

Ecoscaping back to the future...



Chesapeake  
Ecology Center



# Chesapeake Ecology Center UPDATE

Join us for upcoming events at the CEC!

Fall 2006

**Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM to Noon:** You are invited to join us at the CEC for the official announcement of this year's Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants. U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes and Rebecca Hanmer, Director of the Chesapeake Bay Program, will be the featured speak-ers. The program will be held on the grounds of Adams Academy at Adams Park, 245 Clay Street, Annapolis, Maryland—home of the CEC. In case of rain, it will be held in the school gymnasium.

**Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 9 AM to Noon:** Garden Tours and Volunteer Garden Care Day.

**Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM to 3:30 PM:** In partnership with Bay-Wise Master Gardeners, we will hold a **Rain Garden Workshop and install a rain garden.** Join other Master Gardeners from around the state to learn how to design, plant, and maintain a rain garden in a one-day, hands-on workshop. Participants will learn how to and then actually plant a rain garden at the CEC. We will also celebrate the Bay-Wise Landscape Management Program's 10th Anniversary. Wear work clothes and bring your lunch for this workshop. (Registration information will be forthcoming.)

**Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, Make a Difference Day, 9 AM to Noon:** We'll hold a volunteer Garden Care session and Tour. Bring your favorite garden gloves, or borrow a pair of ours. Snacks, gloves, and tools will be provided.

**November 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council Conference. (Stay tuned for details).

**During two full days in October:** We will work with Adams Academy students. Adams Academy at Adams Park is the only alternative middle school—for youngsters with behavioral problems—for Anne Arundel County. Notably, we work with a new crop of students every fall and spring, and we welcome volunteer assistance.

*Winter is an etching, spring a watercolor, summer an oil painting and autumn a mosaic of them all.*

## Adopt-A-Garden at the CEC!

The Chesapeake Ecology Center is located in the heart of Annapolis at 245 Clay Street. The 18 Native Plant Demonstration Gardens are a wonderful public resource for individuals, community, and school groups seeking to learn about and practice conservation landscaping.

We invite you to help us maintain this great community asset that benefits people and wildlife. We have several gardens that could use your TLC to keep them looking their best.

The types of activities you might participate in if you "Adopted-A-Garden" would be: weeding, mulching, fine-tuning, transplanting, and planting. You or your group would be gratefully acknowledged in CEC educational materials and signage if you choose to "Adopt-A-Garden." It's fun, it's educational, and it helps the watershed. Contact us at our email addresses for more information.

### For more information, contact:

Zora Lathan at [zoralathan@earthlink.net](mailto:zoralathan@earthlink.net), or Thistle Cone at [ThistleC@aol.com](mailto:ThistleC@aol.com). In the meantime, please visit our newly updated website at:

**[www.ChesapeakeEcologyCenter.org](http://www.ChesapeakeEcologyCenter.org)**

*There are times to cultivate and create, when you nurture your world and give birth to new ideas and ventures. There are times of flourishing and abundance, when life feels in full bloom, energized and expanding. And there are times of fruition, when things come to an end. They have reached their climax and must be harvested before they begin to fade. And finally of course, there are times that are cold, and cutting and empty, times when the spring of new beginnings seems like a distant dream. Those rhythms in life are natural events. They weave into one another as day follows night, bringing, not messages of hope and fear, but messages of how things are.*  
—Chogyam Trungpa

## CEC Happenings

This year started off with a bang and the excitement continues to build. We hope you'll join us for the upcoming activities on the previous page. Here are a few highlights of what we've been up to thus far for 2006:

On January 9<sup>th</sup>, **HGTVpro.com conducted an interview and videotaping about rain gardens at the CEC**, with Zora Lathan and Thistle Cone fielding questions.

In March, the CEC held an in-depth **Rain Garden Workshop** in cooperation with Chesapeake Bay Foundation, South River Federation, and Arlington Echo. Also in March, Thistle Cone gave **Wildlife Gardening Presentation** to Berrywood Clubhouse members.

Throughout the spring and summer **several scheduled CEC Garden Care Days were held and Tours were led by Anne Arundel County Master Gardeners**. Additionally, several non-scheduled Garden Care sessions were held.

In April, the **CEC participated in and provided an exhibit on rain gardens for Earth Day at Quiet Waters Park**. And for their **Earth Day activity, Merkle Direct Marketing, Inc. helped spruce up the CEC gardens**.

In May, Zora Lathan and Carole Ann Barth gave a **presentation on rain gardens at the Adkins Arboretum Spring Symposium**. Also in May, the **CEC received the Maryland Community PLANT Award** from the Maryland Urban and Community Forest Committee of the Maryland Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service.

Thistle A. Cone published a **rain garden article for the What's Up Annapolis** March issue; and Zora Lathan published a **rain garden article for the What's Up Annapolis** May issue.

**Garden design and technical assistance** is being provided to Calvary United Methodist Church, Bay-Wise Master Gardeners, and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis for their rain garden projects.

**A special Thank You to Ricky Meyer, aka Garden Angel and to all of the dedicated volunteers!!!**

***Your mind is a garden,  
your thoughts are the seeds,  
the harvest can be either flowers or weeds.***  
—Author Unknown



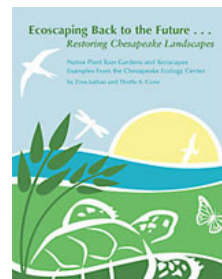
**Conservation landscaping**—using native plants, removing invasive plants, conserving water, eliminating or reducing chemical fertilizers and pesticides to reduce pollution and conserve resources, shaping the ground for better infiltration and to control erosion, and enhancing aesthetics and wildlife habitat—is beginning to be implemented on a

## Thank You Anne Arundel County Master Gardeners!!!

A group of about 10 Master Gardeners is working with the Chesapeake Ecology Center this year as part of their volunteer hours with the program. They have contributed dozens of person-hours of time in helping to spruce up the gardens, in preparation for guided tours they have given on the site.

In addition, tours for the public were conducted by pairs of Master Gardeners on one Saturday per month from April to June. The intention is to continue this tour series in the fall. The tours—which were publicized in the local papers—were from 9 to 10 AM on April 29<sup>th</sup>, May 20<sup>th</sup>, and June 24<sup>th</sup>. The CEC held Volunteer Days on those same Saturdays, which were open for the public to assist with various projects from 9 AM to Noon.

Several Master Gardeners also helped with garden design questions during the Rain Garden Workshop the CEC held jointly with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation at their headquarters in Annapolis on March 11<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to 1 PM. The South River Federation also collaborated, adding a rain barrel session from 1 to 2 PM, with the help of Arlington Echo.



### Special Offer

For \$25 you can become a member of the Chesapeake Ecology Center and receive a complimentary copy of *Ecoscaping Back to the Future...Restoring Chesapeake Landscapes*

This 92-page conservation landscaping primer highlights native plant rain gardens and xeriscapes at the CEC. Please send checks—made payable to CEC—for the primer (\$15), or for membership and primer (\$25), to:

**Chesapeake Ecology Center  
c/o Treasurer  
245 Clay Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401**

### CEC Board of Directors

Vincent O. Leggett  
President

Zora Lathan  
Vice President

William H. Sanders III  
Treasurer

Sara Colhoun

Terry Galloway

Raymond Langston

Julie Crudele

