



Bay-Wise Master Gardener Update

To: Bay-Wise Master Gardeners and MG Coordinators: Sherry Frick; Rachel Carey; Marcus Williams; Jean Bosley; Edward Goodman; Sue Christensen; Doris Behnke; Kaitlyn Baligush; Emily Zobel; Susan Trice; Ashley Bodkins; Joyce Browning; Darcey Schoeninger; Esther Mitchell; Rachel Rhodes; Mariah Dean; Mikaela Boley; Annette Cormany; Ginny Rosenkranz; Stephanie Pully; Jean Burchfield; Christa Carignan; Miri Talabac; and Jon Traunfeld

From: Wanda MacLachlan

Subject: Bay-Wise Update

Date: August, 2022

Greetings

We are eight months into 2022 and 31 months (and counting) into the pandemic. Many of you are easing your way back into your pre-pandemic activities. Extension offices are open and restrictions for volunteers have been relaxed. While this is good news for those of you anxious to get back out there to certify landscapes and share your Bay-Wise knowledge with your community, please continue to be cautious.

With a wetter than normal spring, pressure from damaging insect pests like emerald ash borer, Japanese beetles, various scale insects, and the emerging spotted lantern fly, and pernicious weeds like wavy leaf basket grass, Japanese stiltgrass, and nimblewill, landscape maintenance this year has not been easy. Teaching others how to do so sustainably, is even more of a challenge. But you,

as Bay-Wise Master Gardeners are up for that challenge!

Mid-year reports indicate that you have just about doubled the number of landscapes that you've certified this year (n=85) compared to the first half of last year (n=45). Baltimore City, Anne Arundel and Calvert Counties top the list with a combined total of 38 certifications.

Celebrating
25 Years of
Conservation
Education



BAY-WISE

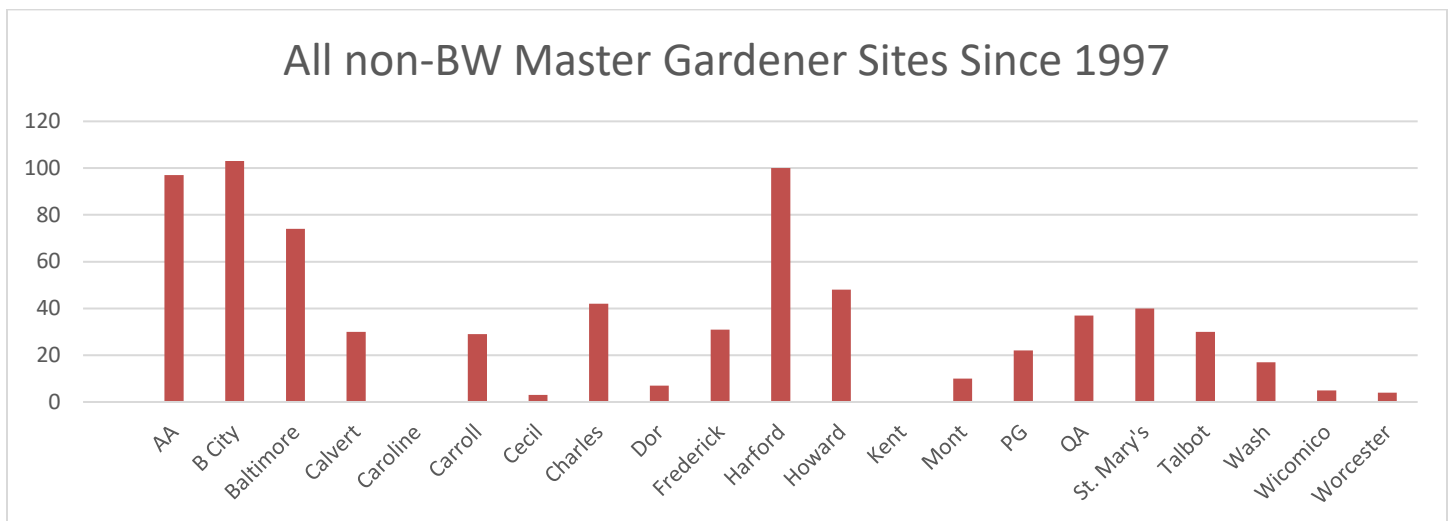
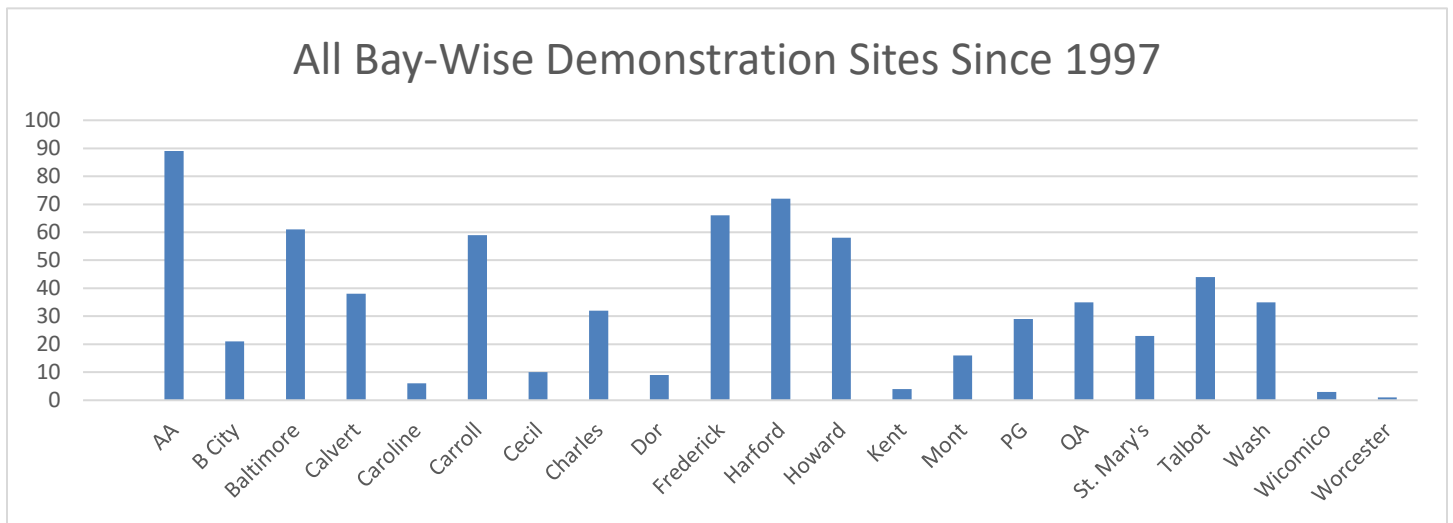
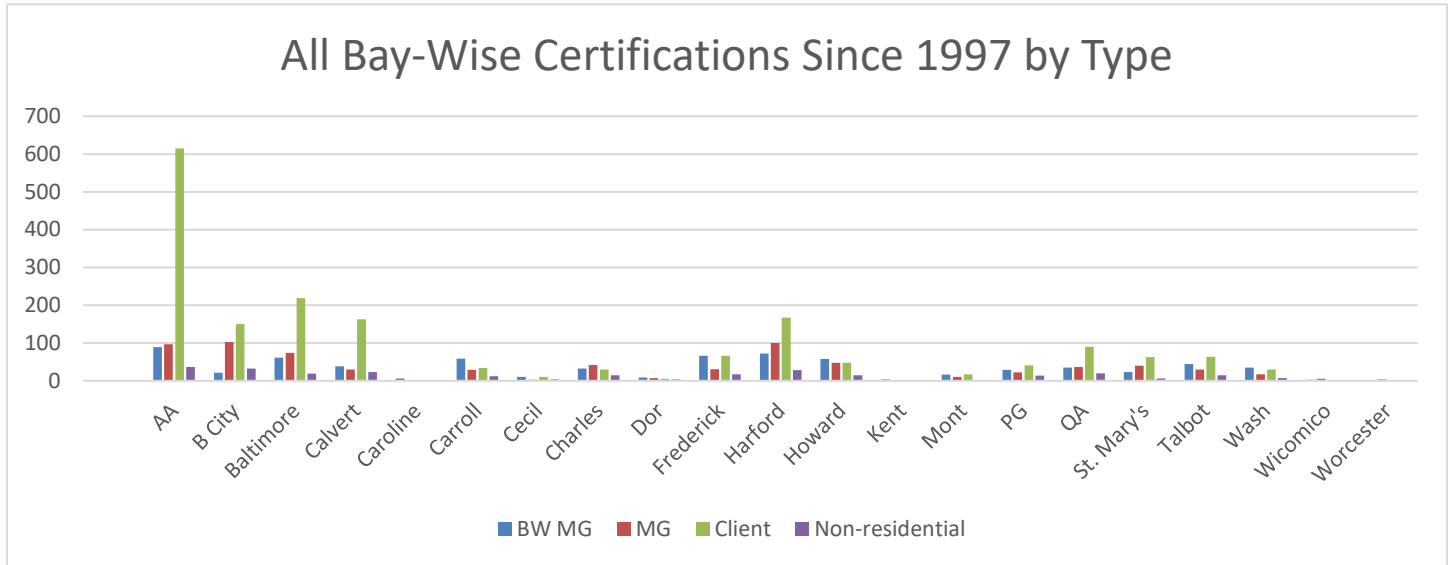
A MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

