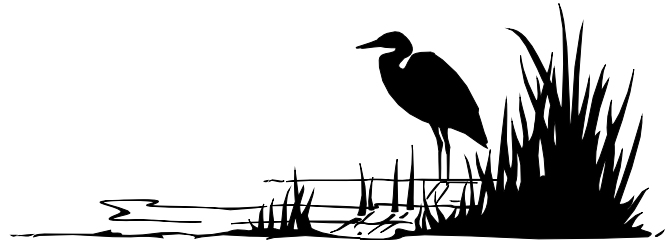


BAY-WISE MASTER GARDENER UPDATE



To: Bay-Wise Master Gardeners and Mike Ensor, Katie Dott, Herb Reed, Steve Allgeier, Doris Behnke, Sudeep Mathew, Susan Trice, Joyce Browning, Georgia Eacker, Steve Dubik, Esther Mitchell, Rachel Melvin, Jennifer Horton, Heather Buritsch, Tina Webster, Ginny Rosenkranz, Robin Hessey and Jon Traunfeld

From: Wanda MacLachlan

Subject: Bay-Wise Update

Date: July 29, 2011

Greetings

This e-newsletter covers the period from January 1 to June 30, 2011.

The Bay-Wise Program is 15 years old this year. It is hard to believe but in November, 1996 we kicked off the Bay-Wise Landscape Management program with Advanced Training sessions in four counties. See the article in the “More Assorted Stuff” section of this newsletter.

This spring 103 Master Gardeners took the Bay-Wise Advanced Training for the first time. They were joined by 20 others who came back for a refresher. Check out the extensive list of newbies and welcome them to your committee the next time you see them.

Certified Landscapes

According to my records, 31 new Bay-Wise Master Gardener landscapes have been certified since our last newsletter. Many belong to Master Gardeners that have had their landscapes certified in the past and have now taken the advanced training.

Listed in the following chart are those that have recently had their landscapes certified or have recently completed the advanced training. Congratulations to all, for your landscape certifications.

Kudos to you!

Certified Landscapes of Our Recent Bay-Wise Master Gardeners

County	First Name	Last Name	B-W Training	Demo Certification Date
Anne Arundel	Sharon	Schroer	3/10/2010	4/23/2011
Calvert	Kathy	Ellwood	3/26/2011	6/16/2011
Calvert	Frank	Grasso	3/26/2011	4/30/2011
Calvert	Donna	Barrett	3/26/2011	4/21/2011
Calvert	Avis	Vesely	3/26/2011	4/18/2011
Calvert	Dom	Raino	3/26/2011	4/2/2011
Calvert	Kay	Parris	3/26/2011	7/8/2009
Calvert	Mark	Lewis	3/26/2011	7/21/2008
Calvert	Pamela	Blyth	3/26/2011	5/22/2007
Carroll	Sheila	Bowman	10/24/2006	6/25/2011
Cecil	Maxine	Lynch	3/21/2011	6/28/2010
Dorchester	Richard	Dempster	3/15/2011	7/5/2011
Dorchester	Nancy	Hastings	3/15/2011	3/22/2011
Frederick	Linda	Thomas	5/9/2011	5/31/2011
Frederick	Marilyn	Olson	5/9/2011	5/31/2011
Frederick	Deb	Keimig	5/9/2011	5/23/2011
Harford	Donald	Grier	3/21/2011	3/27/2011
Harford	Cindy	Porter	3/21/2011	3/20/2011
Harford	Joan	Parris	3/21/2011	7/9/2010
Harford	Cheryl	Roettger	3/21/2011	9/24/2008
Harford	Melody	Karbley	3/21/2011	8/22/2006
Harford	Maureen	Cornett	3/21/2011	10/10/2005
Queen Anne's	Stephanie	Simpson	3/15/2011	6/9/2011
Queen Anne's	Lori	Sharer	3/15/2011	5/13/2011
Talbot	Martha	Hamlyn	3/11/2011	4/27/2011
Talbot	Joan	Howell	4/21/2009	4/27/2011
Talbot	Lisa Marie	Ghezzi	4/21/2009	3/31/2011
Talbot	Molly	Bond	3/11/2011	3/17/2011
Talbot	Mary	Petit de Mange	3/11/2011	3/17/2011
Talbot	Janet	Friedberg	3/11/2011	3/7/2011
Wicomico	Charlene	Miller	3/15/2011	7/5/2011

