

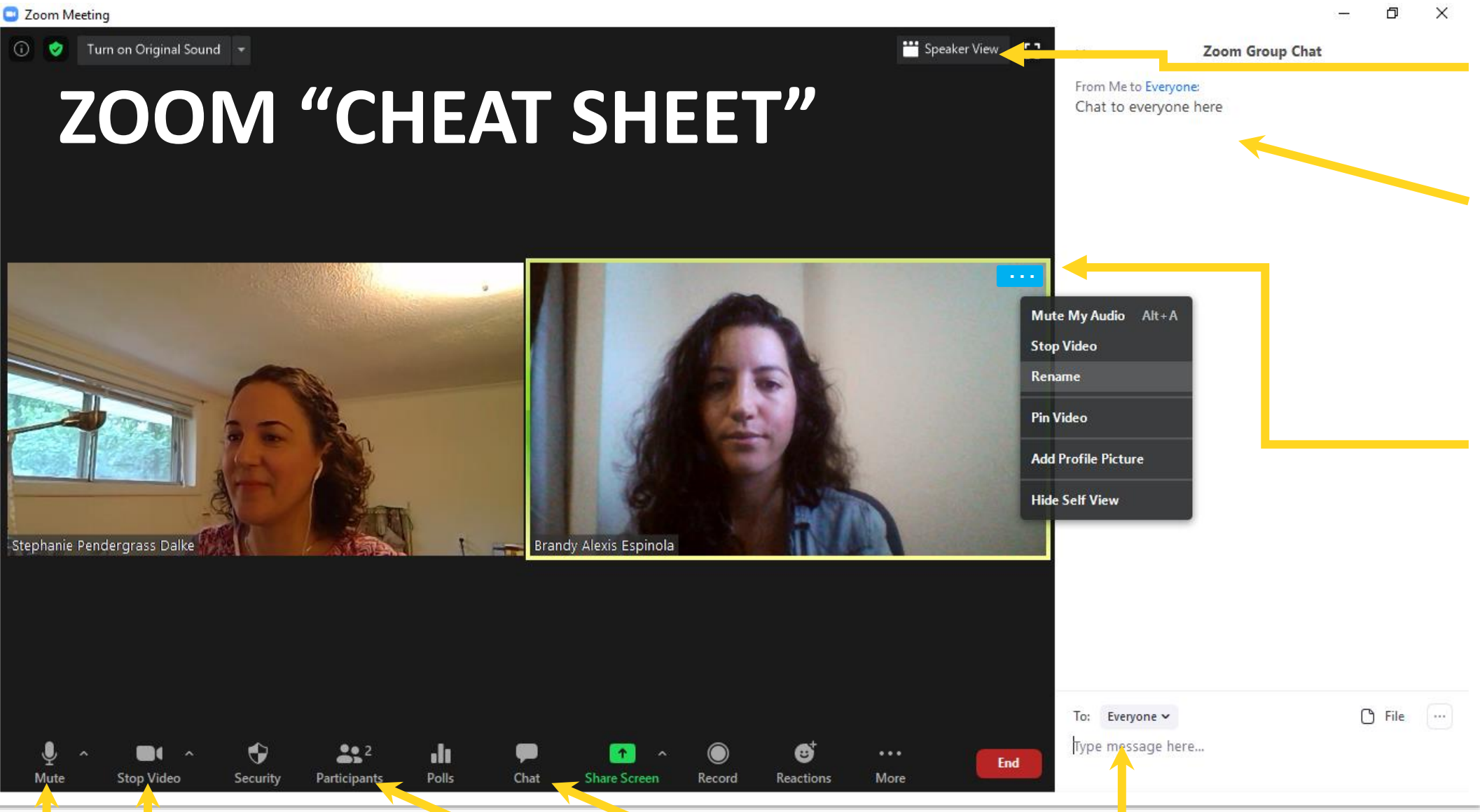
Gaithersburg Sustainability Summit

for Homeowners & Civic Associations

Tuesday, April 13, 2021



ENVIRONMENTAL
FINANCE CENTER



Switch to Gallery View

Chat window for asking questions and sharing ideas

Rename Yourself (First Name, Name of Community or Organizational Affiliation). On the top right corner of your video, left click on three dots, select rename, type new name, save.

Open Participants or Chat window

Chat with Everyone or privately with specific people

Start / Stop Video here

Mute / Unmute here

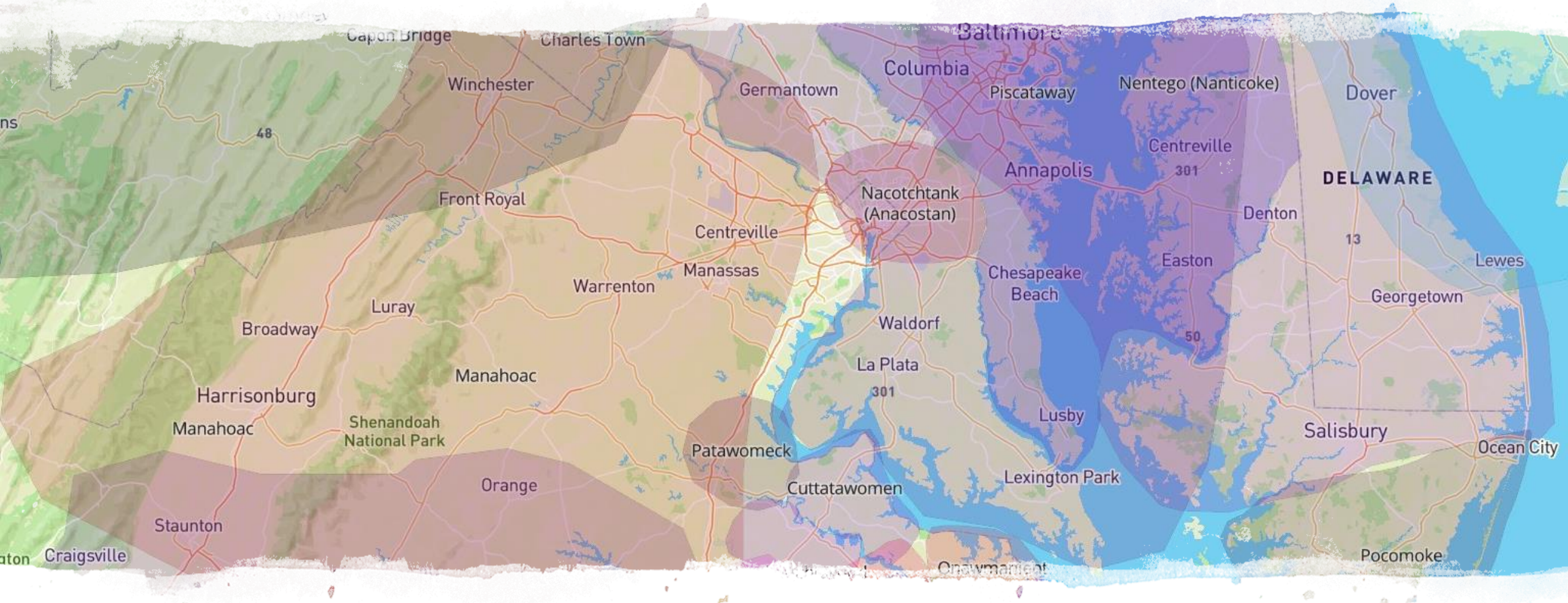
Gaithersburg Sustainability Summit

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ENVIRONMENTAL
FINANCE CENTER



Gaithersburg's Native Land

City of Gaithersburg

Welcome!

