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## A Note to Our Readers

As an organization, we work collaboratively with community members and Prince George's County to drive forward our unique Community-Based Partnership. Our goals and objectives profoundly impact Black communities and communities of color. And many of these same communities are deemed "environmental justice" areas, which have been historically marginalized when it comes to environmental burdens associated with pollution. We are hurt and angry at the systemic injustices and abuse of power in this country and we urge you to join in national and local efforts calling for change, pressing on key environmental and social issues that affect us all daily.

Our CWP team includes some of the most talented, and invested, human beings who are focused on achieving the goals of our partnership and creating pathways for the growth and advancement of small and disadvantaged businesses. We ensure members of the communities in which we work are engaged and heard. We also make sure infrastructure improvements, coupled with key environmental advancements, move forward in these communities and underserved areas.

We are deeply committed to meeting and exceeding our goals and positively impacting the lives of all members of the communities we serve. We will continue to carry on in our great work as a center of excellence and support our communities in healing and eliminating racism, inequality and injustice.

With much concern and hope,  
 The Clean Water Partnership

## By the Numbers

Program Costs Expended To Date  
**\$162.7M**

Local/Minority Business Participation  
**\$132.4M**

Current Status Completed  
 # of Sites: **150**      Credits Acres: **2,622**

Reporting period as of May 2020

Make sure you "Drop" back to the CWP website to view additional content about the partnership such as our American Infrastructure Magazine Op-Ed and State of Maryland New COVID-19 Business Relief Programs.



## Old Chapel Park Community Appreciates Pond Upgrades

New stormwater upgrades in Bowie, Md. have many residents, and wildlife, near Old Chapel Park appreciating a new habitat and updated pond thanks to the Clean Water Partnership (CWP).

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## Old Chapel Park Community Appreciates Pond Upgrades

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With construction starting in November 2019, the design and construction teams moved quickly to remove silt, mud and debris from the pond to install stormwater upgrades in order to make the area accessible to the community in the spring. This work included the installation of three forebays near the pond to capture excess sediment. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a forebay is a stormwater management practice that provides an additional storage space that serves to trap incoming coarse sediments and stormwater pollutants before they accumulate in the main treatment area. In this case, the main treatment area is the pond site, located near Arrowwood Lane and Old Chapel Drive.

Long-time resident Tracy Content said the whole neighborhood is thrilled with this pond upgrade, which has improved long-term water quality, overall attractiveness and walkability of the park

“Everybody mentions it when we’re out dog-walking. It has sparked new conversations, I’ve met neighbors I didn’t know before, and everybody is invested in keeping it clean and trash-free. A project like this has ripple effects on people as well as wildlife (pun intended). We are very grateful,” Content said.



Old Chapel Park (before)



Old Chapel Park (after)

Local wildlife are enjoying the upgrades too, as they continue to flourish in the area. Neighbors are delighted to see the wildlife bouncing back so rapidly following completion of pond construction. Nature lover, Natalie Woodard added, “I can hear the geese fly in early in the morning and I go to check on them and as the sunsets, we hear all of the frogs in concert. At night the bats come out to nibble on the flying insects near the water.”

CWP’s many delivery partners who participated in the revitalization of Old Chapel Park pond include Soltesz, SMC, D & F Construction Co., Inc., Charles P. Johnson & Associates, Inc., Assedo Consulting, LLC, Capitol Development & Design, Inc., Accurate Infrastructure Structure Data, Inc., Century Fence Construction, LLC, Cooper Enterprises II, LLC, and SunRay Lawn and Landscape, LLC.

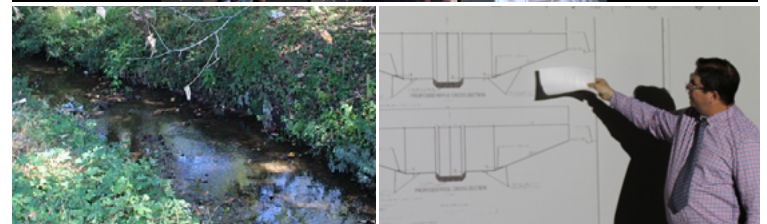
## CWP Inspires University of Maryland’s Next Generation of Landscape Architects

Continuous community engagement and relationship building led to an opportunity for The Clean Water Partnership (CWP) team to collaborate with the University of Maryland, College Park to design revitalization efforts for a network of Prince George’s County streams.

