

Test your child during Lead
Prevention Week --
June 8 -14

MDE Environment

Maryland Department of the Environment

June 1998

What's Inside...

Choptank Trib Team Strategy
Focuses on Agriculture.....3

Lead Week Calendar
Activities and testing
for you and your child.....4

Western Maryland Clean up
shows strong community
partnerships.....5

Native Maryland Plants.....5

Drinking Water Sampler
Certification Schedule.....6

Fishing in Baltimore
Harbour?.....6

Smart Growth and MDE's
Voluntary Cleanup Program
Making a difference in
Allegany County.....7

For the Record.....8

Enforcement and Compliance
Notes.....13

Important Air Regs Meeting
Notice.....13

Public Meeting and
Hearing Calendar.....14

Ozone Outreach
Community Activities
focus on Ozone education
and reduction.....15

Tawes Award Winners.....BP



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<http://www.mde.state.md.us>

Maryland Students Speak Out on Environmental Issues

Governor's Youth Environmental Summit Draws 1,000

Maryland high school students want more environmental science class offerings, field trips and opportunities for school-based environmental clubs, based upon comments of participants at the first-ever Governor's Youth Environmental Summit held May 7 in Baltimore.

"The degree of interest that these young people have in natural resources management and environmental protection sends a message of hope to those of us in government, education and the environmental and business communities," said Governor Glendening. "These young people care about the present and the future - their future, and their children's future. Their exuberance tells me they are willing to work for a healthy Maryland and a healthy world."

The first-ever Governor's Youth Environmental Summit was termed a success by many of the high school students attending the conference last month in Baltimore that drew students



and teachers from every Maryland County and the City of Baltimore. Governor Glendening used the summit as a forum to announce the formation of a "Green Schools" program to recognize public and non-public schools that excel in all aspects of environmental education, protection

and restoration. That program will begin next school year.

Monica Ford, a junior from Patuxent High School in Calvert County, found the day-long event both enriching and helpful. "It helped me to see that environmental issues aren't just local

(continued on page 2)

Pfiesteria Action Plan in Place for Summer of '98

by Bob Summers and Diane Shaw

Maryland's efforts to evaluate the impact of *Pfiesteria's* toxins on human health thrust the state into the national spotlight in the fall of 1996 when watermen and others working on the Pocomoke River began noting possible health problems and localized fish kills. With warmer weather and nutrient rich water conditions that are conducive to another *Pfiesteria* season, the Maryland Departments of Environment, Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Health and Mental Hygiene are ready to continue monitoring the health of the Chesapeake Bay and collecting the data needed to fight Maryland's newest environmental problem.

The medical surveillance of persons exposed to affected waters that was initiated by the medical team from the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University is continuing this year with the help of federal funding. Data collected will provide the basis for continued epidemiological studies and give physicians needed information about the symptoms of exposure to ensure proper treatment.

The Citizens Pfiesteria Action Commission, established last fall by Governor Glendening and chaired by

former Governor Harry Hughes, heard extensive testimony from scientists, local, state, and federal officials, industry, watermen, farmers and private citizens throughout the winter. They concluded that based on the best available scientific evidence, the best way to deal with the *Pfiesteria* problem was to significantly reduce the nutrient loading into Chesapeake Bay.

In response, Governor Glendening developed a comprehensive set of water quality initiatives, supported by both state and federal funding. The

(continued on page 3)

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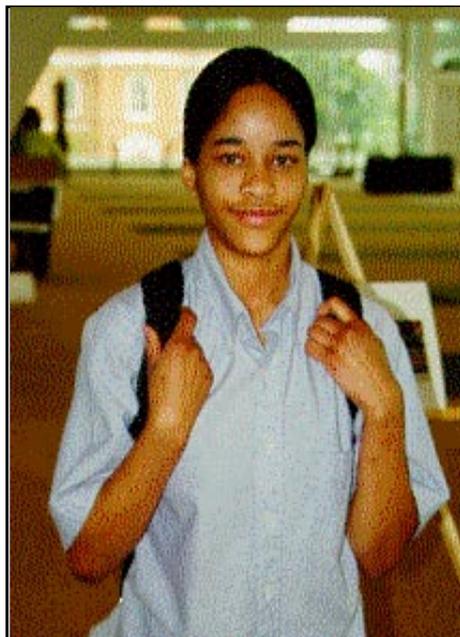
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continued from page 1...

Governor's Youth Environmental



Monica Ford, Junior from Patuxent High School

government issues and that the Governor is personally interested and really cares," she said. Meanwhile, Justin Fogleman of South Carroll High School said the summit left him with an understanding that "general citizens need to be more educated [about the environment] so they can take a stand on an issue and vote on it."

