



Congratulations to the 2025 Keep Maryland Beautiful Grant Recipients!

This year, 20 grants totaling \$238,751 were awarded for environmental education and stewardship, community cleanup, tree planting and capacity building projects through the [Keep Maryland Beautiful program](#). These grants were awarded to nonprofit groups, communities, schools, and land trusts in Maryland. Learn more about this year's grant recipients below.

Community Stewardship Grants

Total amount awarded for the Community Stewardship Grants: \$42,000

Organization	Project Title/Description	County	Grant Amount
Annapolis Maritime Museum & Park	Field Tripping into the World of Microplastics	Anne Arundel	\$5,000
Blue Water Baltimore	Stream Sleuths: Aquatic Adventures for Young Scientists	Baltimore City	\$4,884
Chesapeake Natives	Cultivating Community Chesapeake Natives X EcoCity Farms	Prince Georges	\$2,123
ECO City Farms	Educational Native Food Forest and Pollinator Garden on a Prince George's County Urban Farm	Prince Georges	\$4,999
No Boundaries Coalition	Clean Community Captains	Baltimore City	\$5,000
Greater Mount Holly Community Development Corporation	Chelsea Terrace: Transformation from a Dumping Ground to a Workforce Development Hub	Baltimore City	\$5,000
Patapsco Heritage Greenway, Inc.	Patapsco Watershed Community Stewardship	Howard	\$4,994
St. Matthew's New Life United Methodist Church	Barclay Community Gardens	Baltimore City	\$5,000

York Corridor Business Improvement District Management Authority	Winston Govans Pocket Park & Environmental Restoration Project	Baltimore City	\$5,000
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Capacity Building for Land Trusts Grants

Total amount awarded for the Capacity Building for Land Trusts Grants: \$50,000

Organization	Project Title/Description	County	Grant Amount
American Chestnut Land Trust	Two Interns to Build Capacity	Calvert	\$10,000
Conservancy for Charles County	Succession Planning and Board Strengthening for the Conservancy for Charles County	Charles	\$9,997
Harford Land Trust	Collaborating Targeting for Buy-Protect-Sell	Harford	\$5,106
Howard County Conservancy	Monitoring hard to reach easements through drone usage	Howard	\$7,628
Lower Shore Land Trust	Office efficiency, volunteer engagement and technology	Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester	\$7,269
NeighborSpace of Baltimore County	Enhancing NeighborSpace communications to expand the organization's reach and build its capacity	Baltimore	\$10,000

Aileen Hughes Grants

Total amount awarded for the Aileen Hughes Grants: \$5,000

2025 Honorees	County	Grant Amount
David Lillard, Catoctin Land Trust	Frederick and Washington	\$2,500

Catoctin Land Trust facilitated the sale of 668 acres to the State of Maryland to become part of Cunningham Falls State Park. For two years, David assisted the family who wished to preserve their family legacy by transferring their family land to the state. This addition to Maryland state parks marks one of the largest acquisitions in a generation and permanently preserves a trout stream and the ecologically sensitive Black Rock special management area. David Lillard has played a critical role in the Heart of Maryland Collaborative.		
Meg Boyd, Howard County Conservancy Meg Boyd partnered with community groups in Howard County to successfully launch a land conservation program for non-profits. The program was funded with a \$2,000,000 grant from Howard County Government toward the purchase of easements and the development of the program. The program was renewed for two additional years, with total funding for the purchase of easements at \$3.5 million. The program was recognized by the National Association of Counties with an Innovation in Conservation Programming award in 2024. Meg Boyd has played a critical role in Conservancy preservation efforts over the 17 years she has led the organization.	Howard	\$2,500

Tree Planting on Agricultural Lands Grants

Total amount awarded for the Tree Planting on Agricultural Lands Grants: \$141,751

Organization	Project Title/Description	County	Grant Amount
Friends Falls Creek Farm	Friends Falls Creek Farm Reforestation	Harford	\$46,843
Howard EcoWorks	Holly Hills Forest Expansion and Enhancement	Howard	\$45,126
Pearlstone Conference & Retreat Center	Enhancing & Preserving Forests at Pearlstone	Baltimore	\$49,782

Grants through the [Keep Maryland Beautiful program](#) are awarded to volunteer-based and nonprofit groups, communities, schools, and land trusts in Maryland. The grants are designed to support environmental education projects, litter removal, community stewardship, and to help protect natural resources in urban and rural areas.

Presented annually since 1986, the grant program is managed by the Maryland Environmental Trust – a unit of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources – and administered on the department’s behalf by the Chesapeake Bay Trust. The grants are funded by the [Maryland Environmental Trust](#), [Maryland Department of Transportation](#), and the [Maryland Department of Agriculture](#).

