

# Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability



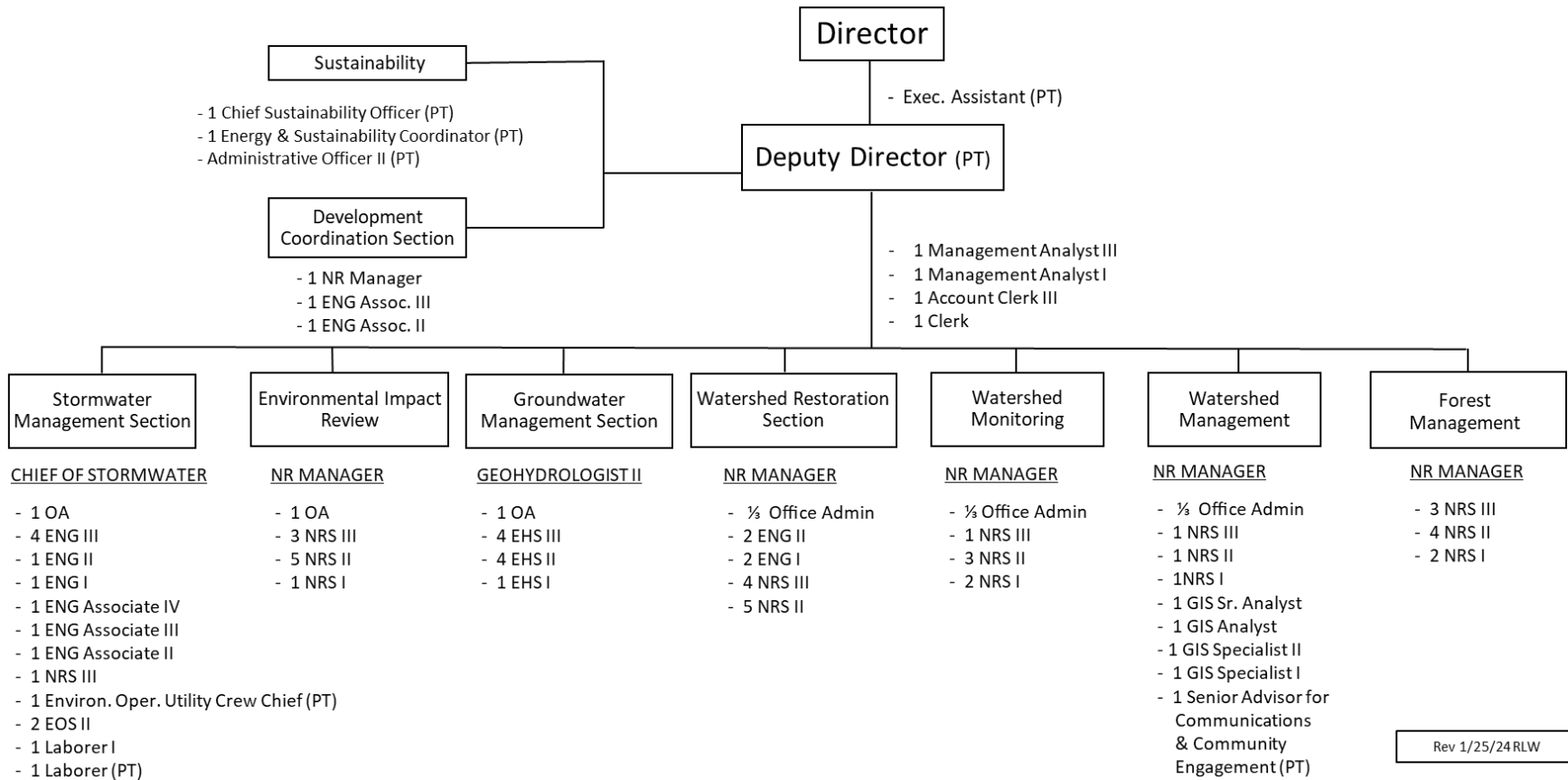
**Director: Horacio Tablada**

# Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability (DEPS)

Total Employees: 93  
 FT Merit: 85  
 PT Non-Merit: 8  
 Date Prepared: January 23, 2024

## Baltimore County FY24 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Agency Management  
 DEPS



Rev 1/25/24RLW

# Capital Program Drivers

- MS4/NPDES Permits
  - New 5-year MS4 Permit issued Nov. 2021
- Impervious Surface Restoration – 3,167 acres
- Chesapeake Bay TMDL
- Local TMDL

# MS4 Permit: New and Revised BMPs

## New

- Floating Treatment Wetlands
- Conservation Landscaping
- Forest Conservation
- Urban Soil De-compaction

