



Green Team Report to Town Council

Barbara Kete, Green Team Chair
September 21, 2017

Background and Strategy:

The new town Green Team began meeting in late June of this year, and, since we are just getting started, we have many more plans than accomplishments! We have decided to build on and revise the previous Green Team's plans rather than spend a lot of time revisiting them.

Since our effectiveness and continuing viability depend on community support and involvement, we intend to invest substantial efforts on community outreach and education. As we plan and develop new projects, we will incorporate education and community involvement as basic components.

Current Activities:

Sustainable Maryland – Sustainable Maryland representatives will be providing training to our team in the near future. As we develop and implement projects, we will also work toward improving our Sustainable Maryland score, and ranking. For more information on the Sustainable Maryland program and its benefits, visit:

<http://sustainablemaryland.com/>

Taste the Beaches - On Saturday, September 9th, the new team made its first public appearance at Taste the Beaches, where we were warmly welcomed at our information booth by many town residents and visitors to the festival. At this event, we raffled off two rain barrels. Mayor Mahoney's wife Judy pulled the winning tickets out of our bucket - the lucky winners were Barbara Sikora and Cindy Adams. Congratulations! Of the visitors to our booth, 27 expressed an interest in attending a workshop to make their own rain barrels, and approximately 30 people signed up to receive more information on the Team's activities.

Buffer Gardens - A Buffer Garden is simply a landscaped area designed to reduce pollution and improve the environment. The leaves, flowers, and seeds of native plants provide food and shelter for local wildlife, while the root structures hold soil and capture rainwater. In order to demonstrate the concept and encourage homeowners and local businesses to plant buffer gardens, the Green Team will oversee the design and planting of two prototype gardens: one on the Town Hall grounds, at the border between Town Hall and Traders, and the other, courtesy of Bobby Abner, immediately east of Abner's Restaurant on the bank of Fishing Creek. We will solicit designs from school groups and local youth organizations. Melanie Crowder, the



Green Team Master Gardener, will work with submitters to ensure that the selected designs are Bay Wise compliant.

Future Plans:

Education – We plan to meet with the Twin Beaches Branch of the Calvert Co. library to request that they exhibit books and materials relevant to our mission.

Christmas Tree Recycling Party – We hope to have a community event to encourage Christmas tree recycling.