



Chesapeake Bay Stewards Newsletter

June 2019

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NEWS FROM THE TRUST



Partner Spotlight: The Great Chesapeake Bay Swim

Race Director, Charles J. Nabit, personally believes in the importance of giving back. Since 2005, he has contributed to Trust programs to cultivate a new generation of Chesapeake Bay stewards. [The Great Chesapeake Bay Swim](#), Inc., (GCBS) was founded as a charitable fundraising event in 1992 as the successor to a solo swim fundraiser for health-related causes in 1982. It has grown to be one of the most sought-after open water swim races in the United States. The GCBS raises public awareness of the charitable causes it supports and is a significant financial contributor to national and regional charities.

One of America's premier open water swim challenges, the GCBS is a 4.4-mile swim across [Maryland's Chesapeake Bay](#). Held annually, on the second Sunday of June (**this year Sunday, June 9th**), the Great Chesapeake Bay Swim is a registered 501(c)3 with the mission of raising funds for the health of Maryland's babies through the March of Dimes, and the health of the Chesapeake Bay, through the Chesapeake Bay Trust. Additionally, the GCBS funds and supports several other worthwhile charities throughout Maryland.

AROUND THE BAY

- **"Black Girls Dive" Pairs SCUBA with STEM Learning.** A one-of-a-kind group in Maryland is getting young girls into the water— and engaged in science at the same time. Read Chesapeake Bay Magazine's article [here](#).
- **Art and Science to Support the Chesapeake Bay.** One of the most well-known ways to support our natural resources recently went through a change—the Chesapeake Bay license plate. Trust Executive Director, Jana Davis, shares the project with DNR. Read the article [here](#).

- **Going Native? Let Experts help you find the best plants for your needs.** Some of us are planning how to expand our native gardens to extend their seasonal interest, attract more wildlife, and/or reduce lawns and other high-maintenance landscapes. Read Bay Journal's helpful article with support from Trust Senior Program Officer, Jeff Popp, [here](#).
- **Dorchester Students Lift Off With Drone Technology.** 85 9th graders from North Dorchester High School travelled to Horn Point Laboratory in mid-May to learn how to collect scientific data from new types of technology. Read about their great experience [here](#).



Towson University Tree Campus USA Award Serves as an Example for All

[Towson University](#), a recent [Tree Campus award winner](#) and Chesapeake Bay Trust awardee, organized an [Arbor Day](#) event to showcase their commitment to planting and caring for trees and recognize their many environmental and physiological benefits.

In December 2018, Towson University received a grant award through the Trust's [Outreach and Restoration Grant Program](#) to revitalize the university's [Glen Arboretum](#). The goal of this project was to further the mission of the Glen Arboretum on the Towson University campus. The revitalization of the Glen will help improve the health of the Jones Fall watershed through removal of invasive species, increased native plants and trees, and decreased erosion along stream banks. It will also provide educational experiences for students and the surrounding community. Through events and promotions by the students, faculty and volunteers, the Glen Arboretum is not only a valuable environment for university research, but a community resource for restoration and visitation.

Read more about becoming the lorax for your community or organization [here](#).

Catonsville Presbyterian Church Tackles Woodlands

As an "[Earth Care Congregation](#)", the [Catonsville Presbyterian Church](#) has been undertaking a multi-phase effort to improve the church property. The church is entering the fourth year of certification as an Earth Care Congregation, a designation earned through application to the national office, Presbyterian Church (USA) with a range of programs



and projects in the areas of worship, education, and building/grounds. As part of this program, the church's Creation Care Team schedules projects and activities throughout the year, with a focus on environmental hands-on projects from spring through fall.

Last year, a major set of projects were implemented to begin the restoration of a long-neglected area of church property. This area includes woodland, with open grasses areas. These projects were initially planned to work on one section of woodlands that had a particularly serious infestation of invasive plants such as [ailanthus](#) and ground vines.

The current proposal is to allow the Creation Care Team to proceed with plans to address the growth of invasive plants and to further improve the development of native meadow grasses and native plants/pollinator areas. The [meadow garden](#), started last season, will be expanded and additional educational activities will be scheduled. In addition, there will be additional pathways identified and improved to allow safe access.

