

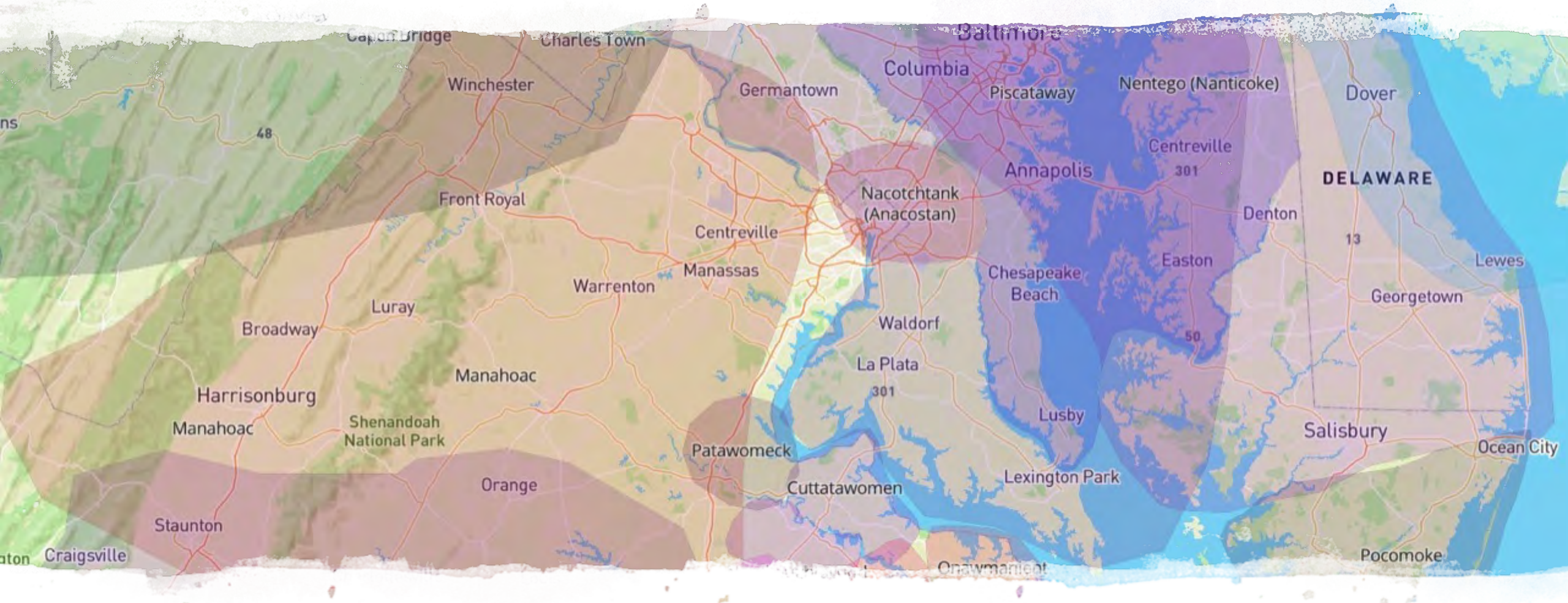
Gaithersburg Sustainability Summit

for Homeowners Associations

Thursday, January 25, 2024
Via Zoom



ENVIRONMENTAL
FINANCE CENTER



Gaithersburg's Native Land

Agenda

6:30 pm: Welcome from the City of Gaithersburg

6:40 pm: Sustainable Maryland Residential Action Framework

6:55 pm: A Green Team in Practice

7:25 pm: Stretch Break

7:30 pm: Building a Strong Network of Sustainability Champions – Breakout Rooms

7:50 pm: City of Gaithersburg: Community-Driven Stormwater Action

8:10 pm: Facilitating Collaboration Amongst Green Teams in Gaithersburg

8:25 pm: Wrap Up/Next Steps





Gaithersburg

A CHARACTER COUNTS! CITY

City Hall

*31 South Summit Avenue
Griffith Park*

City of Gaithersburg

Welcome!

Council Member Yamil Hernández

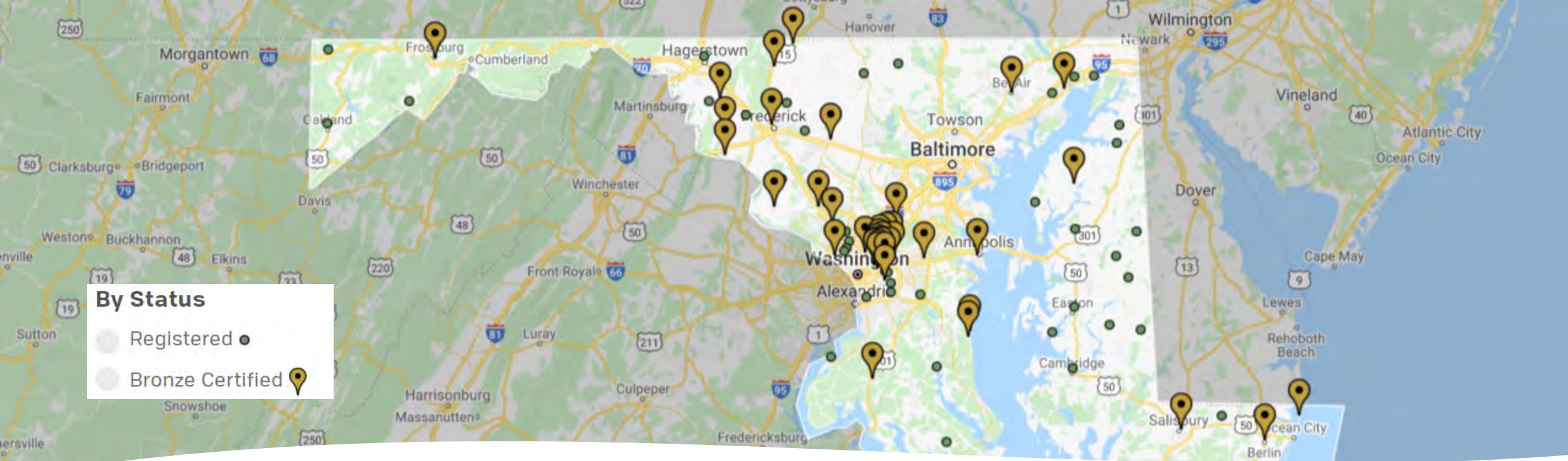
Sustainable Maryland's Residential Action Framework

ENGAGING MARYLAND'S
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS



ENVIRONMENTAL
FINANCE CENTER





- 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
 - Track progress towards and gain recognition for achieving goals



SM Residential Action Framework

TAKING STEPS TOWARDS A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



1. Establish 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



2. Review the SM Residential Action Menu

	A	B	C	D
16		Stormwater Management	Type	Resources
17	SM-1	Promote Stormwater Management Best Practices	Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stormwater 101 Gaithersburg https://bit.ly/3gHCo14 - Stormwater Pollution Prevention Gaithersburg https://bit.ly/3Bft51z - Types of Stormwater Management Facilities Montgomery County https://bit.ly/3JIHNqF - Rainscapes Reward Program Gaithersburg https://bit.ly/3Hp6Okp
18	SM-2	Promote Stormwater Rebate Program Education and Outreach	Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rainscapes Reward Program Gaithersburg https://bit.ly/3Hp6Okp
19	SM-3	Schedule Regular Community Cleanup Days	Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How to Organize & Lead Your Clean Up Alice Ferguson Foundation https://bit.ly/3HkJiEY - Community Clean Up Event Support Gaithersburg https://bit.ly/3rIWMus - City Cleanup Liability Release Form https://bit.ly/3rjhZ8m - Outreach and Restoration grant Chesapeake Bay Trust https://bit.ly/3HwaZek - Community Engagement Mini-grant Chesapeake Bay Trust https://bit.ly/3ojLvJe
20	SM-4	Storm Drain Stenciling	Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Storm Drain Stenciling Chesapeake Bay Foundation https://bit.ly/3J23WKJ - Storm Drain Art Project Gaithersburg https://bit.ly/3JcTtMD - Keep Montgomery County Beautiful Storm Drain Marking Program Montgomery County https://bit.ly/3ohqBKK - Storm Drain Stenciling Action Project MD Department of Natural Resources https://bit.ly/3okXMx9 - Outreach and Restoration grant Chesapeake Bay Trust https://bit.ly/3HwaZek - Community Engagement Mini-grant Chesapeake Bay Trust https://bit.ly/3ojLvJe
21	SM-5	Adopt-A-Stream	Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adopt-a-Stream Alice Ferguson Foundation https://bit.ly/3ukdc8S - Adopt-a-Stream Team Leader Montgomery County Volunteer Center https://bit.ly/3L12MRo - Outreach and Restoration grant Chesapeake Bay Trust https://bit.ly/3HwaZek - Community Engagement Mini-grant Chesapeake Bay Trust https://bit.ly/3ojLvJe - Environmental Volunteer Opportunities Gaithersburg https://bit.ly/3rIWMus - City Cleanup Liability Form Gaithersburg https://bit.ly/3rjhZ8m
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rainscapes Reward Program Gaithersburg https://bit.ly/3Hp6Okp

