



Bay-Wise Master Gardener Update

To: Bay-Wise Master Gardeners and MG Coordinators: Sherry Frick; Nancy Allred; Marcus Williams; Edward Goodman; Doris Behnke; Emily Zobel; Susan Trice; Ashley Bodkins; Joyce Browning; Esther Mitchell; Rachel Rhodes; Mariah Dean; Mikaela Boley; Annette Cormany; Ginny Rosenkranz; Stephanie Pully; Jean Burchfield; and Jon Traunfeld

From: Wanda MacLachlan

Subject: Bay-Wise Update

Date: February, 2022

Greetings

We are two months into 2022 and 23 months (and counting) into the pandemic. Many Marylanders are vaccinated and boosted but keeping an eye out for the SARS-CoV-2 omicron subvariant, known as BA.2. Extension offices are open and restrictions for its volunteers have been cautiously relaxed. While this is good news for those of you anxious to get back out there to certify landscapes and share your Bay-Wise knowledge with your community, please continue to be cautious, mask up, and keep your distance.

In our last newsletter I shared some new resources for you, including a one-page promotional flyer, a new version of the Yardstick for small space gardens, new paperless versions of the Yardsticks and applications, as well as some potential grant opportunities to enhance your outreach. I'm repeating them in this newsletter since they will be posted online and easy to retrieve.

Bay-Wise 25th Anniversary Conference

The Bay-Wise Landscape Management Program is celebrating its 25th year of programming. We began in November of 1996 by training 55 Greater Baltimore, Howard, Harford, and Montgomery County Master Gardeners to certify landscapes as "eco-friendly." As of today, over 1,500 Master Gardeners have taken the Bay-Wise Advanced Training. In November, Stephanie Pully, Jean Burchfield, and I kicked off the celebration by hosting a hybrid mini-conference at the Howard County Conservancy in Woodstock.

