
Chesapeake Bay Program

Bi-Monthly Progress Report



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Eastern Panhandle Regional Planning and Development Council
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Chesapeake Bay Program

Chesapeake Stewardship Fund - Small Watershed Grant

The Town of Bath is pleased to announce it has been awarded a \$50,000 Small Watershed Grant through the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund, a program administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). The Town of Bath will use these funds to address erosion and stormwater issues occurring within the Greenway Cemetery.



photo by Eric Vance

The Charter of the Town of Bath, adopted on February 28, 1872, directs the Town Council to "provide for the burial of the dead, and for this purpose, may acquire land...and provide for its improvement and security."



Greenway Cemetery's location was chosen for its natural beauty and hilltop view overlooking Warm Spring Run. However, highly erodible native soils, steep slopes, and the extensive removal of trees for burial plots have resulted in erosion within the cemetery. Additionally, the increased volume and velocity of stormwater rushing into Warm Spring Run have been contributing factors to more frequent and severe flooding events within the town. The 100-year storm of September 2012 increased awareness of the need to address stormwater impacts from the cemetery and surrounding properties.

The Town of Bath Council recognizes that integrating green infrastructure solutions within the Greenway Cemetery can revitalize the natural space as envisioned in the original charter of 1872, while helping to mitigate the adverse effects the stormwater and erosion from the cemetery has on the town, Warm Spring Run, the Potomac River, and the Chesapeake Bay.

NFWF's Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund is dedicated to protecting and restoring the Bay by helping local communities clean up and restore their rivers and streams. The Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund is a partnership with the Federal-State Chesapeake Bay Program. Working in partnership with government agencies and private corporations major funding is provided by the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service and Forest Service, Altria Group, CSX, and Wells Fargo.

On May 17, 2013 the Town of Bath/Greenway was selected to receive assistance under the pilot Community Environmental Management Program (CEM). The technical assistance provided by the Eastern Panhandle Planning and Development Council (Region 9) through CEM aided the town in developing a competitive application for the Small Watershed Grant. CEM is a collaborative effort of the WV Chesapeake Bay Tributary Team that includes the WV Department of Environmental Protection, Conservation Agency, Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry, Freshwater Institute, Region 9 and Cacapon Institute. CEM focuses on assisting well-organized groups motivated to improve their environment through community education and technical assistance.



*From left to right: Shawn Garvin, Gina McCarthy, Matthew Pennington, Susan Webster, Kate Lehman
photo by Eric Vance*

The Town hopes to begin the project planning process this winter.