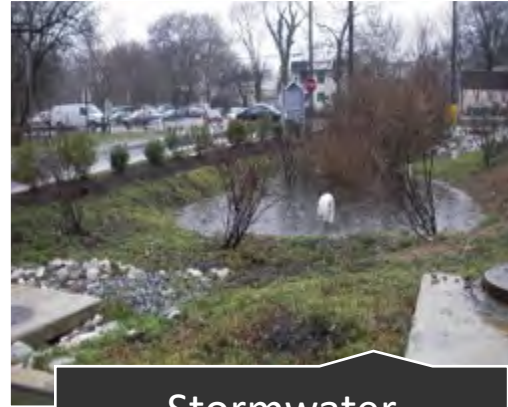
<https://sustainablemaryland.com/resources/homeowners-associations>

2. Review the SM Residential Action Menu

ACTION CATEGORIES



Community Action



Stormwater Management



Eco-Friendly Landscaping



Enhancing Wildlife 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

3. Explore Potential Community Actions

Questions to keep in mind

1. What are our community's priorities and goals?
2. Are there any known issues?
3. What actions have already been initiated/completed?
4. Where are there areas of opportunity?
5. Who are the members of the community?
6. What do we control?
7. What local assets and resources can we build on?

Community Assets



Community
Members



Property



Policies



Outreach &
Communication



Services &
Procurement

4. Develop a Green Team Action Plan



4. Develop a Green Team Action Plan

SAMPLE ACTION PLANS

Summit Hall Reserve HOA GREEN TEAM ACTION PLAN 2022-2025

In 2021 Summit Hall Reserve HOA worked with the Environmental Finance Center (EFC) at the University of Maryland and its Sustainable Maryland (SM) program to adopt the SM Residential Action Framework. Sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Trust with support from the City of Gaithersburg, this framework guides homeowners' and civic associations through a process that increases their awareness of natural resources and watershed protection issues, educates their residents on the importance of community-based sustainability efforts, and encourages action.

Over the course of a year, the EFC project team led community members through a process of identifying and prioritizing shared areas of need, strategies for enhancing collective action, and opportunities for developing projects culminating in a Green Team Action Plan.

The Summit Hall Reserve Green Team Action plan is a living document that establishes priority actions for the next three years and serves as a tool for Green Team members to stay organized and track progress over time.



HIGHLIGHTS

ESTABLISHED

LOCATION
Cobbler Place and Fairbanks Drive, Gaithersburg, MD

POPULATION
82 households
~175 residents

GREEN TEAM MEMBERS
Quinn Odorizzi, Property Manager
Jon Sundy, Board member
Jon Griffin, Board member

GREEN TEAM CONTACT
Quinn Odorizzi, Property Manager
QOdorizzi@smc-management.com

PARTNERS
Sustainable Maryland
Environmental Finance Center
City of Gaithersburg
Chesapeake Bay Trust



COMMUNITY ACTION

Establish a Green Team

Action Leads:
Target Year: Spring 2022
Estimated Cost and Resource Needs:
Potential Partners:
Potential Resources:

- SM Framework presentation | Sustainable Maryland
- Outreach and Restoration grant | Chesapeake Bay Trust | <https://bit.ly/3HwaZek>
- Community Engagement Mini-grant | Chesapeake Bay Trust | <https://bit.ly/3ojLvJe>

Progress and Implementation Notes:
Community participants agreed that a Green Team would be a useful addition to the community, as a sub-committee of the Board. They agreed to pass a formal designation of a Green Team, and will use the Diamond Farms resolution as a template.



Develop a Green Team Action Plan

Action Leads:
Target Year: Spring 2022
Estimated Cost and Resource Needs:
Potential Partners:
Potential Resources:

- SM Green Team Action Plan Template | Sustainable Maryland |
- Outreach and Restoration grant | Chesapeake Bay Trust | <https://bit.ly/3HwaZek>
- Community Engagement Mini-grants (for executing water-related projects) | Chesapeake Bay Trust | <https://bit.ly/3ojLvJe>
- Advocacy & Stewardship Handbook | Audubon Naturalist Society | <https://bit.ly/3sfWzZ0>
- Homeowner's Guide to Sustainability | Angi | <https://bit.ly/3H2adqg>
- Environment | Community Associations | <https://bit.ly/35izug8>

Progress and Implementation Notes:
SM will provide a draft action plan based on community meetings.





Local Environmental Groups & Green Initiatives (City of Gaithersburg, Maryland)

5. Take Action

- Coordinate with Board leadership, property managers, and local partners
- Tap into local resources
- Take a mix of easier short-term and more challenging long-term actions
- Celebrate wins big and small

Organic Lawn Care:

What the New Law Means for You and the Environment

by Daniel Droptz, Gaithersburg Sustainability 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 is lost.

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 local 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



6. Connect with Peer Communities

BUILDING A STRONG NETWORK OF SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPIONS



Join Sustainable Maryland for a
Virtual Connection Hour
Thursday, March 3, 4:30-5:30pm



Dear Sustainable Maryland-ers,

Spring is on the horizon (with snow drops and daffodils and crocuses making an appearance this week), which made us realize it's been awhile since we've checked in with you.

Please join the SM Team today (Thursday, March 3), from 4:30-5:30pm, for a Virtual Connection Hour, and share what's inspiring or concerning you these days.

We want to know:

- what's on your mind?
- how we can help you?
- what you are planning in your community?

And we'll update you on the Sustainable Maryland funding bill (HB100/SB14) that is making it's way through the Maryland General Assembly this month, and how you can help make it a reality.

All are welcome - Green Team members, local elected officials, government staff, state and nonprofit representatives, and engaged citizens.

