



Watershed Assistance Collaborative

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, NGOs and private partners 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 Service 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.

Stormwater Financing and Outreach Unit (SFOU)

Continuing its partnership with the University of Maryland's Environmental Finance Center, the SFOU was created to help local governments create strategies for financing stormwater management. The SFOU is committed to working with up to two Maryland communities per year and will also hold a series of workshops for municipal stormwater managers throughout the State.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Chesapeake Bay Trust

National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education & UMD Environmental Finance Center

UMD Sea Grant Extension

UMD College of Agriculture & Natural Resources

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Environmental Protection Agency



Larry Hogan, Governor
Mark Belton, Secretary

Impact by the Numbers

\$1.8M

Dollars leveraged through the Watershed Assistance Collaborative dedicated to local assistance in partnership with CBT, UMD, NOAA and EPA in SFY13

40

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

\$1M+

Grant dollars awarded through the Watershed Assistance Grant Program

5

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

100+

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

7

New stormwater financing programs in development for Maryland communities

Key Accomplishments

The Watershed Assistance Grant Program to date has awarded over \$1M for 45 planning and design projects throughout Maryland.

The UMD Environmental Finance Center worked with the Sassafras River Association and the Middle Chester partners to develop implementation action plans. EFC completed a financing strategy for the Sassafras River Association for future implementation options. Visit www.efc.umd.edu to view the full strategy.

The Town of Ocean City completed a stormwater financing strategy with assistance from the EFC Stormwater Financing and Outreach Unit. EFC is currently assisting the Town of Berlin to create their own stormwater financing options.

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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