The program for the summit was designed to broaden student understanding of complex environmental issues and involve them in finding solutions to many of the problems they may face as adults. Invitations were extended to high school sophomores and juniors -- as opposed to seniors -- so that students can return to their high schools next year focused on environmental protection and restoration activities in their homes, schools and communities. Presenters at the summit included a waterman, a farmer, business executives, state legislators, cabinet secretaries, heads of environmental organizations, educators and some of the high school students themselves.

Some topics explored during the Summit's discussion sessions included: Smart Growth and related land use issues; Chesapeake Bay water quality and living resources; the need to balance business and the environmental issues; environmentally sensitive farming practices; and solid waste disposal. Governor Glendening spent about an hour discussing environmental topics with the students and answering their questions.

The students also participated in "how to" sessions on a variety of

Chesapeake Bay restoration activities such as creating wetlands or planting forest buffers, as well as other practical sessions on issues such as how to students or schools can apply for Chesapeake Bay Trust Grants.

In one session on "Business and the Environment," MDE Secretary Jane T. Nishida, Northrup Grumman Environmental Manager Kip Keenan and Environmentalist Dru Schmidt-Perkins conducted a role playing

Summit

protect and improve the waterways leading to the Chesapeake Bay.

Most of the high school students and teachers used environmentally responsible forms of transportation to get to the summit by car pooling or using bus, light rail or MARC Train vouchers provided free-of-charge by the Maryland Department of Transportation's Mass Transit Administration.

Support for the Governor's Youth



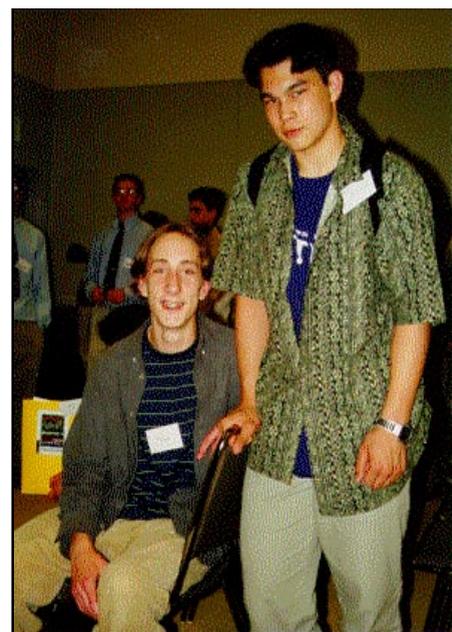
Secretary of Environment Jane Nishida discusses the balance of business and the environment with students attending the conference.

exercise in which the students played environmentalists, government officials and businesses in making recommendations for school environment improvements to a fictitious school board. Some of the student suggestions included the use of energy-efficient lighting to reduce costs, planting shade trees to cool the building rather than using air conditioning and using the sale of recycled materials to purchase school equipment.

During one of the "how to" sessions, Frank Dawson of the Department of Natural Resources and Rick Miller from Pickering Creek Environmental Education Center near Easton.

"Specifically, we focused on encouraging students to get involved in water conservation efforts to support the efforts of the state's Tributary Teams," Miller said. "Water conservation projects are great for schools because they can be class efforts and the results are quick and concrete."

Miller led a workshop on how students could get involved in Tributary Teams, which work to



Justin Fogleman of South Carroll High speaks out

Environmental Summit was provided through a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust and by the Maryland State Department of Education, with cooperation from the Governor's Office and the Maryland departments of Natural Resources and Environment.