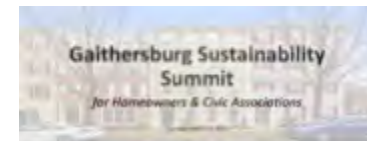


2nd Gaithersburg Homeowners/Civic Association Sustainability Summit

AGENDA

Location: Virtual - ZOOM: <https://usd.zoom.us/j/94997369475>
Date: Thursday, March 24, 2022, 6:30-8:30pm

- 6:30 - 6:40pm: **Welcome from the City of Gaithersburg**
Speaker: Mayor Jud Ashman
- 6:40 - 7:55pm: **Overview: Sustainable Maryland Residential Action Framework**
Speaker: Mike Hunninghake, Sustainable Maryland
- 6:55 - 7:25pm: **Spotlight: A Green Team in Practice**
Speakers: Susan Pourian (Chair, Parkside Green - Parkside HOA, Bethesda) and Alex Stavitzky-Zeinuddin (Green Team Chair, Kentlands Go Green, Kentlands Citizens Assembly)
- 7:25 - 7:30pm: **Stretch Break**
- 7:30 - 7:50pm: **Building a Strong Network of Sustainability Champions**
Breakout Rooms Discussions
- 7:50 - 8:10pm: **Supporting Sustainability through Community-Driven Stormwater Action**
Speaker: Michael Weyand, Watershed Restoration Specialist, City of Gaithersburg
- 8:10 - 8:25pm: **Moving Forward: Expanding Green Teams in Gaithersburg**
Speaker: Natalia Sanchez, Sustainable Maryland
- 8:25 - 8:30pm: **Wrap Up /Next Steps**



7. Reflect and Revisit the Process

- Track and measure progress towards Green Team Action Plan implementation
 - Communicate progress to Board leadership and community residents
- Update your Action Plan at least every three to five years
 - Survey community members to identify shifting priorities
 - Set aside time for a Green Team retreat to discuss progress and next steps
 - Adopt lessons learned from peer-to-peer community convenings
- Continue growing your Green Team
 - Recruit additional Green Team members



Taking Steps Towards a More Sustainable Future

Get Involved

Residential Associations

- Share this video with your Board and propose adopting the SM Residential Action Framework
- Download the SM Residential Action Menu
- Partner with neighboring communities
- Pursue funding and technical assistance opportunities

Counties and Cities

- Promote the SM Residential Action Framework to community associations
- Partner with Sustainable Maryland to launch a targeted outreach campaign
- Convene a Sustainability Summit for HOAs and Civic Associations

SM Residential Action Framework





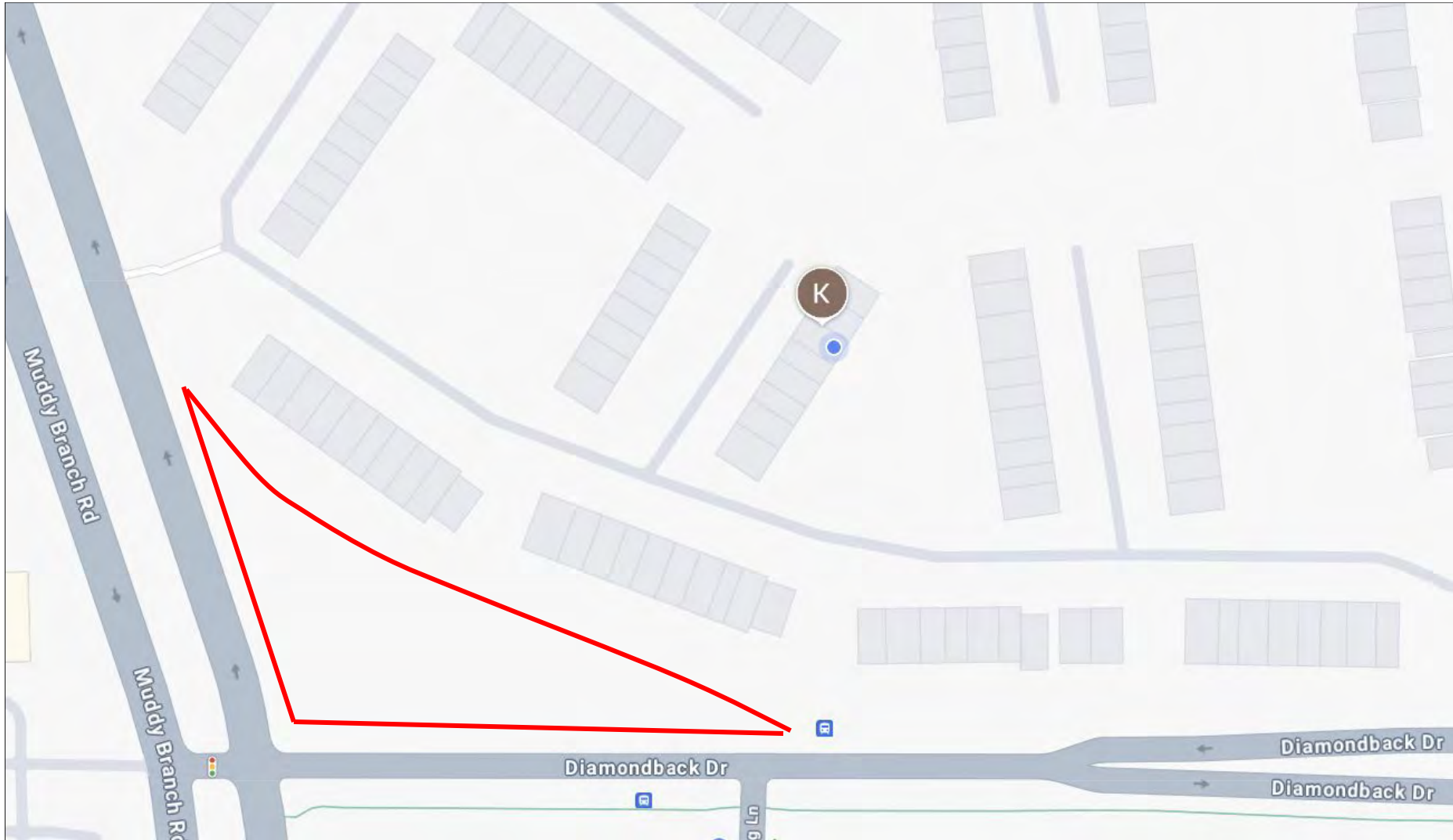
Spotlight: A Green Team in Practice


Shady Grove Village
Relda Square

Shady Grove Village Pollinator Gardens



Shady Grove Village Edible Forest





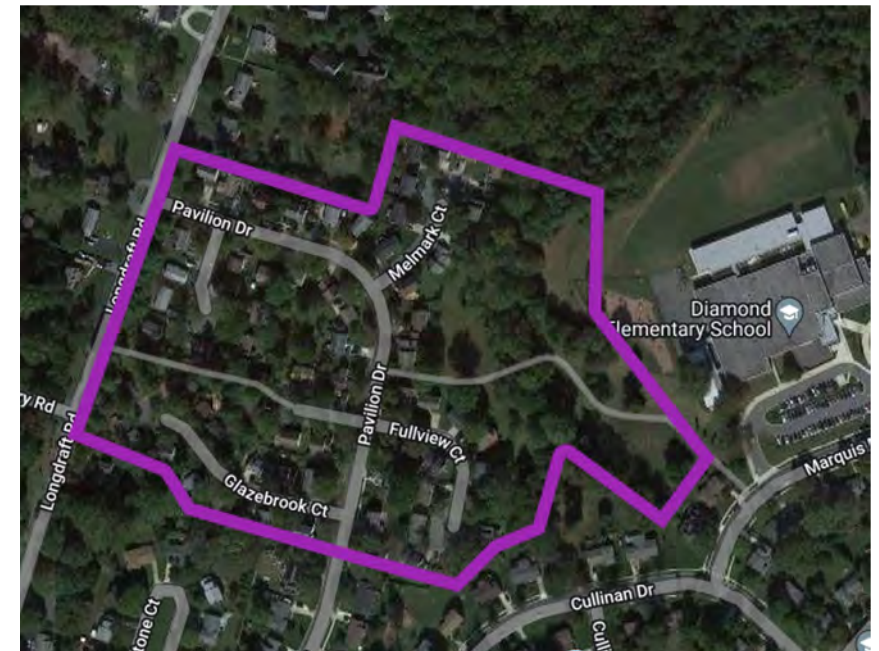
Relda Square Green Team

Gaithersburg, MD
Est. 2023

Relda Homeowners Association

Community of 68 single family homes built in the late 1970s

Maintains several acres of common ground, including fields, wooded areas and a quarter mile of stream corridor.