Agenda

6:30 pm: Welcome from the City of Gaithersburg

6:40 pm: Sustainable Maryland Residential Action Framework

7:00 pm: A Green Team in Practice

7:15 pm: Stretch Break

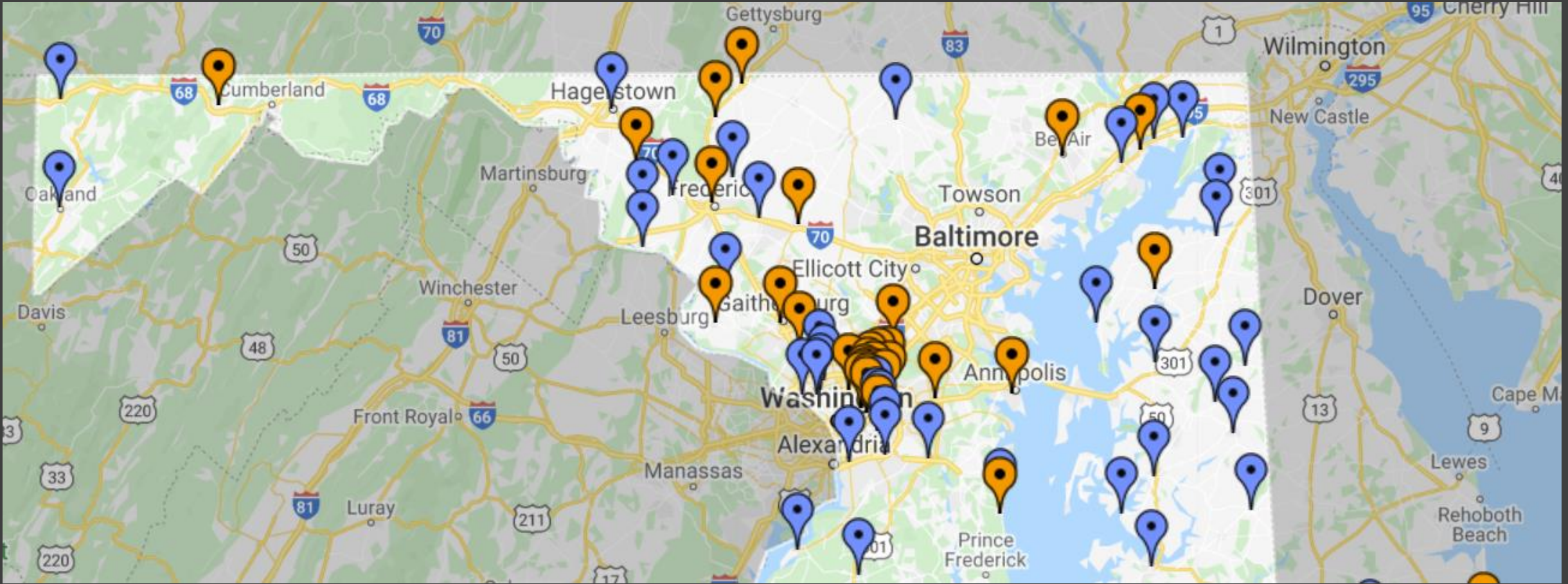
7:20 pm: Building a Strong Network of Sustainability Champions

7:40 pm: Supporting Sustainability through Community-Driven Stormwater Action

8:00 pm: Expanding Green Teams in Gaithersburg

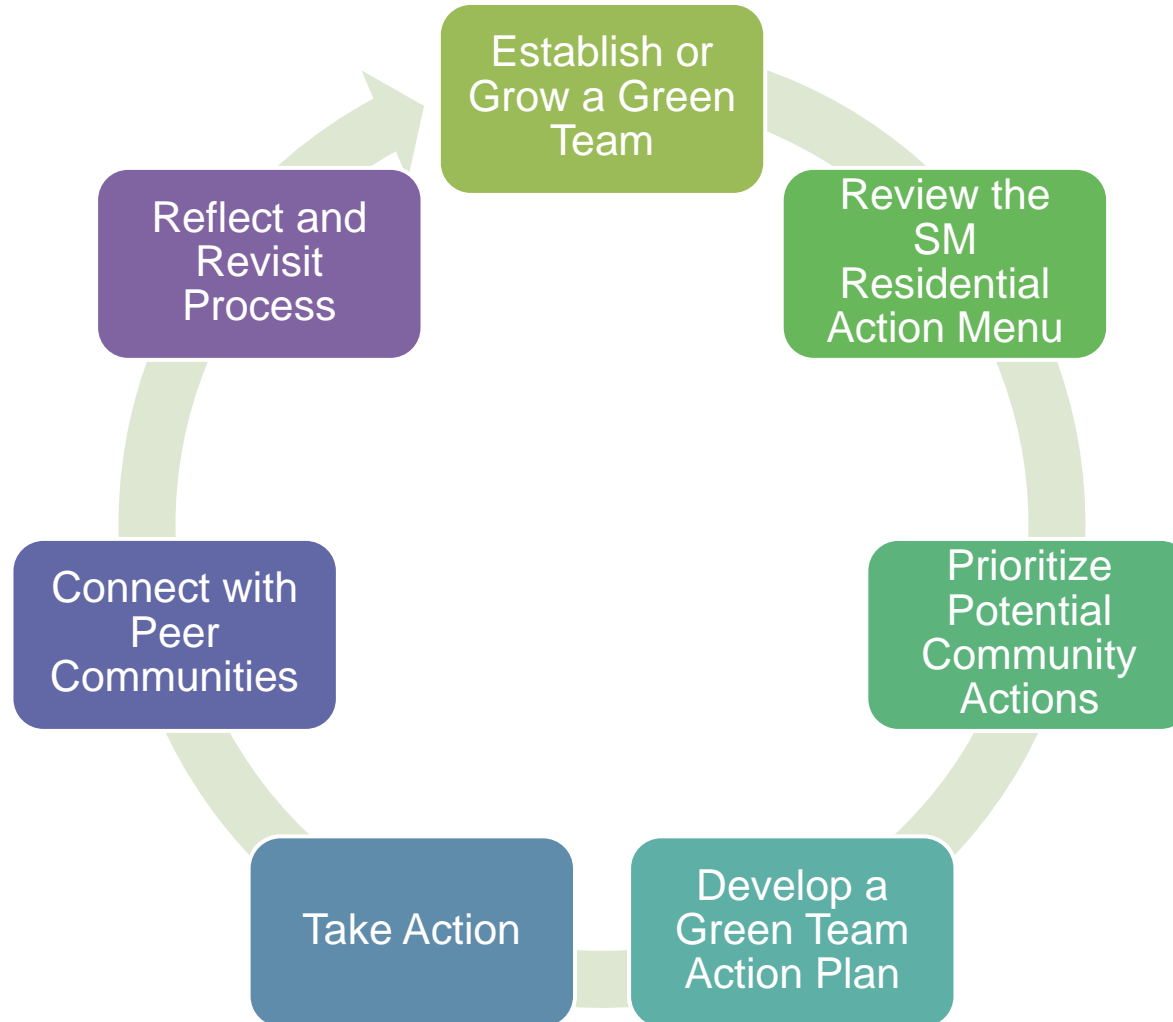
8:20 pm: Wrap Up/Next Steps

Poll Questions



- A **Free** and **Voluntary** program for communities that want to go green and save green
- We help communities:
 - Choose a direction for their sustainability efforts
 - Improve access to resources
 - Share successes with other communities
 - Certify Municipal progress

SM RESIDENTIAL ACTION FRAMEWORK



Establish or Grow a Green Team

Present to the HOA

- You can have a formally adopted Green Team or an informal volunteer group

Build On Local Assets

- Engaged community members with their personal passion and/or professional expertise

Recruit Members

- Partnerships with local businesses, schools, congregations, non-profits, public health, arts

Collaborate with other jurisdictions

- Partner with local municipalities, , and other neighboring communities



Review SM Residential Action Menu

Community
Action

Stormwater
Management

Eco-Friendly
Landscaping

Enhancing
Local Habitat

Health & Well-
Being

Waste
Reduction

Clean &
Renewable
Energy

Transportation

Community Action

Research, Planning, & Policies

- Conduct a Community Survey
- Develop a Green Team Action Plan

Outreach & Promotion

- Advertise Green Team
- Promote MD Green Schools

Projects & Programs

- Establish a Sustainability Resources Center
- Host Cultural Events
- Commit to Greening Events
- Commission a Public Art Installation

Stormwater Management

Research, Planning, & Policies

- Conduct a Flood Risk Assessment
- Develop a Stormwater Management Plan
- Adopt a Salt Reduction Plan
- Pass a Pet Waste Policy

Outreach & Promotion

- Promote Stormwater Management Best Practices
- Promote Water Conservation Practices
- Conduct Pet Waste Management Outreach
- Distribute Incentive Program Materials

Projects & Programs

- Install Pet Waste Stations
- Adopt-A-Stream
- Storm Drain Stenciling
- Host a Stream/Community Cleanup
- Install and Maintain Green Infrastructure
- Host a Rain Barrel Workshops

