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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EMBARGOED Until June 2, 2014

Arundel on the Bay Dedication and Celebration of New Stormwater Retrofits, Living Shoreline and Tidal Wetland Expansion

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND – On June 6, 2014, 2:00 – 5:00 PM, Arundel on the Bay and the South River Federation, and partners, will dedicate and celebrate the completion of new stormwater retrofits, a living shoreline, and a tidal wetland expansion with a ribbon cutting tribute, and guided site tour.

Arundel on the Bay and the South River Federation, working through the Anne Arundel County Master Watershed Stewardship Academy, partnered with Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works, the Chesapeake Bay Trust, the Maryland Critical Area Commission, and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to site, design, and construct the project.

- The scope of the project is to implement new stormwater retrofits, a living shoreline, and a tidal wetland expansion. These projects are expected to:
- Improve runoff water quality by reducing nutrient and sediment loadings.
- Alleviate local ponding by providing additional capacity in roadside best management practices.
- Reduce erosion and/or ponding where present through improved stormwater conveyance.
- Further educate the residents of Arundel on the Bay about preferred ways to manage stormwater and shoreline erosion.
- Serve as a model for reducing flooding and improving water quality in low-lying communities throughout the watershed.

Arundel on the Bay developed the community's watershed plan, which identified the project area as one of the several highest priority areas for attention to address stormwater run-off and shoreline erosion problems, and provided some matching funds/in-kind commitment to support the following grants. The Chesapeake Bay Trust, through a Watershed Assistance Grant, funded the project designs, and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, through a Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund grant, paid for the project engineering, final designs, permitting, and construction. The South River Federation served as the fiscal agent for the projects and provided the day-to-day and overall project management.

Julie Winters, Master Watershed Steward said, "We in Arundel on the Bay are delighted with the newly constructed projects and believe these are both an aesthetic asset to the community's stormwater management efforts and help our community alleviate polluted run-off from reaching Fishing Creek and Bay just beyond."

"The South River Federation believes the Arundel on the Bay restoration projects serve well as a model of what can be successfully achieved in low-lying communities to manage stormwater run-off" said Lynn Buhl, South River Federation Board Chair.

Schedule of Events for June 6, 2014:

2:00 Gather at Chestnut Avenue street end at Fishing Creek

2:15-2:25 Dedication – remarks by Lynn Buhl

2:25 Ribbon cutting by representatives from AOTB, SRF, AACO PW, CBT, MD CAC, MD DNR

2:30 SRF led site tour walking from living shoreline/wetland up Chestnut to Newport playground

3:00-5:00 Celebration social at 1343 Hollywood Avenue, Annapolis (corners of Cohasset and Hollywood Avenues)

For more information about this project, please visit: <http://arundelonthebay.org/planting-2014.html>

For more information about the South River Federation and other projects like this one, contact: jennifer@southernriverfederation.net