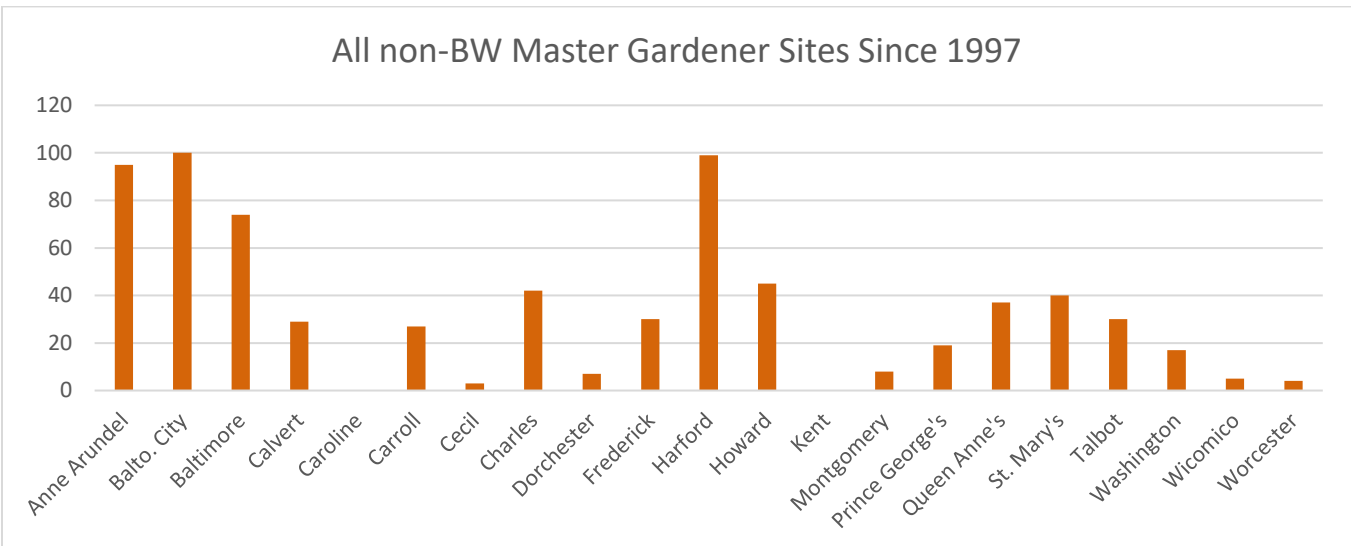
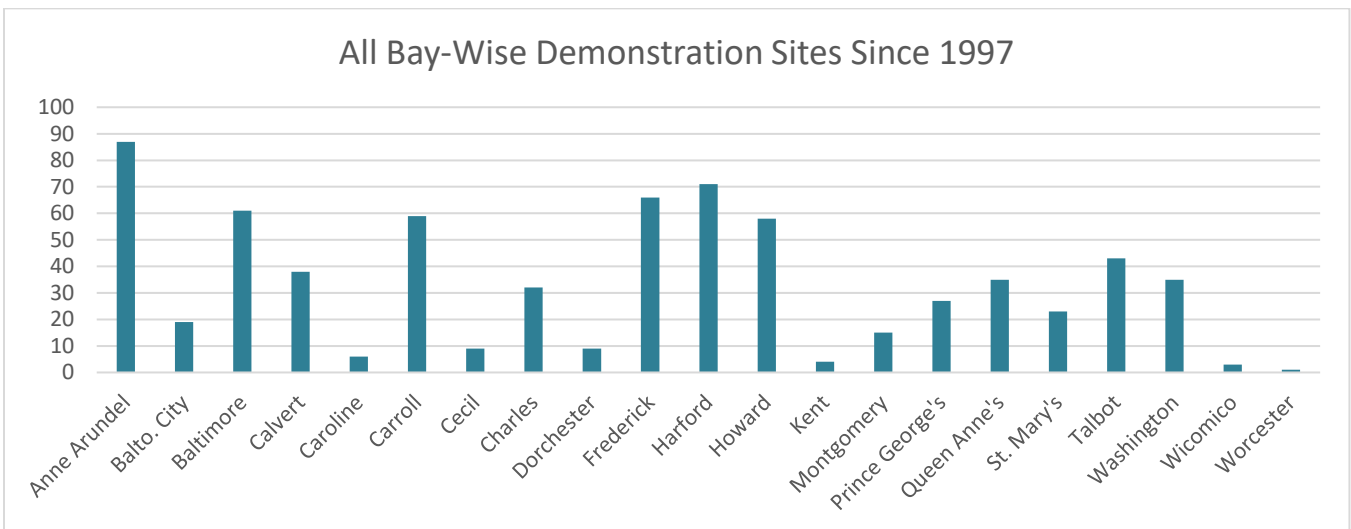
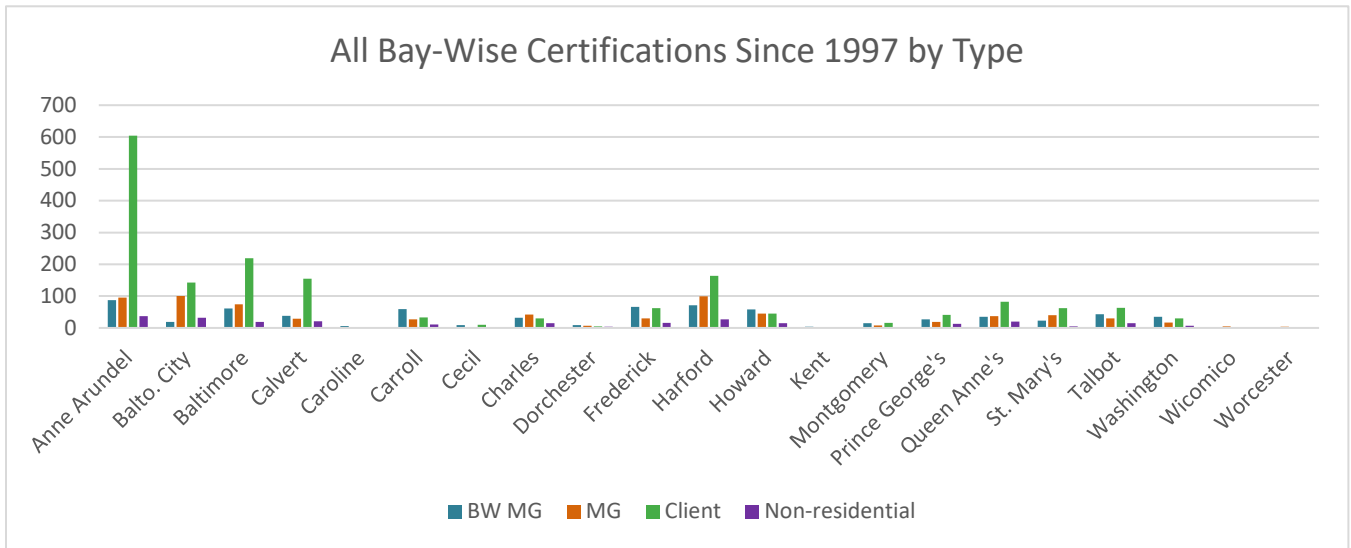
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