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By the Numbers

Program Costs Expended To Date
\$182.5M

Local/Minority Business Participation
\$149.5M

Current Status Completed
 # of Sites Dec '20 Credits Acres
156 **2,732**

Reporting period as of December 2020

Make sure you "Drop" back to the CWP website to view additional partnership news and highlights such as SWS Video Series #6 featuring MPP firm Donna Wilson, President of MESS.

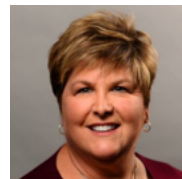
Stormwater Speak: Q&A with City of Laurel Parks and Recreation Director Joanne Hall-Barr



Forebay Construction at Lower Laurel Lake at Granville Gude Park

The Clean Water Partnership (CWP) has completed several stormwater management projects in the City of Laurel, MD. In collaboration with City officials and the community, the CWP has recently worked on a pond retrofit at lower Laurel Lake, beautification efforts at upper Laurel Lake, stormwater improvements at Millbrook Pond and a bioretention project near Laurel Elementary School. Throughout the CWP's ongoing work to reduce stormwater runoff in Prince George's County, including the City of Laurel, it has built a strong relationship with the community – organizing several community meetings and mailed construction notices to nearly 1,000 Laurel residents. This outreach also includes a strong partnership with City of Laurel Parks

and Recreation Department, where Laurel Parks and Recreation officials have acted as a liaison between CWP and elected officials, addressed community stakeholder questions and helped to distribute CWP educational materials and construction notices.



Joanne Hall-Barr, Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Laurel, MD

The CWP asked Joanne Hall-Barr, Director of the City of Laurel's Parks and Recreation Department, about the CWP's projects and special collaboration to improve and manage stormwater infrastructure across the City.

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A 2020 Retrospective—CWP Adapts Outreach Efforts During COVID-19 Pandemic

2020 was a year filled with unexpected challenges. Perhaps the most universal challenge was the COVID-19 pandemic. Across the U.S., nearly every workplace was in some way impacted by the pandemic. This includes the numerous teams that make up the Clean Water Partnership (CWP). Operating as a public-facing unit, the CWP Outreach Team faced unforeseen roadblocks

when the pandemic inhibited the ability to meet face-to-face with community stakeholders. Despite these challenges, the CWP Outreach Team adapted in order to continue providing exceptional service and communication to the public. To accomplish this, the team embraced new virtual meeting technologies, expanded

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Stormwater Speak: Q&A with Joanne Hall-Barr

How did you first hear about the CWP?

As stormwater within the City of Laurel is managed by Prince George's County, the Parks and Recreation Department was contacted by the CWP regarding its desire to complete a project at Laurel Lakes. As the project was being developed, other areas in the City were identified as projects that could be beneficial.

How is the CWP beneficial to Laurel Parks and Recreation?

Improving stormwater management and sustainability are just two of the continued goals that the City of Laurel continues to promote. With environmental concerns given the City's proximity to the Patuxent River and other areas in the Chesapeake watershed, making improvements to stormwater management sites is a priority. Additionally, the City has spearheaded a multi-jurisdictional river resiliency project that has been positively impacted by the projects that the CWP has done around the City.

Though the goal is to improve stormwater management, areas where projects have been completed show a noticeable improvement in landscaping. The public is not always aware of a project's value to improve stormwater runoff, but our residents never fail to notice beautiful, new landscaping in our parks. When they hear that the project has environmental value as well, they are always thrilled!

What do you like most about working with the CWP?

The relationship between the City and CWP has been nothing but positive. They have listened to our concerns and are quick to address them. There is very good communication regarding project details, troubleshooting and deadlines. We are always alerted to issues, problems or changes to the project and always receive follow up once the project is complete.

The communication to the public is also exceptional. The CWP takes a multi-pronged approach to ensuring the public is aware of a project and what specific work will be done. They go the extra mile to ensure the citizens understand the need for, and the benefits of the project and are available to answer questions. The CWP attended public meetings, participated in City-sponsored events, engaged on Laurel's social media, posted flyers and sent direct mailings to our citizens to ensure engagement.



