



Current Funding Opportunities

DC FLOOD RESILIENCE COMMUNITY WALK PROJECT

DOEE seeks eligible entities to lead two community walks targeting the Watts Branch and Oxon Run neighborhoods of Wards 7 and 8. These communities are increasingly vulnerable to flooding and climate change. The walks will build community resilience to future flooding, help the public understand the risk of flooding, and mitigate that risk. The amount available for the project is approximately \$19,445. **Application deadline is November 30, 2022.** More information, including a link to the Request for Applications (RFA) is available at: doee.dc.gov/node/1627706

DITCH THE DISPOSABLES: REUSABLE FOODWARE GRANT PROGRAM

Ditch the Disposables aims to reduce waste from disposable foodware by providing grants to support transitions from single-use to reusable foodware at restaurants and other food-serving entities in the District. Funds can be used for projects including establishing dishwashing capacity and implementing the use of reusable foodware and containers.

Application deadline is December 8, 2022. More information, including a link to the Request for Applications (RFA) and the online application system through Chesapeake Bay Trust, is available at doee.dc.gov/disposables.

Resources & Opportunities

DOEE FLOODSMART HOMES

DOEE is piloting a program called FloodSmart Homes that will send a professional to your home for a free flood resilience assessment and help identify the best solutions for your flooding concerns to reduce flood risk in your home. The professional will generate a report recommending the most useful and cost-effective resilience upgrades that would be a good fit for your home. If you agree to these upgrades, DOEE will install them at little to no cost to you.

Who is eligible?

DOEE's goal is to serve all homeowners with flood risk who indicate interest in the program. Homes that are in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), also known as the 100-year floodplain, will be served first as they are at the highest risk during a flood. Following this, homes in the 500-year floodplain will be served, then all other homes who indicate interest and have documented flood risk. You can see if your home is in a floodplain by typing your address into the search bar at dcfloodrisk.org.

Sign up Now!

You can sign up for the program by:

1. Completing the online survey here: ly/floodpreventiondc
2. Emailing risk@dc.gov
3. Calling 202-535-2600 and asking for the Flood Team

HAVE YOU SPOTTED A RIVER OTTER?!

The Chesapeake Bay Otter Alliance is a group of scientists, educators, and community members who are working to find and learn about river otters throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. We want to better understand where otters are living and what they are doing there. We also want to study the kinds of parasites and diseases that otters have and if humans could become infected or sick by eating the same food or swimming in the water. By better understanding otters, we can better track changes in water quality threats to public health around the Bay!

Have you seen otters in your area? [Fill out the survey!](#)

Want to learn more? Visit: serc.si.edu or Email: SERCO Outreach@si.edu.

Have you spotted a river otter? Scan the QR code to tell us!

Did you know ? Some animals in the Chesapeake Bay can help us figure out how healthy the water is. One of those animals is the **river otter!**

River otters live, eat, and hunt in our creeks, streams, and the Bay. They live on land and in water, and they eat lots of fish, so their diet can tell us how healthy their watery homes are. We collect otter poop to see what they are eating!

Want to learn more?
Find us at: serc.si.edu
Email: SERCO Outreach@si.edu

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
With funding from the Morris Animal Foundation

Spotlight Story

STRENGTHENING & BUILDING "BUFFER" PARTNERSHIPS

How do you balance multiple organizational missions while collaborating on a project? What do you do if the community you are trying to help doesn't understand why you want to stop dumping trees and shrubs in their neighborhood? How do you politely ask someone to stop dumping an invasive plant into a stream you worked hard to restore? Some of these questions don't have simple, concise answers; however, all were considered and discussed during the Riparian Buffer Month Field Day in Washington, DC. Check out the attached blog post by Kristen Parsons from the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay to learn more about Riparian Buffer Month Field Day!

WHAT IS A RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFER?

A Riparian (meaning "streamside" in Latin) Forest Buffer is an area of native trees and shrubs along a stream. Without forest cover, streams are unprotected from runoff pollution and susceptible to streambank erosion. Unbuffered streams are unlikely to support a diversity of aquatic life that processes pollutants from the water.

STREAM HEALTH

BEFORE **AFTER**

6 MONTHS 1-2 YEARS 5-10 YEARS 10+ YEARS

Tree shelters and regular site maintenance are essential in establishing new riparian forest buffers. Shelters protect young tree seedlings from herbivores, like deer and voles, while periodic mowing reduces competition with other vegetation. Shelters remain on the tree until you can no longer fit two fingers between the tube and the trunk; typically, the first 3-5 years.

50 ALLIANCE for the Chesapeake Bay

For more information about Riparian Forest Buffers visit allianceforthebay.org or forestsforthebay.org.

Alliance for the Chesapeake Blogpost
STRENGTHENING & BUILDING "BUFFER" PARTNERSHIPS



STAY CONNECTED:

Questions? [Contact Us](#)
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