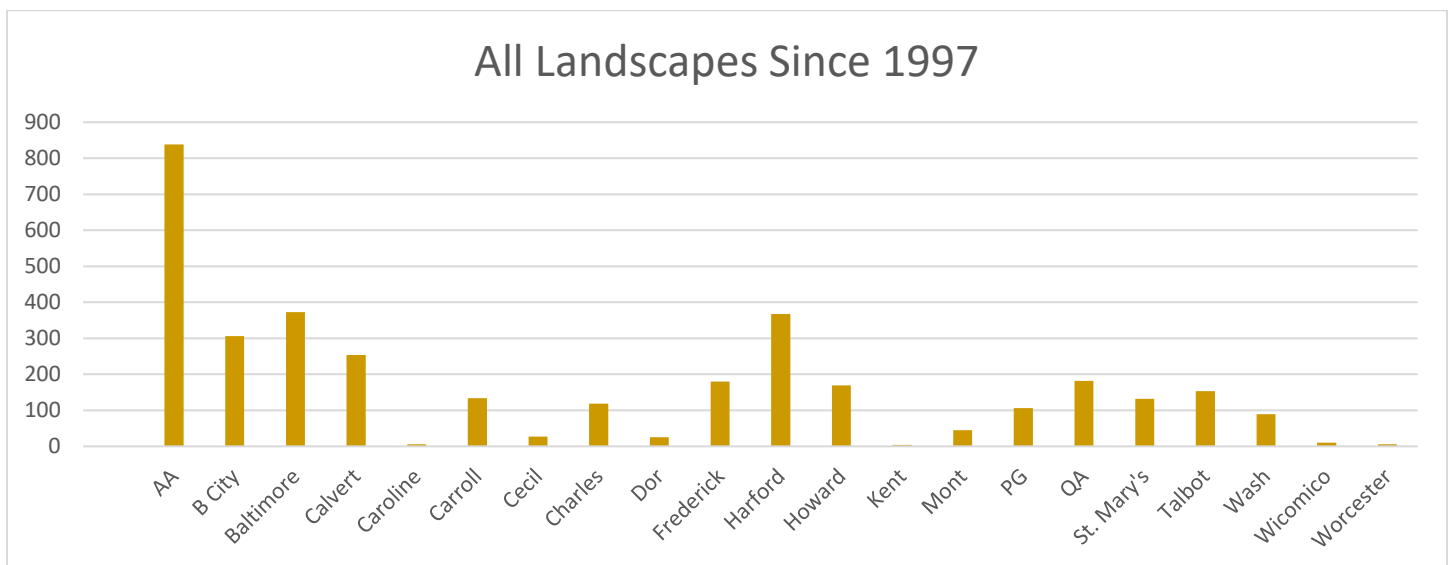
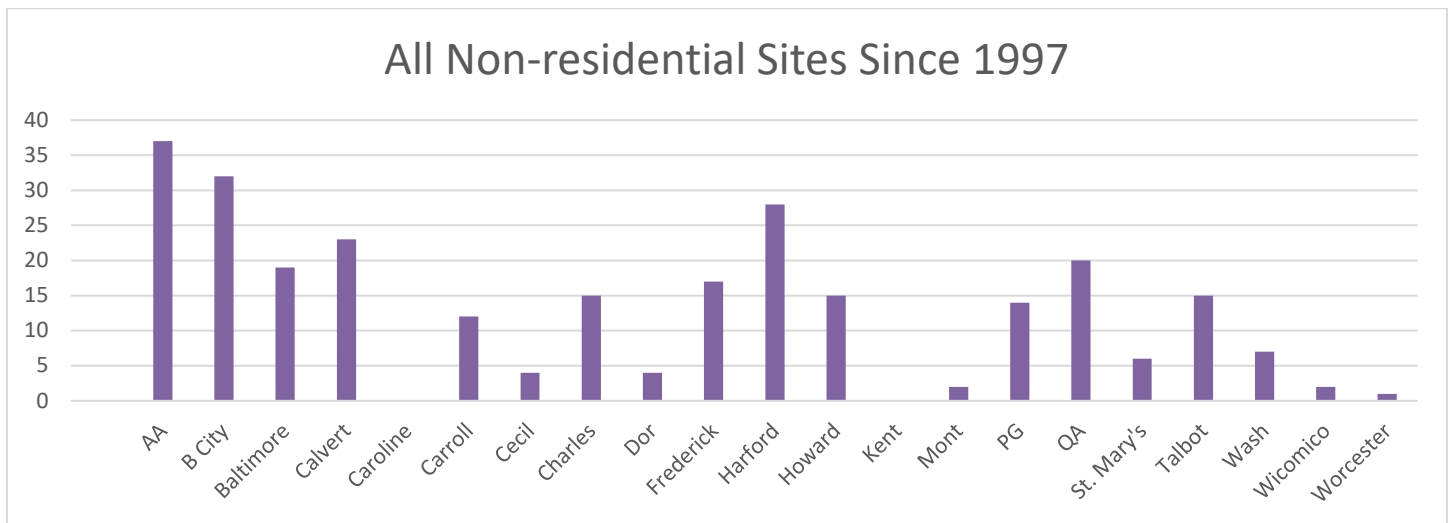
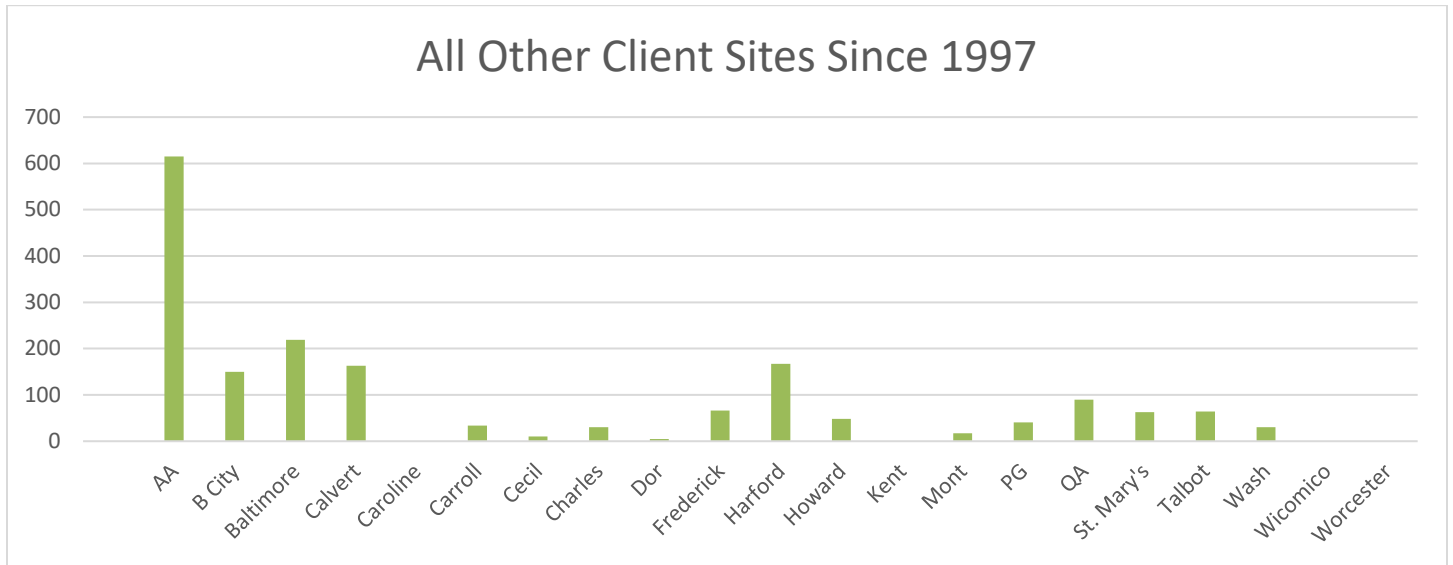
The Bay-Wise Landscape Management Program continues to celebrate its 25th season of programming.