Eco-friendly Landscaping

Research, Planning, & Policies

- Conduct a Landscape Survey
- Create a Tree Inventory and a Tree Canopy Plan
- Pass a Native Plant Landscaping Policy
- Establish No-mow Zones
- Commit to Water-Efficient Landscaping

Outreach & Promotion

- Promote Conservation Landscaping Practices
- Educate Residents on the benefits of Organic Lawn Care

Projects & Programs

- Plant Trees
- Adopt Integrated Pest Management or Conservation Landscaping Practices

Enhancing Local Habitat

Research, Planning, & Policies

- Complete an Ecological Survey
- Develop a Biodiversity Action Plan
- Pass a Light Pollution Reduction/
Dark Sky Policy

Outreach & Promotion

- Promote Water Conservation
Practices
- Promote Annual Bio Blitz

Projects & Programs

- Install Pollinator Gardens
- Install Dark Sky lights
- Host a Bat Box or Insect Hotel
Workshop

Health & Well-being

Research, Planning, & Policies

- Permit Front Yard Gardening
- Permit Chicken or Beekeeping

Outreach & Promotion

- Promote Local Farmers Market
- Distribute Educational Material on the benefits of an Active-Lifestyle
- Encourage consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables in community newsletters

Projects & Programs

- Install a Community Garden
- Install a Food Forest
- Conduct Healthy Living Workshops

Waste Reduction

Research, Planning, & Policies

- Adopt a Green Purchasing Policy for Goods and Services
- Include Sustainability Language in Waste Management Contracts
- Review Current HOA Purchasing Practices and Evaluate Opportunities for Reducing Consumption

Outreach & Promotion

- Develop a Litter Outreach Campaign
- Promote Backyard Composting
- Educate Residents on Litter Reduction Techniques in community newsletter

Projects & Programs

- Host a community-wide electronics recycling event
- Offer and promote Community-wide Composting
- Host Green Product Education Workshops
- Eliminate the use of disposables at community events
- Start a Buy-Nothing Group

Clean & Renewable Energy

Research, Planning, & Policies

- Conduct a Community Carbon Footprint
- Establish Greenhouse Gas Emissions Targets
- Consider Time of Sale Energy Disclosure

Outreach & Promotion

- Promote Residential Energy Audit Programs
- Promote Community Solar or Solar Co-ops
- Promote Energy Savings Practices
- Promote Water Efficiency Practices
- Promote On-bill Financing for Energy Efficiency

Projects & Programs

- Conduct an Energy Audit of HOA buildings
- Install On-site Renewable Energy
- Install energy efficient Appliances and Lighting
- Upgrade to LED Streetlights
- Install a Solar or Green Roof on HOA buildings



Transportation

Research, Planning, & Policies

- Transportation Assessment
- Parking Assessment
- Walking Audit

Outreach & Promotion

- Promote Bike to Workday
- Promote the benefits of electric and hybrid vehicles
- Promote the Benefits of Reduced Automobile Dependence

Projects & Programs

- Install Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- Install Traffic Calming Measures
- Safe Routes to School
- Install Bicycle Parking/Storage

Prioritize Potential Community Actions



PROPERTY



COMMUNITY



POLICIES



OUTREACH AND
COMMUNICATION



SERVICES AND
PROCUREMENT

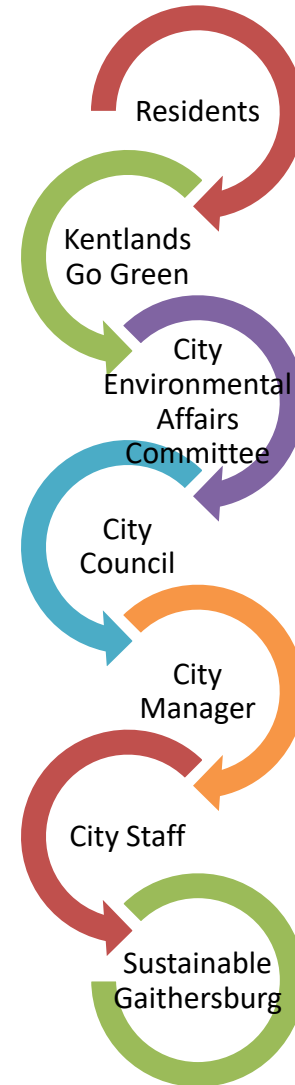


Develop a Green Team Action Plan

- Assess what Actions you have already completed successfully – how can these be replicated or built upon?
- Identify Actions you wish or need to undertake
- Rank each Action's difficulty and/or duration
- Identify potential partners and funding sources
- Recruit volunteers, assign to projects
- Get the word out – publicize your efforts!

Key Actors and Pathway Towards a Sustainable Gaithersburg

- City of Gaithersburg
 - RainScapes Rebates
 - MoCo Pesticide Law
 - Pet Waste Education
 - Recycling Coach App
- County
 - Energy Efficiency , Incentives + Home Disclosure Law
- State
 - MEA Residential Clean Energy
- Other
 - Chesapeake Bay Trust
 - Pepco
 - Audubon Naturalist Society
 - UMD Extension





A Green Team in Practice

Parkside Green

The Beginning of Parkside GREEN

Started in 2018

Late 2017: First, solicited residents via word of mouth for interest in having a Green Committee. This began in late 2017.

Then, came up with a mission statement:

To build an awareness of earth friendly, sustainable living practices that improve the quality of life we enjoy in our community, and to have a positive impact on our environment.

Slogan: *Good for the community – Good for the environment.*

February 2018: the Board of Directors approved Parkside GREEN as an Ad Hoc Committee.

Early 2019: Parkside GREEN proclaimed an official, standing committee.

The Early Days of Parkside GREEN

Developed a logo (not necessary but wanted to establish brand for recognition!)



Set Monthly Meetings

Decided to hold regular monthly meetings on the second Tuesday each month – meetings are open to all

Had a core of about 4-6 committee members for regular meetings and occasional drop-ins.

The Areas of Interest at Meetings

What we did & talked about first

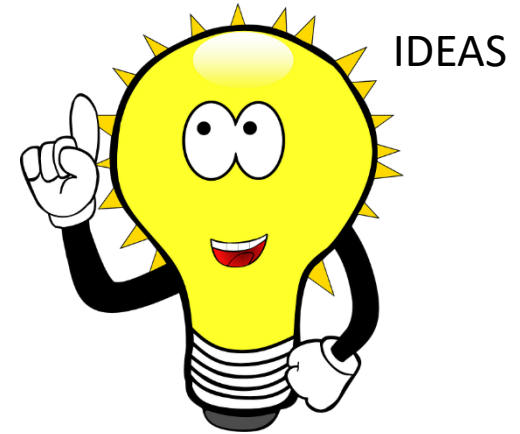
The interest areas at meetings & from residents were:

1. Recycling
2. Desire for a Community Garden
3. Solar and/or Renewable Energy
4. Litter
5. Oversized trash
6. Green tips for newsletter
7. EV charging stations
8. Educating

Meetings have been a great time to hear about people's ideas, their interests and also discover desire for the projects certain people might like to work on.

Most of our early work consisted of monthly meetings, discussing ideas and always having a topic assigned for an article that would appear in the community Newsletter. Topics were on recycling, composting, oversized trash, native plants, energy use, tips, etc.

Much of the project energies the first half of the year went into the Community Garden and the garden boxes project.



Community Garden and Garden Box Initiative(s) Approved and Started!

2018



Tilled community garden space– the bare bones of the beginnings of the community garden.



Garden boxes for herbs and perennials sponsored by the Landscape Committee; started with 6 & now 8 boxes in total.



Community Garden

Main goal – have a community garden.

Second goal: protect it from the deer.



Deer fencing approvals took time so the garden group decided to go ahead with first season as an “open garden” with caging to fend off deer.

Was (pretty) successful!



A flourishing garden season with deer fencing!





Community Garden

Appeals to all ages





**Native
perennials
including
milkweed are
planted around
inside perimeter
of the
community
garden.**





Community Garden

Garden size is 30 x 35
Set up as a “Communal Garden Experience”

The garden is a “communal” garden experience, without assigned plots, where everyone shares the work and the crops – (set up this way for more people to be able to participate).

Activities for the Gardeners have included:

1. Garden “group work” days
2. Pre-season and Post-season meeting on plans, what went well, etc.
3. “Mulch and Leaf-gro Runs”
4. Kids “seed collection”
5. Scavenger hunt

Activities at the Garden for the Community have included:

1. Open House Sampler Days – designated afternoon for “garden tour” and pick and choose a sample of herbs, ready to harvest produce
2. Garden Party Potluck – (pre-Covid) Gardeners prepared food made from ingredients from garden and had a “garden party” for community.