Green Team Completed Initiatives

Conducted a tree survey

Tree canopy succession planning

Invasive species removal & clean up projects



Multiflora Rose removal



""The Pit"" clean up and fill



Two pin oaks on Relda Ct

Stormwater Reduction Plan

Education and outreach for best practices

Promotion of rebate programs

Host a rain barrel workshop

Install rain gardens and bioswales

Storm drain stenciling

Adopt-a-Stream program



Pavilion drive storm drain

Outlet into the creek

Preserving and Improving Local Biodiversity

Continue efforts to eradicate invasive plants

Adopt and promote native plant landscaping

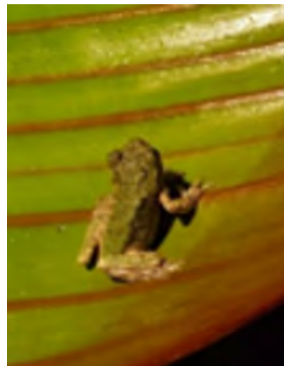
Establish and promote no-mow zones

Plant pollinator gardens

Plant food forest

Host annual Bio Blitz

Tree Planting



Other Future Projects

Establish a Sustainability Resource Center

Install a Little Free library

Safe route to school/ traffic calming

Community yard sale

Promoting energy efficient practices and solar panels

Promote CSAs/local agriculture

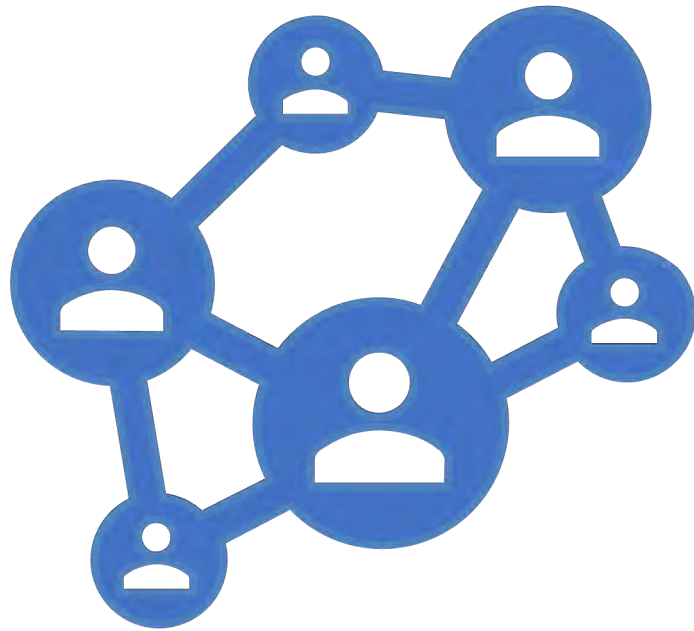


**Big Thank you to Sustainable
Maryland from the Relda Square
Green Team!**

5-minute Break



Building a Strong Network of Sustainability Champions



Breakout Sessions

1. What are your goals for making your community more sustainable?
2. What training or resources do you need to achieve those goals?

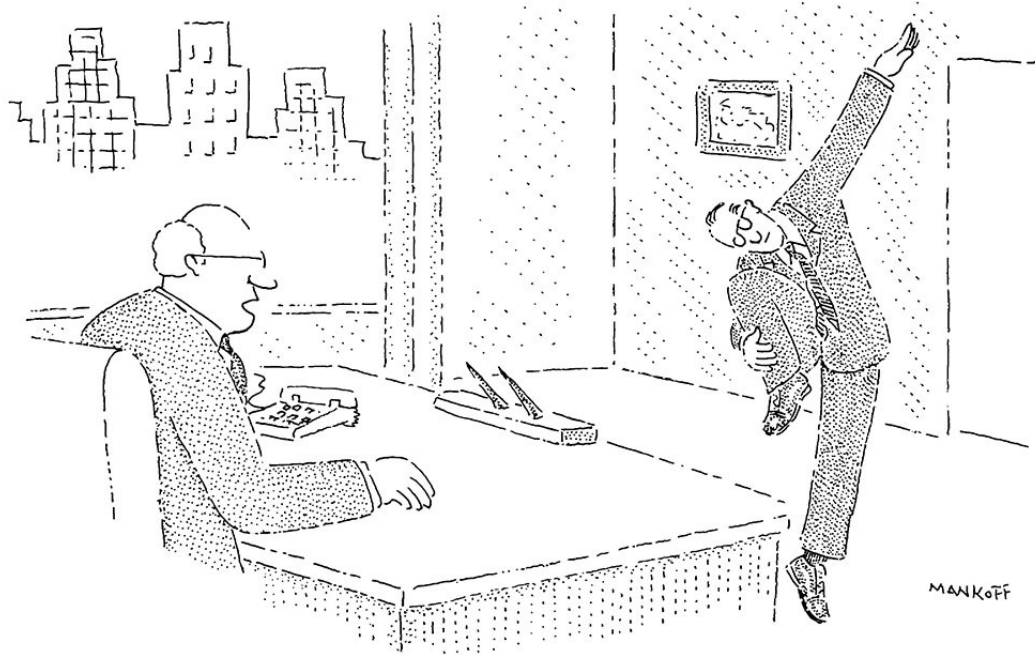


Gaithersburg Sustainability Summit 2024



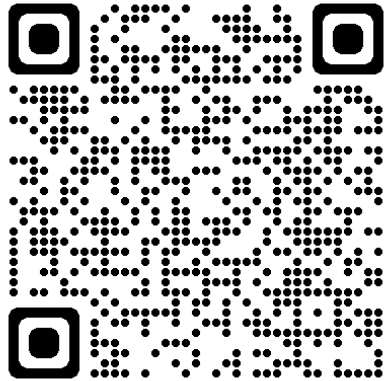
Discussion Points

- ▶ Ways to get involved
- ▶ Family Friendly events
- ▶ Parks programs
- ▶ Awards
- ▶ Grants
- ▶ Public Works programs
- ▶ Events to keep an eye on



“Say what’s on your mind, Harris—the language of dance has always eluded me.”

Ways to get involved





Local Environmental Groups & Green Initiatives

(City of Gaithersburg, Maryland)

This list provides opportunities to build a better and more sustainable future for us all. Participating in environmental groups and other green initiatives helps address the global challenges we face, including clean water, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and environmental justice. Learn about, contribute to, advocate for, and invest in local solutions that improve not only Gaithersburg, but our entire planet.

<p>Climate Action & Affordable and Clean Energy (Resilience Groups, Climate Planning, Energy Reduction, Carbon Footprint Mapping, Sustainable Solutions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gaithersburg Green Drinks• My Green Montgomery• Solar United Neighbors <p>Life Below Water (Stream Monitoring, Trash Cleanup Events, Invasive Species Removal, Tree Plantings)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Muddy Branch Alliance• Seneca Creek Watershed Partners• Watts Branch Watershed Alliance• Interfaith Partners of the Chesapeake• Alice Ferguson Foundation• Izaak Walton League of America• Defensores de la Cuenca <p>Sustainable Cities & Communities (Green Policy, Environmental Advocacy, Friends of Park Groups, Biking Paths, and Hiking Trails)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gaithersburg Environmental Affairs Committee• Gaithersburg Transportation Committee• Gaithersburg Parks, Arts and Recreation Corp.• Sierra Club• Audubon Naturalist Society• Friends of Seneca Creek State Park• Citizen Climate Lobby	<p>Life on Land (Heathy Soils, Native Plants, Pollinators, Composting, Organic Lawncare)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bee City Committee• Gaithersburg's Rainscapes Rewards Program• Izaak Walton League of America• Master Gardener Program U of MD Extension• Montgomery County Soil Conservation District• Institute for Local Reliance• Friends of Seneca Creek State Park <p>Quality Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educational Enrichment Committee• SciTech2U <p>Zero Hunger</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Advisory Committee• Montgomery County Food Council• Manna Food Center• Gaithersburg HELP <p>Gender Equality & Reduced Inequalities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Montgomery County League of Women Voters <p>No Poverty, Decent Work and Economic Growth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Advisory Committee• Economic & Business Development Committee <p>Local Green Neighborhood Groups & Partnerships for the Goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Montgomery County Community Foundation• Montgomery County Volunteer Center• Kentland's Go Green• Saybrooke Green Team• Diamond Farms/Hidden Creek Green Team• St. Rosa Lima Green Team• East Gaithersburg United
--	--



Do you know of other local organizations or environmental initiatives that should be on this list?