Forebay Construction Lower Laurel Lake at Granville Gude Park



Submerged Gravel Wetland Retrofit Millbrook Pond, Laurel, MD

What is the benefit of the stormwater management to your community?

The byproduct of stormwater improvements in our community have been immeasurable. Several of the sites that have been improved are areas that the City would not have been able to address given financial constraints. While the use of enhanced landscaping can serve as a stormwater management control, the aesthetic beauty it adds to the parkland is very appealing to the public.

What do you think residents, community members, the public should know about the CWP?

Projects are a win-win. Residents need to understand that this program is their tax dollars at work. There are no negatives that our department has experienced with these projects. We are happy to continue to work with the CWP because it is the right thing to do for our citizens.

Hugo Neu Corporation Sustainability Seminar Series Highlights the Clean Water Partnership

Last month, the Hugo Neu Corporation invited leaders from Prince George's County Department of Environment (DoE), the Clean Water Partnership (CWP), the Stormwater Authority of Chester, the National Municipal Stormwater Alliance and Corvias to participate in the Fall 2020 Hugo Neu Corporation Sustainability Seminar Series.

Panelists from Prince George's County DoE, Corvias and the CWP were happy to close out the Fall Seminar series and provide the virtual audience, which included students from Steven's Institute of Technology Sustainability Management Master's Program, highlights and real-world examples of sustainable water quality protection, environmental justice, social and economic development and resilience efforts.

If you haven't already, please click the image to learn more about the implementation, management and impacts of these significant community-based public private partnerships.

A 2020 Retrospective—CWP Adapts Outreach Efforts During COVID-19 Pandemic

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its social media content and engagement, and adhered to social distancing.

Virtual Meetings

Prior to the pandemic, the CWP Outreach Team regularly visited communities in-person to hold public information meetings. Community meetings are critical to CWP's public outreach process – they give stakeholders a chance to learn about the CWP and projects while meeting face-to-face with representatives of the CWP. However, the onset of the pandemic quickly ended any chance of in-person, public gatherings with stakeholders for the foreseeable future. To overcome this obstacle, the CWP Outreach Team embraced virtual meeting platforms to continue providing public meeting services to communities across Prince George's County.

In the early stages of the shift from in-person to virtual meetings, the team researched several different virtual platforms and held several practice sessions to troubleshoot technical difficulties. As the virtual meetings began, it was clear that stakeholders had quickly taken to the new virtual meeting format, as many had already begun using similar platforms for professional or social purposes. Virtual meetings offer some unique advantages, including the ability to record the meetings within the platform -- this also made it easy to share the recording with stakeholders. Surprisingly, the shift to virtual meetings led to an increase in meeting attendance, perhaps because it allowed stakeholders to participate from the comfort of their own home.

Virtual public meetings were a major key to the CWP Outreach Team's success in 2020. In total, we held 15 community and homeowner association (HOA) meetings, 13 maintenance transfer meetings (introducing stakeholders to our maintenance team), and two meetings with Prince George's County Council Member Dannielle Glaros.

Social Media

While social media has long been a staple for public outreach, the CWP Outreach Team enhanced its approach to social media throughout the pandemic. For CWP's own social media, the team



Pat Smith, CWP Outreach Admin (left), captures photos during Lower Laurel Lakes pre-construction meeting

worked diligently to produce a higher volume of content to share with followers. This included additional project updates and construction progress photos shared in order to compare to previous years.

The team also branched out on social media via external channels. Through relationships forged with the City of New Carrollton and the City of Laurel, these municipalities regularly posted CWP project updates on their social media pages. These posts included sharing construction notices, no-parking alerts, traffic changes, and other critical CWP project updates. Additionally, CWP social media would regularly "tag" these municipalities in CWP posts, to connect the cities' followers with updates on projects in their area. The increased role of social media for CWP outreach proved to be a safe and easy way to disseminate information on CWP projects during a time when in-person interactions were limited.

Following CDC guidelines for preventing the spread of COVID-19, the CWP maintained on-site meetings, such as pre-construction meetings, in a safe but productive manner. Team members practice social distancing and wear masks to limit the risk of spreading COVID-19. While these practices were minor changes to the usual routine for on-site meetings, they were a critical part of allowing projects to operate smoothly, inform community members of upcoming construction, while also keeping team members safe.