## Expanded

- Outfall Stabilization
- Overachieving SWM facilities:
  - Green Stormwater Infrastructure bonus
  - “Watershed Management” bonus

## Revised

- Storm Drain Cleaning: separate credit for organic and inorganic debris
- Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination: limiting cap placed on credit from illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE)
- Street Sweeping: must document higher sweeping frequency with upgraded equipment



# MS4 Permit: New Salt Management Plan

*“The County shall reduce the use of winter weather deicing and anti-icing materials, without compromising public safety, by developing a County Salt Management Plan (SMP)”*

## Ahead of the curve:

- New DPWT Highways equipment
- DPWT tracking and reporting deicing usage for each winter storm

## Down the road:

- “Salt Academy” to train County staff and contractors
- Salt management outreach to residents



# DEPS Capital Improvement Projects

- Stream Restoration
- Shoreline Stabilization & Enhancement
- Stormwater Facility Maintenance & BMP Improvements
- Reforestation



# DEPS Capital Projects: Resiliency/Sustainability Efforts

	Stream Restoration	Shoreline Stabilization & Protection	Stormwater Maintenance & BMP Improvements	Reforestation
Nuisance Flooding	Designed to not impact private/public assets	May attenuate frequent events	Mitigates runoff from development; reduces peak flows	Attenuates through canopy interception & vegetative uptake
Riverine Flooding	May be intentionally increased to reduce flow velocities & erosion (approach/outcome dependent)		Mitigates runoff from development; reduces peak flows	Attenuates through canopy interception & vegetative uptake
Sea Level Rise		May become ineffectual, but must be designed for current condition to be functional		
Severe Weather	Reduces erosion for a range of storm events	Attenuates erosion by interrupting wave action; revegetation facilitates soil cohesion	Mitigates runoff from development; reduces peak flows	Attenuates runoff through vegetative uptake and erosion by improving soil cohesion
Protective Measures	Attenuates erosion and protects public/private properties & infrastructure such as sanitary sewer, bridges & culverts	Protects public and private properties from erosion	Mitigates runoff from development; reduces peak flows	
Atmospheric Temperature Increase	Riparian corridor revegetation attenuates by blocking solar radiation			Facilitates biosequestration of atmospheric carbon dioxide; attenuates by blocking solar radiation

# DEPS – Stream Restoration



BEFORE

Miller Run Stream  
Restoration, Catonsville



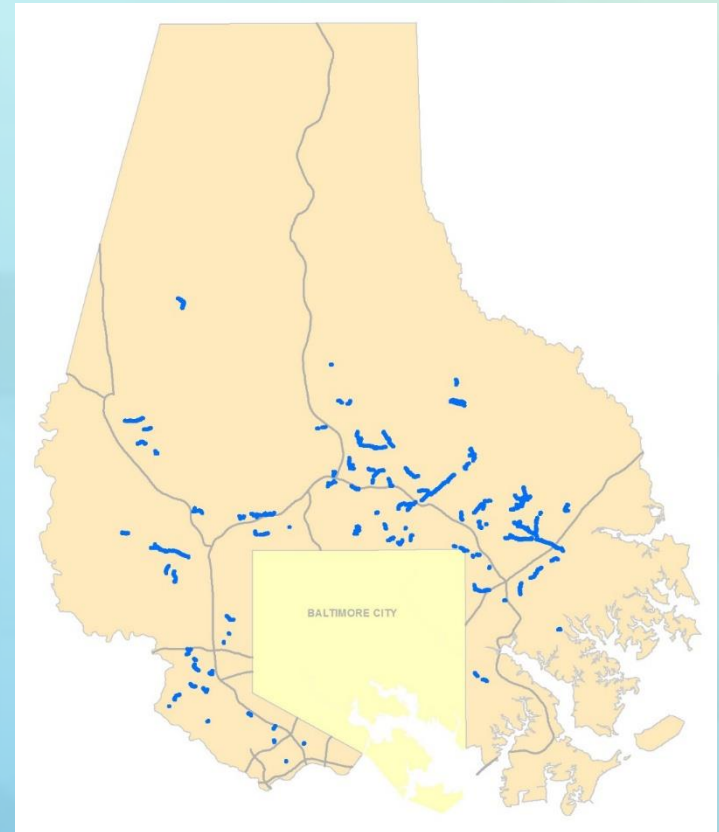
AFTER



# Current & Future Capital Waterway Improvement Projects

## Stream Restoration

- From 1994 – FY24: 100 projects were completed, costing approximately \$169M
- Request for \$7.8M in FY25 towards 6 projects, including funding for the design of 3 new projects and construction of 3 current projects
- Proposing \$16M to implement 9 projects for FY26 through FY28