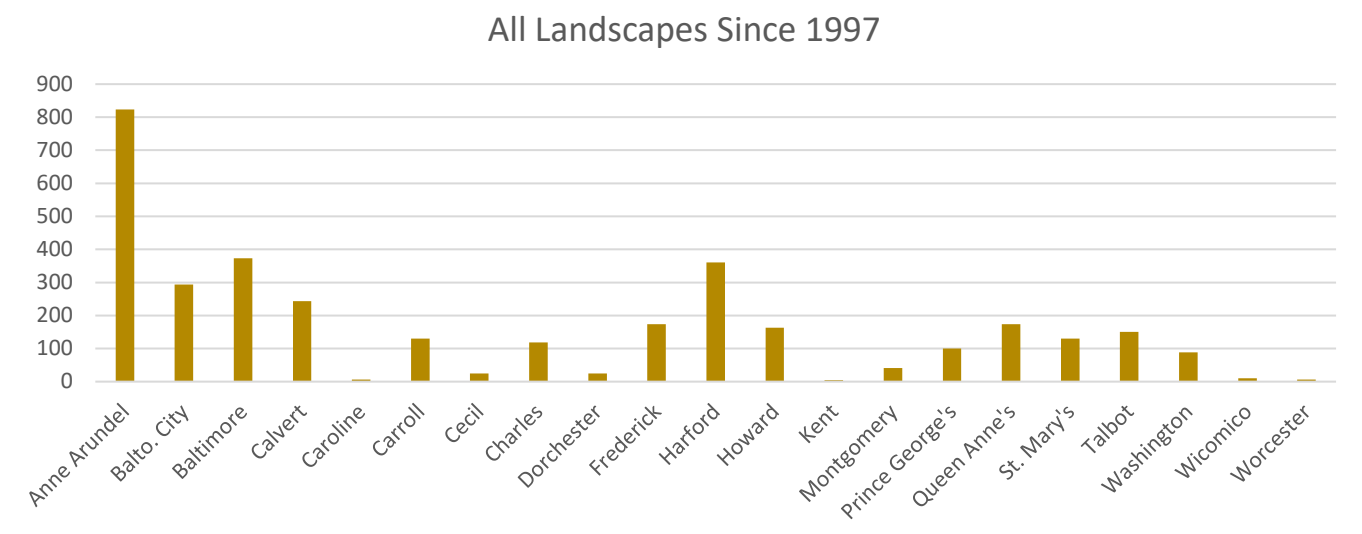
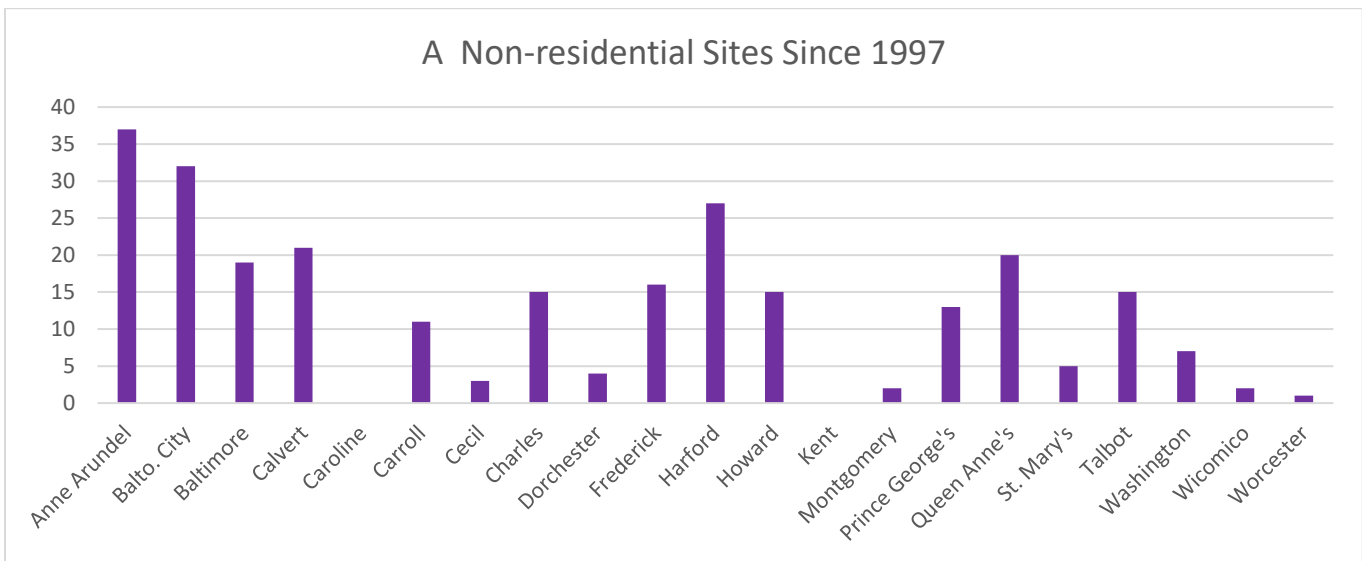
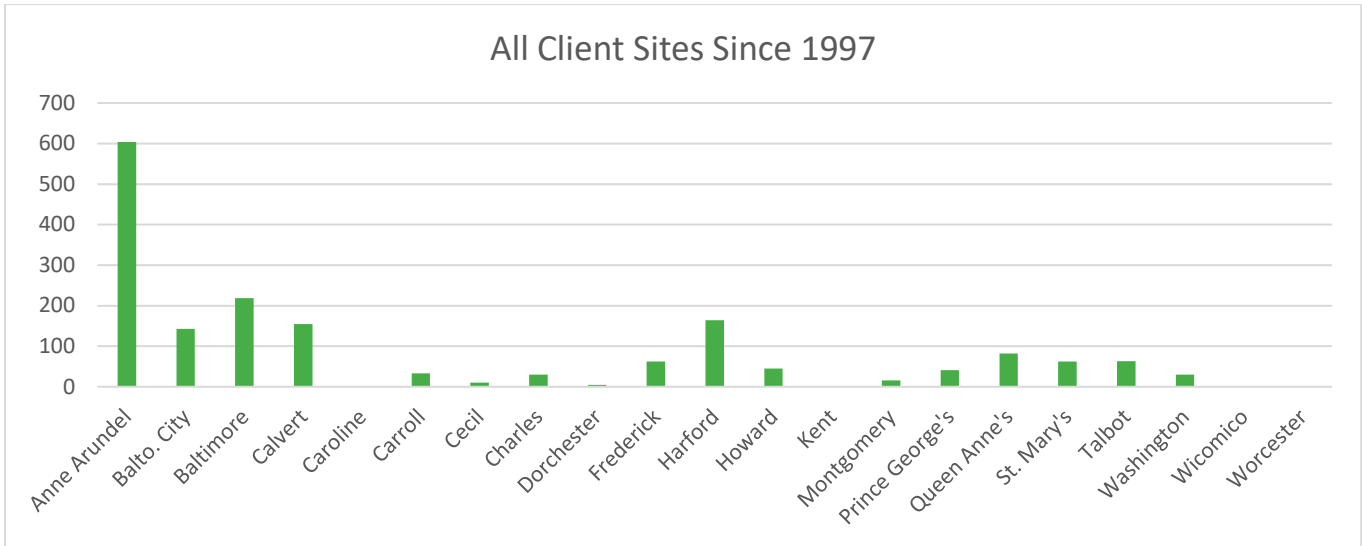