Choptank Trib Team Takes on Agricultural Education

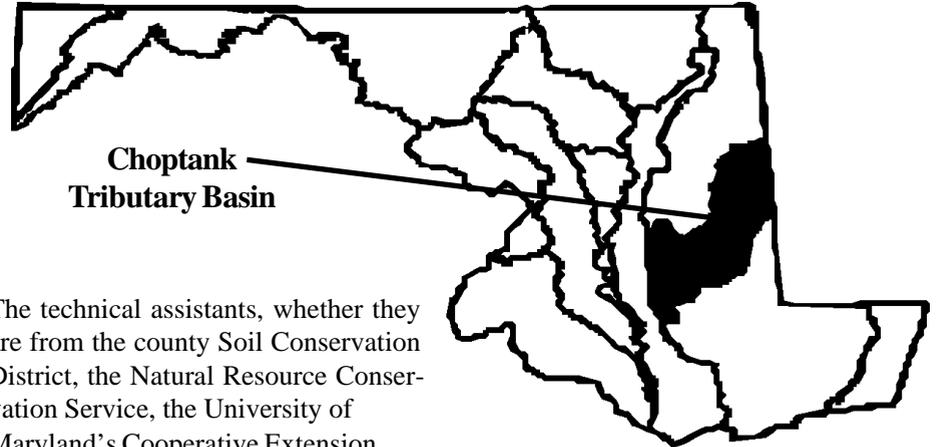
by Dave Nemazie, UMCES

The Choptank Tributary Strategy Team is one of 10 teams in Maryland's portion of the Chesapeake Bay watershed implementing a specific strategy to reduce nutrients, nitrogen and phosphorous, by 40 percent by the year 2000. The Choptank Tributary Strategy calls for the reduction of nutrients from major wastewater treatment plants, urban lands (including septic systems), agricultural lands, and increasing natural resources such as forests, riparian buffers, and wetlands). To develop a plan to implement the strategy, the team has 25 members representing farmers, educators, environmentalists, scientists, and governmental agencies. Agriculture is the most common land-use in the Choptank watershed and the largest source of controllable nutrients. Therefore, the team has concentrated most of its efforts on ways to reduce agricultural run-off.

One method to reduce nutrients from leaving a farm field is to plant cover crops. Since no plant (or animal for that matter) is 100 percent efficient at taking up nitrogen or phosphorous, excess nutrients are left in the soil. Nitrogen slowly leaches

into the groundwater that ultimately winds up in a body of water, such as the Choptank. Phosphorous generally binds to soil, unless it is saturated, and may enter a body of water through erosion of the soil. Planting cover crops, such as rye or barley, after harvest is a great way to take up excess nutrients and reduce soil erosion. Team members from the Choptank, Upper Eastern, and Lower Eastern Shore Teams, with several other state representatives, formed the Cover Crop Task Force. The task force recommended a cover crop program to give farmers financial assistance to plant these non-harvestable plants. The Governor and the state legislators recognized this need in 1997 and are continuing to provide critical assistance for the implementation of this program.

The Choptank Team has recognized the need to provide the farmer with technical assistance so they can finance and implement a series of best management practices that would either reduce the amount of nutrients that need to be applied to a field or reduce the nutrients from entering local waterways or the groundwater.



The technical assistants, whether they are from the county Soil Conservation District, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the University of Maryland's Cooperative Extension Service, or the state, work closely with individual farmers to implement a variety of best management practices such as developing nutrient management plans, designing soil and water quality conservation plants, or providing the means to apply for their funding. In general, technical assistance staffs at the local, state, and federal levels have been reduced and are unable to provide all the services that are requested. The Governor and State Legislator have recognized this problem and will be increasing the staffs that are under their jurisdiction.

The Choptank Team also is concerned with the health and functionality of the Chesapeake Bay and are therefore co-hosting a public work-

shop on June 23 with the Choptank Oyster Recovery Advisory Committee entitled, "Oyster Management and Environmental Quality." This workshop will be held at Sailwinds Park in Cambridge and will include speakers from a variety of interests, each presenting their perspective on topics such as the role of oysters as filter feeders, the recovery efforts, and management and policy initiatives.

For more information, please contact Dave Nemazie, the state liaison to the Choptank Tributary Strategy Team from the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Sciences at 410-228-9250, ext 615.

continued from page 1...

Citizen Involvement Needed for Pfiesteria Action Plan Success

Governor also worked with the General Assembly to pass landmark legislation requiring farmers to implement nutrient management plans for commercial fertilizers, animal manure and sewage sludge by certain dates, depending on the type of nutrient source applied to cropland. To facilitate control of nonpoint source runoff from animal waste, the law also establishes a special technology fund within the Department of Business and Economic Development and creates a pilot project for transportation of chicken litter.

The Governor's plan includes a comprehensive attack on other sources of nutrient pollution. The five-year capital budget provides funding for biological nutrient removal upgrades at all 14 major sewage treatment plants on the Eastern Shore within three years, and all remaining eligible sewage treatment plants statewide within five years. MDE also is working with local governments to



Fishermen are asked to report any fish with striking abnormalities.

develop best management practices for reducing nutrient pollution from new septic systems. To measure progress in the implementation of the Governor's water quality initiatives, the department is expanding its monitoring of pollution from sewage

plants, industries and agricultural, urban and residential land areas.

MDE also is working with an inter-agency team lead by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that is implementing Maryland's comprehensive *Pfiesteria* monitoring and evalua-

tion effort. This includes rapid response investigations of reports of fish lesions or fish kills, comprehensive assessments of fish health and habitat quality of Bay tributaries at risk of being affected by *Pfiesteria*, and point and nonpoint source pollution monitoring in affected watersheds. As of late May, monitoring of fish health on eight rivers in the Chesapeake Bay and the Coastal Bays has not revealed anything unusual.