Bay-Wise Advanced Trainings

Congratulations to all 103 of our newest Bay-Wise Master Gardeners. Since our last newsletter we've held six Bay-Wise Advanced Trainings. We had four in March and two more in May. Our first training in 2011 started off with a bang in **Talbot** County led the season off with a class of 33. Many were returnees coming back for a refresher as these Master Gardeners gearing up to work under the \$48,000 Tred Avon Watershed Grant to provide education, demonstrations and certifications in that watershed. Congratulations to **Molly Bond, Jeff Fahrman, Lynn S. Freeburger, Janet Friedberg, Val Kenn Gray, Martha Hamlyn, Carol Miller, Marti Milone, Chris Myles-Tochko, Mary Petit de Mange** and **Charles Radvan**. You are joining a great team.

Dorchester, Queen Anne's, Wicomico and Worcester Counties combined groups and concluded its training on the Ides of March with twenty new and one returning Master Gardeners. Congratulations to **Richard Dempster, Nancy Hastings, Martha Keating, Jim Leech, Barbara Massetti, Edward Middleton, Susie Middleton, Mike Robertson, Nan Powell** and **Gloria Warner** of Dorchester and **Susan McRae, Kit Foster, Joseph Jelich, Jimmy Persels, Lori Sharer, Louise Shearer** and **Stephanie Simpson** of Queen Anne's Counties for completing new Bay-Wise Master Gardeners; and a special congrats to **Charlotte Lilly, Charlene Miller** of and **Jennifer Wheeler** of for travelling all the way from Wicomico and Worcester Counties to join that training session.



Instructor Stu Schwartz demonstrating how to test for soil compaction

Harford County hosted **Baltimore City, Baltimore** and **Cecil County** Master Gardeners to round out the month's training. Congratulations to the four returning and the following 22 brand new Bay-Wise Master Gardeners for completing the course: **Jim Murray, Patricia Telak, Dennis Taylor III, Doris Behnke, Maxine Lynch, Cynthia Rossetti, Lisa Wilson, Meg Algren, Deborah Butcher, Maureen Cornett, Donald Grier, Stephen Howard, Laura Hubbard, Joyce Jordan, Melody Karbley, Robert McCormack, Carol Nau, Michael Palazzo, Joan Parris, Cindy Porter, James Rakes** and **Cheryl Roettger**.

Anne Arundel and Calvert Counties spent two Saturdays hosting a session for 26 new and three returning Master Gardeners. Congratulations to **Michele Brown, Brenda Darr, Maureen Donovan, Denise Elliott, Robin Gill, Keith Marnell, Mary Jo Robey** and **Jo Williamson** of Anne Arundel County; **Gail Ritscher** of Baltimore City; **Donna Barrett, Pamela Blyth, Kathy Ellwood, Pam Enrico, Mary Lou Fortuna, Frank Grasso, Laura Jiroun, Mark Lewis, Chuck McClellan, Claudette McLaughlin, Kay Parris, Dom Raino,**

Carol Shomette, Rose Thompson and **Avis Vesely** of Calvert and **Barb Bausch** and **Kate Willette** of St. Mary's Counties for learning everything they could about being Bay-Wise.

Frederick and **Washington Counties** each hosted a day of training for 14 new Bay-Wise Master Gardeners in May. **Elizabeth Beard, Mary Costello, Gabrielle deSilva, Regina Irizarry, Deb Keimig, Marilyn Olson, Linda Thomas, Ellen West** and **Harriet Wise** of Frederick and **Vernell Doyle, Judy Kofoet, Catherine Parks, Fran Scher** and **Marcia Toder** of Washington Counties join the ranks of being Bay-Wise.