See next two pages for certification statistics

Certified Landscapes by County

(Note: BW MG = Demo Landscapes)





Statistics of All Bay-Wise Certifications Since 1997

CATEGORY	AA	B City	Baltimore	Calvert	Caroline	Carroll	Cecil	Charles	Dor	Frederick	Harford	Howard	Kent	Mont	PG	QA	St. Mary's	Talbot	Wash	Wicomico	Worcester	TOTALS
BW MG	87	19	61	38	6	59	9	32	9	66	71	58	4	15	27	35	23	43	35	3	1	701
MG	95	100	74	29	0	27	3	42	7	30	99	45	0	8	19	37	40	30	17	5	4	711
Client	604	143	219	155	0	33	10	30	5	62	164	45	0	16	41	82	62	63	30	0	0	1764
Non-residential	37	32	19	21	0	11	3	15	4	16	27	15	0	2	13	20	5	15	7	2	1	265
	823	294	373	243	6	130	25	119	25	174	361	163	4	41	100	174	130	151	89	10	6	3441

(Bay-Wise 25th Anniversary Conference continued)

Thirty Bay-Wise Master Gardeners attended in person and another 92 joined on-line to hear our four distinguished speakers talk about how our work to improve the Bay can also improve human health, how to encourage positive behavior change, and the latest news in invasive plants and native plants. The morning began with the reading of a Bay-Wise Proclamation highlighting our illustrious accomplishments over the years. Keynote speaker, Dr. Mitchell Pavao-Zuckerman, Associate Professor of Urban Ecosystems and Sustainable Built Environments in the Department of Environmental Science and Technology at UMCP, discussed how our work to improve the Bay has greater implications on our society as well as the environment.

Our very own Dr. Bill Hubbard, University of Maryland Extension Assistant Director and State Program Leader for Environmental, Natural Resources and Sea Grant programs with University of Maryland Extension, lead us in an interactive session on successful ways to encourage positive behavior change by our clientele. After lunch we viewed the winning Bay-Wise videos. Thanks to all 11 counties that submitted entries. Congratulations to Harford County (1st place), Baltimore City (2nd place) and Cecil & Talbot Counties (tied for 3rd place).

Sarah Hilderbrand, Restoration Specialist, Chesapeake & Coastal Service at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, shared the latest info on invasive plant species. The closing plenary was presented by Lauren Hubbard, owner of Native by Design, LLC, who shared her beautiful slides and thoughtful tips on growing native plants in our gardens.



Bird's-eye view of Dr. Bill Hubbard's interactive session on behavior change during the 25th anniversary mini-conference in November

A special thanks goes to Stephanie and Jean for all their behind-the-scenes computer and AV-wrangling knowledge and ability to make this event work. There may have been a glitch or two, but hosting a hybrid conference like this involves more moving parts than you might imagine. This dynamic duo rocks!

Bay-Wise Advanced Trainings

In September, Montgomery County hosted a "hybrid" Bay-Wise Advanced Training where the classroom portion was administered via Zoom but the site certification portion was done in the field (following UME's COVID-19 protocol). This training added **44** new Bay-Wise Master Gardeners to our ranks. Eleven returnees sat in on the training for an update. Since our inception, we have trained **1,537** Bay-Wise Master Gardeners around the state.

Congratulations, **Ami Dougherty** from Baltimore City, **Debra Gair**, **Loretta Gerbrick**, **Lynn Maichle**, **Christine Robinson**, **Tair Swepston**, and **Cynthia Vaughn**, from Anne Arundel, **Peggy Cook**, **Ginny Rice**, and **Robin Wedewer**, from Calvert, **Nancy Crawford**, **Bernard DeMarinis**, and **Vivian Stacy**, from Cecil, **Kaitlyn Baligush**, from Charles, **Marsha**

Brent, and **Keirstin Bueche**, from Harford, **Wendy Bell**, **Edith Boehler**, **Emma Brennan**, **Ann Claxton**, **Linda Davis**, **Irene Eckstrand**, **Margarita Egan**, **Buffy Elliott**, **James Everhart**, **Aimee Freeman**, **Lauren Greenberger**, **Amelia Henchey**, **Pamela Janssen**, **Sue Kuklewicz**, **Cynthia Langstaff**, **Robin Loube**, **Sherry Marshall**, **Yumiko Miura**, **Annie Odette**, **Wendy Thomas**, **Taffy Turner**, and **Barbara Waite-Jaques**, from Montgomery, **Khalilah Denney**, **Angela Killebrew**, **Angela Porter**, and **Jennifer Dorroh** from Prince George's, **William Smith** from St. Mary's and **Elizabeth Rose**, from Somerset Counties, respectively. Previously trained volunteers, **Roseanne Markham**, **Tima McGuthry-Banks**, **Linda Barrett**, **LeeAnne Gelletly**, **PJ Hallberg**, **BeBe McMeekin**, **Betsy Wooster**, **Grace Dorsey**, **Jodi Beder**, **Rosalie Donatelli**, and **Larry Lorenz**, dropped in for a refresher course to round out the class of 55 attendees.

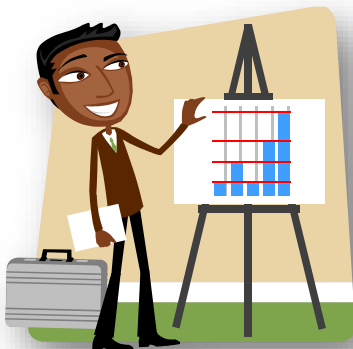
We expect great things from you all!