CWP delivery partners had the opportunity to connect with UMD landscape architecture students to provide details in the great work being done in the central part of the County to help limit stormwater flooding and pollution. Under the advisement of New Carrollton’s own Brad Pudner, a well-known horticulturist, and the support of New Carrollton Mayor Duane Rosenberg, CWP Outreach Team members from Assedo Consulting, as well as design engineers from Soltesz, visited UMD Professor Byoung-Suk Kweon’s class in early March to present their designs and planning efforts for the CWP’s Briers Mill Run stream restoration project. With NARDI Construction serving as the general contractor, students heard about design and construction work planned for the stretch of the stream that runs between 85th Place and Jodie Street along Carrollton Parkway. But Prudner saw another opportunity for partnership and engagement.

“With the CWP’s stream restoration already in the works, I recommended that the UMD landscape architecture course do their project on the next section of Briers Mill Run stream. Altogether, this would establish a vision for the future of the stream,” Pudner said.

The students’ capstone project included a major update to the Briers Mill Run stream, but just downstream of CWP’s planned restoration,



along Carrollton Parkway from Lamont Drive to Westbrook Drive, and includes work in Westfield Park that surrounds the stream’s east side. After countless hours and preparation with the CWP Outreach Team, the UMD students presented their final project virtually to the New Carrollton City Council in early May, making a profound impact on the future of stormwater upgrades in the city. “Thanks to our strong connections to the City of New Carrollton and the University of Maryland, CWP continues to expand its education and community outreach efforts in Prince George’s County. Initiatives like educational planting events with elementary school students, community clean-ups, and attendance at environmental ‘green’ fairs help to broaden and strengthen our ties to the communities we serve,” said Kristina Bigby, CWP Outreach Coordinator. “Community involvement is a guiding principle of the CWP and this includes engaging with our future leaders about the benefits of stormwater infrastructure improvements,” said Corvias Partnership Liaison Keisha Brown.

## CWP Continues Maintenance Transfer Practices Virtually

During COVID-19, the Clean Water Partnership and its local delivery partners work to find ways to remain connected while ensuring that stormwater improvements are completed and continually maintained.

Through the maintenance transfer program, the final step in the stormwater retrofit process, CWP delivery partners effectively complete construction and certification of the device(s) and transition the project to the stakeholder. While this is typically completed in-person, with all stakeholders, the realities of COVID-19 shifted all engagement online with virtual walk-throughs and updates guided by the CWP Maintenance and Outreach Teams.

Typically, the maintenance transfer process includes all stakeholders who collectively walk the grounds together to observe and assess improvements targeted at limiting stormwater runoff and pollution. Led by Eric Jones, with AKRF, the CWP Maintenance Team works with stakeholders through continual maintenance agreements established by the program. Maintenance team members monitor newly installed devices at each location in order to make sure they are functioning properly. In addition, the process also includes guidance for stakeholders related to the CWP's schedule of routine visits; these suggestions include litter removal and clearing of trash to ensure that the area surrounding the device maintains its aesthetic appearance between maintenance visits. Also, taking these steps allow stakeholders to identify a malfunction as they essentially act as our eyes and ears on the ground between visits.

"The CWP is committed to making sure stormwater best management practices are installed properly and maintained for generations," said Curt Wovas, CWP Program Manager. "As a 30-year community-based public-private partnership, we communicate daily and remain nimble in our effort to serve our stakeholders to ensure we are delivering stormwater improvements to the community. Maintenance transfers serve as the final step in our process as long-term partners with the County."



Newly installed stormwater educational signage at Rogers Heights Elementary School.



CWP Outreach and Maintenance Team members (Nnamdi Amaechi, Jam Kendrick and Eric Jones) meeting virtually with Rogers Heights Elementary School Principal Dr. Barbara Bottoms and Green Team Champion Gonzalo Pitpit to discuss maintenance transfer protocols.

Recently, working with the outreach team, school leaders from Rogers Heights Elementary School, including Principal Dr. Barbara Bottoms and Green Team Champion Gonzalo Pitpit participated in a virtual maintenance transfer effort. This included detailed photos accompanied by a breakdown of the functions of each device, landscape choices for the site, planting diagrams and a legend that identifies the plants that were chosen for each specific location. CWP Maintenance Manager Eric Jones also provided tips on how to take care of the surrounding area and contact information should they have any concerns. The primary goal is to provide environmental educational opportunities for students while also simultaneously limiting any rise in pollution or stormwater runoff.