Citizens can help the *Pfiesteria* monitoring program by reporting to a toll-free hotline at 1-888-584-3110 if they find fish with striking abnormalities. After noting where the fish was caught and the kind of abrasion or lesion on the fish it is okay to throw the fish back. Reports from the hotline are used to help target investigations. For information on the state's *Pfiesteria* investigation, visit MDE's website at www.mde.state.md.us or DNR's website at www.dnr.state.md.us

Calendar of Events For Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week June 8-14, 1998

Monday, June 8

Patterson Park in Baltimore City, Lead Week Kick-off Events, 10am-3 pm
Derek the Dinosaur, popcorn, snowballs, ARC Environmental, Channel 2-Sandra Pinkney, 92Q, Alpha Phi Alpha From North Carolina "step show," awards to PAL sites. Noon-3pm. Free Blood Lead Screening from Kennedy-Krieger Institute

290 S. Center Street, Westminster, 8am-4pm, Contact: Mary Bandorick - (410) 876-4959
Blood lead screening and lead education

Tuesday, June 9

610 N. Chester Street- Healthy Start, 10am-2pm Contact: Jerry Sampson, (410) 396-7318
Lead education, food, balloons, recruitment for Lead Safe Homes and information on lead poisoning prevention.

290 S. Center Street, Westminster, 8:00am-4:00pm. Contact: Mary Bandorick (410) 876-4959
Blood lead screening and lead education.

621 W. Lombard St.-University of Maryland, 8am-1pm. Contact: Michelle Werner (410) 706-1849
Seminar on lead-based paint for real estate professionals and property owners with discussion of MD regulations, cost effective ways to integrate lead work, tax breaks, and much more. REGISTRATION NECESSARY.



Wednesday, June 10

1622 N. Carey Street- Healthy Start, 10am-2pm. Contact: Jerry Sampson, (410) 396-7318
Lead education, food, balloons, recruitment for Lead Safe Homes & information on lead poisoning prevention.

290 S. Center Street, Westminster, 8am-4pm. Contact: Mary Bandorick, (410) 876-4959
Blood lead screening and lead education.

Thursday, June 11

290 S. Center Street, Westminster, 8am-4pm. Contact: Mary Bandorick, (410) 876-4959
Blood lead screening and lead education.

University Care Edmonson Village Site, 1pm-2:30pm. Contact: Mariellen Synan, (410) 396-8054
Presentation on lead poisoning prevention.

Charles Village, Canton and Mt. Claire Safeway Grocery Stores --All Day event. Contact: Keisha Peten (410) 534-6447. Information on lead poisoning prevention.

512 Orchard Street, Urban League, Time TBA, Contact: Keisha Peten, (410) 534-6447. Community Meeting.

Friday, June 12

290 S. Center Street, Westminster, 8am-4pm, Contact: Mary Bandorick, (410) 876-4959
Blood lead screening and lead education.

Saturday, June 13

512 Orchard Street, Urban League, 10am-1pm, Contact: Keisha Peten, (410) 534-6447
Informational seminar on grants and loans for lead abatement and lead hazard reduction.
Primarily for property owners and property managers.

Free lead screenings Contact: Jeannie Glime at 410-479-2860
Tuesday June 2 and 16 - WIC, 403 Market Street, Denton
Friday, June 5 - WIC, Community Building, Federalsburg
Monday, June 1 and 15 - CCHD Clinic building, 411 Franklin Street, Denton



A complete listing of lead week events is available on MDE's website on the "Lead Line" under Public Health at <http://www.mde.state.md.us>

Team Work Leads to Mill Run Cleanup in Western Maryland



Joe Mills, from MDE, right, and Bob Miller, of the Mill Run Watershed Association, plant seedlings

by Joe Mills

Since the first ton of coal was removed from the hills of western Maryland, an estimated 450 miles of streams in Allegany and Garrett counties have been adversely impacted by acid mine drainage from these unregulated mines. The latest effort to reverse the years of environmental degradation to this beautiful piece of Maryland comes from a partnership led by the Mill Run Watershed Association and fueled by an active group of citizen volunteers, mining industry representatives, businesses, and state and local officials.

"We chose three projects along Mill Run because we knew our actions would make a noticeable difference --

a difference others would see, appreciate and hopefully imitate," said Bob Miller of the Mill Run Watershed Association.