# DEPS – Shoreline Stabilization & Enhancement



BEFORE

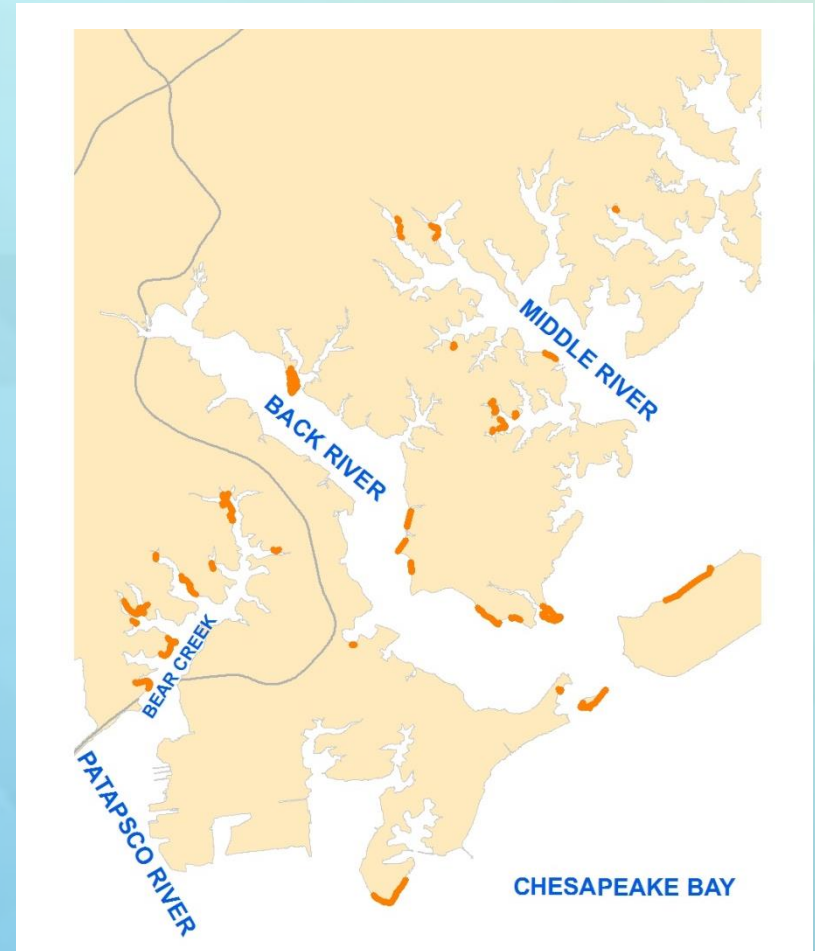
CHESTERWOOD PARK  
SHORELINE  
ENHANCEMENT



AFTER

# Current & Future Capital Waterway Improvement Projects Shoreline Stabilization & Enhancement

- From 1991 – FY24: 42 projects completed, costing approximately \$22M
- The FY25 budget request is \$1M for design of 3 projects
- For FY26 through FY28, proposing \$13M for the implementation of 5 new projects and the construction of 3 projects currently in design



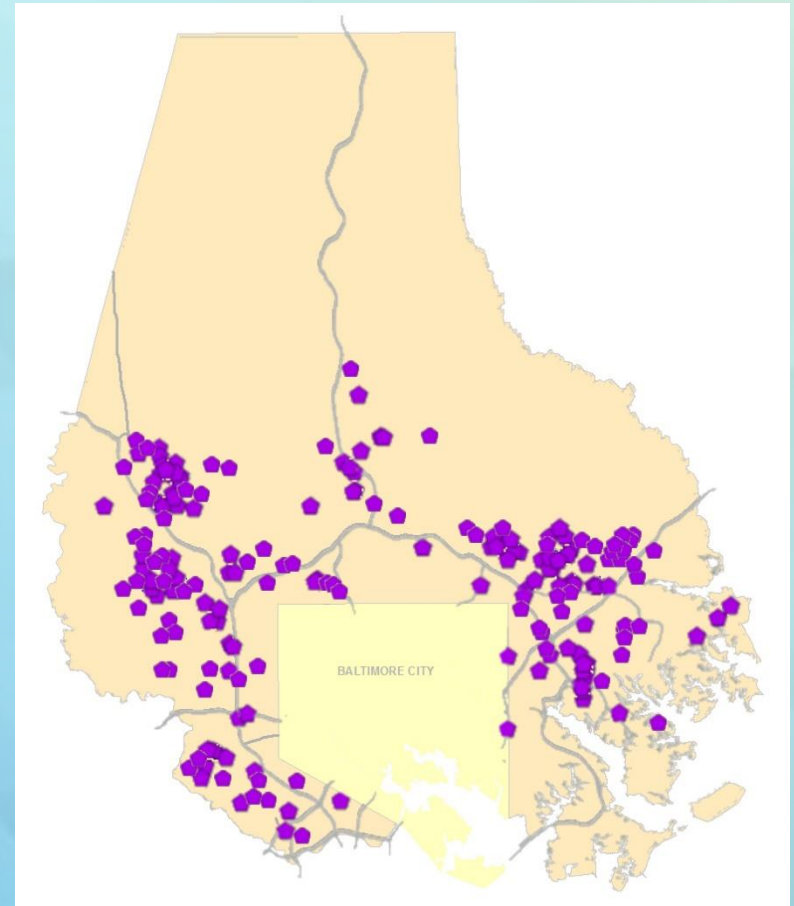
# DEPS – Stormwater Facility Maintenance & BMP Improvements