## SunRay's Maintenance at Gwynn Park High Uncovers New Stormwater Partner



Local firm SunRay Lawn and Landscape, powered by an unstoppable husband and wife team, are bringing their expertise to the Clean Water Partnership. However, what was thought to be a typical maintenance job at Gwynn Park High School in Brandywine, turned out to be so much more.



Arriving on site to perform routine maintenance to the stormwater BMPs delivered by the CWP in 2017 in partnership with Prince George's County Public Schools, SunRay Owner Ray O'Donnell was introduced to "Oliver the Pig," a major part of Gwynn Park High School's Environmental, Agricultural, and Natural Resources program. This program is offered to students as an opportunity to embrace an interdisciplinary approach

to the study of earth systems, and the human impact on the environment—a promising program to help guide and educate future stormwater and green infrastructure professionals.

Based in Laurel, Md., SunRay is a Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) certified business that started in August of 2017 with the intentions of focusing on landscape recovery. SunRay is owned by O'Donnell and his wife Maria who serves as the president. While O'Donnell studied taxonomy, botany, biology and entomology at Frostburg State University, Maria—originally from Ecuador—attended the University of Maryland, focusing on marketing and finance.

SunRay who previously focused its efforts on residential projects, expanded its scope of services after meeting Nicole Copeland, CWP Contractor Development Manager. Nicole, invited the O'Donnell's to a pre-bid meeting where they learned about opportunities through the CWP and have been pursuing and winning bid awards ever since.

So far, the three-year-old company works on many other projects with the likes of the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Motor Vehicle Administration, DC Water, commercial and other homeowner association services. SunRay's expertise includes installation, construction, maintenance, and planting.

When asked if getting into this field has proved difficult for the driven, hard-working couple, O'Donnell said, "it's not a hard industry to break into."

"What's great is that there is not a lot of overhead and there is a lot of work out there for anyone that wants to go down this road. I believe it's a good industry to get into, but it requires hard work!" he added.





## CONTRACTOR SPOTLIGHT

# Meet Millenium Concepts

### How long has your company been in business?

Millenium Concepts has been in business since November 2014 and is based in Clinton, Md. We received our certification as a minority business enterprise (MBE) in 2017 by the Maryland Department of Transportation. We have since received certification as an MBE by the Prince George's County Supplier and Diversity Division.

### What is your specialty?

We started our business as a basic general maintenance company working with commercial property managers providing HVAC, landscaping and plumbing services. Our services have grown into proper maintenance of grounds and lawns as landscaping has become our #1 priority. We have also had the pleasure of working with the Prince George's County government in cleaning abandoned lots, securing properties by way of board up and even manicuring lawns that have become unkempt due to lack of maintenance.

### What is a typical day like for you?

Our day starts off by looking at the schedule for the week, understanding what each specific task order entails and prioritizing them for the remainder of the week. For example, on a Monday we may go to an abandoned or empty lot and secure all the windows and doors on the premises. We will then go back and begin to clean the yard or open area from debris, trash, automobiles, carcass and later dispose of them properly. Another crew begins to cut the lawn, remove all weeds, and ensure the lawn area is manicured per Prince George's County specifications. Depending on the size of the cleanup, we will determine how many crews are needed to complete or move on to the next project.

### What are you looking forward to gaining from this program?

Currently we have been selected to participate in the Clean Water Partnership's Mentor Protégé Program (MPP) and the Emerging Landscapers Program (ELP). We continue to learn valuable fundamentals from this program and hope to build and broaden our horizons in respect to sustainability. We have come to understand the importance of native plants, invasive plants, stormwater management, bio-retention ponds and the list goes on. All of these practices and fundamentals help us to better serve our community. We look forward to progressing in this program to learn how to better service, install, and properly bid these jobs to ensure successful outcomes in landscaping best management practices.

### LEARN MORE

#### Certifications:

MBE – Maryland Department of Transportation

MBE – Prince George's County Supplier and Diversity Division

#### Contact:

[www.milleniumconcepts.com](http://www.milleniumconcepts.com)  
(240) 640-6298

#### NAICS Codes:

238220 - Plumbing Heating and Air Conditioner Contractors;

541611 - Administrative Management and General Management Consulting Services;

561720 - Janitorial Services;

561730 - Landscaping Services



## Fairmount Heights ‘Enriched’ with Green Enhancements



Fairmount Heights Town Manager Doris E. Sarumi observing the newly installed CWP stormwater educational signage.

