

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM FOR THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MINI GRANT PROGRAM



Thank you for your interest in the Community Engagement Mini Grant Mentorship Program! In light of the Chesapeake Bay Trust's commitment to engage new audiences in the environmental community and empower under-engaged organizations, we have created a Mentorship program to develop working relationships between organizations who are experienced in grant-writing and project management and those that are new to the Trust's programs. Please click [here](#) to learn more about the Mentorship Program.

Below is a growing list of organizations in Maryland who would like to serve as a Mentor to a new applicant. When selecting a Mentor, keep in mind their location, organization mission, and the types of skills they can offer that would best fit the assistance that you want/need. Once you think you have found the right organization, you may directly contact the organization using the provided contact information to begin the program.

Contact the Trust for questions and assistance:

Kathy Somoza at (410) 974-2941 ext. 120 or ksomoza@cbtrust.org.

Potential Mentor List

1. [Adkins Arboretum](#)
2. [Annapolis Maritime Museum](#)
3. [Arundel Rivers Federation](#)
4. [Audubon Naturalist Society \(ANS\)](#)
5. [Lower Shore Land Trust \(LSLT\)](#)
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1. Adkins Arboretum - www.adkinsarboretum.org

Location

Located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland approximately 90 minutes from the metropolitan areas of Washington, DC, and Baltimore. 12610 Eveland Road, Ridgely, MD 21660

Description

Adkins Arboretum is a 400-acre Chesapeake Native Garden that promotes the understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of Mid-Atlantic Coastal Plain's native landscape and ecosystems. It is one of the few botanical institutions focused on the conservation and promotion of the Coastal Plain flora, with more than 400 native plant species. It is a different Arboretum concept of collection comprised of the local forest plant communities and their successional patterns - meadows, old fields, pine plantations, young hardwood forests and mature bottom-land forests.

In addition to protecting the region's natural heritage and powerful stewardship, we afford our visitors profound experiences of excitement, discovery, and awe. The Arboretum offers visitor amenities such as a visitor's center, native plant nursery, gift shop, gardens, and paths, services such as plant identification and garden design and land stewardship consultations, and programs and events for adults and children.

As a mentor we can assist new applicants with:

- Program Development
- Environmental Education
- Native Plant Information and Purchase

Contact

Ginna Tiernan - gtiernan@adkinsarboretum.org



2. Annapolis Maritime Museum – www.amaritime.org/

Location

723 2nd Street, Annapolis, MD 21403

Description

The Annapolis Maritime Museum (AMM) educates youth and adults about the Annapolis area's rich maritime heritage and the ecology of the Chesapeake Bay through programs, exhibits and community events. We accomplish this mission through an engaging suite of hands-on programming and by bringing visitors to our unique location, at the mouth of Back Creek overlooking the Chesapeake Bay.

The Education Center at the AMM annually serves more than 12,000 participants. We aim to help construct a connection between people and the environment by leading hands-on activities that foster positive outdoor experiences and help stimulate critical thinking. These experiences can help establish a foundation for future sustainable environmental decision making. AMM offers three free core programs, as well as field trips, family programs, afterschool, summer camp, and more.

The AMM has extensive experience applying for and receiving grants from the CBT. The staff at the AMM can assist with program development especially in environmental education, using the CBT grant portal and assembling and reviewing grant packages.

Contact

Sarah Krizek, Education Director - education@amaritime.org



3. Arundel Rivers Federation - www.arundelrivers.org

Location

Edgewater, Maryland (Anne Arundel County)

Description

The Arundel Rivers Federation uses science, restoration and community action to make the South, West and Rhode Rivers cleaner and healthier. We envision clean, fishable, swimmable waterways for our local communities.