Prince George's County finished the month of May with a fact-filled training. **Edith Butler, Lucy Duff, Sherri Edwards, Kate Kappel Haba, Marcella Lucas, Theresa Nero, Kelley Okleson, Andrea Shindell, Ann Young** and **Subrena Young** should soon join their county's Bay-Wise committee.



News From the Counties:

Anne Arundel

Co-chairs, **Jim MacNicholl** and **Margaret Karnes**, tell us that their committee is 20 strong. They have certified 1 demo, ten client and 2 non-

residential sites. Jim also reports five activities:

1. *In addition to the certifications listed we conducted 3 yard visits that did not result in certification, however, were educational for the home owner.*
2. *We participated in 5 community events, handing out Bay-Wise flyers.*
3. *We gave 4 speeches to Home Owner Associations, and Garden Clubs.*
4. *Educational articles on Bay-Wise techniques were placed in three of the monthly newsletters to the Anne Arundel Master Gardeners.*
5. *One Bay-Wise article was placed in the Bay-Weekly magazine by Calvert Co. mentioning the Anne Arundel program along with the Calvert Co. program.*

Baltimore City

Chair, **Betty Biliske**, tells us that her committee is eight strong. They have recently certified one non-residential (Hamden Hill Academy) and seven client landscapes. They reached 127 residents (including 22 children) in five different classes and events. Betty also reports, *"The Baltimore City Committee has eight members and we expect to increase that number in the next year. We have certified 7 residential landscapes and one elementary school vegetable garden. Interest in the community is strong and we currently have a waiting list of homeowners awaiting certifications or consultations.*

"We collaborated with Baltimore County MG, Jack Leonard, in teaching the Bay-Wise class to MG interns and taught

and made presentations at a Sunday School class, a garden club, the Baltimore Home and Garden Show and the Community Greening Resource Network (CGRN), a consortium of Baltimore City organizations committed to greening the urban landscape in ways that support a healthy urban environment. Opportunities abound this summer for Bay-Wise plant clinics. We have had a table at one of the largest farmer's markets in Baltimore City on a monthly basis beginning in April and will continue to do so through August. There have been other opportunities at civic and neighborhood festivals to present information on Bay-Wise landscaping practices. Since the beginning of the year, we have reached 447 individuals through these varied outreach efforts.

“Currently, our greatest constraint is our limited numbers of MG's certified to do Bay-Wise assessments. We are planning a Bay-Wise Advanced Course in Baltimore City for the spring to ameliorate this problem. There are seemingly unlimited opportunities for Bay-Wise volunteers to tap into all the energy directed toward a greener, healthier and safer city.”

Baltimore County

Brand new Co-chair, **Kim Barnes** and **Carolyn Vane**, tell us that their committee has grown to 31 Bay-Wise Master Gardeners. In addition to reaching 101 people in 4 different presentations and events, they have certified 3 residential, 1 non-residential landscapes (including the Phoenix Rail to Trail Garden) in the past six months. Kim also submits: *“The Baltimore County Bay-Wise Committee continues*

to grow and keep busy. Since the first of the year, we have certified one non-residential and three residential landscapes, and are working on strategies to encourage many more of our growing membership of UME Master Gardeners of Baltimore County to become Bay-Wise certified.



“As the Jennifer Branch Project wraps up in the next few months, we are planning to continue our partnership with the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy by participating in a new two-year venture, the Middle River and Tidal Gunpowder Watershed Preservation Project. We feel that our involvement with this project is very important - especially because it will give us opportunities for outreach and education to the communities on the eastern side of the county, and for sharing the Bay-Wise message with neighborhoods that are right on the water.

“We continue to take advantage of opportunities to educate our county residents about the importance of Bay-Wise Best Management Practices. Our Bay-Wise Master Gardeners presented on Bay-Wise Landscaping at the Jennifer Branch Project’s “Spring into Green” event in March, along with “Who Polluted the Gunpowder?”. Other speaking opportunities in the first half of 2011 included Bay-Wise presentations at Broadmead Retirement Community in February and at the Community College of Baltimore County-Essex during Earth Week. In March, Nancy Lewis presented “How to have a Bay-Wise

Landscape” as one of the featured topics for our first Baltimore County Master Gardener Spring Lecture Series.

