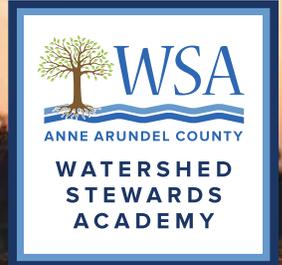


In a year when nothing was normal and challenges seemed to multiply, our backyards and community greenspaces became a refuge. When so much was out of our control, it was more important than ever to feel the power of making a positive difference.



CHANGING THE LANDSCAPE

In February, we launched Replant Anne Arundel, to plant native, climate-resilient trees throughout Anne Arundel County. Virtually, we trained almost 50 leaders, called Tree Troopers, who **planned community reforestation projects** from Linthicum to Shady Side. Thanks to these volunteers, native trees were planted in congregations, neighborhoods, state parks, and more, **creating sustainable landscapes across our County.**

Two other tree initiatives encouraged Anne Arundel residents to take action. Backyard Buffers and Groves of Gratitude provided trees and shrubs for individual homeowners. By the end of 2020, **over 4,000 newly planted native trees and shrubs will clean our local air and waters.**

In 2021, we will plant 5,500 trees in over 50 communities and engage more than 1,500 people to take action to clean local waterways.



We are grateful to Anne Arundel County, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, the Helena Foundation and donors like you for making Replant Anne Arundel a great success.

ENGAGING COMMUNITIES FOR IMPACT

In the midst of our 12th certification course, the COVID pandemic required a pivot to virtual learning. Our 32 Steward Candidates trained remotely and **collaborated virtually to plan action for clean water.** This year's capstone projects were many and varied, from a virtual stormwater course for HOA leaders to socially distant plantings. Steward turned the challenge of COVID-19 into an opportunity for community restoration.



“Although we were presented with some challenges, the group maintenance [at Mt. Moriah AME] proved to be a great opportunity for persons of different backgrounds, races and beliefs to come together on one accord, particularly during this time of division in America.”

- PHILLIP COLBERT, II, MASTER WATERSHED STEWARD

2020 IMPACT

2020 Impact in Numbers

10,000 plus natives plants and trees

4,180 Steward volunteer hours

244 projects

2020-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

EMPOWERED LEADERS + ENGAGED RESIDENTS = ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

In June, our Board of Directors adopted an exciting strategic plan to guide our impact over the next five years. This plan includes a **strong focus on diversity, equity, inclusion and justice (DEIJ)**. We are committed to listening, growing, and taking action to create equitable access, and promote inclusive practices. Internally, the WSA Board and Staff are dedicated to ongoing personal learning and reflection. In the coming months, we will turn our insights outwards, as we work with a consultant to further our organizational change.

Only then will WSA, together with volunteers, partners, donors and community leaders, achieve bold, enduring impact:

- **Volunteer leaders effectively engage all communities.** True change depends on strong leadership. From schoolyards to congregations; neighborhoods to businesses, WSA will mobilize leaders who effectively engage all types of communities in actions that make a difference.
- **People who live, work, and gather are engaged in habits that help reduce pollution.** We will radically elevate environmental stewardship, beyond the green choir to households across Anne Arundel County.
- **Sustainable landscapes and clean waters.** In the next 5 years we will magnify stormwater treatment in communities with a focus on climate resilient projects and sustainable maintenance.



“By participating in grassroots action for clean water, community members better understand that individual actions matter. Caring for the environment is not just for corporations; private citizens can also help in a significant way.”

- MARTHA SYKORA, CLASS 12 STEWARD CANDIDATE