Please e-mail environment@gaithersburgmd.gov.

301-258-6370gaithersburgmd.gov

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)



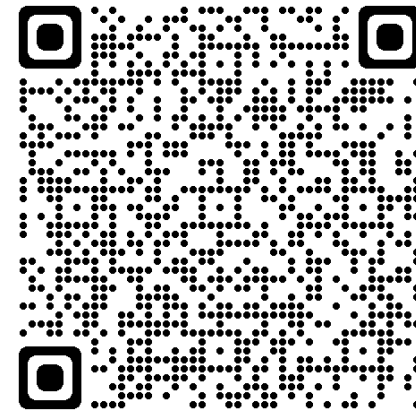
Rainwater Collection
\$1 per gallon of rain collected
(e.g. 50-gallon Rain Barrel = \$50 Rebate)



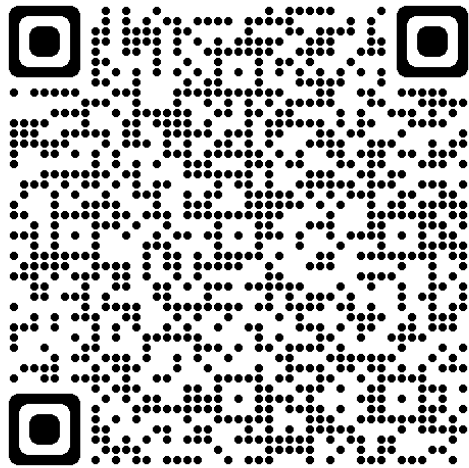
Soil Test Rebate
Up to \$20 rebate per test
(Max \$40 Per Household)

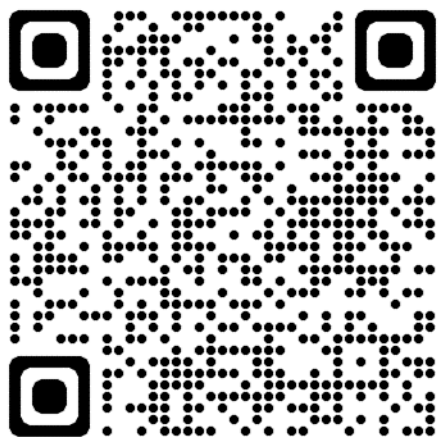
Host A Trash Cleanup

- ▶ Anyone from Gaithersburg can host a trash clean-up event
- ▶ Our team will provide you with:
 - ▶ Trash bags
 - ▶ gloves,
 - ▶ Trash grabbers
 - ▶ Trash pick up



Art and Storm Water





Mindful Salting

Using the right amount of salt to melt snow and ice for keeping the community safe and water clean.

Guiding Principles

- ❖ Critical to Public Safety
- ❖ Too Much of a Good Thing
- ❖ Timely & Accurate



Environmental Awards

2023 Gaithersburg Environmental Awards

The Gaithersburg Mayor and City Council and the Environmental Affairs Committee (EAC) invite you to participate in the Environmental Awards Program. The City looks to recognize and show appreciation for those who give back to the environment and encourage others to get involved!

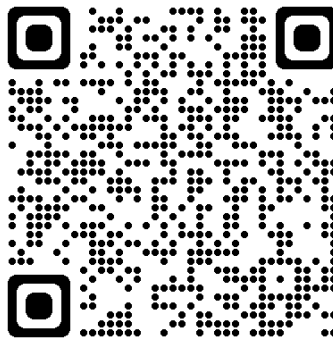
Successful applicants will be awarded in one of three categories:



- **Achievement Awards** are given to individuals and organizations, based within City limits or having at least 10% of their students/members there, that began a new initiative in 2022 to improve the environment in Gaithersburg.
- **Appreciation Awards** are given to individuals and organizations, based within City limits or having at least 10% of their students/members there, that continued in 2022 a program that improves the environment in Gaithersburg and was begun in a prior year.
- **Green Friends of Gaithersburg Awards** are given to individuals and organizations that created environmental benefits for Gaithersburg and its residents despite not having their primary location or 10% of their students/members in the City.

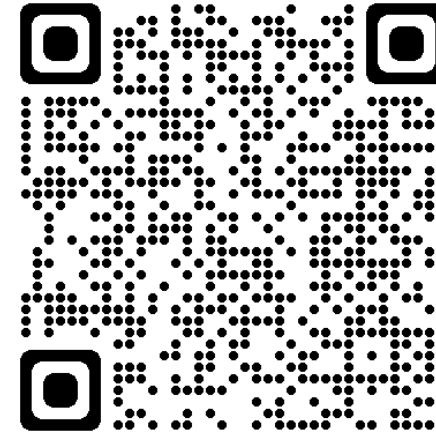
SCOPE OF THE AWARDS: Examples of environmentally-friendly programs and projects include, but are not limited to:

- Activities that demonstrate commitment to environmental stewardship by overcoming challenges brought on by the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Projects that aim to enhance environmental
- Encouragement of community discussion regarding neighborhood stewardship of local natural resources
- Composting and food recovery initiatives
- Environmental education programs



Environmental Affairs Committee

Meets: Monthly; 2nd Tuesday, except April @ 7pm



gmd.iqm2.com/Citizens/Board/1U26-Environmental-Affairs-Committee

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the 'MEETING CENTER' page for the Environmental Affairs Committee. The page features the City of Gaithersburg logo on the left, a navigation menu with options like 'Welcome', 'Meetings', and 'Video', and a 'Print This Page' button. The main content area includes a description of the committee's role and a profile for Janette Rosenbaum, the Chair. The browser's address bar shows the URL: gmd.iqm2.com/Citizens/Board/1U26-Environmental-Affairs-Committee.

MEETING CENTER

Log in | Help Search

[«Back to Main Site](#) | [Welcome](#) | [Meetings](#) | [Video](#) | [Notices](#) | [City Council and Boards](#)

[Print This Page](#)

Environmental Affairs Committee

Advises the Mayor and City Council on environmental issues, promotes environmental education and outreach activities, monitors county, state and federal statutes and regulations for impacts on City operations, and explores new environmental initiatives. Also supports the City's Green Month celebration and programs related to green building, climate protection, pollution prevention, and watershed protection.

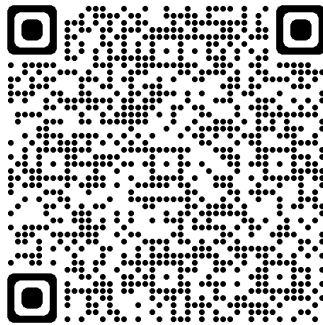
 **Janette Rosenbaum**
Chair

Frederick J. Felton Neighborhood Matching Grant Program

Who: neighborhood associations

What: Funding to make improvements in the community including lighting, landscaping, tot lots, entrance features, other physical improvements, or neighborhood events

How much: Up to \$5,000, Open: April 1 - May 15



Frederick J . Felton Neighborhood Matching Grant Resource Guide

This resource guide provides answers to many frequently asked questions that arise during the application, evaluation and post-award phases of the process.

Please keep this resource guide in a safe place as you will want to refer to it frequently.

? What is the Frederick J. Felton Neighborhood Matching Grant and how do I apply?

Open to all homeowner associations, condominium associations, citizen associations or any group that represents a majority of residents in any given neighborhood, the dollar-for-dollar matching grant:

- Provides grants for new projects such as lighting, installation of landscaping, tot lots, entrance features and other physical improvements, or neighborhood events
- Applications are accepted annually
- Maximum grant(s) may not exceed a combined total of \$5,000 per fiscal year
- To apply, complete the application on the City's website - www.gaithersburgmd.gov, along with all required documents

What expenses are considered ineligible?