See next 2½ pages for certification statistics

Certified Landscapes by County

(Note: BW MG = Demo Landscapes)





Statistics of All Reported Bay-Wise Certifications Since 1997

CATEGORY	AA	B City	Baltimore	Calvert	Caroline	Carroll	Cecil	Charles	Dor	Frederick	Harford	Howard	Kent	Mont	PG	QA	St. Mary's	Talbot	Wash	Wicomico	Worcester	TOTALS
BW MG	89	21	61	38	6	59	10	32	9	66	72	58	4	16	29	35	23	44	35	3	1	711
MG	97	103	74	30	0	29	3	42	7	31	100	48	0	10	22	37	40	30	17	5	4	729
Client	615	150	219	163	0	34	10	30	5	66	167	48	0	17	41	90	63	64	30	0	0	1812
Non-residential	37	32	19	23	0	12	4	15	4	17	28	15	0	2	14	20	6	15	7	2	1	273
	838	306	373	254	6	134	27	119	25	180	367	169	4	45	106	182	132	153	89	10	6	3525

Newly Certified Demo Landscapes

Congratulations to the following Bay-Wise Master Gardeners for having their properties certified as demonstration landscapes!

First Name	Last Name	County	Demo Certification Date
Kathi	Bangert	Talbot	4/5/2022
Keirstin	Bueche	Harford	5/30/2022
Khalilah	Denney	Prince George's	4/30/2022
Jennifer	Dorrah	Prince George's	5/21/2022
Margaret	Eby	Baltimore City	5/19/2022
Linda	Gray	Carroll	6/1/2022
Adreon	Hubbard	Baltimore City	6/22/2022
Patricia	Mitchell	Anne Arundel	5/16/2022
Vivian	Stacy	Cecil	6/28/2022
Tair	Swepston	Anne Arundel	5/17/2022
Barbara	Waite-Jaques	Montgomery	5/16/2022



Bay-Wise Advanced Trainings

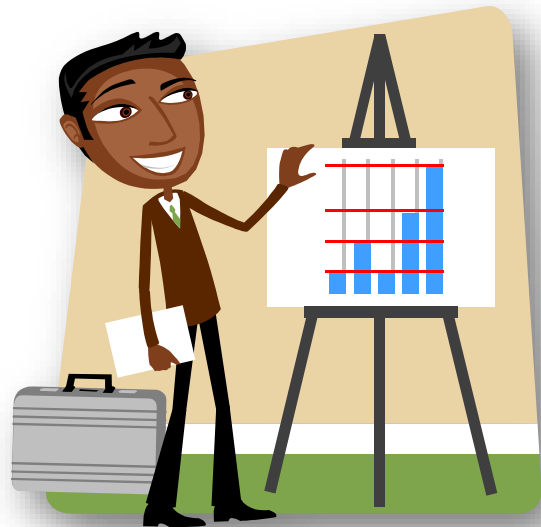
This March Carroll County and Baltimore City teamed with Baltimore County to host the first in-person Bay-Wise Advanced Training since the pandemic began, well almost. The training drew Master Gardeners from 6 different counties and added **18** new Bay-Wise Master Gardeners to our ranks. Seven returnees sat in on the training for an update. Since our inception, we have trained **1,555** Bay-Wise Master Gardeners around the state. The training took place Saturdays, 3/5 & 12 at the Baltimore County Extension office in Cockeysville. The first day of training occurred without a hitch but due to a March snowstorm, at the last minute, the meeting veered back to an online format via Zoom. Because we are so used to virtual meetings these days, the transition went relatively smoothly with only one person having difficulty connecting.

Congratulations, **Helen Keplinger, Stephanie Levin, Terry McGeehan, Amy Ruth Rakusin, and Kathy Scheulen** from Baltimore County, **Adreon Hubbard, Lauren Muhammad, and Jamiee Sumague** from Baltimore City, **Marie Fish, Terry Goodger, Esther Iglich, Beth Polanowski, and Suzanne Sweeney**, from Carroll, **Patricia Barnhart** from Harford, **Meghan Cole, Nancy Klein and Cynthia Skillings**, from Howard, and **Cindy Walczak**, from Montgomery, Counties, respectively. Previously trained volunteers, **Susan Miller, Peg Nemoff, Linda Gray, John Hubbs, and Michelle Landers** dropped in for a refresher course to round out the class of 23 attendees.

Upcoming Advanced Training

Mark your calendars. **Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's Counties** are co-hosting an in-person Bay-Wise Advanced Training this November at the Prince Frederick Library in Calvert County. Classes will be held from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM on Wednesdays, 11/2 & 9. The class fee is \$50.00. Training is open to all interested Master Gardeners. Registration, through Eventbrite, for this training is limited to 60 participants. Further details will appear on the Bay-Wise website. **Frederick and Washington Counties** are also planning an in-

person Bay-Wise Advanced Training in September at their respective offices. Contact Washington County Master Gardener Coordinator, Annette Cormany, at acormany@umd.edu to register. The site certification portion of both trainings will be conducted by local Bay-Wise Committee members at their convenience. You must attend both classes to receive your Bay-Wise certificate.



Bay-Wise Statistics

THANK YOU to each and every Master Gardener who has taken the Bay-Wise advanced training. Since the beginning of the program in 1996, you have certified a total of **2,542** client landscapes and **275** non-residential landscapes. In addition, **740*** of you have had your landscapes certified as demo sites (and **276** are still being maintained by active MGs)!

** according to my database – (this number is different from the table above because counties sometimes don't submit reports and that table is based on submitted reports only).*

Since our inception, the program has trained a total of **1,555** Master Gardeners as Bay-Wise volunteers and **366** of you are still actively participating on your local committees. For the first half of 2022, despite COVID-19 precautions, you volunteered **1,882.53** hours in Bay-Wise projects. This time is valued at approximately **\$61,784.63**.