“We have been putting much effort into planning and beginning the installation of a Bay-Wise Demonstration Garden at the new Baltimore County Center for Maryland Agriculture. Carolyn Vane, co-chair of the Bay-Wise committee, is heading up this exciting project.”

Calvert

Judy Kay, Chair, informs us that there are twenty one members of the Calvert County committee this year.



They certified four demo and six client landscapes since the beginning of this year. They also taught 38 residents in two classes. Judy reports *“Calvert County Master Gardeners (CCMG) participate in the Calvert County Green Expo each year with a booth. Over 200 visitors, including 40 youth, came by the booth on April 9 to watch composting and vermicomposting demonstrations, a salad box demo and to view the Bay-Wise and native plant display boards. 70 native plants were given away to visitors and 3 yard visits with 2 certifications resulted.*

“By the end of 2010, CCMG planted over 1,500 native plants on the grounds of the Community Resources Building in Prince Frederick where the Extension Office is located. Funds for the plants and tools came from a grant from Chesapeake Bay Trust. Other plants, mulch and topsoil were provided through a Calvert County Stormwater Management Grant. Continued support plus mulch and topsoil are being

provided by the Calvert County Department of Building and Grounds. Master Gardeners maintain the grounds with assistance from the County. Controlling stormwater runoff continues to be a problem and the county is taking further steps to provide better collection and control. The gardens are in their infancy but have garnered compliments from those who work in the building. When they have settled and filled in and we have better command over the weeds, the gardens will serve as demo gardens for the public and we will eventually certify the grounds as Bay-Wise.”

Carroll

Chair, **Marilyn Phillips**, reports one demo certification and nine active committee members. Her report is as follows: *“Our Bay Wise Committee has been hard at work creating a demonstration rain garden. We spent the winter months planning our design and choosing plants. This past spring we measured our slope, did a soil test and performed a perc test at our site located next to the GIEI demonstration gardens. We also took a field trip to the Chesapeake Ecology Center where we had a tour of a variety of different types of rain gardens. We decided on a mix of shrubs and plants for substance, color and easier maintenance. We had gutters installed on the extension's shed, with a downspout leading to a rain barrel, and a dug a sluice to carry the overflow from the barrel to the garden. We dug our swale, weeded the area and planted a combination of native shrubs and flowers, then mulched the entire area, and filled our downhill berm with stones. We've added plant ID stakes, and are working on a short, descriptive*

sign. The garden really looks nice and was well-received by our Master Gardeners, and the public at the GIEI open house in early June”.

Dorchester



Dorchester Bay-Wise Master Gardeners certify Nancy Hastings' (in orange vest) property

Chair **Judith Slaughter** is proud to announce that her committee grew from 5 to 15 in one year! So far this year they reached 47 residents, including 17 youth at the Richardson Maritime Museum “Boatworks” Festival. They also work regularly with patients at the Eastern Shore Hospital Center.” As a result, “*the twenty one patients we served during the Living Wall of Clay project were very interested in conservation of the Bay. In a survey conducted by the State of MD DHMH, the patients expressed interest in learning more about how to save the Bay.*”

Judy also reports, “*In order to consolidate expenses, during the 1st quarter of 2011, March 8th and 15th to be exact, the Dorchester County Master Gardeners joined forces with the Talbot, Queen Anne and Wicomico MG groups to offer a Advanced Bay-Wise Training course in Cambridge, MD. This course was well attended. Eleven Dorchester County Master Gardeners received Bay-Wise certificates for attendance. It was decided that we would use the 2nd*

quarter to 2011 to advertise our program in weekly newspaper articles and to then schedule two solid days of Bay-Wise consultations to take place in the 3rd Quarter of 2011 - specifically, July 7th and July 9th.” Stay tuned to this column in the year-end report for the exciting conclusion!