- Projects implemented and/or expenses incurred prior to the start of the performance period (July 1—May 31)
- Annuals (plants/flowers/shrubs)
- Watering of plants
- Tree removal, pruning, and/or stump grinding
- Routine maintenance and/or repair work
- Replacement of existing features (exceptions: community identification signs and fencing)
- Events, activities, programs, and/or services usually included in the organization's regular budget
- Operating expenses, including salaries and stipends

Do I need to submit a W-9?

✓ If your homeowners association is incorporated and has a tax id number, you need to submit a W-9.

What is the criteria on which my application evaluated?




- Provides clear program description, including detailed plans and itemized cost estimates
- Addresses identified challenge/opportunity
- Enhances public safety
- Has not received a cumulative total of \$10,000 in Matching Grants in last two fiscal years
- Application fully completed and received by deadline
- Meets purpose of grant program
- Proposed project/program budget provides reasonable and realistic costs
- Applicant is capable of providing 50% of funding
- Proposed project/program serves an impactful number of City residents

How do I request my funds when my project is complete?

- Submit itemized invoices/receipts that clearly match scope of work as described in application
- Provide proof of payment as grant is provided on a reimbursement basis

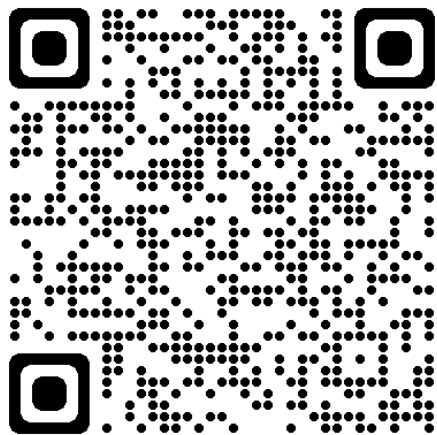
When does my grant expire?

The performance period is July 1 to May 31. All grant related work must start and end within this time frame. All receipts/invoices must be submitted by June 10, following the end of the performance period.





Open May 1st - August 10th



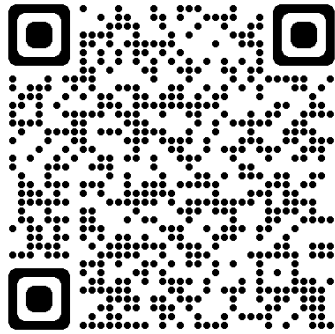
Track 1: Outreach: Raise public awareness and engagement in the challenges and solutions to restore Gaithersburg's natural resources: local green spaces, parks, streams, rivers, and bays. (Funding \$50,000 – \$75,000)

Track 2: Restoration: Engage people in on-the-ground community-based projects that reduce polluted runoff and benefit communities. (Up to \$100,000)

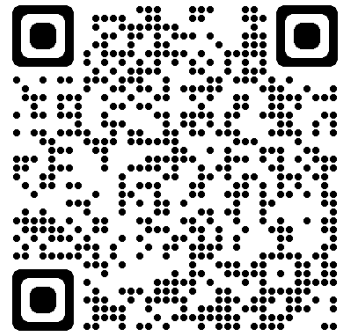
Track 3: Outreach and Restoration: Combine the goals for both tracks above to achieve increased outcomes. (Up to \$125,000)

Latest Stormwater & Environmental News

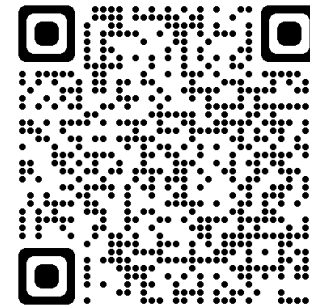
Green-In-Gaithersburg Newsletter



Environmental Services Website

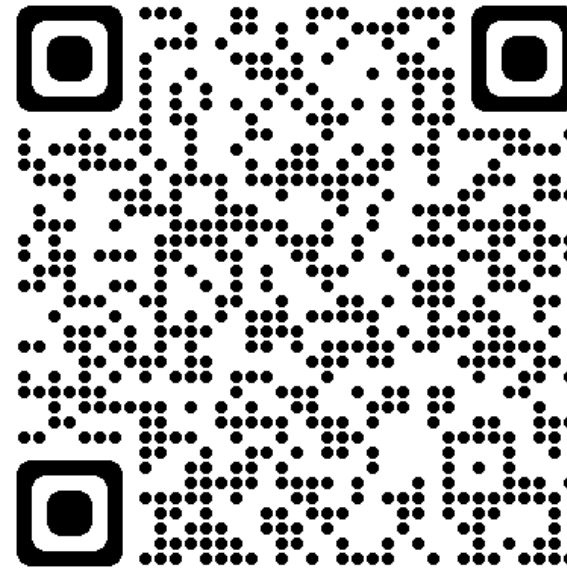
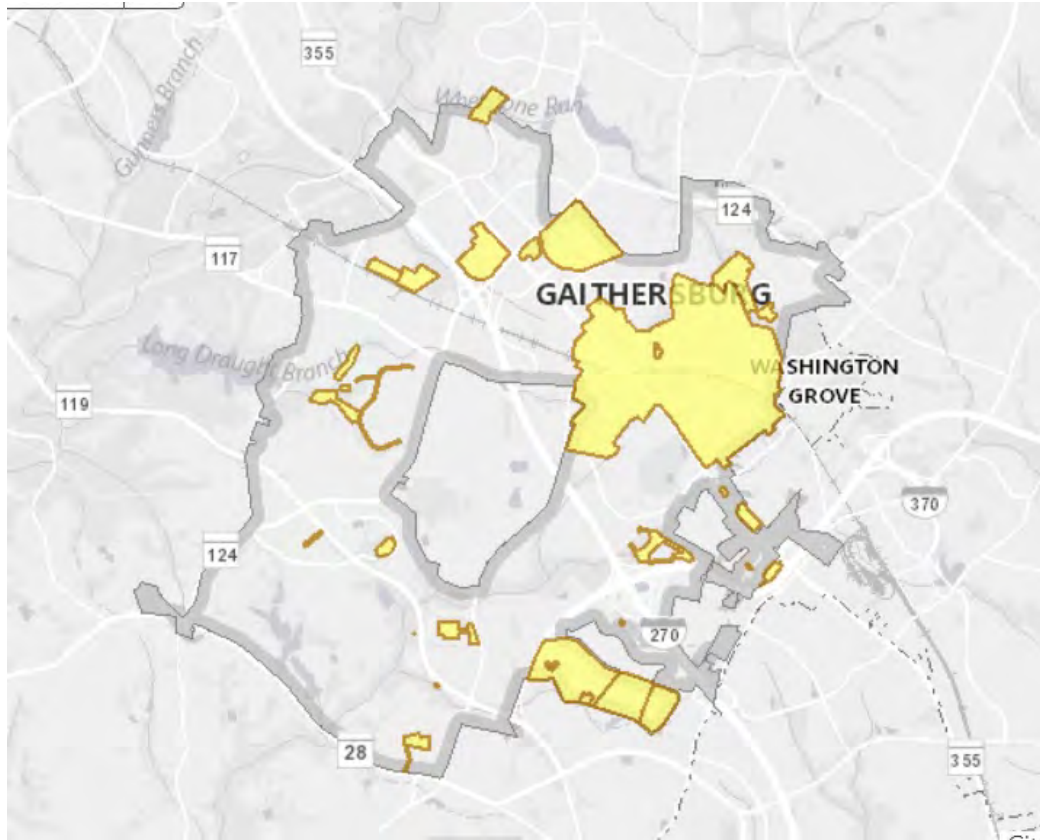


Recycle Coach



Volunteer, Education, SSL, Partnerships, Funding, and More! Sign up for **Green-In Gaithersburg** Newsletter

Projects in the City



Upcoming Events

Spring Film Festival at the Arts Barn - April 20, 2024, afternoon
Featuring a Q&A with the Independent Filmmakers



Demo-Day for Public Works, welcoming engineers, contractors and practitioners -April 23, 2024