The first project, planting trees on the steep area of the Tri-Star Mining Inc.'s surface mine located near Barton was completed April 4. A seven-acre area of reclaimed surface mine that was planted in grasses is now covered with about 3,000 sawtooth oak, bicolor lepedza, and black locust trees of which all provide excellent wildlife food and cover. This project could not have been successful without the cooperation and assistance of many individuals and organizations. Tri Star Mining cooperated by allowing the Mill Run Watershed Association to conduct their project on its property and the Maryland Coal Association supplied lunch for the volunteers. Trees for the project were donated by Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the National Wild Turkey Federation. Labor was supplied by members of the Watershed Association, MDE, the National Wild Turkey Federation, Westmar High School's Environmental Studies class, and the Nemicolin Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

"It is amazing how the community, local governments, environmental groups and businesses have all come forward to play their part," said MDE's Bureau of Mines Administrator John Carey. "We can all be proud of this effort."

The second project, cleaning trash and debris from three miles of the Mill Run and its banks, was completed May 9. Two garbage truckloads of

trash were removed from the stream and hauled to the Allegany County Landfill. Howell Trucking donated the garbage truck and operator for the day and the Allegany County Commissioners paid the landfill tipping fees. Sodas were purchased by Eichorn-McKenzie Funeral Home and donated by the Pepsi-Cola, 7UP and Dr. Pepper Company. Naylor's Hardware, Martin Foods, and Food Lion donated garbage bags. The Lonaconing Volunteer Fire Company supplied a truck equipped with a wench, which proved to be very valuable for removing the heavier items such as sofas, refrigerators and stoves. Labor was supplied by volunteers from organizations such as The Nemicolin Chapter of Trout Unlimited, the Maryland Department of Juvenile Justice, the Frostburg State University Football Team, members of the Watershed Association, local school students, and MDE employees.

The third project, abatement of the

acid mine drainage impacts, will be conducted this month. It will involve dumping limestone sand into the stream to neutralize the abandoned mine drainage that has eliminated all biological life in the lower portion of Mill Run. The lower section of the stream will be stocked and managed as a "put-and-take" trout fishery if the project is successful. MDE's Bureau of Mines has been involved with this project from the research through project design and construction stages of two of the limestone sand dump sites.

"The third project focuses on acid mine drainage, the number one environmental problem in our area. If we can restore the fishery, everyone will benefit, especially our children," said Mr. Miller.

For more information on any of these Western Maryland cleanup projects contact MDE at (301) 689-6104.



Students from Westmar High School's environmental studies class brave the elements to help plant trees.



Community volunteers haul large debris from the stream and banks of the Mill Run.

Irvine Natural Science Center's 7th Annual Native Plant Seminar and Sale Saturday August 29, 1998.

9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The first person* to call (410) 631-3012 wins one free admission to the seminar. Normal admission price is \$50.00.

The Native Maryland Plant Sale is Free and Open to the Public.

*(MDE employees do not qualify)

For complete details call (410) 484-2413

*Irvine Natural Science Center
8400 Greenspring Avenue*



UPDATE

**Maryland Department of the Environment
Public Drinking Water Program
SAMPLER CERTIFICATION SEMINAR
June - September 1998 Schedule**

DATE	CITY	LOCATION	CONTACT	PHONE
6/1	Salisbury	WVOA Salisbury State, Room 116	MDE	410-631-3729
6/4	Baltimore	2500 Broening Highway	MDE	410-631-3729
6/9	LaPlata	MCET/Charles Cty. Comm. College	Karen Brandt	410-934-7504
6/11	Annapolis	Anne Arundel County Health Dept.	Debbie Sanders	410-222-7036
7/2	Baltimore	2500 Broening Highway	MDE	410-631-3729
7/16	Elkton	Cecil County Health Department	Cliff Hamilton	410-996-5160
8/6	Baltimore	2500 Broening Highway	MDE	410-631-3729
8/11	Salisbury	Wicomico County Health Dept.	Linda Griffith	410-546-4446
8/21	Hagerstown	Washington County Health Dept.	Kim Armstrong	410-791-3270
9/3	Baltimore	2500 Broening Highway	MDE	410-631-3729
9/17	Annapolis	Anne Arundel County Health Dept.	Debbie Sanders	410-222-7036
9/23	Rockville	Montgomery County Health Dept.	Pam Parker	410-217-2337

The Drinking Water Sampler Certification Class is offered to all operators, laboratory technicians or other interested parties who collect drinking water samples that are to be submitted to laboratories. The three and one half hour class consists of a film, presentation and written exam. Upon successful completion of the exam a certification number is assigned to each individual as required by state regulations.

Please register and confirm attendance by calling the contact person at last one week prior to the class.