Upcoming Advanced Training

Carroll County and Baltimore City are hosting an in-person Bay-Wise Advanced Training this March at the Baltimore County Agriculture Center in Cockeysville. Classes will be held from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM on Saturdays, 3/5 & 12. The site certification portion of the training will be conducted by local Bay-Wise Committee members at their convenience. You must attend both classes to receive your Bay-Wise certificate. Registration, limited to 40 participants, closes on 2/25/22.

Visit this link to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/232213385487>



The southern Maryland Bay-Wise teams are considering hosting a training in the fall. There are no details to be shared yet but stay tuned.

Bay-Wise Statistics

THANK YOU to each and every Master Gardener who has taken the Bay-Wise advanced training. Since the beginning of the program in 1996, you have certified a total of **2,475** client landscapes and **265** non-residential landscapes. In addition, **730*** of you have had your landscapes certified as demo sites (and **266** are maintained by active MGs)! Since our inception, the program has trained a total of **1,537** Master Gardeners as Bay-Wise volunteers and **385** of you are still actively participating on your local committees. For the second half of 2021, despite COVID-19 restrictions, you volunteered **3,646.60** hours in Bay-Wise projects. This time is valued at approximately **\$114,102.11**.

** according to my database – (this number is different from the table above because counties sometimes don't submit reports and that data is based on submitted reports only)*

News From the Counties:

Anne Arundel

Co-chairs, **Robin Gill** and **Jim MacNicholl**, report that their committee grew to 39 with the addition of three more members. Since July, they certified 4 demo and 30 client landscapes and have 7 awaiting a certification visit. These certifications resulted in 675,251 square feet of Bay-Wise practices implemented by 34 people. They report, *"The Anne Arundel Bay-Wise team continued conducting in-person Bay-Wise consultation and certification visits though mid-November. Since the beginning of 2021 we visited 46 properties and certified 39.*

"Many of our 39-member team gathered for a brown bag lunch in August to share experiences and challenges of returning to the field and to discuss learning curve issues with our new

Facebook group. Mostly it was a chance for Bay-Wise friends to connect!

*“Bay-Wise was featured on WRNR’s **Voices of the Bay** in late August, followed by online streaming of the interview Jim MacNicholl gave while walking through Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis. Jim spoke with host Michael Buckley about bay-friendly practices listeners could adopt at home, as well as the Master Gardener program.*

*“In late September, **Meg Hosmer** and **Sharon Schroer** represented Bay-Wise at the Cape St. Clair Conservation Corps native plant sale. It was the first event we’ve served since 2019 and garnered much interest in yard visits.*



From left: Karen Royer, Meg Hosmer and Sharon Schoer at Cape St. Clair Conservation Corps native plant sale in September

*“Co-chairs Jim MacNicholl and Robin Gill conducted the (in-person) half-day field portion of Bay-Wise Advanced Training offered virtually this fall. They met with enthusiastic MGs in Montgomery and Anne Arundel Counties at the homes of Taffy Turner and **Brenda Darr**, respectively. Both Bay-Wise certified yards offered wonderful examples of bay-friendly practices.*

*“We welcomed **Debi Gair** to the key role of Administrative Coordinator this fall following **Pat Morrison’s** eight years of service. Debi comes with a career of administrative experience and has smoothly transitioned with Pat’s guidance. We thank them both!*

*“Since it was enhanced this spring, our website, <https://baywise.weebly.com>, is tracking an increase in repeat visitors suggesting it is becoming a trusted source for users. Online inquires have increased as well. **Kay Stringfellow’s** expansion of the website with helpful HGIC links and improved navigation are proving successful.”*

Baltimore City

Co-chairs, **Debbie Swartz**, and **Jennie Cohen** report that their committee of 40 were able to certify 14 client (including 2 who are Master Gardeners) and 1 non-residential landscapes during the last half of 2021. These certifications resulted in over 3.19 acres and 139,129 square feet of Bay-Wise practices implemented by 15 people. They have 15 more planned for 2022! The co-chairs report, “*The Baltimore City Master Gardeners are doing monthly check-ins to keep everyone up to date with what’s going on with the committee, talk about their gardens, and discuss various topics.*”

“We created a short Bay-Wise video explaining Bay-Wise friendly practices. We write a monthly article for Clippings – B’more Bay-Wise. We also decided to start meeting monthly as a group.”

Baltimore County

Chair, **Norman Cohen** reports that his committee of 25 certified 1 demo, 8 client (including 1 who is a Master Gardener) and 1 non-residential landscapes during the second half of 2021. These certifications resulted in 33.58 acres and 28,164 square feet of Bay-Wise practices implemented by 10 people. He reports, “*On August 7, Baltimore County Master Gardens held ‘Master Gardener Fest’ at our Extension office, hosting 60 folks including 25 youth. We staffed an information table to promote Bay-Wise and give out yardsticks. For the children*

and parents, we demonstrated how pollution enters the Bay. The Bay-Wise garden, planted with native plants and a center piece to educate people in Bay-Wise landscaping, was also a big hit.

“Baltimore County signed a letter of intent for Gunpowder Valley Conservancy’s Clear Creeks Project: Our Water, Our Heritage, Our Water quality of Middle River and Pine Ridge.”

Calvert

Chair, **Melanie Crowder** (with the help of **Karen Anderson, Judy Kay, Denise Moroney** and **Mimi Miller**) reports that their committee grew to 32. They certified 15 client (including 2 who are Master Gardeners) and 4 non-residential landscapes (Kings Landing Park, Flag Ponds Park, Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Park, Solomons Landing) during the last half of 2021. These certifications resulted in 705.12 acres of Bay-Wise practices implemented by 26 people.