Look for other events in April for Green Month

Environmental Services

Nancy Schumm

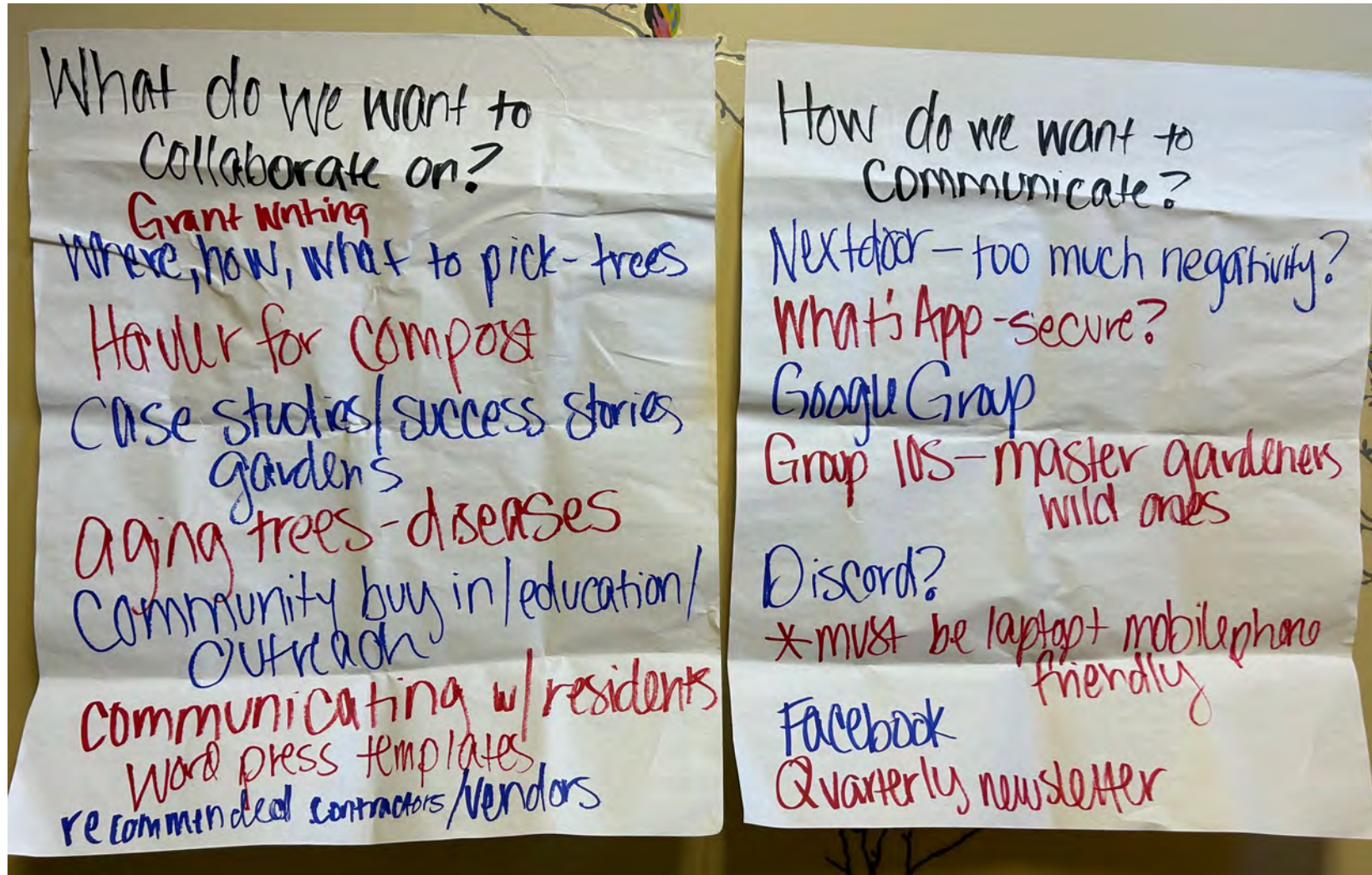
Environmental Services Division Chief

Nancy.Schumm@gaitthersburgmd.gov or
environment@gaitthersburgmd.gov

Monday - Friday, 7 AM - 3 PM



Facilitating Collaboration Amongst HOA Green Teams



Facilitating Collaboration Amongst HOA Green Teams

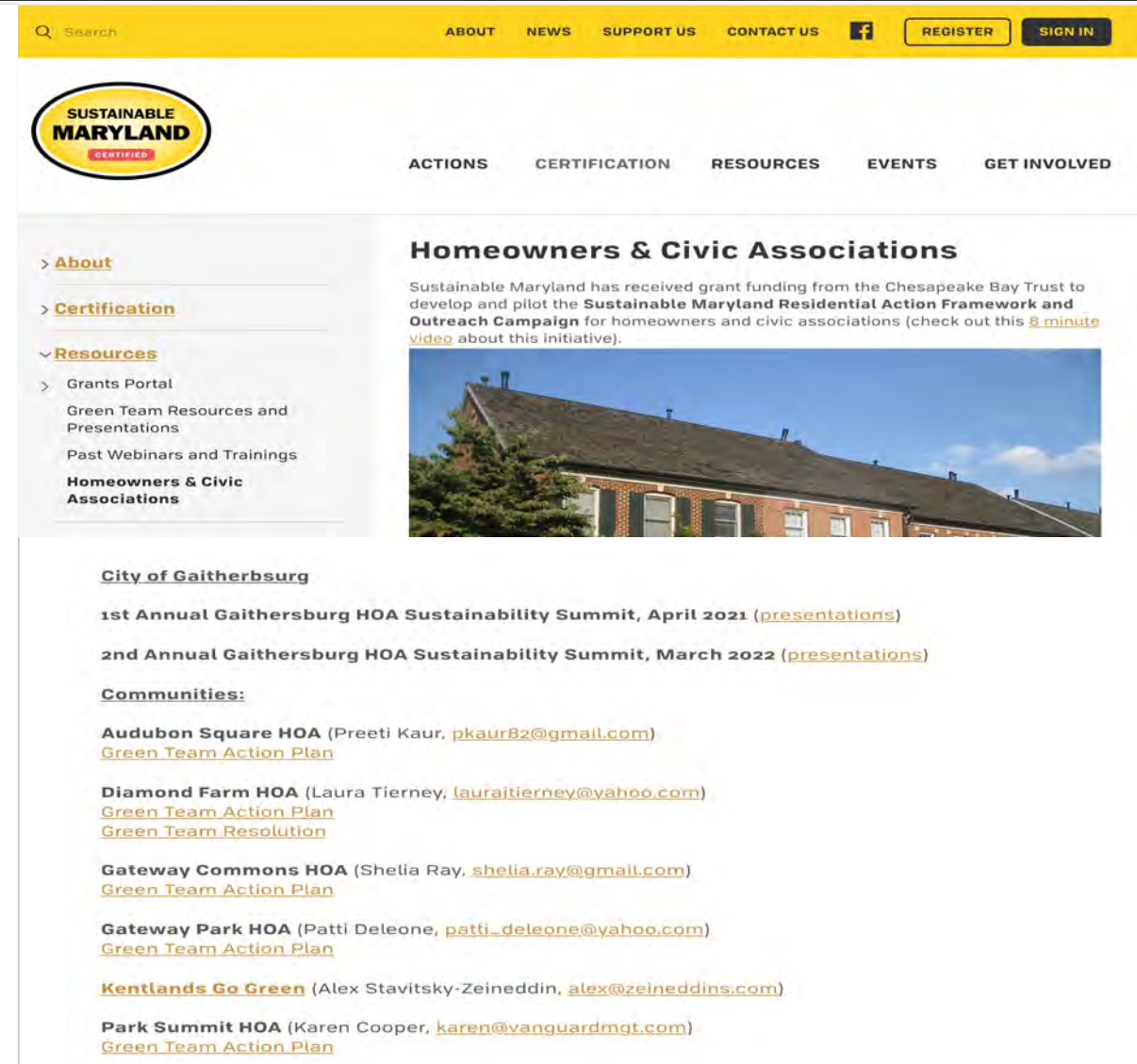
Collaborative Tool	Pros	Cons
Next Door	Local information in real time	Too much negativity
What's App	Group messaging	Security concerns
Google Group	Communicate with each other around a shared task or interest	Requires Google/Gmail account
Discord	Great for chat purposes, not for file sharing or other collaboration	Download a new app Training for ease of use
Facebook Group	Easy Adjustable privacy settings	Must be a Facebook user
Quarterly Newsletter	Information sharing	Requires administration/oversight

