



Down and Dirty: A Partnership in Applied Learning



MISSION

To educate and inform students about the importance of using native plants to help reduce nutrient run off into the Chesapeake Bay



GOALS

To provide students and County residents with tools and techniques to help them improve the landscape and ensure continued environmental stewardship

Participants in this Partnership will gain a greater understanding of:

- The types of native plants for their location and how to use them
- Proper landscaping techniques
- How to identify opportunities for landscape improvements, and
- The importance of environmental stewardship



Working with Elementary Students

Teaching Propagation of Native Plants



Working with Elementary Students

Special Education Students Preparing the Garden



Compost for Soil Improvement

PARTNERSHIP OVERVIEW

By providing the initial design, steps for planting, and lesson plans, the MG program has developed a partnership with Anne Arundel County Schools that benefits and impacts the future greening of the county. With the help of the Master Gardener Program, outdoor education staff, and teachers, 160 students from six schools helped to design and plant a demonstration garden in the spring of 2003. Elementary school children and special education students maintain the gardens. This outreach effort will continue with the development of additional garden locations in Spring/Summer 2004.



Hands on Learning



Before



After

Planning, Planting, and Educating



OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAM

- By combining the senses and physical activity, students learn how to improve the environment
- Participation in the program demonstrates the value of teamwork and helps to improve individual self-esteem
- A good plan must be clear, well-defined, and flexible in order to meet short- and long-term goals for environmental stewardship



Acknowledgements Special Thanks for Support



For More Information:

<http://mastergardener.umd.edu>

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Out of State: 410-531-1757