

Funding Opportunities

Community Stormwater Solutions

The 2022 [Community Stormwater Solutions](#) Request for Applications is now open! The total amount of funding available this year is approximately \$300,000 for projects up to \$35,000. **Applications are due September 1, 2022 at 6:00 pm.** The program is currently administered through a partnership with the [Chesapeake Bay Trust](#) (Trust). [Click here to learn more!](#)

Community Stormwater Solutions provides funding for innovative and community centered projects with the goal of improving our waterways in the District. Project areas can include environmental justice, environmental education, green infrastructure, green jobs, habitat restoration, litter and pollution reduction, and out of school time programming. Applicants are encouraged to think outside of the box and create projects that involve creativity as a viable tool for affecting change and establishing or deepening participants' connection to the environment. All projects should be inspired and lead or supported by the priority community within the District.

New this year!

The Trust is available throughout the application period to provide support and assistance. **Grant writing support** is available on a limited basis. Priority will be given to Small (25 full-time equivalents (FTE) or less), New (Has not received a CSS grant), and Historically Excluded (Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)/ Women Business Enterprise (WBE): 51% owned, operated, capitalized, and controlled by a member(s) of the following groups: Black, Hispanic, Native American, Asia and Pacific Islander, Women) (SNHE) organizations. Contact the Trust Program Officer, Joe Toolan at jtoolan@cbtrust.org, as early as possible to discuss the availability of grant writing support.

America the Beautiful Challenge Grant – National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

[The America the Beautiful Challenge](#) is a public-private grant program for locally led ecosystem restoration projects that invest in watershed restoration, resilience, equitable access, workforce development, corridors and connectivity, and collaborative conservation, consistent with the America the Beautiful Initiative.

The America the Beautiful Challenge coordinates funding from multiple Federal agencies and private philanthropy into one competitive grant program. This streamlines the application process, enabling larger, more impactful cross-boundary projects, while making it easier for states, Tribes, territories, local groups, non-governmental organizations, and others to apply for multiple funds with one application. The America the Beautiful Challenge will seek to advance conservation and restoration projects that are consistent with the principles outlined in the Conserving and Restoring America the Beautiful report. Proposals are due **July 21, 2022**. The full Request for Proposals can be found here: <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/america-beautiful-challenge/america-beautiful-challenge-2022-request-proposals>

Upcoming! Chesapeake Bay Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice Coordination Grant

DOEE anticipates releasing a new grant opportunity in the coming weeks to support the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program facilitate, coordinate, and implement key elements of the [Chesapeake Bay Program Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice Implementation Plan](#).

The notice of funding availability and additional information will be posted to DOEE's Grants and Funding Opportunities webpage found here: <https://doee.dc.gov/page/grants-and-other-funding>

Events

Tree ID and Forest Bathing Walk with Casey Trees and Friends of Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

Date: Saturday, June 4th 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

If you want to learn more about trees and love spending time outdoors, join Casey Trees and Friends of Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Saturday, June 4th for this unique, two-part event. We'll start off with an easy-paced tree walk, where we'll learn to identify trees commonly found around DC. Sample species include the bald cypress, white oaks, and the American hornbeam, AKA "musclewood". After our tree ID walk, we'll decompress and further connect with nature through a guided forest-bathing experience led by Sage, a certified forest bathing guide. Forest bathing is the act of immersing yourself in nature in order to experience its unique benefits, including reduced stress and improved mental health.

We hope you'll join us for this event and emerged refreshed, recharged, and more confident in identifying some of DC's common tree species! No prior tree ID experience is necessary, and we encourage all to attend.

Register and Learn More here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tree-walk-and-forest-bathing-at-kenilworth-aquatic-gardens-tickets-328349350747>

Woody Ward Park Green Infrastructure Place Making Virtual Tour

Date: Tuesday, June 28, 2022 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

This virtual tour will introduce participants to the design and construction of the [Woody Ward Park Stormwater Retrofit Project](#). The project's primary goal was to treat as much stormwater as practical through a variety of practices. Ultimately, the project addressed larger community concerns of engagement, long standing illegal dumping, and concerns for crime and safety. Participants will be able to see time lapse photography of construction photos and experience the construction process for this 8.5-acre site. Participants will interact with the DOEE and DPR project managers and design representatives as part of a moderated roundtable discussion focused on design and permitting and construction and post construction. The event will remain live for an additional half hour bonus discussion with roundtable participants.

