

Patapsco Heritage Greenway Stream Watch Program



Not just a watershed
group...

PHG is dedicated to preserve,
protect and enhance the
history, heritage and natural
resources of the Patapsco River
Valley.

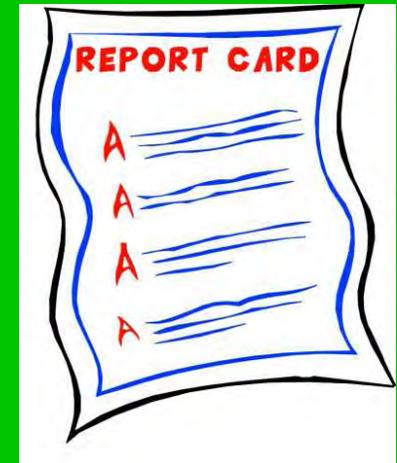
We monitor the lower Patapsco River watershed

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- Baltimore County
- Howard County
- Anne Arundel County
- Carroll County

PHG Report Card & Stats (2005-2015)

- 121 river sections/streams being monitored
- 295 watershed clean ups
- 663 trees (5 miles)
- 16,050 volunteers; 122,957 volunteer hrs.
- 27,303 pounds of invasive plants removed
- 906,117 pounds trash removed (453 tons or the weight of 80 full grown African elephants, 55 school buses or 4 adult blue whales)!
- 118 environmental workshops with 3,511 participants
- 209 storm drain stencils/markers placed



Evolution of Program

- Garlic Mustard Challenge (invasives; watershed education)
- Stream Watch Program (training)
- Group cleanups based on recons
- Tree plantings (riparian buffer)
- Tree maintenance
- Invasives removal of other species
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Evolution of Program (continued)

- Expansion of watershed education program
- Stream Watcher Training Part 2 - CSI – “Creek Scene Investigation”
- Other environmental workshops
- Storm drain stenciling/markers and community based watershed education

Stream Watchers

- Register to become a stream watcher
- Turn in a baseline report and photos
- Pick up trash (or we schedule a group cleanup)
- Check waterway at least 4 times a year, sending in photos and update on condition of their adopted waterway

Stream Watcher Workshops

- Held in spring and fall
- Run by part-time staff and volunteers
- 2 classroom workshops
- Workshops held in Baltimore and Howard county streams
- 2 CSI creek scene investigations (macroinvertebrate observation and simple chemical tests)

Stream Watchers Training

Part 1 – Classroom

- Checklist of what to bring and safety issues
- Powerpoint photos of things they may expect to see (sewer overflows, sewer structures, erosion, invasives, wildlife, storm drain pollution, etc.)
- Explanation of baseline report
- Distribution of gloves and safety vest





Stream Watchers Training – Part 2

Creek Scene Investigation (CSI) for adults and children

- Observation of Macroinvertebrates
- Simple chemical tests (temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, nitrate, phosphate, coliform bacteria)

Initially, workshop was designed to a basic introduction for biology and chemistry challenged individuals to understand how to determine water quality for that “aha moment.”





Sampling on public land

- Deep Run – Howard County owned open space land in a flood zone in Elkridge (Glenmore Avenue)
- Herbert Run – Arbutus Middle School in Arbutus (Shelbourne Avenue)
- Santee Branch – Baltimore County owned open space land in Catonsville (Newburg Road)



Beginning in fall 2015...

- Started to document information on CSI findings
- Results posted on PHG's photo website

Part 3 – MD DNR Stream Waders Program

- We encourage stream watchers to participate in program to learn more about their stream
- We lack funding and expertise for quality sampling
- DNR will post results









Thank you!

For more information, contact:

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<http://www.patapscoheritagegreenway.org/stream.htm>

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