Catonsville Presbyterian Church's high visibility in the community and location with a shared boundary with Hillcrest Elementary School make this property an ideal location for engagement with the community in projects to enhance the environment. Last season they accomplished several joint projects and activities including two successful hands-on activities with students and coordination with the Parent Teacher Association Environmental Committee to transplant many native plants and grasses from the school's teaching gardens to the native plant areas being developed in the woodlands.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

[Emerson Food Forest Tour](#): Monday, June 3rd, 5:30p-7p. 4515 Emerson St., Hyattsville, MD. Discover native fruits and nuts that you can plant in your own yard or community. Space is limited.

[The Woods in Your Backyard \(WIYB\)](#): Wednesday, June 5th. 6p-9p. Bowie City Hall, Bowie. The WIYB program will provide you the knowledge and resources to create new natural areas from lawn or pasture, enhance existing woodland for wildlife, recreation, privacy, timber or other objectives.

[Lecture and Dinner at Ladew Gardens](#): “Enjoying the Outdoors Safely in the Age of Lyme disease.” Thursday, June 6th. 3535 Jarrettsville Pike, Monkton. Dr. John Aucott, Director of Johns Hopkins Lyme Disease Clinical research Center, will discuss the current outlook for ticks and tick-borne diseases in Maryland.

[The Great Chesapeake Bay Swim](#): Sunday, June 9th. Sandy Point State Park, Annapolis. The Chesapeake Bay Trust is a proud beneficiary of this event.

[Chesapeake Bayhawks vs. New York Lizards](#). Saturday, July 20th. Navy Marine Corps Stadium. Annapolis, Maryland. Join the area’s biggest lacrosse rivalry night for an action packed game benefitting the Chesapeake Bay Trust. Check out the schedule and theme nights [here](#).

[The Monarch Ultra Run](#). Thursday, September 19th – Monday, November 4th, 2019. A team of film-makers, runners, and pollinator advocates will be telling the story of the flight of the monarch butterfly seen through the eyes of ultra-runners who will run the same distance of 4,300 km from southern Ontario to Mexico in the fall of 2019. Sure, it’s not in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, but an environmental adventure this epic deserves recognition.



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The advertisement features a light blue background with a large yellow flower on the right. In the center, there is a black tablet displaying text, a shaving brush on a stand, and a brown leather shoe with red laces.

WAYS TO GIVE

Direct donation:

You can make a direct donation to the Chesapeake Bay Trust [here](#). Or mail your contribution to: The Chesapeake Bay Trust, 108 Severn Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403.

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You shop, Amazon gives. Bookmark [this link](#) so that all of your eligible shopping benefits the The Chesapeake Bay Trust.

You Federal, State, and Local Campaigns

Federal, state, and local campaigns are tailored to meet the needs of employees, including U.S. postal workers, state employees, and U.S. military at home and overseas. Visit your human resources department or campaign coordinator to learn how you can give to the Chesapeake Bay Trust through federal and state campaigns.

Monthly Giving

At any level, monthly giving is an easy and efficient way to invest in the Chesapeake Bay's recovery. Your monthly gift will ensure that the Trust can provide everyday citizens with the resources they need to accomplish projects that have a measurable, positive impact on the health of the Chesapeake and its rivers and streams. You can easily start, change, or stop your gift at any time. Sign up to make your monthly gift to the Trust [here](#).

Chesapeake Bay License Plates

Did you know that sales of the Chesapeake Bay license plates support our work in Maryland? You can upgrade to a Bay Plate at anytime [online](#), through a [tag agent](#), or in person at the MVA. As a Chesapeake Bay plate owner, you are invited to join our Plate Perks program, giving you preferred parking or discounts at a growing number of businesses!

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ABOUT THE TRUST

The Chesapeake Bay Trust is a nonprofit, grant-making organization dedicated to improving the bays, streams, rivers, forests, parks, and other natural resources of the Chesapeake region through environmental education, community outreach, and local watershed restoration.

Since 1985, the Trust has awarded more than \$100 million in grants and projects that engage hundreds of thousands of dedicated individuals in efforts that are making a difference for all of our local systems—Chesapeake, Coastal Bays, and Youghiogheny.



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