Looking toward 2021, it is difficult to say when we will return to traditional outreach approaches. However, it is safe to say that the lessons learned, and new approaches adopted throughout the pandemic will remain vital to the success of the CWP Outreach Team and the CWP for years to come.

In the Community—Catch Us If You Can!



1 Pat Smith, CWP Outreach Administrator, delivers doorhangers to notify residents of upcoming construction and traffic changes at the Briers Mill Run Stream Restoration, New Carrollton, MD.



2 CWP Delivery Partners and City of Laurel representatives attend a pre-construction meeting for the Lower Laurel Lakes Filter Diaphragm Extension project in Laurel, MD.



3 CWP Delivery Partners and City of Bowie representatives attend the TPIR meeting at the Lake View Pond at Superior Landing Project in Bowie, MD.

Community Embraces Newly Retrofitted Stormwater Pond at Lake View at Superior Landing

The process of retrofitting an existing stormwater pond can present multiple challenges. In Lake View at Superior Landing, the Clean Water Partnership (CWP) was faced with many unforeseen obstacles while conducting the retrofit of the stormwater pond in Bowie, MD.

The Lake View pond is a popular neighborhood amenity where residents either enjoy fishing or taking leisurely strolls around the paved pathway surrounding the perimeter of the pond.

The CWP Outreach Team for this project, led by Tina Boyd and Associates (TB&A), began working with the community's homeowners association (HOA) in 2018, several months prior to the approval of the designs of this wet pond retrofit. The team worked closely with the Lake View Homeowners Association (HOA) to share project updates and create an open line of communication with the HOA in advance of the pre-construction meeting held in December 2019.

The main goal of the pond retrofit construction process is to enhance the functionality of the pond by excavating and removing trash and sediments, installing gabion walls and forebays that filter incoming stormwater, and installing native aquatic plants in and around the perimeter of the pond.

Once construction began, it appeared as if things were off to a smooth start. However, when the pond was drained in February 2020, there was an obscure obstacle found within the pond that threw a curveball in the process. An abandoned vehicle was found submerged in the pond and it appeared to have been there for over a decade. The discovery of this vehicle triggered a long investigation by local law enforcement in order to discover the origins of the vehicle. The investigation lasted several weeks and halted all construction activity.

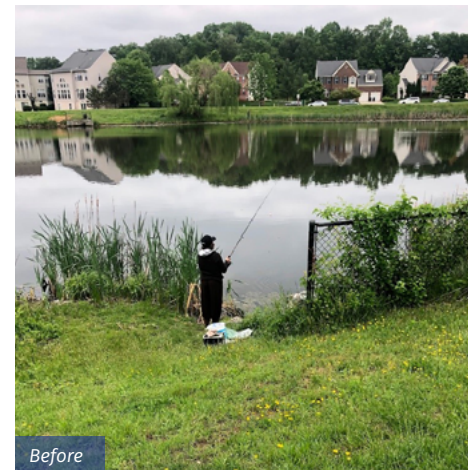
Construction at the pond resumed in early 2020 only to be delayed once again by the COVID-19 pandemic. Once construction resumed, general contractor Nardi Construction executed a revised plan designed by Soltesz and approved by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). This revision was designed to clear and maintain a natural woody buffer between the pond boundaries and wetlands located nearby.

A woody buffer is a forested or planted area around a natural waterway that aids in the successful function of the device by catching pollutants from entering the waterway. It also shades the waterway, which reduces algae and stabilizes the temperature, allowing for a healthier environment for wildlife.

As construction continued, despite the many starts and stops, the CWP Outreach Team kept the community informed and engaged throughout by conducting virtual community meetings and maintaining communication with the Superior Landing Board of Directors throughout the pandemic. The team held a final inspection in October 2020 with delivery partners Soltesz, HDR, MES, TB&A, AKRF, Nardi Construction and Rapp Construction to finalize the project. The CWP Outreach Team then coordinated the maintenance transfer, a meeting designed to educate the HOA on the maintenance and upkeep of the newly retrofitted pond, and this closed out the final construction phase of the project. During this transfer meeting, the HOA board members expressed how impressed they were with the completed project. They looked forward to enjoying the wildlife and beauty of Lake View Pond once again.