Community Garden

Garden Scavenger Hunt activity on Halloween for the gardener kids





Proper Waste Disposal & Recycling Awareness

Many residents are very focused on proper recycling

1. Field Trip to the Montgomery County Recycling Center



2. Put tips in newsletters
3. Educate at information tables/ community days
4. Reach out to Montgomery County DEP for resources and assistance.
5. Buddy up with county on “door hanger” program



Buddy Up Door Hanger Program: Recycling, waste and a place for everything



Montgomery County DEP (Recycling and Management Resources Division) and Parkside volunteers buddied up to distribute door hangers to all resident homes.



Did You Know...

We developed our own Parkside GREEN info card to supplement the county recycling information. This included e.g. resources for donating items, composting services, local retailers that collect certain items for recycling, etc.

Recycle More Now
at Your Apartment or Condominium!

RECYCLE 70 PERCENT BY 2020
Montgomery County's goal is to reduce waste and recycle 70% of all waste by 2020!

MIXED PAPER
Corrugated cardboard and paperboard boxes, hardback, paperback, and telephone books
All clean, dry paper such as newspapers and inserts, magazines and catalogs, and unwanted mail and envelopes
Coated milk/juice cartons, juice and drink boxes, and produce and frozen food boxes

COMMINGLED MATERIALS
Plastic bottles, containers, jars, buckets, caps, lids, durable reusable containers, and #1 PET thermoform plastic packaging such as plastic clamshell containers, trays, deli containers, domes, and cups
Glass bottles and jars
Empty non-hazardous aerosol cans, aluminum cans and foil products, and bi-metal steel

SCRAP METAL
Appliances, toasters, and bolts, tools, power wire hangers, metal furniture, etc.

YARD TRIM & CHRISTMAS TREES
Grass, leaves, and brush
Christmas trees

Contact your property manager to learn more about recycling. For more information, contact the Montgomery County, Maryland Waste Services - Waste Reduction and Recycling Division.
Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/waste
Call 3-1-1 or (240) 777-0311 • TTY: (240) 777-0311
This information is available in an accessible format upon request.
Printed on recycled and recyclable paper.

Did You Know...
... there's a place for just about everything you think you need to throw away. Help reduce trash going to incinerators/landfills, harming our air quality and lands. Follow Montgomery County Recycling guides posted in your building and take note of the following additional helpful information to further reduce trash.

SCRAP METAL - Collected right here at Parkside at the top of Kenilworth Ave. (next to brick garages)
METAL Includes: metal hangers, pots/pans, lamps, metal furniture, small appliances, bolts, etc.

More Tips from Parkside GREEN

DO YOU HAVE UNWANTED ITEMS IN GOOD CONDITION?
Find homes for your items on Freecycle, list on neighborhood group listservs, or DONATE items.

DONATE - This local resource site lists dozens of places to donate books, furniture, clothing, medical equipment, household items and more:
Montgomery County Volunteer Center/Donations
montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteercenter/donations/Donations.html

A VALUABLE RESOURCE: SHADY GROVE PROCESSING FACILITIES/RECYCLING/TRANSFER STATION
There are 10 collection areas and other services at this center located at 16101-16105 Frederick Rd, Derwood, MD and you can bring the following items* (in personal vehicle/some restrictions, e.g., loads under 500 lbs.):
Hazardous Materials - Tires - Bulk Cardboard & Plastic - Oils - Books/Magazines - Textiles - Electronics - Scrap Metal/Appliances - Yard Waste - Oversized Trash

- There are "Don't Dump, Donate" areas for used construction materials, old bikes, clothing, etc.
- Annual 'Free Paint' Event for MoCo Residents
- Free mulch for MoCo residents
- Free tours of the MoCo Recycling Center

For more info call 240-777-0311 or visit DEP MoCo website, montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/dropoff
*certain items above e.g., electronics, oils, are collected at other local stores -- explore around.

INTERESTED IN COMPOSTING SERVICES?
Put all your food waste, paper napkins, corks and much more into bins for weekly pickup by compost service companies. Don't think you have enough? Partner up with a neighbor & consolidate. ParksideCOMPOSTS is the discount code for special rates from Compost Crew. Visit compostcrew.com for more information.

Parkside GREEN initiatives include recycling, community gardens, stormwater management, etc.

Waste Disposal: Promote Composting Services

Promote composting – at local merchants, with a pickup service, and at the garden



Compost Crew has a pickup service with special pricing for our area/community. Interest and participation increases slowly each year as more people become interested and learn about the benefits.

There are a few different compost service companies in Maryland/they tend to focus on different neighborhood areas without overlap. Check out:

CompostCrew.com

and

VeteranCompost.com

Compost bin at Community Garden for minimal brown & green dry composting; no food waste. (besides coffee grounds, tea bags and egg shells).





Litter Walks – Plogging *Parkside Green is Talkin' Trash*

Litter Walks have been a regular ongoing activity with dedicated “regulars” and also newcomers. Started as once a month, and have often been twice a month; also do year-round now.
The weekend litter walks supplement the grounds maintenance staff who pick up during the week.



*Team's Caption: "Litterly Most Wanted:
Armed and Dangerous ... To Trash."*



Earth Day Events and Activities

Group activity making Earth Day sign



Other Activities/Info tables:

Poetry table, Compost Crew, Plastics Info, Drawing wildlife at Parkside, Weed Warrior, Recycling quizzes, etc.



Plant an herb or veggie to take home



Earth Day Collection Activities

Electronics, batteries, corks, scrap metal, ink cartridges, old shoes, etc. collection for recycling

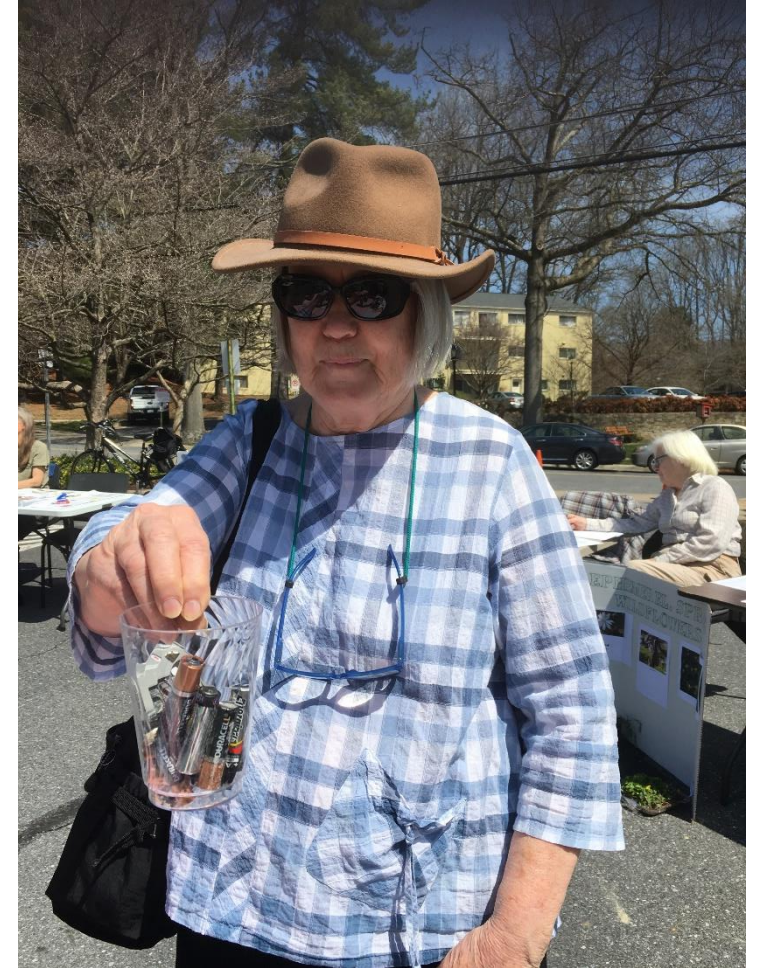


Parkside staff took all electronics, larger items to county transfer station

Took old shoes, batteries, corks to MOM's Organic Market



Let people know what they can do with things throughout the year.