The South River Federation is pleased to offer the following skills to organizations applying for the Mini Grant for Community Engagement and Restoration:

- Using the CBT Grant Portal to submit a grant.
- Assembling grant packages including technical attachments
- Advice/best practices on hosting volunteer and outreach events
- Willing to review restoration plans for projects less than 5,000 square feet
- Guidance on submitting Standard Grading Plan permits for projects less than 5,000 square feet
- Assistance in developing planting plan and ordering plants
- Reviewing final grant application

Contact

Jennifer Carr - jennifer@arundelrivers.org; 717-575-8214



4. Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS) – www.anshome.org

Location

Washington DC area. While the majority of our programs take place at locations across the Washington DC metro region, the ANS headquarters is located at Woodend Nature Sanctuary in Chevy Chase, MD just inside the Beltway and west of Rock Creek. We also host programs at our Rust

Nature Sanctuary in Leesburg, VA.

Description

Founded in 1897, ANS is the oldest independent environmental organization in the DC metro area. Our mission is to inspire residents of the greater Washington, DC region to appreciate, understand and protect their natural environment through outdoor experiences, education and advocacy. Each year, ANS provides more than 28,000 residents of all ages across the Washington DC region with opportunities to connect to the natural world through: conservation activities from water quality monitoring, restoration, advocacy and environmental stewardship projects to empowering communities to protect their local streams and develop greener neighborhoods; school-based environmental education programs at all grade levels in Washington, DC, Maryland and Virginia; and classes, workshops, forays and other activities for teachers, adults, children and families.

ANS would be glad to offer the following assistance to organizations applying for the Community Engagement Mini Grant:

- Using the CBT grant portal
- Preparing grant packages
- Environmental education or conservation advocacy program development

Contact

Lisa Alexander - lisa.alexander@anshome.org; 301-652-9188



5. Lower Shore Land Trust (LSLT) - www.lowershorelandtrust.org

Location

LSLT is located in Snow Hill, Maryland, on the banks of the Pocomoke River.

Description

The Lower Shore Land Trust (LSLT) is interested in being a mentor to organizations on the Lower Shore. The LSLT is dedicated to preserving rural lands, to promoting vibrant towns, and to building a more healthy and connected Eastern Shore. Our new home is not only picturesque, but it serves our mission. In this spot we welcome prospective members and negotiate new conservation easements, all within sight of the type of resources we protect.

Areas of expertise

Community outreach, fundraising, land protection, rain gardens and pollinator garden installation, volunteer recruitment

Contact

Kate Patton - kpatton@lowershorelandtrust.org; 443-234-5587



6. Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway - www.UpperBayTrails.com

Location

Along the banks of the Susquehanna River and the Upper Bay, in Harford and Cecil Counties.

Description

Our organization was created to serve as a conservation strategy to protect environmentally sensitive areas along Upper Bay by developing 38 miles of recreational trails to connect the 3 waterfront communities of Port Deposit, Perryville, and Havre de Grace, creating not only physical linkages for enhanced visitation and economic growth but also providing a mechanism to connect the area's historical, cultural, and natural offerings.

To best understand who we are, please watch our brief video: www.UpperBayTrails.com

Areas of Expertise

Project/Grant Management

- We view and rank partner grants for the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority and, with their funding, we manage our own mini-grant program. This has provided the opportunity to gain a lot of experience in reviewing grant applications, identifying strengths and weaknesses, and making suggestions for improvement.
- Including partner and mini grants, we have been involved in the application and/or management of 100+ grants.

Stewardship Programs

- We have hosted 20 annual River Sweep shoreline clean-ups, removing well over 114 tons of debris from the Upper Bay and its tributaries. These are regional cleanups involving hundreds of volunteers occurring at 10+ sites throughout 2 counties.
- We co-host an annual National Trails Day event to perform trail maintenance and bring exposure to our trails.

Contact

Brigitte Carty - brigitte@upperbaytrails.com; 410-457-2482



7. Maryland Water Monitoring Council -

<http://dnr.maryland.gov/streams/Pages/MWMC/index.aspx>

Location

Annapolis, Maryland (Anne Arundel County) and statewide

Description

Founded in 1994, the [Maryland Water Monitoring Council \(MWMC\)](#) serves as a statewide collaborative body encouraging effective collection, interpretation, and dissemination of environmental data. The MWMC strives to improve communication within the Maryland water monitoring and management community regarding issues, policies, and resource management. The Council is aligned under the Maryland Department of Natural Resources with a Board of Directors having representatives from local, state and federal agencies, private industry, academia, and citizen and regional organizations.