Frederick

Chair, **Ruth Axelrod** informs us that they have 5 committee members. So far this year they’ve certified three Bay-Wise demonstration landscapes and one client’s. The committee taught 87 residents in seven different classes. She also reports the following: “*In May, Frederick County collaborated with Washington County to host the annual Advanced Bay-Wise Training. In Frederick County, three of the trainees have completed their certification, while an additional five from this year’s and the 2010 classes are in the process of being scheduled (five people from the 2010 class have opted not to complete their certification at this time).*”

“*In April, we staffed an information table at the new Catoctin Nature Center’s Nature Fest, talking with 48 adults and 106 kids while the kids made coffee-filter butterflies. In February, there was a Bay-Wise display, and volunteers, at Ag Week in the Francis Scott Key Mall. In May, we helped staff an information table at the Beyond the Garden Gates Marketplace. In June, at the Go Green Energy Conference, we talk with 56 people and Ruth Axelrod gave a talk to 13 people on, “Saving Money By Practicing Eco-Friendly Gardening.” Later in the month, we were present at the Buckingham’s Choice Environmental Fair in Adamstown; this is their first year*

for the Fair so attendance was low and there were only 9 contacts. We are creating a new, self-explanatory display that can be used in situations where there is no or limited volunteer staffing; it will be ready for the week-long Great Frederick Fair in September.

“Ruth Axelrod, Bay-Wise Chair, gave talks in various venues and, in March the Frederick News Post published a lengthy interview with her about Bay-Wise gardening. In April, she initiated two consultations with nonprofit organizations that want to install eco-friendly, native gardens; the consultations are continuing.

“Another major activity was the Native Plant Sale to Frederick County Master Gardeners in April; this year, the sale allowed MGs to order from a list of almost 50 different plants that were delivered fresh from the nursery. Bay-Wise Committee members also helped staff the native plant tables at the annual FCMG Plant Sale.”

Harford

Bay-Wise Master Gardener Chair, **Joan Parris** informs us that they now have 38 Master Gardeners who are qualified to and willing to certify homes. Since last report they have certified two Bay-Wise demonstration, one client landscape, one a non-residential site at the Forest Hill Elementary School. She also reports, *“Master Gardener Intern Cindy Porter has continued with contacting 2 more Home Owners Associations. She has developed a comprehensive list of Bay-Wise practices for the HOA’s to use with their landscaping companies. The list has been well received – especially when the HOA’s find that they can save*

money due to fewer mowings and less fertilizer and pesticide use. We plan to continue outreach to HOA’s to encourage Bay-Wise techniques.



“In May and June, Master Gardeners assisted in planting rain gardens at Forest Hill Elementary School. The school has a very active Environmental Club and the club members participated in the “walk-around” the school grounds to complete the Bay-Wise certification of the school.

“We have increased our presence at the Bel Air and Havre de Grace farmer’s markets, reaching many potential clients with Yardsticks and applications. Hopefully this will bear fruit later in the summer. In additions, we had a table at the Anita Leight Wade In in May – saw lots of children and their parents and passed out lots of Yardsticks.”

Howard

Newly appointed Bay-Wise Master Gardener Chair, **Linda Decker** reports that their committee of 31 (including five 2011 interns) has certified two residential client sites since last year. They’ve conducted seven different workshops/events and taught/reached over 200 residents. In addition they’ve made ten landscape consultations and expect five certifications in the future.

Linda reports, "If there is a theme for the Howard County Bay-Wise team during the first half of 2011, it is one of cooperation with other groups in Howard County sharing our goals and interests:

"Dreyers Ice Cream has a manufacturing facility in Howard County. Large food grade barrels used in their production are recycled as rain barrels in a cooperative venture which includes the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES), Dept. of Public Works, Howard County. They receive



truckloads of empty barrels from Dreyers, wash them and cut holes (4/barrel) and store them at the landfill. Twice a month they bring the barrels to the landfill entrance where our Master

Gardeners manage the distribution to the public. The Bay-Wise Master Gardeners explain how convert the barrels and provide information on their use and impact. The residents pledge to buy the necessary fittings to make the barrel functional (estimated to cost about \$30) and use the barrel as intended. Since we restarted the program in April, 80 barrels have been distributed. Coincident with the distribution of rain barrels, we also distribute compost bins to the public free of charge.