Community Events

The community events

- have been great social and interaction times where neighbors can meet each other and re-connect.
- are great way to inform and educate.
- Lots of people come with questions!
What do I do with this?
- great way to involve people of all ages.

Reach out to county DEP to help with events



Light Bulb Exchange & Bulb Decorating
Holiday Community Event



Earth Day 2020 Cancelled

Pandemic Year Activities Changed

Safari Scavenger Hunt

An independent and family pod activity

Placards related to nature, wildlife, earth day, recycling, etc. were staked throughout property & participants had three weeks to complete the scavenger hunt at their leisure.

Young and old alike participated.



Tell us Three Things You Do to Help the Environment

Solicited community and received dozens of things people do- people enjoyed being asked; anyone who submitted had name in raffle drawing



#9

The Top Ten (or Eleven!) Common Things Parksideers do to Help the Environment:

1. Recycle
2. Pick up litter
3. Compost
4. Use reusable bags
5. Drive a hybrid or car that uses little gas
6. Walk everywhere possible
7. Ride a bike or use public transportation
8. No plastic straws/have reusable straw
9. Turn off water brushing teeth/washing hands
10. Use earth friendly cleaners/soaps
11. Keep lights off during the day



#10

Most Creative Things Parksideers do to Help the Environment:

1. Use wax paper liners from cereal boxes to pack sandwiches for lunch
2. Buy secondhand
3. Use pie shell tins as water trays for plants
4. Share green initiatives w/my religious community
5. Use shampoo bars instead of from bottles
6. Started a water club at work to reduce bottles
7. Have "Kill-O-Watt" plug in meter to measure actual electric usage of appliances
8. Cut old t-shirts into reusable wipes to remove makeup and for cleaning
9. Pick up garbage when I go SCUBA diving, snorkeling and kayaking





Stream Cleanups

In cooperation with **Rock Creek Conservancy** and **Montgomery County Parks**

In 2020, a few members became Certified Team Leaders for the Rock Creek Conservancy.

We organize 2-3 Cleanups a year along Beach Drive/Rock Creek near our condos. These are for Parkside residents, family & friends, keeping them as community events.



The initiative with Rock Creek Conservancy overlapped with





Google Photo Board – an easy & fun community involvement project

Google Photos



Parkside GREEN Nature and Wildlife at Parkside

Apr 8, 2008–Mar 20, 2021



Beth S



Pat McNees

1

Google Photos



Pablo Vidal-Ribas Belil

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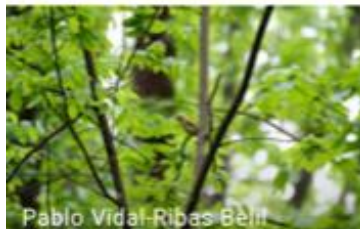


Pablo Vidal-Ribas Belil

1



Pablo Vidal-Ribas Belil



Pablo Vidal-Ribas Belil



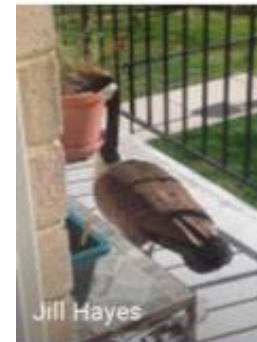
Pablo Vidal-Ribas Belil



Arthur Sherman

Jill Hayes

2



Jill Hayes



Jennifer Winestock Luna



Invasive Removal & Native Hill Project

Before – 2018



A few dedicated volunteers in the community and a few years of hand-work to get rid of Japanese stiltgrass.

Enjoy a bit of labor? Better than the gym!

After – 2021



This area is between backs of buildings/parking lots, and is grandfathered in from days on Landscape Committee as a Native plant project area – small volunteer team tend to it and test “deer resistant” native plants.



How we get the word out on events:

1. Community Newsletter/bulletins
2. Email News to Listservs
3. Bulletin Board Flyers

Next up is Earth Day 2021; a clip from our bulletin and enews:

Earth Day Events 2021

Parkside GREEN ...invites you to Celebrate Earth Day all month long in April!

April is a time to give extra recognition and honor to Mother Earth – we hope everyone finds a great way to commemorate Mother Earth during this period.

Join Fellow Parksiders for Rock Creek Conservancy's 13th Annual Extreme Cleanup Day

Saturday, April 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (details)

Electronics and More (!) Earth Day Recycling Collection

Management Office Parking Lot Saturday, April 17, 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Items Collected

Electronics – Small Appliances (e.g., old toasters, mixers, etc.) – Old Shoes – Batteries – Compact Fluorescent Bulbs – Cell Phones – Eyeglasses/Sunglasses – Old Pots and Pans & Other Scrap Metal (e.g. wire hangers, beat-up cutlery, etc.) – Corks – Old Keys – Ink Cartridges – Plastic Bags (Any kind: grocery, bread bags, ziplock bags, etc.)

Tree Tour – Learn the Different Types of Trees We Have at Parkside– Self-guided Tour

Mid-April

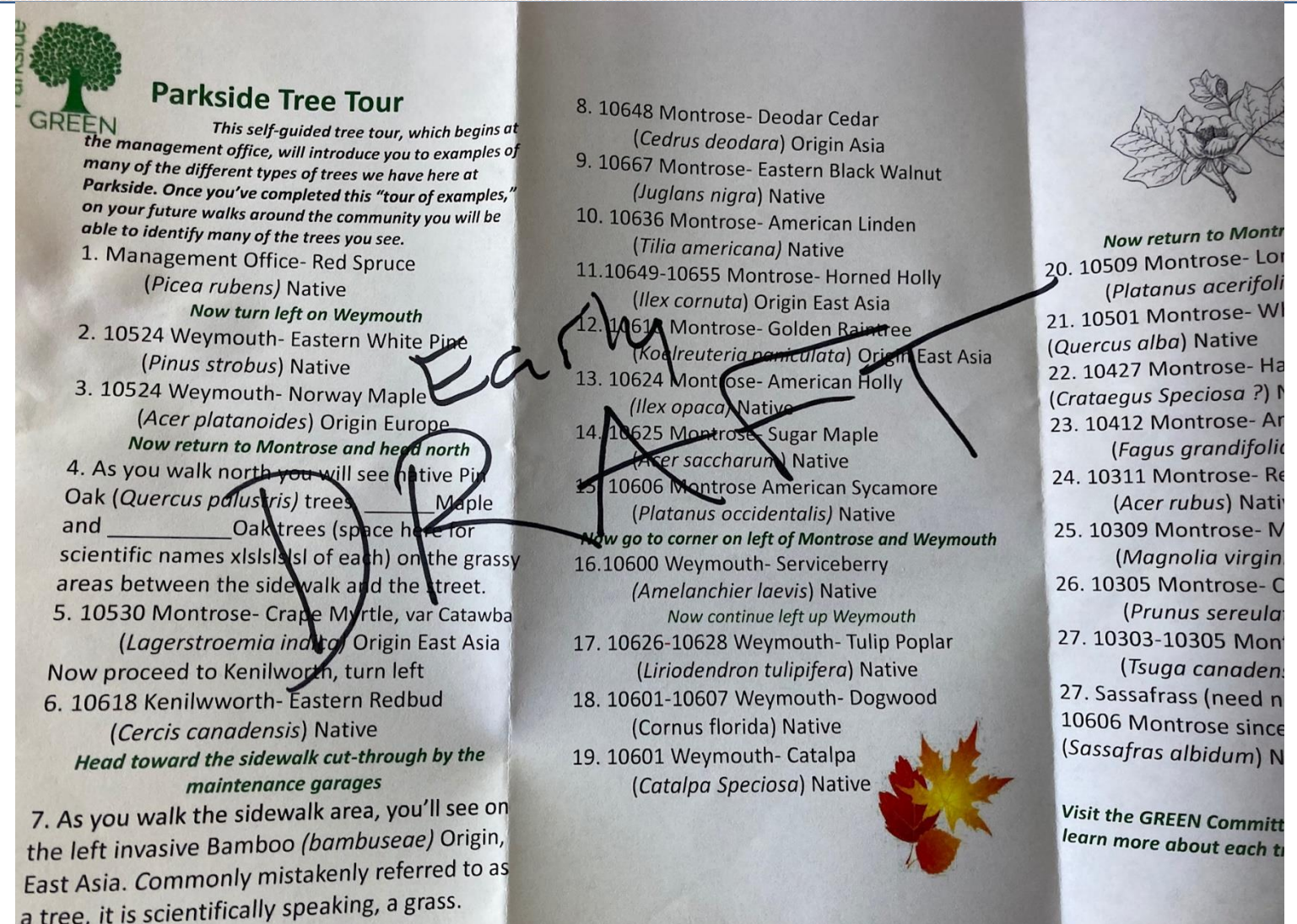


Mid-April – will unveil our **Tree Tour**

Learn the different types of trees we have in our community.