Melanie shares the following about their committee’s recent efforts: *“Calvert County Master Gardeners were very active in the summer and fall of 2021. Homeowners were eager to have the Master Gardeners visit their yards, with a total of 9 consultations and 19 certifications. We were also asked to consult at several waterfront communities. One is a condo association with common waterfront space and the second is a sprawling bay-front community with several shared waterfront areas. We will continue to offer assistance to both, as they begin to incorporate our planting suggestions.*

“One of the yards visited belongs to Angela Mitchell, also known as the Chesapeake Mermaid. While Angela normally engages with children about the health of the Bay at local events, she used this past year to add a recording studio and Bay-Wise demonstration garden at her home.

<https://chesapeakemermaid.com>

“Three Calvert County Parks were certified. Each park is located on the Patuxent River or the Chesapeake Bay. The parks offer native plant

demonstration gardens including woodland, rain and pond gardens. They are each visited by thousands of families annually, in addition to providing summer camps and nature programs.

“Solomon’s Landing development and marina located on Back Creek was also certified.

*“MG, **Carolyn Chandler**, has led the effort to create native plantings, rain gardens and to install 18 rain barrels in this active waterfront community.*

<https://solomonslandingmd.pilera.com>

*“At **Patuxent River Appreciation Days, PRAD**, the Master Gardeners provided an array of dynamic exhibits including a Bay-Wise Display, interactive games for youths and native plant sales and giveaways. The MGs saw **300** visitors, including 12 homeowners who requested Bay-Wise yard visits and **160** who took home native plants for their yards.*



Calvert County Bay-Wise Master Gardeners at the Patuxent River Appreciation Days. Sue Huseby MG (front with hat) and Karen Anderson MF (green shirt is the rear).

“In late fall the Master Gardeners partnered with Boy Scout Troop 430 to clean the rock swale in the Demonstration Garden at the Extension Office. The swale was clogged with silt and debris from

stormwater flowing down from nearby parking lots. This had created serious erosion and flooding in the lower garden after rain events. 12 Scouts and 6 Scout Leaders/Parents worked with the Master Gardeners to remove the rocks, clean the swale and replace the rocks. They also create several small berms, to filter and slow the rain water. This has resulted in the stormwater flowing down the swale into the retention ponds, as originally engineered 10 years ago (and not overflowing into the gardens).

“The swale clean-up is the first phase of a stormwater action plan that includes a tiered garden, to be constructed on the slope in Spring 2022. The tiered garden designed by MGs Karen Anderson and Melanie Crowder is being supported with a \$500.00 grant from the Calvert Garden Club. The garden will be open to the public as an example of a slope garden, that could be constructed by the home gardener. A spring Garden Smarter talk on “Creating a Tiered Garden” and on-site educational sessions are planned.”

Carroll

New Chair, **Linda Gray** increased her committee to 8 members after a few years of inactivity. She is co-hosting a Bay-Wise Advanced Training this March to recruit more volunteers to redevelop their program. We look forward to hearing more from Carroll County in the future.

Cecil

New chair, **Mary MacClelland** reports that her committee of 8 certified 1 demo and 1 client (who is a Master Gardener) landscape during the second half of 2021. Mary reports, *“Master Gardeners in Cecil County came together after many months of a pandemic break to offer the community opportunities to learn the practices of Bay-Wise landscaping and be Garden Smarter.*

“Starting in June we held a Garden Sampler Tour of three homes showing examples of Bay-Wise landscaping that protects the land and waters of the Chesapeake Bay. Many hours and days went

into the preparation for the garden tours to highlight the many smart practices to control stormwater runoff, encourage proper fertilizing, to encourage planting native Maryland plants and trees instead of invasive groundcovers and bushes. Pollinator houses and wildlife habitats were also on display.



Cecil County Master Gardeners, Thomas McFadden (blue shirt) and Tara Edwards (white shirt, black shorts), registering attendees at the garden tour

“Small groups of ‘garden types’ enjoyed the ‘show and tell tour’ as the compost drum, rain barrel, butterfly milkweed and various pollinator plants were highlighted. We had a great information table with giveaways, seeds and Bay-Wise certification information.

“Two International families joined the tour to enjoy the day. One family from Amsterdam, Holland and another family from London. It went well and the team of Master Gardeners who helped all day made it a success. We were all happy to be outside again in the garden.

“July gave us another opportunity to introduce Bay-Wise yard certifications and Master Gardener training at the Cecil County Fair. Many people stopped at our display to ask about these programs.

“August our display was in the center of the display area at the Charlestown Annual Wade-In event. Environmental topics were on display all day. Soil

conservation, recycling information, wildlife habitats and Bay-Wise Yardstick healthy residential landscaping - all areas to protect our environment and waters of the Chesapeake Bay. Climate change bringing record high temperatures was also a topic. September the Cecil County Master Gardeners and the Bay-Wise group added two more Bay-Wise certifications in the county.

“We participated in the Elkton Fall Fest with an information/display booth in front of the Old courthouse on Main Street in Elkton. On that spot is the Unity Garden which is maintained by our Master Gardeners for the county. It looked great all in bloom as many families came to visit and take family pictures in the garden.

“That event was followed up by the Elkton Garden Fest, an all-day garden flea market of old tools, books, birdhouses and plants. Various interesting environmental protection displays around the hall kept our interest. This was a great effort from all in our Cecil County Master Garden group since the pandemic shut down all gatherings for many months in 2020 and 2021.