FAC. #190 AT HEWITT FARMS  
IN GWYNNNS FALLS WATERSHED  
1-YR POST CONVERSION

# Current & Future Capital Waterway Improvement Projects Stormwater Facility Maintenance & BMPs

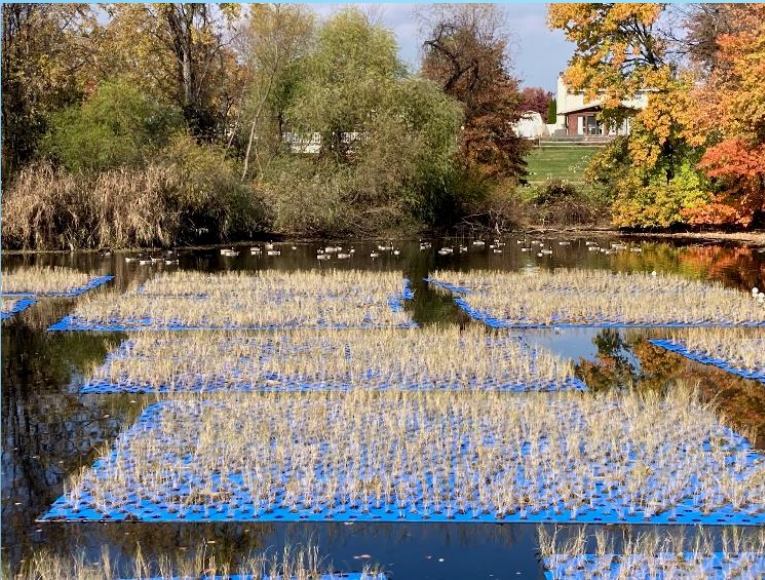
- From 2013 – FY24: 174 projects were completed costing approximately \$14M
- FY25 request of \$3.6M includes funding for 10± water quality projects, 10± BMP repairs, and triennial maintenance of 425± facilities
- Proposing 10 projects costing \$3.6M per year for FY26 through FY28; request includes repairs and triennial maintenance for existing facilities



# Stormwater Facility Maintenance & BMPs

## Floating Treatment Wetlands

- \$136K spent on preparation, purchase, and installation of floating treatment wetland mats at one stormwater management facility as a pilot study
- Pilot study: determining water quality benefit for future BMPs
- Dissolved oxygen & temperature sensors deployed at pilot and control facilities.