Working on a “tour guide” to learn 30 different trees in community- to unveil during April, Earth Day/month. Will have a map as back side/second page in document.

Will have a long shelf life – plan to expand on it with more information on web site.



Parkside Tree Tour

This self-guided tree tour, which begins at the management office, will introduce you to examples of many of the different types of trees we have here at Parkside. Once you've completed this "tour of examples," on your future walks around the community you will be able to identify many of the trees you see.

1. Management Office- Red Spruce (*Picea rubens*) Native

Now turn left on Weymouth

2. 10524 Weymouth- Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*) Native

3. 10524 Weymouth- Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*) Origin Europe

Now return to Montrose and head north

4. As you walk north you will see native Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*) trees _____ Maple and _____ Oak trees (space here for scientific names xlsx of each) on the grassy areas between the sidewalk and the street.

5. 10530 Montrose- Crape Myrtle, var Catawba (*Lagerstroemia indica*) Origin East Asia

Now proceed to Kenilworth, turn left

6. 10618 Kenilworth- Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) Native

Head toward the sidewalk cut-through by the maintenance garages

7. As you walk the sidewalk area, you'll see on the left invasive Bamboo (*bambuseae*) Origin, East Asia. Commonly mistakenly referred to as a tree, it is scientifically speaking, a grass.

8. 10648 Montrose- Deodar Cedar (*Cedrus deodara*) Origin Asia

9. 10667 Montrose- Eastern Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*) Native

10. 10636 Montrose- American Linden (*Tilia americana*) Native

11. 10649-10655 Montrose- Horned Holly (*Ilex cornuta*) Origin East Asia

12. 10614 Montrose- Golden Rain tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*) Origin East Asia

13. 10624 Montrose- American Holly (*Ilex opaca*) Native

14. 10625 Montrose- Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*) Native

15. 10606 Montrose American Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) Native

Now go to corner on left of Montrose and Weymouth

16. 10600 Weymouth- Serviceberry (*Amelanchier laevis*) Native

Now continue left up Weymouth

17. 10626-10628 Weymouth- Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) Native

18. 10601-10607 Weymouth- Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) Native

19. 10601 Weymouth- Catalpa (*Catalpa Speciosa*) Native



Now return to Montrose

20. 10509 Montrose- Lot (*Platanus acerifolia*)

21. 10501 Montrose- W (*Quercus alba*) Native

22. 10427 Montrose- Ha (*Crataegus Speciosa* ?) N

23. 10412 Montrose- Ar (*Fagus grandifolia*)

24. 10311 Montrose- Re (*Acer rubus*) Nati

25. 10309 Montrose- M (*Magnolia virgin*)

26. 10305 Montrose- C (*Prunus sereula*)

27. 10303-10305 Mon (*Tsuga canadensis*)

27. Sassafras (need n 10606 Montrose since

(*Sassafras albidum*) N

Visit the GREEN Committ learn more about each t





Other Projects (Oh my!)

Never a shortage of ideas or initiatives or projects

1. Stormwater Management
2. Solar and Renewable Energy
3. EV Charging Stations (researched & gave proposal; passed on to ad hoc committee)
4. RainScapes applications – one for rain garden and one for asphalt removal

Projects are driven by an interest of or ideas from committee members and residents.



Parkside GREEN

Green Teams at an HOA bring so many benefits...to the community, to the environment and to everyone on the team.

Thank You!

Susan Pourian

Parkside GREEN

ParksideGreenBethesda@gmail.com

5-minute Break



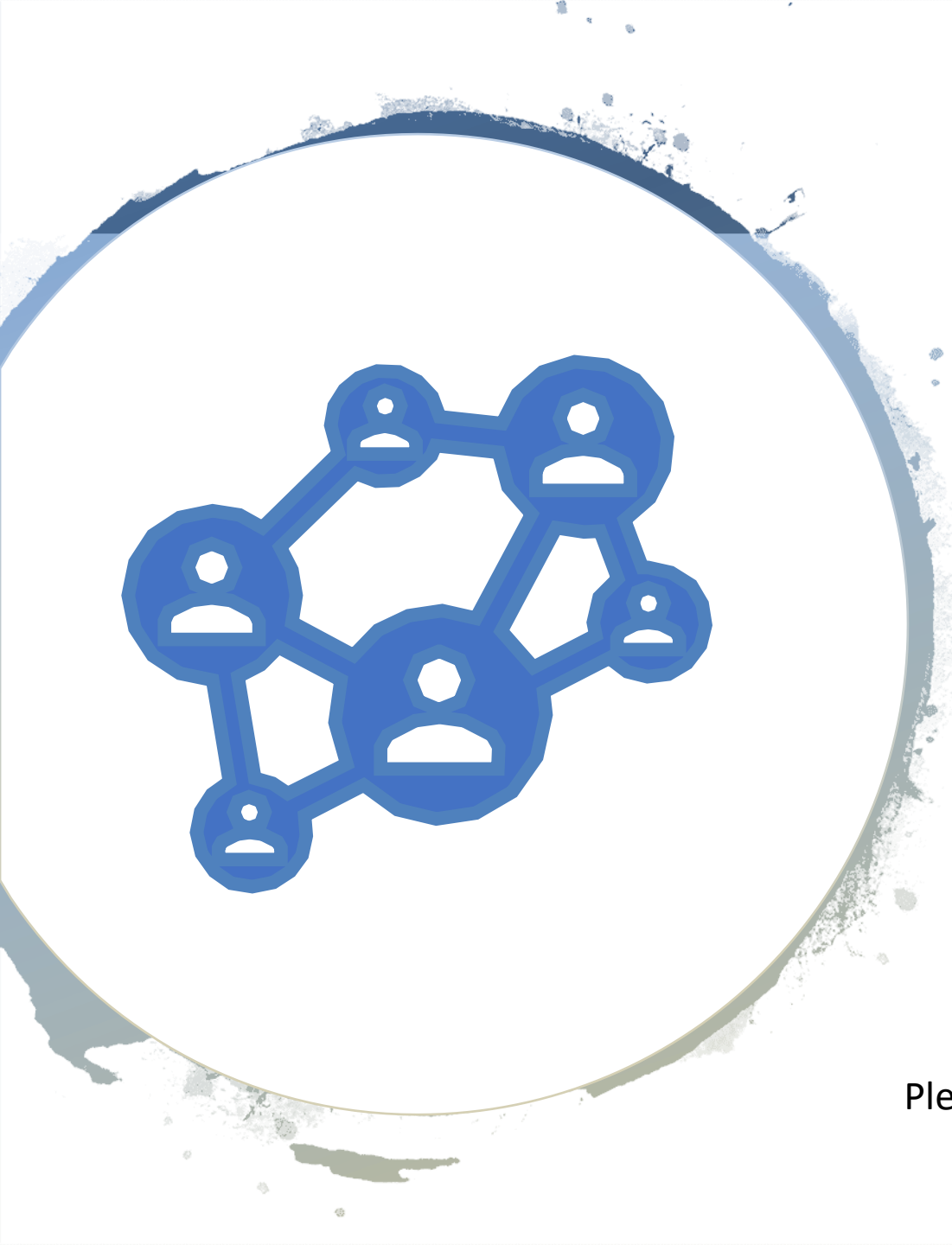
- See you back at 7:44pm

Building a Strong Network of Sustainability Champions

Breakout Sessions

1. What would your community look like if it was strong, healthy, and sustainable?
2. What are some challenges you are having in your community?
3. What are creative ways you can engage residents?
4. What resources or assistance might you need to take action?

Please have someone take notes and share them with the SM Team!!!



Poll Questions

A person is seen from behind, holding a large, colorful umbrella in the rain. The umbrella has a red top half and a yellow bottom half. The background is a dark, rainy forest with trees and foliage. The overall scene is dimly lit, emphasizing the rain and the colors of the umbrella.

