

Arundel on the Bay's New Stormwater Retrofits, Living Shoreline, and Tidal Wetland Expansion

Overview

Arundel on the Bay (AOTB) and the South River Federation (SRF), 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.

Project Background

- AOTB contracted for two evaluations and prioritization plans of community's drainage, invasive habitat, and shoreline issues (March 2005, and July 2009)

- AOTB Board of Directors contacted community resident Julie Winters, AACO Master Watershed Steward, for assistance with pet waste collection and education program, rain garden design and installation at entrance to community, and to lead effort to implement some of the highest priority in the 2009 community's environmental plan (August 2008-2014)
- Pet waste stations and collection/education program initiated, and rain gardens at community entrance designed/installed by AOTB with significant financial support from the AACO Watershed Stewards Academy and matching funds provided by the community (2008)
- AOTB coordinated with Anne Arundel County Public Works, Maryland Critical Areas Commission, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Maryland Department of Environment, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Coast Guard, and the Chesapeake Bay Trust to review the community's environmental issues/plan, determine next steps, and shore up partner commitments for moving forward with implementation steps; the Newport and Chestnut Avenue projects are identified as the next steps by the group (August - October 2010)
- AOTB, Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the Maryland Critical Areas Commission, and the South River Federation formally partner for the further implementation of the project (Spring 2010)
- AOTB and SRF together receive a \$20,000 grant from CBT (with a \$10,000 match from AOTB Board, for a total design project budget of \$30,000) to develop the project conceptual designs for bio-retention, wetland reconstruction, and living shoreline projects on Newport and Chestnut Avenues; SRF serves as the fiscal agent for the grant dollars, and as the day-to-day project manager (2011 and 2012)
- AOTB and SRF together receive a Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund grant from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for nearly \$500,000 for construction of the bio-retention, wetland reconstruction, and living shoreline projects on Newport and Chestnut Avenues; Keller-Williams to provide over 100 corporate volunteers for May 2014 planting <https://vimeo.com/94633594> (February 2012 - June 2014)
- Ribbon cutting, dedication, site tour, and celebration of project completion (June 6, 2014)

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