"The Community of Lake View appreciates the professionalism of everyone on the Community Outreach Team, specifically that they went to great lengths to keep us informed at every step along the way. We had a few surprises, like finding a van at the bottom of the lake, and some hiccups like asking 'what happened to our Willow tree?' but through it all we laughed and then rolled up our sleeves and collaborated on solutions," said Lake View Homeowners Association President Roslyn Brown. "It was the ultimate in teamwork and partnership, and the end product, our lake, is not only beautiful but also environmentally compliant with all laws and regulations."

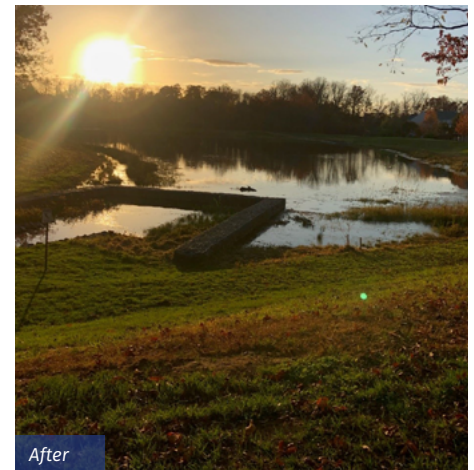
The CWP and the delivery partners overcame several obstacles in the construction of this pond retrofit. However, the end result has undoubtedly revived interest and activity by the community near Lake View Pond. The improvements made here not only aesthetically enhanced it but significantly improve the overall functionality and quality to the pond. The CWP thanks the Superior Landing Community for their patience and understanding, in support of the delivery partners persistence and commitment to the successful completion of this project helping meet the CWP's overall program goals.



Before



During



After

Stormwater Improvements Make Big Splash at Glenn Dale Splash Park

A recent project at the Glenn Dale Splash Park, aimed at preventing stormwater runoff near the popular park's water slide and pool, is making a big splash for the community.

Committed to building a positive rapport with the community and interested stakeholders, the Clean Water Partnership (CWP) worked with the Low Impact Development Center (LID Center), a Prince George's County based non-profit 501 (c)(3) national research organization that focuses on sustainable stormwater management solutions for urban and developing areas, and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) to address the Glenn Dale community's stormwater woes.



CWP Delivery Partners meet with M-NCPPC for pre-construction meeting

The CWP Outreach Team coordinating outreach efforts for this project, Tina Boyd and Associates (TB&A), organized several community meetings prior to the start of construction that served as an informational primer for the community with general contractor SMC and design engineer Soltesz. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, the most recent community meeting was conducted in a Zoom presentation format, where residents were given the opportunity to inquire about topics such as construction traffic and truck routes, noise disturbances, hours of construction and most importantly, how a pond retrofit of this nature can benefit the community and environment.

The Glenn Dale Splash Park project presented a unique coordination opportunity with M-NCPPC as it was an active recreation center for the Glenn Dale community. In a typical year, the community pool would close for the season on Labor Day, allowing for construction to start. However, the facility operating times were extended an additional month as a result of COVID-19 by officials to allow for more outdoor space for the community. The CWP Construction Management team worked with M-NCPPC's Colleen Regotti and Matthew Tippet to ensure a seamless transition from recreation to construction in October 2020.

The Glenn Dale Splash Park retrofit project design includes draining the existing pond and excavating the pond bottom to a uniform level. This process will increase the wet storage capacity of the pond. In addition, the plans call for removing the existing trash rack away from the current drain structure and clearing tree stumps and brush from the area to prevent regrowth. A forebay and gabion wall will be installed to capture any debris and sediment from the two inflow channels that are currently draining into the pond. The Glenn Dale Splash Park project will treat 3.67 acres of impervious area. Impervious areas refer to the amount of water-resistant surfaces such as pavement, blacktop and concrete present within the boundaries of the project.

The CWP and its delivery partners, HDR, Maryland Environmental Service, Soltesz, SMC, Bourn Environmental, LID Center and TB&A remain committed to completing this project in Spring 2021 for the Glenn Dale community – just in time for the splash park's reopening!