Supporting Sustainability through Community-Driven Stormwater Action

Gaithersburg's Public Works - Stormwater Program



Gaithersburg
Stormwater Division

Stormwater
Education
and
Outreach

Generating Deep
Change in Our
Community

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT: A COMMUNITY PROCESS



PHASES OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

PHASE 1: Assessment

- 1 Gather your neighbors to share their values and discuss concerns about community resources.
- 2 Work with professionals and volunteers to inventory all natural resources in the watershed.
- 3 Focus on areas that have been threatened or degraded. Soil erosion, increased water flow and poor habitat are indicators of changing conditions.
- 4 Include high quality areas in your inventory. An evaluation of their productivity can help you establish your overall goals.
- 5 Use your assessment information to establish a baseline for the condition of the resources. Continued discussions help reveal public opinion and integrate different values, concerns and interests.

PHASE 2: Planning

- 6 Ask local businesses to help in the process. Industry is too often an untapped source of expert opinion and innovative solutions.
- 7 Welcome enthusiastic younger citizens to your watershed team. Their ideas can help determine the quality of life for them and their children.
- 8 Set goals and objectives for the watershed management plan – that's the community's most important task. Involve everyone.
- 9 Establish clear measures of success so you will know when you've met your management goals and objectives.
- 10 Once you are near consensus, it's time to put everything down on paper ... to develop a comprehensive management plan for the entire watershed.

PHASE 3: Implementation and Evaluation

- 11 Develop local ordinances to protect the resources in your watershed. Public awareness programs help ensure their enforcement.
- 12 Encourage developers to construct new buildings in phases. Preventing the degradation of natural resources is the most environmentally sound and cost-effective approach to watershed management.
- 13 Use conservation easements on agricultural lands to minimize pollution and create open spaces.
- 14 Adopt one of the many new alternatives to waste disposal. Recycling provides new products, and composting yard waste increases soil productivity. Other materials may require proper disposal.
- 15 Undertake extensive restoration efforts as needed. In-lake restoration efforts should always be complemented with watershed management.
- 16 Stabilize streambanks and replace pools and riffles to provide habitat for fish, waterfowl and other wildlife.
- 17 Wetlands enhancement helps protect water quality and has other environmental, economic and social benefits.
- 18 Lands that were previously cleared can be reforested to protect natural resources and provide habitat.
- 19 Finding out how people feel about the watershed is one way to measure success. Do they like it better? How do they contribute? Will their support continue?
- 20 Successful watershed management protects many beneficial uses: water consumption, recreation, fishing, swimming and ecological integrity.



- 11 Develop local ordinances to protect the resources in your watershed. Public awareness programs help ensure their enforcement.
- 12 Encourage developers to construct new buildings in phases. Preventing the degradation of natural resources is the most environmentally sound and cost-effective approach to watershed management.
- 13 Use conservation easements on agricultural lands to minimize pollution and create open spaces.
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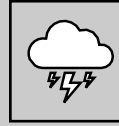




Who am I?

Michael Weyand

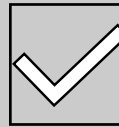
Watershed Restoration Specialist
City of Gaithersburg - Stormwater Program
Michael.Weyand@GaithersburgMD.Gov



Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems Program (MS4s)



Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program (IDDE)



Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP)



Chesapeake Bay Trust and Raincapes Rewards Program (CBT)

6 slide agenda

Purpose

**Share What Gaithersburg Does To Help
Keep Water Clean and The City Green**

Goal

Inspire Ideas for Green Action In Your
Neighborhood

1. Stormwater Outreach Program
2. Rainscapes Rewards Program
3. Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant
4. City Environmental Programs
5. Upcoming Green Initiatives
6. Share Your Ideas



APRIL 2019

GAITHERSBURG

GREEN MONTH

ONE CITY, ONE PLANET & YOU!



H 2 Oktoberfest

Can't make great beer without clean water!

Gaithersburg Stormwater Division



Environmental Outreach

SUNDAY APRIL 7 2019

ENVIRONMENTAL FILM NIGHT

POTOMAC THE RIVER RUNS THROUGH US

A documentary that follows the flow of the Potomac water from its origin, into our homes and businesses, and back into the river.

Free Admission. Limited Seating. Registration is encouraged. Call 240.805.1320.

GAITHERSBURG

GREEN MONTH

ONE CITY, ONE PLANET & YOU

ARTS BARN
311 Kent Square Rd
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
GAITHERSBURGM.D.GOV

GREEN UP DAY

SATURDAY APRIL 13 2019

GAITHERSBURGM.D.GOV



Congrats 2021 Environmental Award Winners!

GREEN MONTH

TOOK THE NO STRAW PLEDGE	ATTENDED THE COMMUNITY SHREDDING EVENT	ORDERED YOUR FREE SALT WATCH TEST KIT	WENT ON THE MORRIS TREE WALK	TUNED IN FOR THE PESTICIDE FREE LAWN CARE SEMINAR
LEARNED ABOUT SOLAR BY CHECKING OUT CAPITAL AREA SOLAR CO-OP	ATTENDED THE VIRTUAL GREEN COCKTAILS EVENT	ATTENDED THE CLEAN-UP AT MORRIS PARK EVENT	ATTENDED THE TRAIL MAPPING EVENT	ATTENDED THE EXPLORATION OF ROSEMONT VALLEY STREAM PARK EVENT
ATTENDED THE VIRTUAL LECTURE: PROTECTING THE POTOMAC	ATTENDED THE GAITHERSBURG HOA SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT	FREE	ATTENDED THE LUNCH & LEARN "RECYCLING BEYOND THE BASICS"	ATTENDED THE VIRTUAL SCREENING OF "WASTED: THE STORY OF FOOD WASTE"
TOOK THE RECYCLE LEADERS "MAKE THE MOST OF FOOD WASTE" CHALLENGE	TOOK THE SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND SURVEY	PARTICIPATED IN THE EARTH DAY - STORM DRAIN ART CONTEST	PARTICIPATED IN THE VIRTUAL MOCO GREENFEST VIRTUAL EVENTS	ATTENDED THE STREAM WALK EVENT
DOWNLOADED THE RECYCLE COACH APP	TUNED INTO STORYTIME STATION: FROGNESS	ATTENDED THE ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION	VOLUNTEERED IN A COMMUNITY CLEAN UP	VISITED THE "BIRDS OF A FEATHER" ART EXHIBIT

BINGO



Rainscapes Rewards

City of Gaithersburg Soil Test Rebate Application

Application for Single Family / Residential Townhouse

Healthy soil slows down runoff and reduces the amount of stormwater entering local streams. Collecting and storing rainwater where it falls on soil provides many benefits, including reduced water usage for irrigation and reduced chemical and nutrient pollution entering our waterways via runoff.

Rebate Terms

Program participants who follow the application guidelines are eligible to receive a **rebate of up to \$20 per soil test, with a maximum of two rebates per year for up to \$40 per property**. Program participants will be required to provide documentation showing the completion of their soil test before receiving a rebate.

Eligibility

- To participate, the subject property must be located within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City of Gaithersburg. If you are unsure about the location of your property, check the address lookup map [here](#) or call Environmental Services at 301-258-6330.
- Projects are not eligible if they are associated with permit approval requirements for new building construction, additions, or renovations.

Application Process and Requirements

1. Submit an application.
2. Receive City approval before purchasing the soil test.
3. Purchase soil test kit and complete the soil test.
4. Submit a reimbursement form along with soil test receipts and results.
5. Receive reimbursement check in the mail.

Please submit the completed application and required documentation to the following by mail or email. Contact Gaithersburg Environmental Services with any questions.

City of Gaithersburg – Environmental Services
Soil Testing Rebate
800 Rabbitt Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

environment@gaitersburgmd.gov



Rainscapes Rewards Program



Conservation Landscaping

\$1 per square foot rebate.