# DEPS – Reforestation

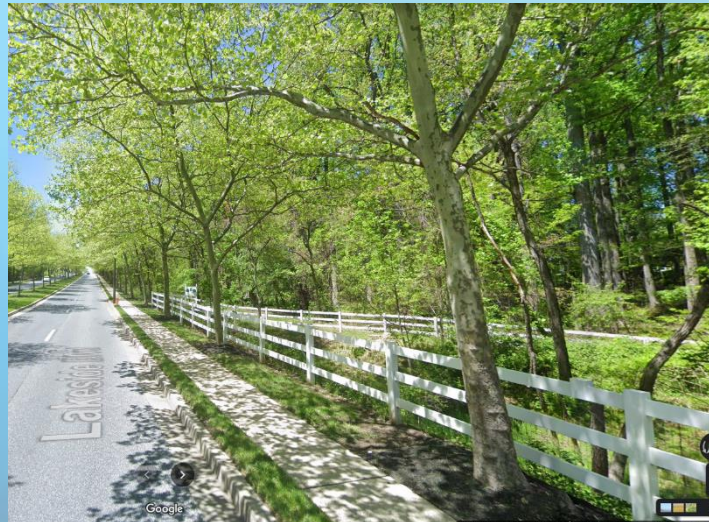
Rural Reforestation



Urban Reforestation

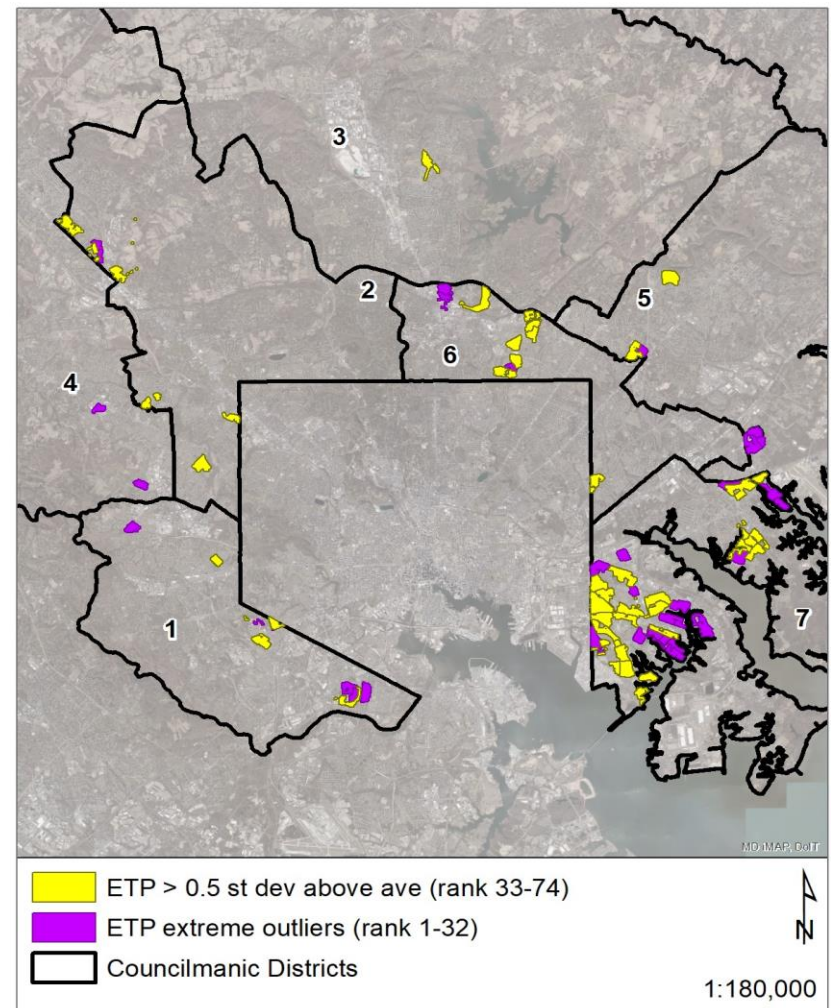


1,000 Street Trees



# Reforestation Operation ReTree: Location Selection Results

- Lower income households tend to live in areas with less tree canopy
- Higher population density correlates with lower tree canopy
- ARPA and CBT grant are current funding sources





# Reforestation Operation ReTree

- Tree Canopy v. Income-Environmental Justice & Equity



**Operation ReTree**  
**BALTIMORE COUNTY**

**Help bring back the beautiful tree-lined streets and shady yards to the communities of Baltimore County!**

Sign up today for your **free** "family tree" to be planted in front of your house or in a side yard.

# Rural and Urban Reforestation Effort Update

- Over 4,343 urban trees were removed between 2014-2022
- In FY20-FY23, the County granted Blue Water Baltimore nonprofit \$30K annually to plant 200 trees within the URDL to replace removed street trees
- County Executive Olszewski set aside \$625K for 1,000 street trees each year in FY23 and again in FY24
- 2,679 Street trees will be planted by spring 2024

1,000 Street Trees planted in these communities:

- Towson
- Owings Mills
- Dundalk
- Woodlawn
- Parkville



# Current & Future Capital Waterway Improvement Projects

## Reforestation and Tree Maintenance

- From 2013 – FY24: 312 projects were completed costing approximately \$4.25M
- FY25 request of \$700K includes funding for 25 acres of rural reforestation and 10± tree maintenance projects
- Proposing 45 acres of rural reforestation projects costing \$1M per year for FY26 through FY28 and 18± tree maintenance projects costing \$350K per year for FY26 through FY28



# Questions?



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