“We had hoped for more people in the community to come by however the Saturday was so beautiful there were many other sports and school events giving us competition.

“In November three of us traveled to the Bay-Wise 25th Anniversary Conference on the Western Shore. The all-day event had very good speakers. We were glad we came. Before the close of the day winners were announced for the Bay-Wise video contest. To our surprise, Terry Gustafson, a Master Gardener in our group submitted her Bay -Wise video and Cecil County won third prize.!!! OH yes !!! we were happy.!!!!!!!

“A perfect ending to a very busy six months!”

Charles

While intending to remain active with the committee, **Janet McGrane** is stepping down as co-

chair. **Rose Markham** will continue to chair the committee. She informs us that their 22-member team has not certified any landscapes over the last 6 months. However, Rose reports, *“In September, members of the CCMG Bay-Wise committee assisted the Demonstration Garden committee with the final installation of the pollinator garden located at the UME Extension office in Bel Alton, MD. A crew of several Bay-Wise members laid gravel, mulch, a flagstone path and put in several bushes and small grasses. Some of the flowers and plants were bought from the Chesapeake Native Society and others were donated by the Master Gardeners.*

Rose Markham, Terry Thir and Marlene Smith participated in the NCAC Fascination Fair in September. This was the grand opening for the Neighborhood Creative Center in La Plata, MD. We focused on the “water-wise table” and provided info for all age groups on water quality and Bay-Wise landscape practices to help save the Bay.”



Dorchester

Emily Zobel, Dorchester County Master Gardener Coordinator reports that the Dorchester County Bay-Wise team was not active from 7/1 to 12/31.

Frederick

Co-chairs, **Ellen West, Cheryl Dehn, and Sally Lyons** and their committee certified one client landscape this fall which resulted in 0.5 acres of Bay-Wise practices implemented by 3 people. Many members of their committee have been on hiatus during the pandemic. They are hoping to regroup in 2022 to have more contact with the public. Sally reports, *“Because of COVID restrictions, we haven’t been able to have classes or meetings with community groups or interested persons. We did create a video for the Bay-Wise anniversary celebration.”*

Harford

After 7 years of leadership, **Beatrice Filburn**, stepped aside as chair. We welcome, new chair, **Michelle Landers**! Her committee of 15 certified 5 client (including 2 who are Master Gardeners) and 1 non-residential landscape (the Strawberry Lane Community Garden) during the second half of the year. These certifications resulted in 286,442 square feet and 6.58 acres of Bay-Wise practices implemented.



Howard

Longtime Chair, **Linda Decker** reports, *"We are seeing very few requests. Hopefully things will crank up a bit this year. I am now holding 2 requests for consultations. Once the weather warms we will address those.... We also did a Zoom program for KC (Kings Contrivance) Cares in Columbia. A Bay-Wise presentation followed by a presentation on obtaining Bay-Wise certification."*

Montgomery

Since the beginning of the year co-chairs, **LeeAnne Gelletly**, **Linda Barrett** and **Taffy Turner**, worked together to train and assemble a corps of 32 committee members to restore the Bay-Wise program to Montgomery County. They plan to reach out to Montgomery County residents in 2022. After their Bay-Wise Advanced Training in September, they strengthened their skills by certifying each other's landscapes. Through that effort, they certified 10 demo and 2 client landscapes, covering an area of 121,117 square feet and 4.1 acres of Bay-Wise practices implemented by 16 people. **LeeAnne** adds that *"Last year saw the revival of the Bay-Wise program in Montgomery County--which had been discontinued in 2009. We currently have 32 active members, 27 of whom have received Bay-Wise Advanced Training. As of mid-November, we have 12 newly certified Bay-Wise landscapes. Efforts are under way to set up a website resource for the*

public, organize required paperwork, and plan for 2022--we hope to begin holding on-site consultations and certifications with more Master Gardeners and with the general public starting around April 1. Co-chairs LeeAnne Gelletly, Linda Barrett, and Taffy Turner are working with a very enthusiastic group and look forward to the coming year."



Montgomery County Bay-Wise Master Gardeners celebrate the completion of their first landscape certification

Prince George's

Franchella Kendall, Chair, reports that their committee grew to 37 from 32 members during the second half of the year. They certified 2 client and 2 non-residential sites (Colmar Manor West Community Garden and Colmar Manor East Community Garden), covering an area of 218,712.6 square feet, since July. **Franchella** adds that *"On September 28th, the Prince George's County Council passed a bill CB-046-2021, amending the Rain Check Rebate program by establishing the Stormwater Management and Residential Resilience Retrofit Program which added conservation landscaping and urban soil restoration program. This means that residential homes that are certified as a Bay-Wise Landscape can now get a reduction in their home property stormwater fee."*

"UME Master Gardeners in Prince George's County will be working with the Department of the Environment to set up the procedures and to add a

water audit to their homeowner visits. It will be necessary to provide more training on native plants and trees as well as on the various types of conservation landscapes and practices included in the bill but not limited to the following landscape practices:

- o Bayscapes,
- o Stormwater Garden
- o Urban Meadow
- o Landscape Restoration,
- o Urban Soil Restoration, and
- o Bay-Wise Maintenance

All planning will need to be in line with the County's Climate Action Plan.

"I made a presentation on Bay-Wise Gardening Principles to the Tanta-Cove Garden Club, Fort Washington, MD via Zoom. There were approximately 17 members who participated.

"Prince George's welcomed 5 new Bay-Wise Master Gardeners that completed the training in September 2021.



