

## CHESAPEAKE AND COASTAL SERVICE

# Resiliency through Restoration



Larry Hogan, Governor  
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor  
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary



### Background

Since 2011, Maryland has experienced six hurricane and flood events warranting Presidential Disaster Declarations, resulting in more than \$99 million in federal public assistance. An additional \$31 million is expected from 2018 events, and these statistics don't include the more common sunny-day and stormwater flooding that impacts day-to-day activities across the state. In July 2017, the Department of Natural Resources launched a Resiliency through Restoration Initiative with the goal of using nature-based designs to help protect communities, economies and ecosystems from climate change impacts. As part of this Initiative, the Department provides financial and technical assistance to local government and non-profit partners through the Community Resilience Grant.

### Goals of the Fund

The goal of this Initiative is to implement at least 15 priority restoration projects across the state over a five year period. Projects will demonstrate how nature can build community resilience to climate change. Projects include shoreline restoration, beneficial use of dredged material, tidal marsh restoration, dune restoration, landscape-level green infrastructure, and other nature-based practices that provide community and ecosystem benefits. Projects are selected based on the vulnerability of the habitat and community, targeted resiliency areas, level of community engagement, project readiness and status, and broader ecosystem services.

### First of its Kind

Maryland fully funds nature-based designs to enhance local resiliency:

*"Somerset County's historic Deal Island peninsula is home to about 1,000 residents, but is vulnerable to storms, coastal flooding, and erosion. Despite awareness of the area's vulnerability, preventative measures have been difficult to implement. The state's Community Resilience Grant has provided the technical and financial support needed to implement a living shoreline and, more importantly, the community's vision of a more resilient shoreline is becoming reality."*

-Gary Pusey, Somerset County

### By the Numbers

6

Projects in Progress

5

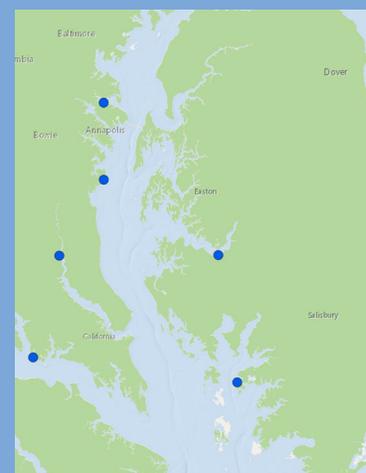
Jurisdictions Represented

\$540,000

Allocated State Funds

13

Partnerships Supported



Six unique projects are underway to demonstrate nature-based solutions to climate change.

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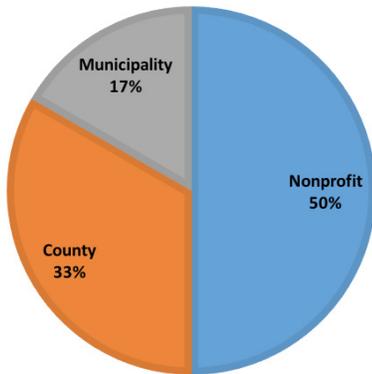
## Resiliency through Restoration

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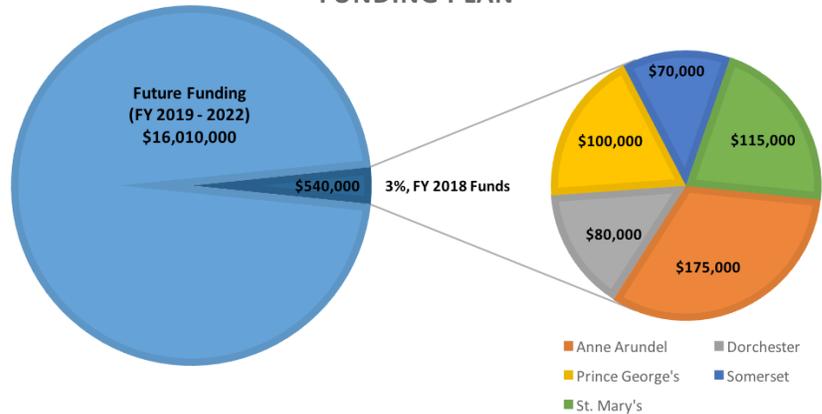
### Partnership and Funding

During year 1 of this new Initiative, grant funds were awarded to local governments and nonprofits to initiate design of coastal restoration projects. Partnerships were developed with community associations, local Riverkeepers, and researchers to help foster outreach, community engagement, and project monitoring.

FY 2018 RECIPIENTS



RESILIENCY THROUGH RESTORATION FUNDING PLAN



### Looking Forward

Fiscal Year 2019 Projects were identified through DNR's Community Resilience Grant Solicitation, which leverages federal funds to address coastal, stormwater and floodplain impacts. The Department held two outreach meetings, reaching over 100 individuals from local government and non-profit sectors. The solicitation resulted in 22 project proposals requesting over \$1.6 million for design of natural and nature-based resiliency projects.

### Monitoring and Performance

In partnership with the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, DNR developed a monitoring protocol template and is undertaking monitoring to inform adaptive management needs. Monitoring and tracking of innovative restoration projects is essential to inform future designs.

### SPOTLIGHT: Eagle Harbor Shoreline & Stormwater Project

The Town of Eagle Harbor is a waterfront community along the Patuxent River in Prince George's County. Intent on environmental, economic and fiscal sustainability, Eagle Harbor is pursuing nature-based solutions to address both shoreline and stormwater impacts. During year 1 of the project, the Town worked with the Patuxent Riverkeeper and DNR in coordination with a leveraged CoastSmart Communities Grant to better document shoreline and stormwater needs through surveys, community visioning, and community interviews. A multi-faceted stream and shoreline restoration project emerged from these visioning activities, and project partners are working together to design a restoration project that addresses flooding and stormwater.



Photo by Fred Tutman, Patuxent Riverkeeper

The Resiliency through Restoration Initiative is supported through the Maryland Capital Budget Coastal Resiliency Program. Projects are funded completely or in part by the Chesapeake and Coastal Service. For more information, visit [dnr.maryland.gov/ccs](http://dnr.maryland.gov/ccs)