News From the Counties:

Anne Arundel

Co-chairs, **Robin Gill** and **Jim MacNicholl**, report that their committee grew to 40 members. Since January, they've certified 2 demo and 13 client landscapes and made 5 consultation visits. These certifications resulted in 543,993 square feet of Bay-Wise practices implemented by 15 people. They report, *"The Anne Arundel Co. Bay-Wise team has been busy. We have a log of 62 requests for yard visits with 15 certification visits and five consultations completed as of July 1. Requests are coming from Glen Burnie to Shady Side, Jessup to Pasadena and all areas in between. We are pleased to be reaching all areas of the county including some that have been underserved in the past.*

"Our Season Kick-Off Meeting was on April 8 with half of our 40-member team getting the year off to an energetic start. A New-Member Orientation on Apr 26 was attended by four of our seven new teammates. We have a dynamic team of knowledgeable volunteers eager to teach and encourage bay-friendly practices throughout the county.

Events to date

- HomeExpo, Greek Church, March 5. **Meg Hosmer** shared Bay-Wise info at a MG table and signed up three requests for yard visits.
- Meade Area Garden Club, Mar 18. **Robin Gill**, assisted by Meg Hosmer, gave a presentation that gained three yard visit requests.
- Seed Swap, March 26. **Jim MacNicholl** shared Bay-Wise information at this MG project and inspired four requests for yard visits.
- Perennial Garden Club Bay-Wise Garden Tour at Galesville home of **Cyrena Simons**, April 11. Cyrena, **Anne Biddle** and **Lise Crafton** explained invasive removal, lawn reduction and the addition of native plants to benefit wildlife as the group toured this marsh front landscape.

- Deale Library, Apr 16. Cyrena Simons, assisted by **Marthena Cowart**, spoke with South County residents resulting in seven yard visit requests.
- Saltworks Community Earth Day, Apr 23. **Brenda Darr** gave a short Bay-Wise talk that inspired a yard visit request.
- Bodkin Elementary Environmental Fair, May 7. **Elaine Heilman**, **Serena Boyd**, Cyrena Simons had a table of Bay-Wise info for kids and their parents. Three requests for yard visit resulted.
- Annapolis Secret Garden Tour, June 4-5, **Pat Mitchell's** Bay-Wise Certified yard was on the tour. While several hundred people toured her yard, Pat was able to personally demonstrate bay-friendly practices to 60+ visitors resulting in nine new requests for yard visits.



Secret Garden Tour visitors were greeted by Pat's front yard rain garden, installed to correct a drainage problem.

Publicity to date

- Bay-Wise recognition in Woods Memorial video, [EARTH DAY 2022.mp4 on Vimeo](#)
- Gerald Weingrad article includes Bay-Wise program and contact info, Capital Gazette, May

13: [Gerald Winegrad: Best practices for lawn care when living in the Chesapeake Bay watershed | COMMENTARY – Capital Gazette](#)

- Our website, <https://baywise.weebly.com/>, designed and maintained by **Kay Stringfellow**, continues to generate more views and requests for information. So far this year, we've had 21 inquiries with seven being to request a yard visit.
- A Bay-Wise May Basket by Kim Forry at Chase-Lloyd House and posted on Face Book. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/chasehomegardenfriends/permalink/524773545943121/>



Chase Garden promotes the use of native plants with 70% of those used in the basket being native.

Baltimore City

Chair, **Debbie Swartz**, reports that her committee was able to certify 2 demo and 10 client (including 3 who are Master Gardeners) landscapes during the first half of this year. These certifications resulted in over ¾ acres and 123,552 square feet of Bay-Wise practices implemented. They have 3 more planned for the second half of 2022! Debbie reports, *“The Baltimore City Master Gardeners are doing monthly check-ins to keep everyone up to date with what’s going on with the committee, talk about their gardens, and discuss various topics.*

“We created new materials for tabling events. We have a game where you match the insect/benefit to

the native plant, display about planting in layers, display encouraging people to plant a tree and a display encouraging reductions of lawns to make room for native plants!

“For our annual Bay-Wise kickoff in March we had someone from Herring Run Nursery come to speak to the committee.

“We tabled at the Church of the Redeemer Native Plant Sale, Flower Mart, DPW event, & Bird Fest.

“We met monthly during the Spring/Summer months as a committee. We also continued to do a monthly B’more Bay-Wise article for Clippings.”

Baltimore County

Chair, **Patsy Pahr** reports that her committee certified 2 non-residential landscapes during the first half of 2022. The two sites are St Paul’s Lutheran Church in Kingsville and Trinity Episcopal Church in Glen Arm. These certifications resulted in over 7.5 acres of Bay-Wise practices implemented. She reports, *“The pandemic and the associated restrictions have hit our group hard. We have lost quite a few members. We also don’t have an MG coordinator, so our Bay Wise group had fallen into disarray. We have taken steps to regroup however, and will be back strong again next quarter.”*

Calvert

Chair, **Melanie Crowder** (with the help of **Karen Anderson, Judy Kay, Denise Moroney** and **Mimi Miller**) reports that their committee shrunk from 32 to 22. They certified 9 client (including 1 who is a Master Gardener) and 2 non-residential landscapes (Fairview Library and Scientist Cliffs Community Garden) during the first half of this year. These certifications resulted in 14.25 acres of Bay-Wise practices implemented by 18 people. Twelve more site certification visits are planned for later this year.

Melanie shares the following about their committee’s recent efforts: *“2022 started off with a bang with the Bay-Wise Team participating in the*

Annual **Seed Swap** on January 18th. This wildly popular event held in partnership with Calvert County Library, was attended by 180 persons with 12 signing up for Bay-Wise yard visits.

“We also launched our inaugural **Bay-Wise Homeowner Survey** in January, with the assistance of Edward Goodman, Master Gardener Program Assistant and Wanda MacLachlan. We surveyed all Bay-Wise participants from 2021, and received 11 responses. 100 percent found the information provided by the visit very helpful. The 6-question survey which touches on each section of the yardstick (including questions about changes in homeowner behavior) will be sent out twice a year in July and January. We plan to inform all homeowners during the yard visit and with the written summary that they should expect to receive the survey, in hopes that this will increase the response rate.

“A March talk on **Native Bees by Sam Droege** at the Northeast Community Center, was sponsored by the Green Team of Chesapeake Beach in partnership with Calvert County Parks and Rec. 60 people attended including families, Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists. 22 persons stopped to talk to the Master Gardeners about Bay-Wise practices, with 13 signing up for yard visits. Bee games and healthy snacks were provided for the children.

“April found the Bay-Wise Team more active than usual. **Karen Anderson and Melanie Crowder** gave a talk (attended by 11 persons) on “Creating a Tiered Garden” at the Library. We then constructed a **Tiered Garden** at the demonstration garden in Prince Frederick, on a slope with serious erosion issues. Stormwater from 3 large parking lots and a County Office building funnel into the gardens, through a system of pipes and a large rock swale. This stormwater management system, constructed by the County 10 years ago, has been failing due to a clogged swale and increasingly heavy, and more frequent storm events. Master Gardeners and Master Naturalist volunteers constructed the garden. We have also suggested the County install

a rain barrel on the corner of the building, to capture the large volume of stormwater coming off the roof. We plan to install educational signage of raindrops leading from the parking lots in 2023.



Calvert County Bay-Wise Master Gardeners constructing tiers to control stormwater runoff at their Extension office in Prince Frederick.

“**Fairview Library Gardens** received successful Bay-Wise certification in April. This garden is designed and maintained by Chesapeake Garden Club members (led by a Master Gardener). The garden areas include shrubs, trees, raised beds, pollinator gardens and a rain garden. This lovely demonstration garden is visited daily by families and children who visit the library. Later in the month we provided a lively Bay-Wise **talk** to (24) **Chesapeake Garden Club** members at the Library, with 6 signing up for yard visits. The remainder of the Club members have already achieved Bay-Wise certifications.