Existing Conditions Glenn Dale Splash Park June 2019

Special Announcement



We are pleased to announce the appointment of Eric Jones as the CWP Program Manager responsible for managing day-to-day operations of the partnership, as the team continues to meet

its programmatic objectives inclusive of the project delivery, long-term operations and maintenance, and social and economic goals. Eric is not a new face to the team; he has worked with the CWP for nearly four years as he previously held the program role of Stormwater Maintenance Coordinator with our delivery partner AKRF.

Eric has a thorough understanding of the requirements and expectations the CWP is responsible for, and has the perspective of a community member and stakeholder as he is a resident of Prince George's County, MD. In his previous Maintenance role, Eric could be found supporting volunteer events, career day forums with Prince George's County Public Schools students, engaging PGCPSS facilities staff on stormwater best management practices and sharing his experiences and knowledge related to routine and functional maintenance, native plants and landscaping with our Mentor Protégé Firms.

"We've watched Eric's genuine interest in ensuring the CWP is successful and look forward to his continued innovative thinking, team building and investment in the program with his new role" said Peter Littleton, Senior Operations Manager, Corvias.

Join us in welcoming Eric as he takes the helm as CWP Program Manager!



Clean Water Partnership's Mentorship Programs Support Capacity and Expansion of Local Businesses

Despite challenges in 2020, most notably the pandemic and the subsequent impacts to the small business sector, the CWP's 2020 Cohort of small business proteges successfully completed a year of training and mentorship. Last month, the partnership announced and celebrated the graduation of 16 local, small, and/or minority-firms from its Mentor Protégé and Emerging Landscapers Programs.

The Mentor Protégé Program (MPP) now in its fourth year, focuses on mentoring and support to develop the local capacity of small businesses in stormwater management and green infrastructure projects. This year, the CWP created the Emerging Landscapers Program (ELP) to expand the pool of qualified landscaping firms capable of performing aesthetic and functional maintenance on stormwater best management practices (BMPs).

Since the mentorship program's start in 2017, over 35 firms have completed the Mentor Protégé Program, including the 13 firms from the Emerging Landscapers Program this year.

"We continue to build capacity and increase the competence of firms in green stormwater infrastructure construction. At the same time, we recognize that every project constructed has a 30-year maintenance requirement, which presents an opportunity for landscapers to develop a new line of business," said Michael Burke, CWP Director, Business Inclusion and Capacity Development. "Green Infrastructure maintenance is a great entry point for small business with clear growth path to construction."

This year, the Mentor Protégé Program's graduating firms include:

- C&M Construction Services, Lanham, MD
- Cleckley Development Corp., Upper Marlboro, MD
- CWI Solutions, Washington, D.C.
- Insight Engineering, Upper Marlboro, MD
- Millennium Concepts, Clinton, Md
- Minority Environment Solutions and Services, LLC, Bowie MD
- Sterling Enterprises, Mount Rainier, MD

From the Emerging Landscapers Program, the first cohort of graduating firms include:

- 1st Choice Facilities Maintenance, LaPlata, MD.
- AC Reliable, Mitchellville, MD
- Cavalla Construction, Baltimore, MD
- C&M Construction Services, Lanham, MD
- Daylilly Landscaping, LLC, Washington, D.C.
- Faulkner Lawn Care & Landscaping, Oxon Hill, MD
- Maroon Garden Concepts, Rockville, MD

- Millennium Concepts, Clinton, MD
- Minority Environmental Solutions & Services, Bowie, MD
- Sterling Enterprises, Mount Rainier, MD
- T&G Services, College Park, MD
- TCG Property Care, Inc., Washington, D.C
- The Georgetown Landscaping Company, Georgetown, D.C.

Each firm participated in the MPP and or ELP while also maintaining their businesses and managing the health and safety of themselves, their families and their employees due to COVID-19.

A few firms share their sentiments and experiences from the CWP mentorship program during a virtual celebration last month:

"This program highlights the things small businesses aren't thinking of. It has taught me to be more strategic, more focused and leverage the resources of the network around us."