Dates are subject to change based on demand for the class.

They may be a charge for certification depending on location.

Baltimore Urban Risk Initiative

by Roseanna Kroll

The Baltimore Urban Risk Initiative program begins its third season this month with plans for an active public awareness and information gathering program on subsistence fishing. Begun in 1995 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Maryland Department of the Environment and Baltimore City, the program is designed to educate Baltimore harbor fishermen and crabbers about the risks of consuming fish and crabs from certain Harbor areas that may contain toxins.

"Each year, student interviewers from the Environmental Health Research Center at the University of Maryland-Baltimore distribute information brochures and explain key points of the brochure to Harbor fishermen and crabbers," said Rich Eskin, manager of MDE's Environmental Risk Program. "The brochure was designed to communicate information on reducing exposure to contaminants when consuming fish from Baltimore Harbor such as how to clean your catch and where not to fish in the first

place." In addition, University of Maryland-Baltimore interviewers conduct formal crab and fish consumption surveys using a questionnaire designed jointly by MDE and UMB.

The Baltimore Urban Environmental Risk Initiative project's general goal is to identify areas of potential disproportionate risk in Baltimore City and then eliminate or reduce those risks through activities aimed at pollution prevention, risk reduction and public awareness. Face-to-face educational outreach efforts and brochure distribution will continue throughout 1998. Follow-up interviews with harbor fishermen and crabbers designed to measure the project's success in modifying fish consumption behavior also will be conducted. A final report, due out by the end of 1998, will summarize the survey responses and include quantified estimates of fish and crab consumption from the Baltimore Harbor.

For further information on MDE's ongoing Baltimore Urban Risk Initiative, call Rosanna Kroll at (410) 631-3906.

Does permitting paper work have you confused?

Let the Environmental Permits Service Center assist your company with any permitting questions or concerns.

- Answers questions in person or by phone
- Operates an Internet -accessible database that tracks most major MDE permit applications
- Coordinates services for customers who need multiple MDE permits
- Provides pollution prevention assistance to interested businesses

(410) 631-3772



by Jim Metz

Smart Growth and the Voluntary Cleanup Program

The Voluntary Cleanup Program is one of two Smart Growth-related mandates to be implemented by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) that will increase the redevelopment of properties historically used for industrial or commercial purposes. The Voluntary Cleanup Program, signed into law by Governor Glendening in February 1997, streamlines the process to clean up eligible properties that are, or perceived to be, contaminated by hazardous wastes. The legislation also changes the liability scheme for certain prospective owners of eligible properties to encourage the transfer of properties and allows both responsible persons and future owners to more accurately estimate cleanup costs.

A vacant 33-acre lot in the Rolling Mill area of downtown Cumberland is an excellent example of Smart Growth in action. Prior to the 1983 sale of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company property to Mount Clare Property, the site was used for steel bolt fabrication and metal forging operations. During the last ten years of B&O ownership, the site was used to house the railroad engineering department. In 1987, the property was sold to CSX Transportation.

CSX took early advantage of the brownfields program by being one of

the first to submit a program application to MDE for the Cumberland site. This major railroad transportation company planned to market the property for redevelopment as a retail shopping complex that was in line with the revitalization plan for downtown Cumberland.

"For years this 33-acre parcel near downtown Cumberland known as the 'Rolling Mill' property has hindered the City's revitalization efforts. The passage of the brownfields legislation last year has sparked activity on this site that in concert with other activities like Canal Place will lead to the commercial revitalization of downtown Cumberland," said Cumberland Mayor Edward C. Athey.

The prospective buyer, ARC Cumberland LLC, an engineering and development firm in Atlanta represents Giant Food of Pennsylvania, the proposed food store anchor. Following MDE's acceptance of ARC into the Voluntary Cleanup Program as an inculpable person and MDE's approval of CSX's response action plan, ARC took title to a 11.5 acres of the 33-acre parcel. Robert S. Paye, a Cumberland attorney representing ARC, said in an October 1997 article in *The Cumberland News* that construction of the shopping center should be "a huge plus for the city. I don't anticipate any kind of opposition to the proposal and imagine it should be welcomed."

Being accepted in the Voluntary Cleanup Program as an inculpable person also made ARC eligible to apply



The CSX Bolt and Forge Property, pictured above, in the site preparation phase for Cumberland's newest supermarket and retail center.

for financial incentives through the Brownfields Revitalization Incentives Program administered by the Department of Business and Economic Development. Among the financial incentives available for qualified persons who participate in the Voluntary Cleanup Program are property tax credits of up to 70 percent in participating jurisdictions. The tax credits reduce the additional tax attributable to the increase in the property assessment following remediation. In December 1997, the Commissioners of Allegany County enacted the necessary legislation to grant property tax credits for qualified brownfields sites in the County. ARC has said they plan to apply for the available tax

credits.