"Capitalizing on the volume of visitors to the landfill, Bay-Wise in cooperation with Howard County installed a rain garden at Alpha Ridge. Designed and planted by our Bay-Wise Master Gardeners it

features native plants. This spring additional plants were added to the garden and maintenance is an on-going effort. On Saturday mornings MGs showcase the garden. Literature and signage at the site explains its value to residents who visit at other times.

"People Acting Together in Howard (PATH) is a coalition of 15 congregations working together to create a Youth expertise to train the Conservation Corps in Howard County to provide teens and young adults with green jobs training and full-time summer employment. The youth are trained to build rain gardens to clean up local streams, lakes and the Chesapeake. Bay-Wise Master Gardeners of Howard County are participating in this program by providing training.

"The Watershed Advisory Committee of Columbia has secured funding to install more than 200 rain gardens throughout the community. One of our Bay-Wise Master Gardeners has designed 4 different templates that they will be using. After the sites are selected for the gardens, we expect further involvement in aiding community members with understanding the maintenance requirements for the rain gardens to insure their ongoing effectiveness.

"Wood Elves Way Watershed Project was a Howard County funded education project designed to raise awareness about watershed issues impacting the Middle Patuxent Region. Wood Elves way is an older neighborhood in Columbia designed in an era when storm water was funneled to storm drains and large culverts. Over time

serious erosion has occurred. Our Bay-Wise and Storm Water sub-committee worked with the principals of the Middle Patuxent Environmental Foundation, Microwatershed.org, to host a community intervention and show the impacts of unchecked storm water runoff, share plans to restore the damaged outfall area, and engage the neighbors in working on their own properties to lessen the impact of storm water by keeping it on their properties. We showcased the use of rain barrels and had displays to address rain gardens, re-grading, redirecting water and planting native vegetation. As an outgrowth of the community meeting, we conducted site consultations for six of the neighbors on the street and gave them advice on alterations they should make to their property.

“We continued to focus on consultations in the community. In addition to the leads we received at last year’s Bay-Wise Garden Tour, Microwatershed.org refers clients to us and we also received a number of requests at our booth at Howard County GreenFest. Since we began concentrating on consultations we have had requests for 73 home visits. Many are still in process. In order to deal with the increasing demand for home consultations dealing with storm water related issues we arranged to adapt the course, “Landscape Design for Water Management” for Howard County. The course was given in June, and 19 of the participants were Howard County Master Gardeners. There was a strong focus on rain gardens, their siting, sizing and design. In addition, one day was devoted to interaction with our local government and community officials so

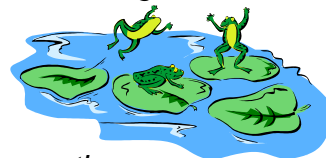
that we could better understand regulatory and community guidelines. As a result we have increased the number of Master Gardeners competent and confident to assist members of the community with their landscaping problems.

“Because of the volume of requests we have undertaken a review of our process. In addition to updating materials we are looking to incorporate a feedback mechanism so that we can reconnect with our clients and determine if they have made the changes we have recommended. We are also tracking those clients that would be suitable to revisit for certification”.

Kudos to the Howard County crew!

Lower Eastern Shore

Extension Educator, **Ginny Rosenkranz**, Coordinates Master Gardeners in Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties. They have recently formed a committee with six members. They have certified 6 residential landscapes (including one demo site) and two non-residential ones. Ginny reports *“Our Master Gardeners have presented ‘Who Polluted the Coastal Bays’ and ‘Who Polluted the Wicomico River’ during their Advanced Master Gardener Continuing Education.*



“Master Gardeners in the lower 3 counties of the Eastern Shore are more aware of what they can do to help keep both the Chesapeake Bay and the Coastal Bays cleaner.”

Montgomery

Sadly, **Sheryl Freishtat**, Chair, reports that their committee has disbanded.