The Town of Fairmount Heights is one of the many Prince George’s County communities to benefit from the Clean Water Partnership’s interventions to effectively stave off historical flooding issues. With plans to incorporate more efforts around its newly constructed green space, Fairmount Heights officials say the ongoing collaboration has been truly enriching for their community.

“The citizens feel that the project has enriched the entire landscape,” said Fairmount Heights Town Manager Doris E. Sarumi. “Prior to this being installed, we were constantly receiving complaints from residents of water standing in front of their homes and flooding. We are no longer getting those complaints.”

Built on the Beaver Dam Watershed, Fairmount Heights has traditionally dealt with runoff issues from major storms and heavy rains. By connecting with the CWP Outreach Team (Tina Boyd & Associates), town officials participated in a two-year process to really dive into persisting erosion and flooding issues. Soltesz, LLC, a Prince George’s County-based firm and CWP Delivery Partner, designed the micro bio-retention pond to capture stormwater runoff and treat stormwater before it enters larger bodies of water.

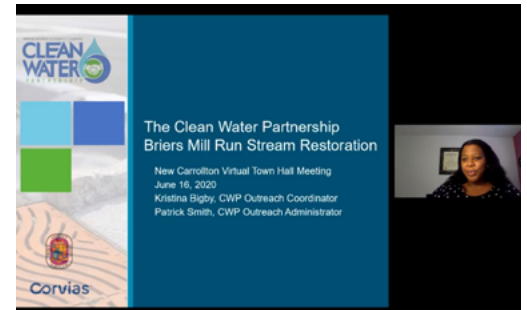


Fairmount Heights Green Space and Micro Bioretention Pond

Building on its holistic approach and partnership with municipalities, the CWP continues to work closely with Fairmount Heights’ green team. But, while COVID-19 has delayed some outdoor events for the time-being, town officials can already see the bigger picture and future benefits for their green team leaders to center community engagement efforts around environmental education. They have even slated an annual cultural diversity event to take place at the newly constructed green space.

“The location is centrally located, easily accessible and would be a great opportunity for the community to come out and learn more about how this space will enhance the community for years to come,” said Sarumi, while noting that Fairmount officials would love to have “the CWP [back to] participate in the educational aspects of the micro bio-retention pond.”

## In the Community— Catch us if you can!



- 1 CWP Outreach Coordinator Kristina Bigby hosting a Virtual Public Meeting for New Carrollton residents regarding the Brier’s Mill Run stream restoration project



- 2 CWP Delivery Partners practicing safety and social distancing at the Hillmeade stream restoration pre-construction meeting



- 3 Glen Estate Pond TPIR Inspection with CWP Delivery Partners HDR, MES, Celsue Construction, Kirila Earthworks, AKRF, Soltesz, LLC & TB&A



- 4 Valley View Elementary School Planting Event (pre-COVID) with Valley View ES Administrative and Green Team Members, AKRF, Bradley Site Design, TB&A, Nardi Construction, and Anacostia Watershed Society



## Project Highlights



73rd Avenue Deferred Maintenance Project in Hyattsville, Maryland



Ammendale Pond Retrofit in Beltsville, Maryland



Lakeview Pond Retrofit in Bowie, Maryland



Lakeview Pond Retrofit Gabion Wall Construction in Bowie, Maryland

## CWP Highlights



The National Association of Counties (NACo) granted Prince George's County a 2016 Achievement Award for the development of the Clean Water Partnership, in the category of Community/Economic Development.



The Maryland League of Conservation Voters honored the Prince George's County Department of the Environment's Director, Adam Ortiz, with the 2016 Environmental Leadership Award for his work with Corvias and the Clean Water Partnership.



The Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) convenes leaders to turn ideas into action. CGI Commitments to Action represent bold new ways that CGI members address global challenges—implemented through new methods of partnership and designed to maximize impact. Commitments can be small or large, global or local. No matter the size or scope, commitments help CGI members translate practical goals into meaningful and measurable results.

## CWP Delivery Partners



## CONTACT US

### The Clean Water Partnership

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**ABOUT THE CLEAN WATER PARTNERSHIP:** The Prince George's County and Corvias Community-Based Public-Private Partnership (CBP3), also called the Clean Water Partnership, is an agreement between County government and the private sector to retrofit up to 4,000 acres of impervious surfaces using green infrastructure. This community-focused program works to address the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay, while simultaneously focusing on the needs of Prince George's County residents and local businesses.