Meanwhile, CSX is implementing the approved response action plan for environmental cleanup. The plan addresses all areas of contamination at the 33-acre site and will be completed in phases to accommodate the development plans. The first phase focuses on the property purchased by ARC and requires interim measures to prevent exposure to other portions of the property.

In situations such as this one in Cumberland, the Voluntary Cleanup Program provides a mechanism to promote economic development, while at the same time protecting public health and the environment.

Attention Business, Non-profit and Education Professionals

The *MDEnvironment's* September issue will be dedicated to environmental education opportunities available to students, K - 12 throughout Maryland.

If your organization offers environmental tours, field trips, pamphlets, video tapes, or any on-going, hands-on learning opportunities, *MDEnvironment* would like to help you to spread the word to Maryland students and teachers. A four-page pullout section will feature how organizations across Maryland are teaming up to teach our children about their role in reducing and preventing pollution.

Sound interesting? It is! And it's free! Simply send a synopsis of your educational offering including contact name, cost (if any), and location to Susan Woods, *MDEnvironment*, 2500 Broening Highway, Baltimore MD 21224. Fax: (410) 631-3936. E-mail: swoods@mde.state.md.us. For more information on this special edition simply call (410) 631-3003.

National Governor's Association to Hold Smart Growth Strategies Conference in Baltimore

On July 7 and 8, Governor Glendening will host the national Conference on State Smart Growth Strategies in Baltimore. The conference is being sponsored by the Center for Best Practices of the National Governors' Association (NGA) with funding from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Surdna Foundation, and the Urban Land Institute.

Through panel discussions and case studies, the conference will examine a variety of development challenges faced by the States and provide an opportunity for showcasing smart

growth goals and strategies from around the country. In doing so, the program for the two-day event will emphasize key topics such as intergovernmental cooperation, building alliances with various stakeholders, using incentives for implementation, and integration of state programs into a coordinated strategy.

While actual conference attendance is limited to Governor's designees from their states, information is available on the proceedings by contacting Robin Grove, 202/624-5346, or Barbara Wells 202/624-5822 at NGA's Center for Best Practices.

Ozone Action Days Update

Cash For Clippers Success



The Cash-For-Clippers Program held throughout Maryland during April and May was a huge success. As of May 12, 663 Maryland families turned in gas guzzling lawn mowers for rebates on electric and hand mulching mowers. Montgomery County topped the list by distributing 187 rebate certificates! Rebates and more information on this on-going, ozone-reducing effort are available by calling Jessica Ritter at (410) 631-3245.

Ozone Awareness Day



Karen O'Neill, Howard County Commuter Assistance Coordinator helps Rodger Forge Elementary students with a project demonstrating how everyday actions contribute to ground-level ozone pollution. The activities were part of Ozone Awareness Day, May 2, celebrated by MDE and End-Zone Partners

Ozone Action Days

Here are ten tips to help you do your share for cleaner air and reduce ground level ozone in Maryland!

1. Don't use gasoline-powered lawn and gardening equipment. Try electric or manual tools instead.
2. Limit driving. Rideshare, carpool, walk or bike. Combine your errands into one trip.
3. Take public transportation.
4. Postpone using oil-based paints and solvents.
5. Don't refuel on an Ozone Action Day. If you must refuel, do so after dusk.
6. Avoid excessive idling.
7. Keep your car well tuned.
8. Don't use household cleaners or products that release fumes or evaporate easily.
9. Start charcoal with an electric or chimney-type fire starter instead of lighter fluid.
10. Conserve energy and recycle.

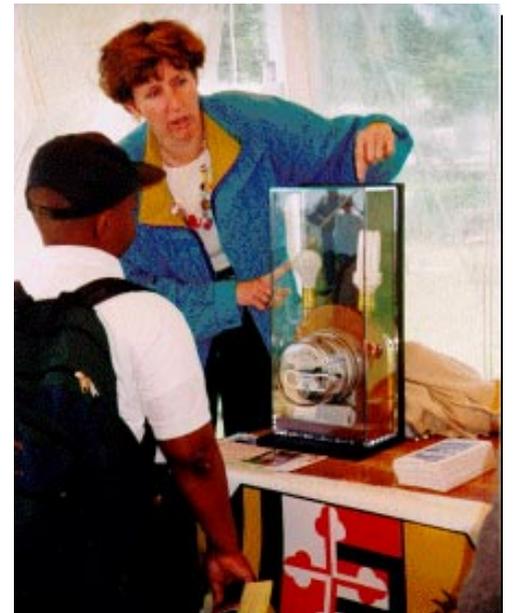


We all have a stake in clean air, and we all have a responsibility to help clean the air. Let's work together and do our share for cleaner air and a cleaner bay.