Dorothy Epps (Colmar Manor Resident) and Bay-Wise Master Gardener Julianne Bethea (holding the certificate) both have plots in the Colmar Manor Community Gardens

Queen Anne's

No report submitted.

St. Mary's

Chair, **Linda Crandall** reports that although their committee of 11 did not certify any landscapes

during the last half of the year, they remained active. Linda shares, *"Things continue to be very slow for the St. Mary's County Bay-Wise Committee, although we have done a few consultations this fall. Also, several of us spent time in the last six months working on helping design and plant community garden/spaces that we believe will soon be Bay-Wise certified. Many of us also are interested in working in the future to find new ways to reach out with our Bay-Wise message."*

Talbot

Chair, **Janet Mackey** reports that her committee of 21 certified 1 demo, 7 client (including 4 who are Master Gardeners) landscapes during the second half of 2021.

Washington

No report submitted.

More Assorted Stuff

How Do You Write "Bay-Wise?"

Lately, I've seen a few different versions of the term, Bay-Wise in print. There is only one correct way to print the term. Please note that the correct way to print the title is **Bay-Wise**, not **BayWise**, **Bay-wise** or **baywise**. Both words should be capitalized and separated by a hyphen. Ironically, the first time a reminder like this appeared in the newsletter was Fall, 2004! It reappeared in 2013 and now that we are entering our 25th year, it's a good time for a reminder.

New Small Space Bay-Wise Yardstick

The new Bay-Wise Yardstick for small space gardens, townhomes, and apartment balconies is available for downloading and printing at: https://extension.umd.edu/sites/default/files/publications/83.%20Baywise%20Maryland%20Yardstick_0.pdf. A completely fillable format should be available later this year. What exactly is a fillable form? Read on to learn more.

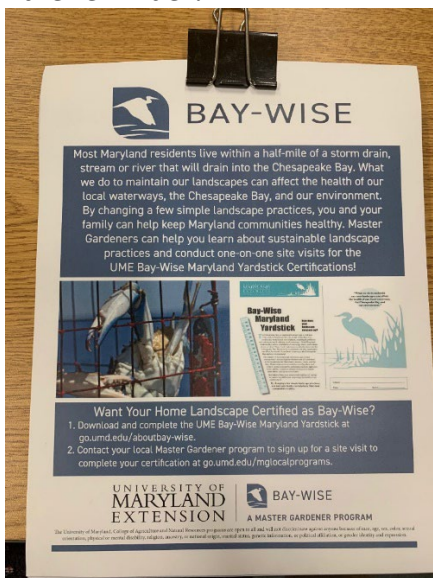
Bay-Wise Fillable Forms

You've been asking for it and it's finally here. We now have a paperless way to send out and receive a completed Yardstick and application. You can now share a link with your client, who can access two versions of the Bay-Wise Yardsticks (for food gardens and for landscapes) which includes the application. Your client would complete the Yardstick and application on their electronic device (computer, tablet or mobile phone) and submit it via email. You can then download the data into an Excel spreadsheet to use as you see fit. You and your client can print the application and Yardstick during any part of the process or save it in its .pdf format.

Of course, paper copies are still available and acceptable for use. The bottom line is that now you and your clients have options. Find all forms of the available Yardsticks [here](#).

Bay-Wise Promotional Flyer

A few years ago, Jean Burchfield created attractive promotional flyers for each of the Master Gardener major program efforts. These can be used with exhibits at local public events. Your county office should have a supply. Ask your Master Gardener Coordinator for a supply. Thanks to Anne Arundel County Master Gardener Coordinator, Nancy Allred, for the reminder!



Gardening for Life & Tending Nature

Baltimore City Bay-Wise Master Gardener, Debbie Swartz, recommends that every Bay-Wise Master Gardener visit Doug Tallamy's Gardening for Life webpage and soak in the knowledge:

<https://homegrownnationalpark.org/tallamy/not-in-our-yard-doug-tallamy>

She has also been attending the on-line series, "Tending Nature," hosted by the Ohio State University. She shared this website, <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/WhctKKXPdgxMHPwrDgjPmjWRnCqVKQCvlfGPzplDNjbxHsOfgjrtmKBhHGSsKdkQbDclFqx>, which leads to a page where you can access several recordings of their series, including the one of Doug Tallamy. The series "focuses on the ecological roles of native plants and some of the creatures that depend on them."

Water's Way: Thinking Like a Watershed

Spotlighting several sites around Maryland, this 44:36-minute video describing how humans have changed the way the watershed once functioned and how nature can restore it, if we let it.

https://www.bayjournal.com/multimedia/waters-way-thinking-like-a-watershed/video_abd786f4-2377-11ec-9f8a-53da57c1cc7d.html

Free IPM Info Graphics

Images from this series of 88 graphics defining all aspects of IPM may be downloaded and freely shared for teaching IPM to your audience.

<http://www.uwyo.edu/ipm/ipm-basics/ipm-info-graphics.html>

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 \$1,000, or learning more about MUCFC, visit: <https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/programs/urban/mucfcgrant.aspx>. There are 2 grant cycles this year: February and July. Applications are due by the 15th of the month. Remember, you must have your application signed by your local forestry board member. Once completed, you can submit it electronically.

100% Certified?

A little over half of you have not had your landscapes certified yet. So far 730 “demo landscapes” have been designated throughout the state. Over the years, 1,537 of you have taken the

Bay-Wise advanced training. This means that only 47.5% of you have certified landscapes. If you aren't among the few, the proud, the “certified,” consider having it done this year. 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.

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. Let's see how many more we can get certified in 2022, to celebrate our 25th anniversary!



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