—Nikki Oyefeso, Cavalla Construction

"I didn't know what I didn't know; I thought I had it all figured out. Being a part of this program has really made me regroup. I learned how to be comfortable and vulnerable around other business owners. I really enjoyed having a big brother organization, it's a supportive group."

—Tommy Duren, The Georgetown Landscaping Company

"Our company has been in business for 20 years, but we have been missing out on a lot of things. I didn't know what type of impact this program would have on us. It has motivated me to get additional certifications. I want to be a part of helping other small businesses grow."

—David Banda, C&M Contractor Services

"We would not have known what we didn't know. This has been an amazing experience...a master class. Thank you for your commitment to us."

—Donna Wilson, Minority Environmental Solutions & Services, LLC

For more information about the Mentor Protégé and Emerging Landscapers Programs, please visit www.thecleanwaterpartnership.com.

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.



SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Meet TCG Property Care

Interview with Wade Cassamajor, President

How long has your company been in business?

I started TCG Property Care (TCG) in the summer of 2017 with my two partners, Sam Augstin and Krystal Talley, to provide landscaping installation and maintenance services. TCG is based in the District of Columbia's Ward 7, which has historically been a disadvantaged community, where the population suffers from underemployment. TCG was established to create job opportunities for young people living in this community who are looking for work.

What is your specialty?

Initially, we focused on traditional landscape maintenance and install work. We then created and developed an environmental nexus for maintaining Bioretention facilities. TCG is now growing our landscape installation capabilities (planting trees, shrubs, etc.) in green infrastructure and performing erosion and sediment control services. Realizing that stormwater was an emerging industry this became the perfect niche for our landscaping business.

What is a typical day like for you?

On a day-to-day basis, our crews are involved in routine maintenance of Best Management Practices (BMPs), or performing traditional landscape services, erosion, and sediment controls, cutting, and planting. We are also working on two stream projects for the first time.

What do you like best about the work you do?

The environmental impact. Our initial mission was to create jobs for underrepresented people in our community. At the time we did not realize the effect environmental sustainability work would have on our employees. Our crews now understand why we maintain Bioretention facilities and install landscaping to control erosion and sediment. They now point out environmental impact issues as they are traveling between project sites. This means that TCG is now creating job opportunities in underserved communities and educating the community on environmental impacts.

If any, what CWP projects have you worked on thus far?

We have completed two so far and we are in the process of working on a third project. The projects:

- Dora Kennedy Elementary School – Bioretention
- Hillmeade Stream Restoration
- Crain Highway Stream Restoration

What is one piece of advice you could offer to small business owners interested in pursuing work with The Clean Water Partnership?

Do not take local capacity development programs for granted, they can have a major impact on your business. Go to the meetings, do the work, because the biggest benefit is the relationships that you'll be able to establish. Also, contract awards have allowed us to rent equipment, establish vendor credit, obtain loans, and build past performance references.

Is there anything else you would like to share?

The partnership that Prince George's County has with Corvias is an excellent working model for what needs to be in place to assist minority businesses. CWP bridges the gap between the minority business, the local economy, and the general contractors.

LEARN MORE

Certifications:

NGICP Green Infrastructure Construction, Inspection and Maintenance Certification Cert. No.: 00285; Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional Certification Cert. No.: 3-00035; Professional Fertilizer; Business License License No.: MDA-F 1091; Certified Business

Enterprise (Wash., DC) Cert. No.: LSDZR82188012021; Section 3 (Wash., DC) Cert. No.: 18-11-197; Minority Business Enterprise Cert. No.: DOT MBE 18-370; Prince George's County Supplier Developer and Diversity Division Cert. No.: MBE-19-14668

Contact:

202-742-8984

Project Highlights



Ammendale Pond, Beltsville, Maryland



Brier's Mill Run Stream Restoration, New Carrollton, Maryland



Greenbrook Lake Pond Retrofit, Greenbelt, Maryland



Lake View Pond at Superior Landing, Bowie, Maryland

CWP Delivery Partners



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ABOUT THE CLEAN WATER PARTNERSHIP: The Prince George's County and Corvias Public-Private Partnership (P3), 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.