

## Maryland Black Mayors Advancing Stormwater Management

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### Problem:

Residents across several Maryland Black Mayors, Inc. (MBM) communities in Prince George's County were experiencing flooding issues. From flooded basements to sodden front yards, these low-lying communities along the Anacostia River sought help from their local leaders.

### Solution:

MBM leaders brought technical assistance directly to the flood-prone homeowners. With funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, six municipalities partnered with EFC and the Anacostia Watershed Society to pair stormwater experts with homeowners to identify their primary concerns and provide education and potential solutions for stormwater management. The project yielded nine trees, 21 conservation landscapes, and 31 rain barrels installed across 30 residences.



Before (Left) and After (Right) a home project was installed. The resident was assisted with a conservation landscape and a rain barrel.



Before (Left) and After (Right) a home project was installed. The resident was assisted with a conservation landscape and a rain barrel.

Photo Credit: UMD Environmental Finance Center

### Key Project Facts

**Project Location:** Brentwood, Cheverly, Colmar Manor, Fairmount Heights, Forest Heights, and North Brentwood, MD

**Type of Project:** Tree Planting, Other

**Scale:** 30 residences

**Pollution Reduction:**

- 0.43 lbs/acre of Nitrogen
- 0.055 lbs/acre of Phosphorus
- 182.29 lbs/acre of Sediment

**Cost:** \$234,500

**Funding Sources:** National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Small Watershed Grants Program

**Partners:** Maryland Black Mayors, Inc., University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center, Anacostia Watershed Society

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### What is Polluted Runoff?

The growth of our cities has resulted in too many paved surfaces, which prevent rain water from being absorbed by the ground. Instead, the water runs off streets and buildings, collecting trash and dangerous chemicals on its way. This contaminated water overflows into our streams and rivers, creating public health hazards and toxic waters.

Stormwater projects create safe paths for polluted runoff to be captured and filtered before it reaches our waterways. They keep communities healthy and the environment clean.

**When communities and their local governments work together to solve big problems like stormwater runoff, that's a story worth telling!**