Tour de Sol Offers Options to Maryland Drivers

by Tim Shepherd

On May 13 over 50 electric and electric hybrid vehicles raced into Sandy Point State Park, Annapolis as part of the 1998 Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA) Tour de Sol road rally. The race, which began in New York City and finished in Washington D.C., was celebrating its Tenth Anniversary. Over 1,000 Maryland elementary and middle school students were on hand to welcome the vehicles and take part in the opportunity to examine and ride in these clean fuel vehicles that are being produced today, and headed for the U.S. car market in the near future. Representatives from the Department of Energy, Maryland Department of the Environment and the Maryland Energy Administration were also on hand to stress the role that these clean burning vehicles will play in reducing the harmful emissions which cause ozone. Many thanks to all the volunteers who donated their time and effort to help make this a truly memorable event.



Karen Galindo, above, from the Maryland Energy Administration demonstrates energy efficiency to a Maryland student



Winners of the 1998 Tawes Award for a Clean Environment



Drew Cobbs, Maryland Petroleum Council's Executive Director, (left), and Arthur Ray, MDE's Deputy Secretary (right), present the 1997 Tawes adult Award to Margaret Comstock of Hagerstown for her life-long commitment to recycling.



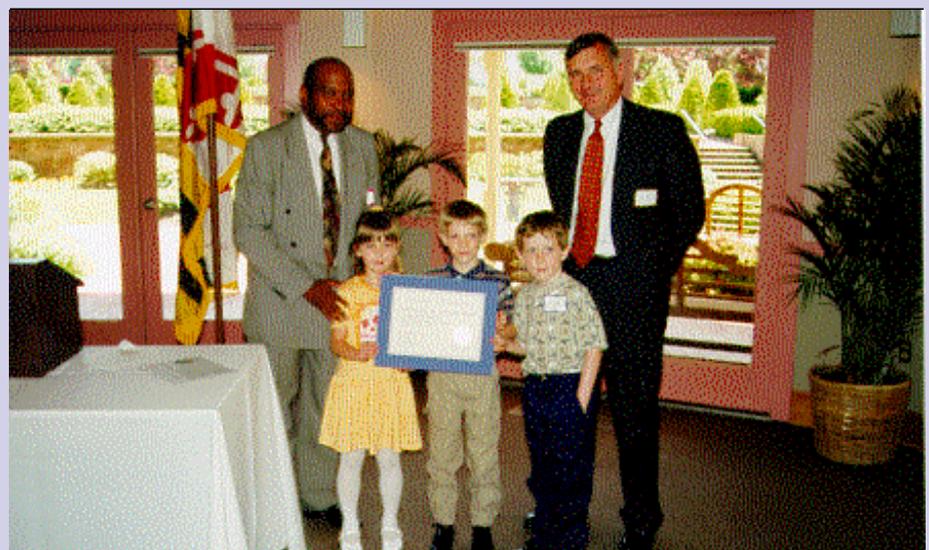
Maryland Rock representative Johnny Johnsson (left) and Tawes adult category runner-up, Parran Bean who won for Maryland Rock's outstanding Leonardtown plant's mining reclamation activities.

Youth first-place award winner Richard Callahan and his mom, Barbara pictured left. Richard, a Junior at Arundel Senior High in Anne Arundel County, created a riparian buffer awareness program for his community. With a Chesapeake Bay Trust grant and community support, 2,000 pamphlets and ten signs explain the significance of planting trees along streams to help stem pollution and nutrient run-off.



Tawes Award for a Clean Environment 1976-1998

The Tawes Award for a Clean Environment is an annual awards program of the Maryland Petroleum Council and the Maryland Department of the Environment. It is open to non-profit groups, community volunteers, businesses, education professions and any other interested parties. Nominations open in January of each year and end by April 15. To find out more about the nominations process call the Maryland Petroleum Council at (410) 269-1850.



Pictured left to right MDE's Deputy Secretary Arthur Ray, and Youth runner-up award representatives Caitlin Urick, Paul Sinclair and Jacob Love from Millersville Elementary School's second grade class in Anne Arundel County and Maryland Petroleum Council's Drew Cobbs. Millersville Elementary students planted a nursery full of Atlantic White Cedar seeds in the Millersville Bog to nearly double the existing population of the endangered wetland tree.



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