The MWMC addresses the full range of aquatic and watershed resources in Maryland - ground and surface waters, freshwater, estuarine and marine environments, and associated watershed resources. From environmental justice to climate change adaptation; from surface water regulatory programs to the Chesapeake Bay TMDL; the Council is an excellent venue for both professionals and lay persons to keep abreast all of all things watery in Maryland.

The MWMC sponsors a number of standing committees and ad hoc workgroups that meet regularly throughout the year. These groups work through a process of consensus to help achieve the Council's purpose and goals. Committees and workgroups sponsor workshops from time to time.

The Council also sponsors workshops and holds an [Annual Conference](#) to promote an exchange of information within Maryland's water monitoring community.

The Council's mission is to:

- Provide documentation of all of the varied monitoring activities that are taking place in the State of Maryland;
- Provide a forum for effective communication, cooperation, and collaboration among the individuals and organizations involved in monitoring;
- Promote the use of quality assured procedures for sample collection, data management, analysis and assessment; and
- Facilitate the development of collaborative watershed-based monitoring

The Maryland Water Monitoring Council is pleased to offer the following skills to organizations applying for a CBT Mini Grant:

- Drafting the basic requirements of a grant proposal.
- Using the CBT Grant Portal to submit a grant.
- Advice on outreach and hosting workshops/conferences.
- Providing expert advice on issues related to water monitoring and assessment, programs and policy.

Contact

Dan Boward, MWMC Executive Secretary - dan.boward@maryland.gov; 410.260.8605



OLDE SEVERNA PARK
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

8. Olde Severna Park Improvement Association - www.oldesevernapark.com

Location

Olde Severna Park, Severna Park MD 21146

Description

Community association

Skills and services

Experience as an Anne Arundel County Master Watershed Steward since 2009. Experience in writing successful grants for stormwater management projects for my community - Olde Severna Park Improvement Association.

Contact

Ann Jackson - annjackson61@gmail.com; 443-223-7236



9. Pigtown Main Street - www.pigtownmainstreet.org

Location

Pigtown Main Street is located in the Pigtown neighborhood of Southwest Baltimore (city).

Description

Since 2000, Pigtown Main Street has revitalized the Pigtown neighborhood of Southwest Baltimore, with a focus on Washington Boulevard, Pigtown's commercial corridor. We engage residents and small business owners through cleaning and greening initiatives. We also offer technical assistance to small business owners, partner with property owners to recruit new small businesses and host free neighborhood events that foster community pride and attract customers to our shops.

Contact

Kim Lane - director@historicipgtown.org



10. Potomac Conservancy - www.potomac.org

Location

Silver Spring, MD

Description

Potomac Conservancy's mission is to safeguard the lands and waters of the Potomac River and its tributaries and to connect people to this national treasure. We work throughout the 15,000 square mile Potomac region leading a powerful local movement of 21,000 river champions comprised of local landowners, activists, volunteers, partners, and donors who are fighting with us to keep pollution out of the Potomac River and local streams. The Conservancy's overall goal is to ensure the Potomac River boasts clean drinking water, healthy lands, and connected communities.

Our three areas of expertise are land conservation, policy and community outreach. The Land Protection program helps protect the Potomac from future threats by permanently protecting land in the headwaters regions. The Policy team fights for local policies that reduce pollution and improve quality of life through sustainable and smart

growth, land conservation and green infrastructure improvements. The Community Conservation program offers hands-on volunteer and recreation programs that connect people to the river.

We can assist with:

- Preparing winning grant proposals
- Reviewing applications
- Using the CBT web portal
- Developing program strategies

Contact

Rebecca Luib - luib@potomac.org



11. ShoreRivers - www.shorerivers.org

Location

ShoreRivers Headquarters: 114 S. Washington St. Suite 301, Eastern Shore Conservation Center, Easton, MD 21601

ShoreRivers Sassafras: 111A North Main St, Galena, MD 21635

ShoreRivers Chestertown: 207 South Water St. Unit B, Chestertown, MD 21620

Description

ShoreRivers protects and restores Eastern Shore waterways through science-based advocacy, restoration, and education. Our core focus is the waterways of the Chester, Choptank, Sassafras, Miles, and Wye rivers, Eastern Bay, and the Bayside Creeks. Our main office is in Easton and we have regional offices in Chestertown and Galena. We have a dedicated staff of educators, scientists, restoration specialists, and advocates focused on policies and projects that will improve the health of our rivers.