Register and learn more at Potomac ASLA Events: <https://www.potomacasla.org/events/>

Job Opportunities & Trainings

DOEE River Corps Program

RiverCorps is recruiting! The River Corps Program engages District residents, ages 18–24, through classroom education and field-based experiences to gain technical skills needed to install, inspect, and maintain Green Infrastructure, and learn critical skills to secure employment. Trainees are paid a bi-weekly stipend of \$650, an average of 25 hours/week, with opportunities for additional incentives during a 5-month duration. Learn more about the program and how to apply at <https://doee.dc.gov/service/river-corps>.

Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional Certification Training

Registration is now open for summer session of Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional (CBLP) Level 1 training and certification. Discounts are available for companies or organizations sending three or more employees to Level 1. Dates and details online: <https://cblpro.org/training-calendar/>

New for this session we will offer the course in both a fully in-person format, and a hybrid, online/field format. Both options balance highly interactive course content with a field day. Field days are offered across the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

CBLP is a voluntary, regional credential for professionals who design, install, and maintain sustainable landscapes in the Bay watershed. CBLP's active learning program engages participants to develop critical thinking, problem solving, and collaborative practice skills. We focus on the unique ecology and regulatory environment of the Bay region, but all are welcome to attend. CBLP course attendees may earn continuing education credits from numerous professional organizations- see the full list on our website.

Sustainable Stormwater BMP Management for Crews Certificate

Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:30am – 2:30 pm

The CBLP-Crews certificate is a one-day course on sustainable landscape maintenance for stormwater best management practices (BMPs), designed for crews and crew leaders who maintain stormwater BMPs. Learn more and register at: <https://certified.cblpro.org/product/crews-certificate/>

Reports & Resources

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit:

DOEE is currently soliciting comments on two draft documents that will be used to inform the next Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit.

1. The Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) describes the District's existing and new strategies, elements, initiatives, schedules, and programs to reduce the discharge of pollutants from stormwater runoff into the MS4. The public notice, SWMP and attachments, and directions for submitting comments can be found [here](#). Comments must be submitted by **June 8, 2022**.

1. The Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation Plan (TMDL IP) summarizes the District's progress to date in implementing stormwater best management practices to reduce pollutant loads and provides projects and attainment strategies to guide future implementation. The public notice, TMDL IP, and directions for submitting comments can be found [here](#). Comments must be submitted by **July 5, 2022**.

Fertilizers

Fertilizers can have huge impacts to our environment, degrading fish and wildlife habitat, harming pollinators, and causing toxic algal blooms in our streams and rivers. Despite this, many people continue to use fertilizer even though most established lawns do not need it. To save money and get the best results, test the soil and only use fertilizer to provide nutrients that are found to be lacking. The District's Fertilizer Law requires law care professionals to follow strict guidelines for the use and application of fertilizer on grassy areas and encourages residents to do the same. Learn more about responsible fertilizer application at the following link and consider using alternative methods, such as leaving grass clippings on the ground to provide natural compost fertilizer and mowing your lawn to the right height.

<https://doee.dc.gov/node/1178325>

MOW TO THE RIGHT HEIGHT		
GRASS TYPE	SPRING & SUMMER	FALL
TALL FESCUE	2.5 -3.5 INCHES	2.5 INCHES
KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS	2.5 -3.5 INCHES	2 - 2.5 INCHES
FINE FESCUE	2.5 -3.5 INCHES	2.5 INCHES
ZOYSIAGRASS	1.5 - 2 INCHES	1.5 -2 INCHES
BERMUDAGRASS	1.5 - 2 INCHES	1.5 -2 INCHES

Spotlight Story: Springtime planting in Linnean Park paves way for Forest Restoration

Led through a grant from DOEE, [RiverCorps](#) team members from the Latin American Youth Center (LAYC) planted 9,000 sqft of understory species at the Department of Parks and Recreation's (DPR) Linnean Park in Northwest DC on April 27th. Their work contributes to a restoration project to reforest the grass field behind the Kuwaiti Residence. Additional volunteers for this event included members of the LAYC Montgomery County Conservation Corps (MCCC), John Burwell and Marlene Berlin (DPR Adopt a Park Partners), Erica Carlsson (DOEE staff), and Rondell Pooler (DPR staff).