Facilitating Collaboration Amongst HOA Green Teams

Collaborative Tool	Pros	Cons
Next Door	Local information in real time	Too much negativity
What's App	Group messaging	Security concerns
Google Group	Communicate with each other around a shared task or interest	Requires Google/Gmail account
Discord	Great for chat purposes, not for file sharing or other collaboration	Download a new app Training for ease of use
Facebook Group	Easy Adjustable privacy settings	Must be a Facebook user
Quarterly Newsletter	Information sharing	Requires administration/oversight

Sustainable MD HOA Resource Page


- Check out the HOA Sustainability Resource Page on the SM website
 - Names of HOA Green Teams, with contact details in Gaithersburg and Prince George's County
 - Copies of Sustainability Action Plans
 - Copies of Residential Action Framework template (Action Menu)
 - <https://sustainablemaryland.com/resources/homeowners-associations>



The screenshot shows the Sustainable Maryland website. The top navigation bar is yellow with links for ABOUT, NEWS, SUPPORT US, CONTACT US, and social media icons. There are REGISTER and SIGN IN buttons. The main navigation menu includes ACTIONS, CERTIFICATION, RESOURCES, EVENTS, and GET INVOLVED. The page features a sidebar with a search bar and a menu with links to About, Certification, Resources, Grants Portal, Green Team Resources and Presentations, Past Webinars and Trainings, and Homeowners & Civic Associations. The main content area is titled "Homeowners & Civic Associations" and includes a paragraph about grant funding from the Chesapeake Bay Trust and a link to an 8-minute video. Below the text is a photograph of a brick house. The page lists resources for the City of Gaithersburg, including two annual HOA Sustainability Summits (April 2021 and March 2022), and a list of HOA Green Teams with their contact information and links to their action plans.

Homeowners & Civic Associations

Sustainable Maryland has received grant funding from the Chesapeake Bay Trust to develop and pilot the **Sustainable Maryland Residential Action Framework and Outreach Campaign** for homeowners and civic associations (check out this [8 minute video](#) about this initiative).



City of Gaithersburg

1st Annual Gaithersburg HOA Sustainability Summit, April 2021 ([presentations](#))

2nd Annual Gaithersburg HOA Sustainability Summit, March 2022 ([presentations](#))

Communities:

Audubon Square HOA (Preeti Kaur, pkaur82@gmail.com)
[Green Team Action Plan](#)

Diamond Farm HOA (Laura Tierney, laurajtierney@yahoo.com)
[Green Team Action Plan](#)
[Green Team Resolution](#)

Gateway Commons HOA (Shelia Ray, shelia.ray@gmail.com)
[Green Team Action Plan](#)

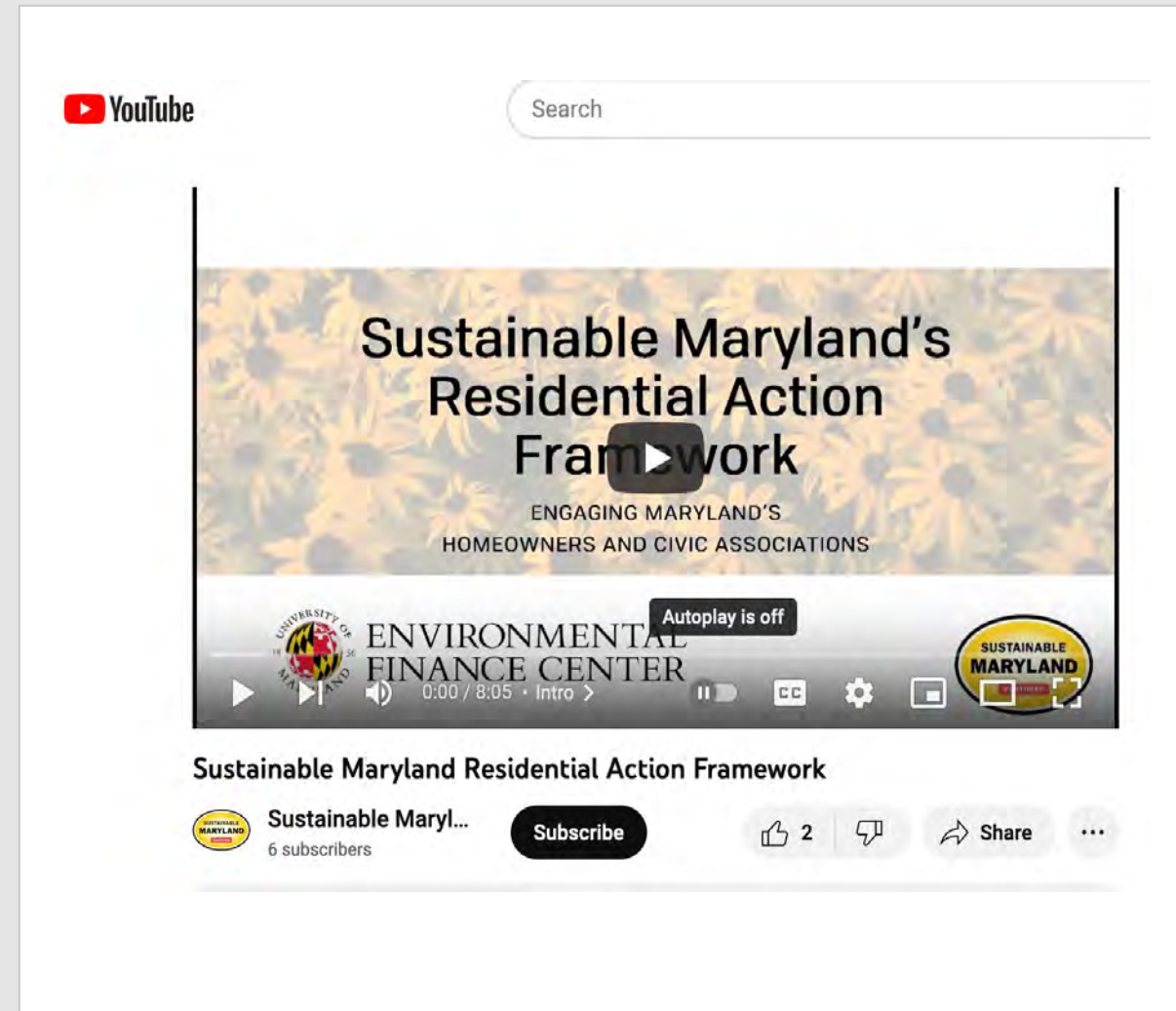
Gateway Park HOA (Patti Deleone, patti-deleone@yahoo.com)
[Green Team Action Plan](#)

Kentlands Go Green (Alex Stavitsky-Zeineddin, alex@zeineddins.com)

Park Summit HOA (Karen Cooper, karen@vanguardmgt.com)
[Green Team Action Plan](#)

Sustainable Maryland HOA Video

- **Check out the HOA Residential Action Framework Video**
 - An 8-minute overview of the HOA Green Team/Action Plan Framework
 - An excellent introduction for Board members and property managers



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 City to engage HOAs to listen, learn, and provide support
- We look forward to getting in touch with you throughout the year!



Stay Connected



ENVIRONMENTAL
FINANCE CENTER

- Contact:
 - Mike Hunninghake
mikeh75@umd.edu
(301) 405-7956
 - Natalia Sanchez
nsanchez@umd.edu
(301) 405-5421
- Visit the Sustainable Maryland Website
 - <https://sustainablemaryland.com/>
- Join the Sustainable Maryland [Mailing List](#)