“Later in the spring Bay-Wise Master Gardeners visited two local **Middle School Green Teams**, providing talks on Bay-Wise principles and offering suggestions for plantings on the school grounds. This was in addition to an earlier talk at a local

elementary school planning to start a butterfly garden. These (3) talks were attended by (9) adults and (28) youths. It will be exciting to learn what pollinator and native plant projects are achieved at the schools.

“The Master Gardeners have a table at the **North Beach Farmers Market** during gardening season, providing Bay-Wise information to shoppers at this family event. In early June the Bay-Wise Master Gardeners provided an informational display at the American Chestnut Land Trust event “**Tales, Trails and Tails**”. 43 adults, 14 children visited and 2 signed up for yard visits.

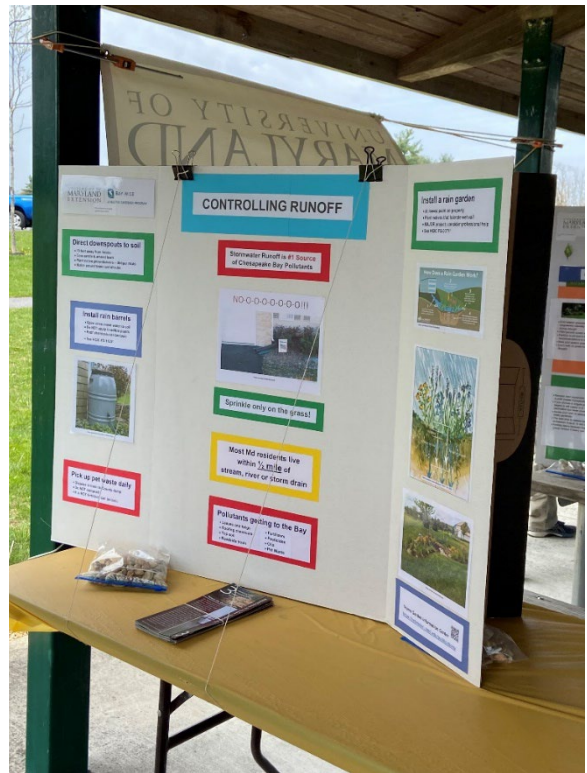
“In addition to these varied activities 11 yards/public spaces were certified with 12 yard consultations completed from January to June this year. While we are thrilled with the community enthusiasm for Bay-Wise requests, we are concerned with reduced numbers of Bay-Wise trained Master Gardeners.

“Therefore, we are partnering with Charles and St Mary’s County to offer **Advanced Bay-Wise Training** on November 2nd and 9th at the Charlotte Hall Library. Additional information on the BWAT may be obtained by contacting the **Calvert County Extension Office at - email calvertmg@umd.edu or call 410-535-3662.**

Carroll

New chair, **Linda Gray** increased her committee to 9 members and has enlisted the help of **Suzanne Sweeney**. They report that since the beginning of the year they have certified 3 client (including 2 who are Master Gardeners) and 1 non-residential landscapes (Gillette Meditation Garden). These certifications resulted in over 2.2 acres of Bay-Wise practices implemented. Additionally, they taught five Bay-Wise classes reaching 48 residents. Linda reports “*Carroll Co Bay-Wise Committee has had a busy first half of 2022 with developing display boards for each aspect of the Yardstick to be used for outreach, participating in the Krimgold Park Earth Day celebration, and beginning to provide*

both Landscape & Garden Yardsticks for our own Master Gardeners and the public.



New Bay-Wise display board highlighting controlling stormwater runoff.

“*Four of our new members attended the spring Advanced Bay-Wise Training so we are all able to participate in Yardstick certifications. We also assisted the GIEI Committee by presenting a short power point presentation on Using the Garden Yardstick and one of our members was able to obtain a rain barrel from the county to offer as a give-away to the GIEI class. We also provided three of our county libraries with power point presentations on The Benefits of Natives and Using the Garden Yardstick. Currently we are focusing on encouraging our Master Gardeners to get their landscapes and gardens “Yardstick’ed” and on increasing our committee numbers.*”

Cecil

Chair, **Mary MacClelland** reports that her committee was able to certify 1 demo and 1 non-residential landscape (Unity Garden Circuit Court on Main Street in Elkton) during the first half of 2022. Mary reports, “*The Master Gardener/ Bay-*

Wise group created their first presentation to the community on Tuesday night March 22, 2022. A power point presentation was first explained at length, then we went over The Bay-Wise pamphlet section by section. Many in the group shared their garden experiences.

“Many used a compost pile to make enriched soil for their garden, a rain barrel to collect rain water for their plants and extended their downspouts to direct rain water into the yard or garden. The people who came out in March were familiar with many of the Bay-Wise practices. Stories were shared of animal habitats, bird feeders and native plants, bushes, trees & bugs. Many did not use fertilizers.

“A question and answer period to end the program went well. Each person got a question to ask each other. Each correct answer was rewarded with a yard stick, seed packets to attract pollinators and butterflies and an invitation to get their yard Bay-Wise certified this summer. We plan to enhance this program every year.

“A Unity Garden next to the Circuit Court House on Main Street in Elkton, Maryland got Bay-Wise certified as a demonstration garden May 26, 2022. Cecil County Master Gardeners maintain the garden all year long for the community. Many people take special photos of their family and friends in the blooming garden. Many a bride and groom come to get their photo taken there also. This garden is about 2,500 square feet.



Cecil County Unity Garden

“Our Bay-Wise group participated in the. 13th Annual Cecil Co. Wade In event at Elk Neck State Park near Turkey Point Light House in North East, Maryland on Saturday June 11th.

“**Nancy Crawford, Vicki Diamonte and Mary MacClelland** had Bay-Wise materials and giveaways to hand out to the community. The Wade-In was held at 1 pm. at the shoreline. Each year they record how far in they can walk into the river before they cannot see the bottom of the water. This year the “Sneaker Report “was 26 inches. Mr. Bernie Fowler, the founder of this event passed away last December of 2021 so he was remembered and honored for his continuation of this Wade-In Event around the Chesapeake Bay.

“Vicki gathered many kids around our table to demonstrate how people can pollute the waters where we live. Each kid had a small jar of oils, waste and junk to put in a container to pollute the clear water. The kids realized how easy it was to contaminate clear, clean drinking water. They discussed how we could all be more careful to preserve our drinking water and not waste it. We all had a good day.

“On Tuesday. June 28th another Master Gardener in the Cecil Co. group had her property certified for Bay-Wise. **Vivian Stacy** has beautiful gardens around her home. She has a combination of full sun and shade areas full of native plants, many types of day lilies and pollinator bushes. It took many years of adding to her gardens for it to look as good as it does today. Just beautiful. I look forward to having her help our Bay-Wise group certify more properties and gardens around Cecil county.

Charles

Chair, **Rose Markham**, informs us that their team decreased from 22 to 19 members since last year. They have certified one client landscape (a 1.5-acre site) over the last 6 months. However, they do have 2 others awaiting certification later this year. Rose reports, “In January, we participated in the Backyard Buffer Program offered by the Maryland

Forest Service and the Potomac Watershed Partnership. They designed the program to assist homeowners in planting trees and shrubs to create a streamside buffer on or adjacent to a waterway. In January we offered the program to Charles County home owners and we had over 100 families register to receive tree bundles of 9 or 15 seedlings. On April 16 we distributed 148 buffers in a bag to Charles County homeowners. Each bundle contained a mixture of Northern Red Oak, Red Maple, River Birch and Persimmons. We plan to provide the program each year.