Prince George's

Franchella Kendall, Chair, reports there are now 25 active members. She also shares "*A Bay-Wise presentation was made to the new Prince George's Master Gardeners Intern Class in March. 9 new Bay-Wise Master Gardeners were trained in June.*"

Committee member Nicolas Tardif also reports "*To promote composting even in a Home Owner Association area, via the Maryland Bay-Wise program, I made a display on composting, see picture, for the Montpelier Tea and Herb festival on April 30, here in Laurel, in PG County. It was a big success, I had a 2 dozens of composting fact sheets (HG#35) and a 3 dozens of the Backyard Action flyer on composting (the yellow one) and both ran out. I think people realize than like gardening, doesn't need to be big to make a difference.*"



Nicolas Tardif and his composting display

The same display will be at the Laurel's Riverfest in October."

Queen Anne's

Co-chairs, **Vida Morley**, **Kate Greer**,

Jane Chambers, **Carol Jelich** and **Rachel Melvin** report eleven active committee members again this year. They've certified two residential landscapes in the past six months. Between 6 reported outreach events, they reached 257 youth and 30 adults.

Co-chair, Rachel reports the following, "*In conjunction with Dorchester and Wicomico County Master Gardeners, 8 Master Gardeners from Queen Anne's County participated in Advanced Bay-Wise training hosted by Dorchester County Master Gardeners. 2 of the 8 were Master Gardener Volunteers from the 2009 Intern Class, 5 were 2010 Master Gardener Interns, and 1 was a Bay-Wise Chairperson. Out of the 8, 4 have certified Bay-Wise landscapes, 2 have had Bay-Wise consultations and 1 has a consultation scheduled.*"

"*We arranged for Bay-Wise Master Gardeners to teach two hands-on sessions on building rain barrels for Sassafras River Association (5/14/2011) and Chester River Association (6/04/2011). A total of 35 people participated and received a rain barrel.*"

"*In cooperation with Caroline, Queen Anne's and Talbot County-Department of Planning, arranged for Master Gardeners to be present at Chesapeake College on 4/30/2011 during a Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Sale. Master Gardeners provided educational demonstrations on composting and setting up rain barrels. Additionally, at the sale, 26 residents from all three counties took a survey on composting and water conservation. 58% of the participants currently owned a rain barrel or compost bin. 42% of the*"

participants felt that a compost bin was a good way to recycle food waste. 39% of the participants felt that a compost bin was a good way to recycle yard waste and 19% of the participants felt that a compost bin was a good way to reduce fertilizer usage in their home landscape. 50% of the participants felt that 65% of the materials found in landfills are compostable. 27% of the participants felt that 75% of the materials found in landfills are compostable. 23% of the participants felt that 40% of the materials found in landfills are compostable. Based on HG 35, 27% of the participants were correct in saying that 75% of the materials found in landfills are compostable. 46% of the participants felt that a rain barrel was a good way to save water in times of drought. 42% of the participants felt that a rain barrel could save 1,300 gallons of water during peak summer months. 35% of the participants felt that a rain barrel could save 500 gallons of water during peak summer months. Based on the MDE-Stormwater Conservation in Your Backyard Fact Sheet, 42% of the participants were correct in saying that a rain barrel could save 1,300 gallons of water during peak summer months”.



MG Lori Sharer, Queenstown, in her newly certified landscape

Talbot

Co-chairs, **Joanne Buritsch** and **Penny Balgley** report 50 active committee members. In the first half of the year the committee certified seven client landscapes and seven demo landscapes belonging to their advanced training graduates. They also reached 287 people in seven different programs.

Co-chairs, Penny and Joanne submit the following report: “*Talbot County has 50 active Advanced Trained Bay-Wise Master Gardeners including 25 new and seasoned team leaders. This increase in team leaders is to meet the opportunities to conduct a consultation and or certification of about 100 new landscapes in the Tred Avon Watershed Grant we are participating in. We are early in the 18 month grant and the requests keep pouring into the office.*

“*In addition to the above, the Bay Wise team members have given about 25 lectures throughout Talbot County and at Chesapeake College promoting Bay-Wise principles and encouraging Bay-Wise consultations.*

“*Another method, new this year, of reaching our neighbors is through monthly local publications. A Bay-Wise member writes an article in the ‘Shore Health and Garden’ magazine and an article in the ‘Attraction Magazine’ including a Bay-Wise tip of the month inside our blue Bay-Wise sign.”*

Washington

Co-chair and Master Gardener Coordinator, **Annette Ipsan** has taken leave and is travelling throughout Europe with her husband. Hopefully,

we'll hear more news from the Washington County committee in the next newsletter.

