors interested in a gap year can gain vital green jobs skills and build a network of connections in the environmental field through the [Chesapeake Conservation Corps](#) program. This program provides hands-on professional and leadership

experience through on-the-ground work leading and assisting projects and programs, extensive trainings, and other service-learning opportunities.

The Chesapeake Bay Trust anticipates placing around 35 to 40 Corps Members, young adults 18 to 25, with nonprofit organizations and government agencies throughout the Chesapeake Bay region for a paid year of service (\$18,500) beginning on August 20, 2019.

Learn more and [apply today!](#) The deadline to apply is March 14.

We Want to Hear from You!

Keep us updated! Send us any news, photos, project success stories, and upcoming events to Nguyen Le at nle@cbtrust.org to be featured in an upcoming newsletter.

Project Highlights from Awardees of the Prince George's Stormwater Stewardship Grant Program



Watershed Stewards Academy Engages Residents to Improve Communities

The [Anacostia Watershed Society](#) recently concluded the 2018 [Watershed Stewards Academy](#) for the [National Capital Region](#). The 2018 program was supported by a grant award through the [Prince George's County Stormwater Stewardship Grant Program](#). Prince George's County residents learned about local environmental issues, such as stormwater runoff and pollution, and how to address these issues in their neighborhoods. In addition, participants engaged in a variety of service experiences, including the replanting of two rain gardens that filter polluted runoff and beautify the community. The Anacostia Watershed Society is accepting applications for the upcoming spring 2019 Watershed Stewards Academy. Learn more and apply [here](#).

Read more about this project on the Trust blog, [here](#).



Sacred Grounds Program Engages Faith Community

The [National Wildlife Federation](#) recently partnered with Interfaith Power and Light and Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake to conduct their [Sacred Grounds](#) program in Prince George's County. This program aims to advance faith stewardship practices community-wide. Sacred Grounds workshops educate congregations on how faith doctrine of many denominations encourages environmental stewardship, the benefits of creating wildlife habitat and implementing stormwater management practices on congregation grounds, and how faith institutions can participate in the County's [Alternative Compliance Program](#). The Alternative Compliance Program's objective is to advance stormwater practices and increased citizen knowledge for cleaner, healthier congregations. This project was supported by a grant award through the [Prince George's County Stormwater Stewardship Grant Program](#).

Read more about this project on the Trust blog, [here](#).

Events and Opportunities

Watershed Stewards Academy Now Open for Applications

The Watershed Stewards Academy is an eight-week program led by the Anacostia Watershed Society. This hands-on certification program provides participants with the knowledge, tools, and resources to improve their community. Learn more and [apply today!](#)

Trash Sorting Challenge

Saturday, March 23rd - noon to 3pm
Historic Bostwick House, Bladensburg

Join the Anacostia Watershed Society to keep the Anacostia River and the County litter free! [Learn more...](#)

Creating a Pollinators' Paradise

Saturday, March 30th - 1pm
Behnke Nurseries, Beltsville

Join this talk to learn about the importance of pollinators and discover the best plants to use in your garden to attract pollinators to your yard! [Learn more...](#)

The Beauty & Benefits of Using Native Plants

Sunday, March 31st - 1pm
Behnke Nurseries, Beltsville

Discover native plants that adds beauty to your garden and helps support birds and butterflies! [Learn more...](#)



[Behnke Nurseries](#) is a Prince George's County business located in Beltsville. In 2017, Behnke's won the Chesapeake Bay Trust [Commercial Stewards Award](#), which recognizes an outstanding corporate or commercial entity that strives to make a difference in the community, has made a significant contribution to natural resource restoration and protection in the Chesapeake region, and engages its employees and members of the community in environmental issues.

In addition, Behnke's has implemented all seven of the [Rain Check Rebate](#) practices on their property, which serves as a demonstration site for the program. This implementation was supported by a [Prince George's Stormwater Stewardship](#) grant. Read more about this project, [here](#). Located inside the nursery is also an educational kiosk that provides visitors with information about the program and practices that residents can install on their property.

Thank you Behnke's for engaging the local community and for your devotion to environmental stewardship as a company!

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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