*“On Project Day April 16, the Bay Wise Committee introduced our team to the 2022 Master Gardener trainees and gave presentations on water irrigation, native plants, a skit on Who Polluted the Bay, and the Melwood vegetable and pollinator gardens at the Nanjemoy Recreation Center. The trainees who attended were very engaged. My thanks to **Tima McGuthry-Banks** who shared her Olla “Clay-Pot” irrigation system, **Molly Moore** on the importance of native plants, **Kathy Jenkins** on the pollution issues of the Bay, and **Terry Thir** on sharing the Bay-Wise steps they have incorporated at the Melwood vegetable and pollinator gardens at the Nanjemoy Recreation Center. It was a successful opportunity to meet some of our new class of future interns.*



Charles County Bay-Wise Master Gardener, Kathy Jenkins, teaching new trainees about the concept of watersheds.

“In April, the Neighborhood Creative Arts Center (NCAC) Bay-Wise home school class was invited to tour the CCMG Waldorf Garden by Project Leader

***Brent Burdick** and his team. During the tour the Master Gardeners demonstrated potato baskets, strawberry beds, and the vegetable beds. The youngsters had the opportunity to do some transplanting. At the end of the tour the children were presented plant container kits and seeds to take home*

*“We conducted our first Bay-Wise certification at the Port Tobacco home of two of Master Gardeners: Paris and Jerry Reed. The certification was conducted by **Lori Guido** and **Inette Furey** who have been waiting for two years to complete their Bay-Wise training. With the assistance of two of our senior Master Gardeners, **Janet McGrane** and **Gail Walker**, they easily went thru the steps required. The property was a perfect setting for our cert but the weather was cloudy and rain was looming but luckily, we finished just in time before the downpour hit us. Congratulations to Lori and Inette. I will be looking forward to volunteering with them in the future. We were all in a good mood and we so enjoyed the time we spent there. I want to thank June Leyland and Julie Pearson, two of our new interns for joining us and appreciate their positive comments.”*

Dorchester

Emily Zobel, Dorchester County Master Gardener Coordinator reports that the Dorchester County Bay-Wise team was not active from 1/1 to 6/30.

Frederick

Co-chairs, **Ellen West**, **Cheryl Dehn** (who has resigned as of 7/1/22), and **Sally Lyons** and their committee certified 5 client (1 belonging to a Master Gardener) and 1 non-residential (Black Ankle Vineyard/Winery) landscapes this fall which resulted in 6,272 square feet and 151 acres of Bay-Wise practices implemented by 14 people. They have 2 more landscapes awaiting consultations later this year. Their team also reached 249 residents, including 59 youth through 4 different events in April. These events focused on the environmental impacts of climate change highlighting the use of native plants to assist in

storm water management and diversity of plant life. Sally reports, *“Our committee members are all scattered in different directions this year it seems. COVID put a damper on our Bay-Wise activities. Several committee members are focused on their own gardens and others have taken on responsibilities for community spaces so...we are hoping to regroup in the fall. We are continuing to see results from our exhibitions with requests for yard certifications! With fewer members, we are struggling to do it all. Nevertheless, we are all still very committed to spreading the good word on Bay-Wise practices in our own worlds!”*

Harford

New chair, **Michelle Landers** reports that her committee grew from 15 to 27 in the last six months. Her team certified 1 demo, 4 client (including 1 who is a Master Gardener) and 1 non-residential landscape (the Overlook at McPhail Woods) during the first half of the year. These certifications resulted in 12,147 square feet and 39.89 acres of Bay-Wise practices implemented.

Howard

Longtime Chair, **Linda Decker**, reports that her committee of 28 were able to certify 6 client (including 3 who are Master Gardeners) landscapes during the first half of this year. These certifications resulted in over 5.16 acres and 11,300 square feet of Bay-Wise practices implemented by 11 people. They have 25 more consultations planned for the second half of 2022! Linda shares, *“Bay-Wise activities in Howard County continue to be curtailed in 2022. We have had no team meetings but individual activities did proceed.*

“Twenty-four presentations to Garden Clubs and Community groups were conducted via ZOOM or with some limited in-person events. It’s difficult to estimate the total audience, but at least 300 people participated.

“For the first time since the beginning of COVID restrictions Howard County once again hosted GreenFest. The Bay-Wise team was there in force:

we staffed an outdoor booth dedicated to explaining the Bay-Wise principles, sharing the yardstick and letting folks know about Bay-Wise activities in their community. We also supported the Native Plant sale with another booth staffed with MG experts on native plants to provide advice, plant lists and designs for native plant gardens. Our thanks to the Baltimore City team for sharing their QR code handout and modifying it for our Howard County audience. Tech savvy residents took full advantage to access our Bay-Wise website as well as the native plant resources.



Howard County Bay-Wise Master Gardeners teaching local residents about Bay-Wise practice at the well-attended GreenFest.

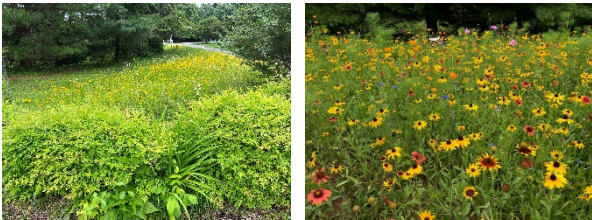
“These efforts were reprised at the Robinson Nature Center Native Plant Palooza and the Emerson community Earth Day Event.

“Because of COVID restrictions, the drop-in distribution of free barrels to Howard County residents from the Alpha Ridge landfill was suspended. Instead, free barrels were reserved on-line, and a video presentation was used to explain their function and assembly. Residents were able to pick up their barrels at GreenFest. Judging by the number of disappointed residents who were not able to secure one of the barrels in advance, we know this is a popular program.

“We created a subcommittee dedicated to conducting certifications and six properties have been evaluated and awarded Bay-Wise

certification. With the advent of the fillable Bay-Wise yardstick, we revised our website to facilitate electronic requests for both certifications and homeowner consultations. Promoting our services at public events and word-of-mouth from previous clients has generated an influx of requests. Staffing teams for site visits has brought new life to the Howard County Bay-Wise team. Twenty-eight folks have participated in one or more of these visits and feedback from clients has been gratifying. Sometimes it's difficult to assess the impact of these visits but one of our teams just received the following email from a client they visited in 2019:

"We just want to let you know what great joy the wildflower meadow has brought to our lives. We visit it at least once a day to see what amazing new things are popping up. It is now to the point of being self-sustaining. Attached are a few pics for your visual pleasure. Thank you for all your sage advice.



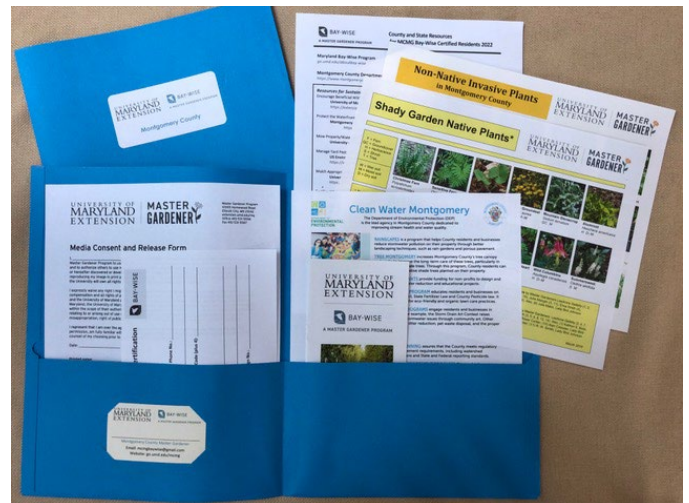
"A candidate for the school board, Dr. Linfeng Chen, stopped by yesterday and remarked how beautiful and important this project is, and how he would like to see similar projects across the county. We are chatting with him this afternoon. ... We are planning to move at the end of the summer. We are really hoping the new owners preserve and expand on what we did. We will take our knowledge and our passion for this sort of transformation to our new home and spread the seed of this idea. Warm Regards...