ShoreRivers is pleased to offer the following skills to organizations applying for a mini-grant:

- Using the CBT grant portal to apply for and manage grants
- Program development
- Provide guidance on how to assemble grant packages including technical attachments such as planting plans, restoration concepts and designs, contractor bids, monitoring and maintenance plans, and program evaluations
- Provide guidance in developing citizen science programs, community outreach plans including DEI components, behavior change and awareness campaigns, and environmental education curriculum
- Provide guidance in developing a proposal budget
- Final review of grant proposal

Contact

Darran White Tilghman, Director of Community Engagement - dtilghman@shorerivers.org



12. St. Mary's College of Maryland - www.smcm.edu

Location

St. Mary's City, MD

Description

St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) is Maryland's honors college, a selective, public liberal arts college - a vibrant community of scholars and learners. We foster a rigorous and innovative curriculum; experiential learning; scholarship and creativity; close mentoring relationships; and a community dedicated to honesty, civility, and integrity. We are committed to diversity, access, and affordability. Our students, faculty and staff serve local, national, and global communities and cultivate and promote social responsibility.

In 2016, SMCM celebrated its 175-year anniversary and is currently ranked among the top 10 best public liberal arts colleges in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. Founded on the site of Maryland's first capital, the College stands as a living legacy to the ideals of freedom and inclusiveness. Our beautiful residential campus on the banks of the St. Mary's River inspires our work, our play, and our commitment to the environment.

The [Office of Research and Sponsored Programs](#) (ORSP) at SMCM, provides professional support and services for research, scholarly projects and creative endeavors by faculty, students and staff. Services provided include general education, training, and support related to sponsored research principles and best practices, consultative services and technical support for developing grant proposals, and assistance with the administration and compliance of awards.

Several SMCM faculty have been honored to receive grant funding from the Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT) Community Engagement Mini Grant program. Most recently, as support for a collaborative project [using goats as biological control](#) of kudzu, an invasive species, on the SMCM campus.

Based on previous successful CBT applications and our extensive experience with sponsored projects, the SMCM ORSP might be well-suited to serve as your mentor institution for the CBT Community Engagement Mini Grant program. We can help with a wide array of research projects that align with the CBT's mission and that fit the CBT Community Engagement Mini Grant guidelines. Please contact us via e-mail if you'd like to enter a mentor-mentee relationship with ORSP staff at SMCM while developing your CBT Community Engagement Mini Grant. Please include a brief abstract (~200 words) that explains your project and why you think we might be a good fit as mentors. We are a small office, so may only be able to mentor one applicant at a time.

Contact

Adam Malisch, Research Administrator - ajmalisch@smcm.edu

Mentor

Dr. Sabine Dillingham, Director of Research and Sponsored Programs



13. Town of Edmonston – www.edmonstonmd.gov

Location

Edmonston, Maryland (Prince George's County)

Description

The specialties of our grants have been: low impact development measures (i.e. green streets, rain gardens and trees) and outreach to underrepresented populations as well as health-related measures (edible forests, green job training and pervious sidewalks).

Town of Edmonston can assist with:

- We have been successful in getting grants from Chesapeake Bay Trust, Safe Routes to Schools, Kaiser's Healthy Eating, Active Living and Maryland Heritage Trust Areas.
- The town's motto is "Green is not only Edmonston's favorite color, but it's our way of life."
- We can help up to 20 hours per mentee.
- Edmonston's demographics are that its population is 48% Latino and 35% African American. The town lies in the developed tier of Prince George's County-approximately 2.5 miles from the District of Columbia.

Contact

Rod Barnes - rbarnes@edmonstonmd.gov; 301-699-8806