

Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional (CBLP) Update

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Regional Environmental Committee
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Organizing Partners



Chesapeake
Conservation
Landscaping
Council

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION
Solutions in your community



Funders:

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Campbell Foundation

Maryland Sea Grant

Virginia Environmental Endowment

VA Dept. of Game & Inland Fisheries Habitat Partners©

Prince Charitable Trust

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional *certification* initiative

will develop and pilot a
voluntary, regional, advanced, *3-track* credentialing system and
network of *consistently trained*, qualified landscape professionals
who *demonstrate knowledge and skills* to
properly design, install and maintain sustainable landscaping practices
and small-scale stormwater retrofits (a.k.a. *residential stewardship practices*).

- For Individuals
- Financially self-supported
- Managed by a regional consortium, aligned w/ partner programs
- Branded & marketed to gain preferential acceptance in hiring

Sustainable Landscape Principles for a Healthy Chesapeake Bay

Residential Stewardship Practices

- Rain Barrels and Cisterns
- Rain Gardens and Bio Swales
- Tree Planting
- Permeable Hardscapes
- Impervious Cover Removal
- Downspout Disconnection & Drywells
- Green Roofs
- Urban Nutrient/Turf Management



Sustainable Landscaping Practices

- Buffer Plantings
- Conservation Landscaping with Native Plants
- Invasive Species Management
- Integrated Pest Management



CBLP Program Goals

- ◆ Establish common minimum landscape standards for LID retrofits – derived from state stormwater BMP manuals and Chesapeake Bay Program
- ◆ Demonstrate experience with the Design, Installation and Maintenance of LID/BMPs and sustainable landscaping techniques
- ◆ Rigorous, but not onerous
- ◆ Cost effective & valued credential for landscape professionals
- ◆ **BMPs are designed, installed and maintained to qualify for nutrient and sediment reduction credits and/or to meet local cost-share program requirements.**

CBLP Grant Deliverables

- ◆ Standards & proficiencies (Content Outline)
- ◆ Online study manual
- ◆ Exam
- ◆ Online searchable database of certified professionals
- ◆ Online database of preparatory training & CEU opportunities
- ◆ Branding and marketing strategy
- ◆ Online and print publicity materials
- ◆ **A 3-track certification application and assessment process including means to measure and demonstrate hands-on experience**
- ◆ Re-certification process
- ◆ **Long-term strategy for administration, financing and expansion**

Hampton Roads - Pilot Area

- Help develop certification process, training program and exam
- Offer practicum opportunities (design, install, & maintain BMPs)
- Send employees through training, exam, application process

Pilot Outcomes – Grant Deliverable

- 75 certified landscape professionals
- Certified CBLPs will evaluate process and program components
- 50 landscape professionals will each demonstrate successful installation of one 200 sq ft bioretention area
- 25 CBLP-certified maintenance contractors will each have 50 acres of turf under proper urban nutrient management

Proposed Schedule

2017

2016

2015-16

Evaluate,
Market &
Expand
Baywide

Assess: Material and
Process

Measure: Exams + Demonstrated Experience

Pilots: Aligned Trainings or Self Study + Hands-On Learning
Opportunities

Develop: Content , Online Guide, Exams,
Application, Minimum Qualifications