(250sqft Plant Bed = \$250 Rebate)



Rainwater Collection

\$1 per gallon of rain collected

(e.g. 50-gallon Rain Barrel = \$50 Rebate)



Soil Test Rebate

Up to \$20 rebate per test

(Max \$40 Per Household)

City of Gaithersburg & Chesapeake Bay Trust Partnership

Muddy Branch
Alliance
(Conservation Landscaping)

Epworth United
Methodist Church
(Green Roof)

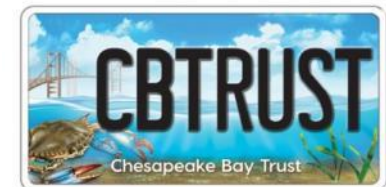
Interfaith
Partners for the
Chesapeake
(Engaging Faith-based
Communities)

Urban Ecosystems
Restorations
(Conservation Landscaping)

Asbury
Foundation
(Watershed Education)

Izaak Walton
League of
America
(Salt Watch Program)

University of Maryland
Environmental
Finance Center
(Neighborhood Green Teams)



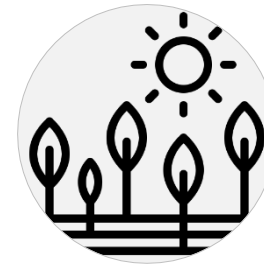
Scalable Environmental Events



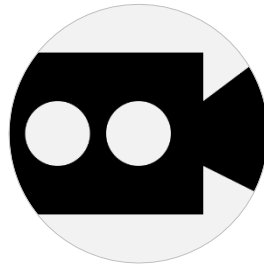
Trash Cleanups



Community Shredding



Native Plants & Tree Planting



ENV Film Screenings



Food Composting Drop-Off



Stream Walks



Storm Drain Art Contest



Newsletter



List of Local ENV-centered Groups




Local Environmental Groups & Green Initiatives

(City of Gaithersburg, Maryland)

Brand New!

In-Gaithersburg Magazine



Organic Lawn Care:

What the New Law Means for You and the Environment

by Daniel Dropik, Gaithersburg Stormwater Program Intern

The use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers poses a risk to environmental health. How could using these products on a small scale contribute to a large-scale problem, and why should you care?

What is the New Law?
Montgomery County's pesticide law restricts the use of "weed and feed" products and certain pesticides on private lawns, playgrounds, mulched recreation areas, and childcare facilities. The law aims to protect public health and minimize the potential pesticide hazard to people and the environment. Raising awareness and reducing pesticide use for cosmetic purposes is the goal. The law does not ban the sale of these products, which means you will still see restricted pesticides for sale. However, stores must place signage next to pesticides indicating which products are included in the ban. The law restricts most synthetic pesticides; organic pesticides are not affected. The City of Gaithersburg opted into the County's organic lawn care law effective December 2020.

What's The Deal with Chemical Lawn Care Products?
Popular chemical lawn care products can contain ingredients harmful to both people and the environment. Glyphosate is one of those. Herbicides with glyphosate are useful for removing weeds but can have adverse side effects on our health, so much so that the World Health Organization has deemed the chemical a probable human carcinogen. Glyphosate bioaccumulates in nature, causing long-term damage to the environment. Through bioaccumulation, man-made chemicals find their way into an organism's diet by seeping into its habitat and eventually into its food supply. Spraying glyphosate herbicide on plants will disrupt the digestive systems of bees and could contribute to the collapse of an entire honeybee colony. Rain ultimately washes the chemical down into streams and then the ocean, disrupting the reproductive cycles of fish. Thus the chemical continues to cause harm long after its usefulness on land.

Synthetic fertilizers also pose a threat and can have long-term consequences on our environment. Developed with exactly one goal in mind, these fertilizers can grow plants quickly, and they do this job well. But despite having exactly what a plant needs to grow quickly, these fertilizer products do not always give a plant what it needs to grow healthy. Most synthetic fertilizers only contain a mixture of the limited nutrients of nitrogen, phosphorus, or potassium. As a result, soil often lacks other essential nutrients such as calcium, magnesium, and sulfur, causing plants to develop weak roots and stems.

Synthetic fertilizers also contribute to topsoil depletion. Like any other natural resource, topsoil is finite, meaning it will run out if not preserved. Estimates predict that at our current rate, we will

12 inGaithersburg Spring / Summer 2021

EAC meetings are held monthly at 7p.m.

2nd Tuesday, except in April.

Watch Online By Registering At City Website

Located at the City Hall, 31 South Summit Avenue (In-Person)

For more information about participating in EAC meetings contact:

Environment@GaithersburgMD.gov




**Thank
You**

Next Steps:

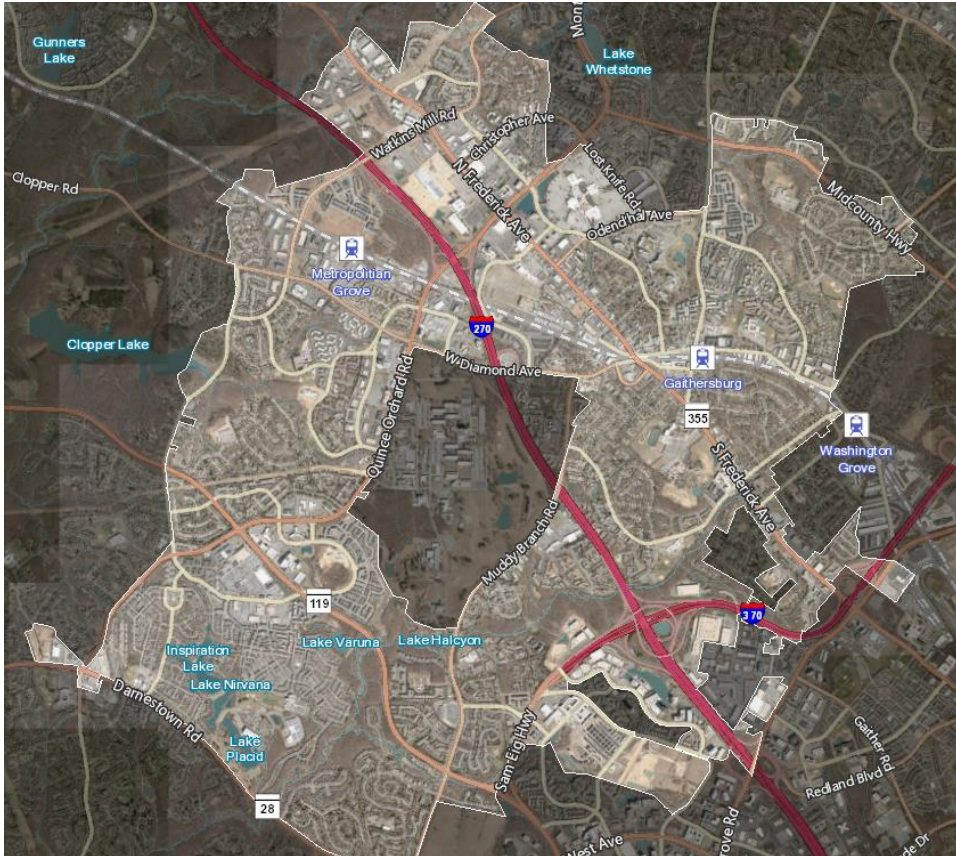
- 1) Find What Makes You Happy.
- 2) Share Your Ideas.
- 3) Go For It.

Michael Weyand 

607-382-2316 

Michael.Weyand@GaithersburgMD.Gov 

Expanding Green Teams in Gaithersburg



- Sustainable Maryland has been funded for Phase 2.0 (2021)
- Expand the number of Green Teams each year
- Help HOAs get funding for on-the-ground projects
- Foster regional clusters and partnerships
- Target projects and activities in sub-watersheds
- Annual Summit for HOAs and Civic Associations (peer to peer connections and learning)



Sustainable Maryland Next Steps

- Slides and resources from today's presentation will be shared in the coming days
- SM will continue to work with the to engage HOAs and Civic Associations to listen, learn, and provide support
- Please fill out the electronic survey to let us know how we did and what other resources and assistance you may need to advance your local sustainability efforts



Sustainable Maryland Program Reminders

It's Sustainable Maryland's 10th Anniversary!!!

- Join us as we celebrate throughout the year

SM Wednesday Webinar Series

- March – June every Wednesday @ 2:00PM

SM Earth Day Challenge

- Register your April Earth Day events to get recognized by Sustainable Maryland
- <http://bit.ly/38IOGTb>

New SM Website and New Actions

- May - June

Sustainable Maryland Support

- Additional Support Needed?
- Contact:
 - Brandy Espinola, SM Program Manager:
bespinol@umd.edu (510) 545-6483
 - Mike Hunninghake, SM Program Manager:
mikeh75@umd.edu (301) 405-7956
- Join the Sustainable Maryland [Mailing List](#)
- Follow Sustainable Maryland on [Facebook](#)



ENVIRONMENTAL
FINANCE CENTER