"This is what we hope for -- the information and enthusiasm we share with our neighbors takes on a new life and continues to be nurtured."

Montgomery

Co-chairs, **LeeAnne Gelletly**, **Linda Barrett** and **Taffy Turner**, report that their committee of 31 were able to certify 1 demo and 3 client (including 2 who are Master Gardeners) landscapes during

the first half of this year. These certifications resulted in 68,332 square feet of Bay-Wise practices implemented by 8 people. They have 6 more consultations planned for the second half of 2022. **LeeAnne** adds that *"The Montgomery County Bay-Wise team has been working hard to get the Bay-Wise program going again in our county. We began in January by establishing subcommittees to work on a website presence, develop "how to certify" instructions for Bay-Wise team members, create a Resident's Information Folder to be given out to clients, develop a budget, and establish systems to schedule certifications and store data.*



Montgomery County Bay-Wise Master Gardeners' "Resident's Information Folder" to be given to clients during site visit.

"By May we had our website operating and were advertising to fellow MCMGs through articles in our newsletter, The Seed, and at general meetings via Zoom. We advertise to county residents using our newly created Montgomery County Bay-Wise brochure, given out at Ask a Master Gardeners plant clinics and at Urban Gardening events held monthly in Silver Spring. And a PowerPoint presentation on Bay-Wise in Montgomery County is currently under development.

"Our 31 enthusiastic MCMG Bay-Wise team members have been responding quickly when asked to sign up to certify landscapes. As of the end of June, four certifications were completed, and at least half a dozen more visits were pending. We're keeping busy!"

Prince George's

Franchella Kendall, faithful Chair, reports that their committee of 36 members certified 2 demo, 3 Master Gardener client and 1 non-residential site (Clinton Demonstration Garden at the Prince George's County Extension Center), covering an area of 2.5 acres and implemented by 6 people, since January. They also gave 2 presentations to 30 interns and fellow Master Gardeners this winter.

Franchella adds that besides providing information on Bay-Wise to the new class of Master Gardener Interns, they, *"held our County Bay-Wise MG meeting via Zoom. Our guest speaker was Carole Barth, Tree Manager, Natural Resources and Sustainability Division DOE and author of the Conservation Landscape portion of CR 04602021. Carole provided an overview of the components of the program and the connection between Bay-Wise and the Rain Check Rebate program."*

*"We were thrilled to certify the Demonstration Garden at the Prince George's County Extension Center in Clinton MD. The Master Gardeners have been working for several years to transform the gardens into a sustainable landscape that meet the Bay-Wise principles. The landscape consists of: vegetable gardens - the harvested food is donated to two food banks; butterfly garden (the garden is in the shape of a butterfly) and herb garden. In addition, a composting station has been set up. The lead for the composting project is Bay-Wise Master Gardener **Renee Baccus**."*



Prince George's County Bay-Wise Master Gardeners proudly display their sign while standing in front of their newly certified butterfly garden

Queen Anne's

Co-chairs, **Joyce Anderson**, **Margaret Gardner** and **Cathy Tengwall**, report that their committee of 10 certified 8 client landscapes during the first half of this year. These certifications resulted in 614,196 square feet of Bay-Wise practices implemented. They have at least 1 more consultation planned for the second half of this year.

St. Mary's

Chair, **Linda Crandall** reports that their committee dropped from 11 to 7 this year. She reports that her committee 1 client and 1 non-residential site (Butterfly Alley), covering an area of 3.34 acres and implemented by 4+ people, since January. Linda shares, *"Our team is excited about the two (2) certifications we had this spring. Both are clients with tremendous interest in the Bay-Wise program, conservation landscaping, and native plants. Both also have the ability to share the message of Bay-Wise with others and generate new clients and more certifications for us later."*

"Butterfly Alley" (butterflyalley.net) is a new native plant stand near Leonardtown, and in just the short time they have been open they have developed such a booming business they are having a hard time generating enough inventory. Not only are they having their location certified, they are willing to supply Bay-Wise flyers and information to customers looking to do more for the Bay. We are looking forward to partnering with them to provide more information to those customers who are interested in Bay-Wise.

"Jeannie & Tim Hucko are new home owners in St. Mary's County with a desire to landscape their new property in ways that benefit the Bay. They also live in a neighborhood where they are actively sharing their landscaping goals with their neighbors. The community where they live has lots of waterfront properties, and we are hopeful that their impact and desire to connect with others in their neighborhood will result in more of their neighbors learning about Bay-Wise and becoming certified."



St. Mary's County residents, Jeannie and Tim Hucko have their waterfront property Bay-Wise certified.

“This spring we also connected with a new landscaping contractor in our area. Not only are they certified Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professionals, as a part of their mission they are interested in spreading the message of Bay-Wise. We are hopeful that this intentional connection we have made will have the impact of adding more and more Bay-Wise families in St. Mary’s County.”

Talbot

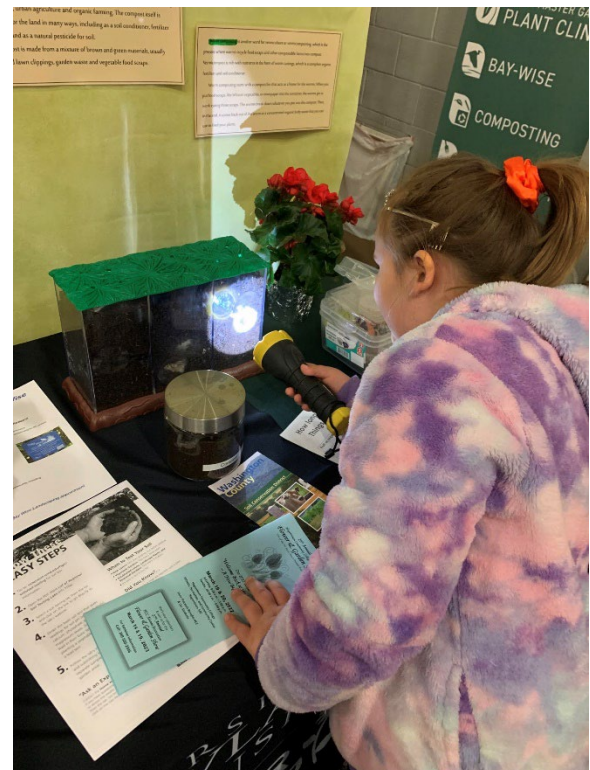
Chair, **Janet Mackey** reports that her committee grew from 21 to 26 this year. They certified 1 demo and 1 client landscape during the first half of 2022. The certifications yielded 20.6 acres of Bay-Wise practices implemented. In April, committee members taught 2 classes for 36 new homeowners in a local community. Janet reports, *“The Talbot County Bay-Wise group started working as 3 small teams of 3-5 people to work on Bay-Wise consultations and certification visits. This makes coordinating visits easier with fewer schedules, and*

groups are made up according to approximate locations within the county.

“The Talbot Bay-Wise group also worked with a local community development (Easton Village) to provide presentations for new and current residents about basic landscaping for living on the Eastern Shore. We look forward to expanding this idea with other county neighborhoods and communities in the future.”

Washington

Co-chairs, **Annie Lemarie** and **Jackie Schwab**, report that although their committee of 6 did not certify any landscapes during the first half of this year, they’ve still been busy. **Annie** adds that *“The Bay-Wise committee created an engaging educational display on soil at the Hagerstown Community College Flower and Garden show on March 19 and 20. Over 500 visitors learned from the “Did you know soil was ALIVE?” and the “Secrets of the Soil” exhibits which included an interactive compost tower, soil box and soil map/samples.”*



Future Washington County soil scientist looking for life in “Secrets of the Soil” exhibit at the Hagerstown Community College Flower & Garden Show

More Assorted Stuff

How Do You Write “Bay-Wise?”