More Assorted Stuff

Soil Compaction Training

Soil Research Scientist and Bay-Wise Advanced Training lecturer, Stu Schwartz is setting up sessions around the state to train Bay-Wise Master Gardeners how to use the soil compaction tools during their client landscape visits. If you and your fellow committee members are interested in obtaining a set of these tools and using them during your site visits, plan to attend one of his training sessions.

Fertilizer Use Act of 2011

As of May 19, 2011, Maryland has a new environmental law designed to reduce the amount of nutrients from fertilizer washing into our local waters, including the Chesapeake Bay, from turf areas. One of the components of the law is the "implementation of a homeowner education program about best management practices to be followed when using fertilizers". This is a great opportunity for Bay-Wise Master Gardeners to step up in their counties and promote the Bay-Wise Program. For more details about the new law, visit http://www.mda.state.md.us/pdf/FertilizerLaw_Facts_final.pdf

Happy 15th Birthday!

It is hard to believe that 15 years ago we launched the Bay-Wise Landscape Management program. Now it is considered by university officials to be a signature program!



The program would not be what it is today without the efforts and actions of each Bay-Wise Master Gardener. Thank you.

Special thanks goes out to past committee chairs who have dutifully reported back to me all the fantastic things their counties do to encourage environmentally sound landscape management within our Chesapeake Bay watershed.

You may not remember some of these folks because some have been around for many years of service. Although I can't mention all, I'd like to recognize a few folks for their dedication to the program and at least five years of service as chair.

Ann Leipold, Judy Graham (Anne Arundel), Judy Kay (Calvert), Barbara Mooney, Dick Heiger (Carroll), Ronda Goldman (Charles), Jim Gallion, Elyse Phillips (Frederick) Christine Marotta (Harford), Betsy White, Andi Phillips, Holly McFarland (Howard), Franchella Kendall (PG), Fran Cook, Sue Veith (St. Mary's) and Penny Balgley (Talbot).



Bay-Wise Brochure

Master Gardener Coordinator, **Heather Buritsch** recently needed more Bay-Wise brochures for use in Talbot County so she visited the Bay-Wise website and printed it from on-line. She wanted to add her county office's contact info to the back of the brochure but since she needed so many of the brochures at one time, she sent the job to a local printer who was able to easily print the brochure exactly how she wanted it.

The brochure was originally designed to be printed in-office or from one's home printer. If local contact information needed to be added there were two options. A pre-printed label containing the local county's Extension office could be applied to the back of the brochure or the address could be typed using MS Word and the brochure run through the printer again. Thanks to Heather we now have a third option.

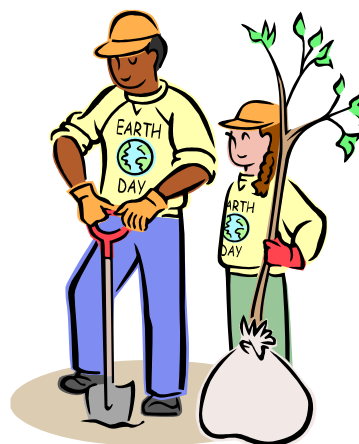
Interested in Planting Trees?



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 \$1,500, or learning more about MUCFC, visit:
<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/forests/programs/urban/mcfc.asp>



Is Your Landscape Certified?

Are you among the few, the proud, the "certified?" Has your landscape been certified as Bay-Wise yet? If you answered "no" to these two questions, it is time to move into action. 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. So far there are 330 "demo landscapes" throughout the state. If yours isn't one of them, *and you know who you are*, 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.

Contact Information

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