



Watershed Assistance Collaborative

Maryland's Chesapeake & Coastal Program

In recognition that not all jurisdictions currently have the capacity to implement the anticipated level of funding envisioned with the Trust Fund, Maryland's State Agencies, the Chesapeake Bay Trust, University of Maryland Extension, the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center, NOAA and the EPA joined together to provide services and technical assistance to local governments to advance implementation projects. By leveraging resources of existing programs, the Watershed Assistance Collaborative exists to provide coordinated capacity building opportunities to local implementers.

Putting the Resources at the Level Where Work Gets Done

In order to meet the challenge of Chesapeake Bay restoration, every local government, every business and every citizen will have a significant role to play. Through the Watershed Assistance Collaborative, the Chesapeake & Coastal Program and its partners are ensuring that local partners have the tools and resources they need to succeed.



Photo by Curtis Harsh

Services Offered by the Watershed Assistance Collaborative

Watershed Assistance Grant Program

Lead by Chesapeake Bay Trust, the Watershed Assistance Collaborative provides planning and design grants which are needed before large scale restoration can begin. Visit www.cbtrust.org for grant information.

Financing Strategies and Stakeholder Development

The University of Maryland's Environmental Finance Center and other consultants through the Watershed Assistance Collaborative are providing watershed planning, financing and stakeholder development to prepare groups for project implementation.

Regional Watershed Restoration Specialists

Working with the University of Maryland's SeaGrant Extension, the Watershed Assistance Collaborative is providing "on-the-ground" personnel to local and county governments and their partners to accelerate nonpoint source pollution reduction efforts.

Key Accomplishments

The Watershed Assistance Grant Program to date has awarded over \$1 million for planning and design projects.

Martin O'Malley, Governor

John R. Griffin, Secretary



COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

*Maryland
Department of
Natural Resources*

*Chesapeake Bay
Trust*

*Center for
Smart Growth &
Environmental
Finance Center*

*UMD Sea Grant
Extension*

*UMD College of
Agriculture &
Natural Resources*

*National Oceanic
and Atmospheric
Administration*

*Environmental
Protection Agency*

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Impact by the Numbers

\$1.05M

Dollars leveraged through the Watershed Assistance Grant Program in partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Trust, NOAA and EPA

38

Communities assisted in the identification, design and engineering of shovel-ready bay restoration projects

3

Number of Regional Watershed Restoration Specialists serving Maryland's coastal communities, in partnership with the University of Maryland and NOAA

2

Financing strategies developed by the Environmental Financing Center for the Middle Chester and Sassafras watersheds

77

Acres planned for forested buffer plantings on the Eastern Shore, Western Shore and in Southern Maryland as identified by the Watershed Restoration Specialists

2

New stormwater utilities in development for Ocean City and Centreville

The UMD Environmental Finance Center facilitated four stakeholder meetings with the Sassafras River Association to complete their watershed action plan. EFC was also tasked to deliver a detailed Financing Strategy for future implementation options for the partners. Visit www.efc.umd.edu to view the full strategy.

The UMD Environmental Finance Center worked with the Middle Chester partners to develop a solid implementation plan, schedule, and budget for their Trust Fund grant.

Regional Watershed Specialists are working with Trust Fund Watersheds, their government entities and community groups to coordinate project implementation, outreach, and leverage additional funding opportunities.

"The Sassafras River Association (SRA) recognizes that restoring the Bay means addressing each and every headwater in a comprehensive fashion. Maryland's Watershed Assistance Collaborative has enabled SRA to prepare a scientifically based Sassafras Watershed Action Plan (SWAP), and to identify funding and partners to build our organization and begin implementation and restoration efforts. With the help of the Watershed Assistance Collaborative, SRA is positioned as the local water quality leader and the voice of the Sassafras River."

- Moira Croghan
Executive Director,
Sassafras River Association

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