Lately, I’ve seen a few different versions of the term, Bay-Wise in print. There is only one correct way to print the term. Please note that the correct way to print the title is **Bay-Wise**, not **BayWise**, **Bay-wise** or **baywise**. Both words should be capitalized and separated by a hyphen. Ironically, the first time a reminder like this appeared in the newsletter was Fall, 2004! It reappeared in 2013 and now that we are celebrating our 25th year of programming, it’s a good time for a reminder.

***The following four articles are reprints for the benefit of our newest Bay-Wise Master Gardeners.*

**New Small Space Bay-Wise Yardstick

The new Bay-Wise Yardstick for small space gardens, townhomes, and apartment balconies is available for downloading and printing at: https://extension.umd.edu/sites/default/files/publications/83.%20Baywise%20Maryland%20Yardstick_0.pdf. A completely fillable format should be available later this year. What exactly is a fillable form? Read on to learn more.

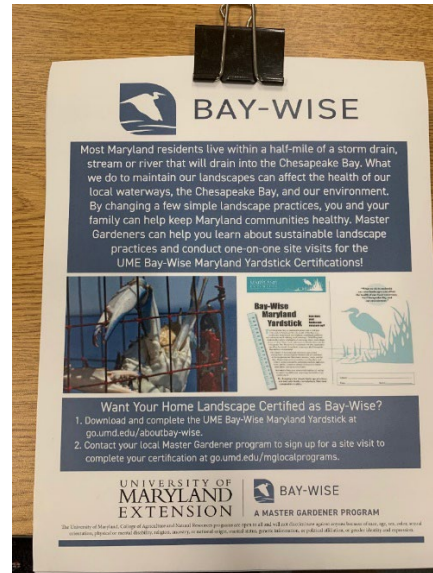
**Bay-Wise Fillable Forms

You’ve been asking for it and it’s finally here. We now have a paperless way to send out and receive a completed Yardstick and application. You can now share a link with your client, who can access two versions of the Bay-Wise Yardsticks (for food gardens and for landscapes) which includes the application. Your client would complete the Yardstick and application on their electronic device (computer, tablet or mobile phone) and submit it via email. You can then download the data into an Excel spreadsheet to use as you see fit. You and your client can print the application and Yardstick during any part of the process or save it in its .pdf format.

Of course, paper copies are still available and acceptable for use. The bottom line is that now you and your clients have options. Find all forms of the available Yardsticks [here](#).

**Bay-Wise Promotional Flyer

A few years ago, Jean Burchfield created attractive promotional flyers for each of the Master Gardener major program efforts. These can be used with exhibits at local public events. Your county office should have a supply. Ask your Master Gardener Coordinator for a supply. Thanks to Anne Arundel County Master Gardener Coordinator, Nancy Allred, for the reminder!



**Free IPM Info Graphics

Images from this series of 88 graphics defining all aspects of IPM may be downloaded and freely shared for teaching IPM to your audience. <http://www.uwyo.edu/ipm/ipm-basics/ipm-info-graphics.html>

Native Bee Podcast

Master Gardener Coordinators, **Mikaela Boley** (Talbot), **Rachel Rhodes** (Queen Anne’s), and **Emily Zobel** (Dorchester) host the wildly popular monthly Garden Thyme podcast. To celebrate Pollinator Week in June, a 53-minute episode featured Sam Droege, US Geological Survey scientist (and native bee expert) who discussed how to tell a native bee from a honey bee and shared tips on creating native bee habitats in your own landscape. <https://gardenthymepodcast.buzzsprout.com/687509/10834174-native-bee-special-with-sam-droege-usgs>

Free Lunch & Learn Webinars

The New York State IPM Program offers 30-minute webinars through Zoom. Happy learning!

[What's Bugging You? First Friday Events](#) (New York State IPM Program)

Fridays | 12:00 pm. – 12:30 p.m. EDT | Zoom | Free; registration required

The first Friday of each month, spend half an hour over lunch learning about practical solutions for pest problems with the New York State IPM Program. Each presentation will end with an IPM Minute.

[Register](#) to attend these monthly events.

[Recordings of past presentations are also available.](#)

Upcoming First Friday Events:

- August 5, 2022: **Feature Presentation: Do's and Don'ts for ladybugs in the garden** (*IPM Minute: Risks associated with pest control home remedies*)
- September 2, 2022: **Tackling white grubs in your lawn: scouting, decision-making, and sustainable management** (*IPM Minute: Shoo flies, don't bother me!*)
- October 7, 2022: **Fall lawn IPM: managing leaves and ticks** (*IPM Minute: Is that a praying mantis egg case?*)
- November 4, 2022: **Repellents, fencing, and other IPM approaches for managing deer damage** (*IPM Minute: Where you chuck your pumpkins matters*)
- December 2, 2022: **Homeowner update on emerald ash borer management** (*IPM Minute: Creepy crawly Christmas - what to do if you find insects in your Christmas tree*)

Graphic Novel Depicts Local Arboretum

I came across this educational graphic novel, called [Arboretum Adventure](#), about Cylburn Arboretum in Baltimore City and wanted to share it with you. It was created by [Maya Henderson](#), a local artist about to graduate from the Maryland Institute College of Art. In her book she defines terms like arboreta, saplings, chrysalis, and covers concepts such as forest succession and habitats. It is classified as "kid lit" but is a great read for people of all ages. As a Master Gardener, I thought you

might enjoy reading it and/or sharing it with your friends and family.

Interested in Planting Trees?



The Maryland Urban and Community Forest Committee (MUCFC) is a volunteer group of citizens, professionals, and government officials united to protect and enhance Maryland's forest ecosystems. MUCFC is a sub-committee of the Maryland Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards. Every county in the state has a Forestry Board. The primary functions of the Committee are to 1.) Promote and coordinate the Maryland Community PLANT award program that officially recognizes communities planting and caring for trees, and 2.) Administer grants to communities, through their local Forestry Boards, that promote planting and care of trees. If you are interested and would like more information about membership, please contact Wayne Lucas, 301-324-2684 or me, at 410-531-5973.

If you are interested in applying for a grant of up to \$1,000, or learning more about MUCFC, visit: <https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/programs/urban/mcfc.aspx>. There are 2 grant cycles this year: February and July. Applications are due by the 15th of the month. Remember, you must have your application signed by your local forestry board member before submitting it. Once completed, you can submit it electronically.

Other Grants

The Chesapeake Bay Trust offers several types of grants that might enhance your Bay-Wise projects. They offer funding for county-specific and program specific projects. Their applications deadlines vary so it may be best to visit their [website](#) to see what they have to offer and note on your calendar the next deadline for your particular project approaches.

Another such funding organization is Forever Maryland, sponsor of the [Keep Maryland Beautiful](#)

Grants. Again, check out their website so you can be ready to apply during their next grant cycle. This is a good time to start planning for the next round of funding. Meanwhile, Forever Maryland also offers webinars on conservation landscaping.

100% Certified?

A little over half of you have not had your landscapes certified yet. So far 740 “demo landscapes” have been designated throughout the state. Over the years, 1,555 of you have taken the Bay-Wise advanced training. This means that only 47.6% of you have certified landscapes. If you aren’t among the few, the proud, the “certified,” consider having it done this year. Contact your county’s Bay-Wise committee chair to set up an appointment. The process is easy & fun and one of the rewards is increased visibility in your neighborhood as an expert on ecologically sound landscaping.

One of the successful indicators of the Bay-Wise Landscape Management Program is to have all Bay-Wise Master Gardeners’ landscapes certified as demonstration landscapes. Let’s see how many more we can get certified by the end of 2022, to celebrate our 25th anniversary!



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