



CCRIC Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek

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June 27th, 2013

Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21230-1708

Raymond P. Bahr
Sediment and Stormwater Program Review

Re: Written Comments for MS4 permit issued to Prince George's County

CCRIC would like to first commend the Maryland Department of Environment and the Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources (DER) for working together to strengthen the MS4 permit issued to Prince George's County, leaving the option open for re-evaluation and changes to make it even stronger in the coming years. We feel this is the first of many actions needed to achieve the Chesapeake Bay watershed implementation plan (WIP), total maximum daily loads (TMDL) and cleaner water in our county. Along with other watershed advocates, we believe we will benefit in improved neighborhood life with cleaner water and decreased flood-prone waterways.

We strongly recommend the use of environmental site design (ESD). Requiring the County to use ESD in the impervious surface restoration will insure filtering the water and retaining 1" of stormwater on site from a 24-hour storm. This, in effect, would slow the flow of water entering the MS4 system and our streams, thus, reducing bank erosions, which is said to be 75 percent of the sediment entering the Anacostia River. We see the signs of sediment entering Indian Creek; after even the smallest of rain storms it runs orange from the clay sediment.

We support the P-3 program the County has designed for implementation and collection of the stormwater fees. With the financial investment from the citizens in Prince George's County, we must insist on transparency and citizen input for restoration and stormwater management programs. To insure the requirements for the MS4 permit are being made we feel more monitoring is necessary. We do not believe that monitoring one stream in the Prince George's County watershed will give the data needed for the success or failure to meet the permit requirements.

We thank you for the opportunity to participate in the drafting of the MS4 permit being issued to Prince George's County. We look forward to continuing our work with both the county and state to insure clean water is in our future.

Vicky Hageman, Chair