

Grade = B+

Native Trees and Plants Proposal

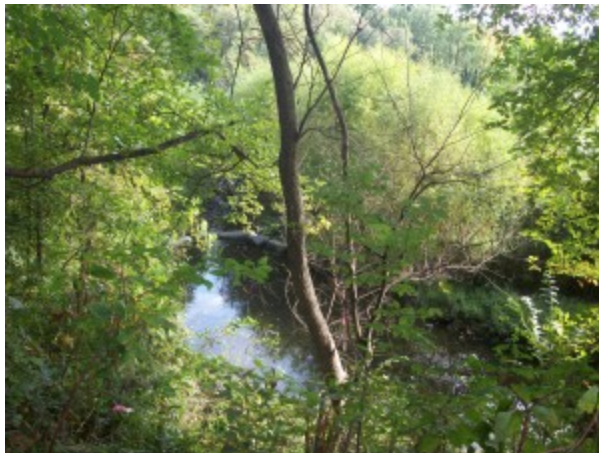
By Tyler Urquhart

Intro: I intend to plant native trees and plants along the shoreline to prevent erosion and runoff pollution into the water for a healthier waterway. It has been shown that the watershed around areas that are highly populated with native trees, tend to be healthier than those that aren't. I would like Gunston to be apart of this statistic by teaming up with The Chesapeake Bay Trust Foundation, in order to maintain a healthier waterway and hopefully promote the planting of native trees around other nearby areas.

“Native trees are trees that are developed, occur naturally, or have existed for many years in a given area”

Does it need to be Native? Yes, it tends to be that Native Species function better in their natural ecosystem as opposed to non-native and invasive species. Non-Native species interfere with the flow of water, and certain invasive plants withdraw water from deep in the soil and reduce the amount available for other uses.

Where?: Areas in the woods along the shoreline could pose great spots for the formation of new native trees. Also, along the edge of the stream that flows into the edge of the river could be a valuable spot.



Why?: The water around Gunston's shoreline, and water farther down the river, would be greatly impacted from the new source of protection. The trees would hold the ground underneath to prevent erosion, and also act as a buffer to other pollutants. The addition of the native trees and plants would hopefully benefit the waterfront health, and human interaction along with it.

How?: I would like to achieve my proposal goals mostly through cooperation with students or volunteers willing to help raise awareness. Below, I have pasted the requirements for a grant that offers money to organizations or schools who help restore watershed health or raise awareness of it. I believe that with the help of the Environmental Club and other support that we could raise enough awareness to apply for the grant.

All projects should meet one or both of the following goals:

- a. Significantly engage members of a specific audience in watershed issues through either awareness or behavior change efforts.
- b. Accomplish on-the-ground restoration through demonstration scale projects that will result in improvements in watershed health, either through habitat enhancement or water quality improvement.

Proof: In Arlington, VA., a similar project was conducted to restore the quality of stream water. After some time the results of the tree/plant planting became apparent. The water coming down the restored branch of Donaldson Run on the left is markedly cleaner than the muddy, silt-filled water coursing down the unrestored branch on the right.



Grant:

The Chesapeake Bay Trust Foundation

Stats: In 2013, the Trust awarded \$5.4 million in grants to over 330 organizations, in every county in Maryland and Baltimore City. These awards, spearheaded by grassroots organizations, schools, community groups, and others dedicated to creating environmental stewards and committed to restoring the health of their local waters and the Chesapeake Bay, engaged 59,547 students, mobilized 24,575 volunteers, planted over 89,517 trees and native plants, and removed over 25 tons of trash.

The Grant: <http://www.cbtrust.org/site/c.miJPKXPCJnH/b.5457271/k.C58E/Grants.htm>

This has most of the parts that are required for this assignment..you have included a grant possibility and a great explanation for native verses non native plants. You will need to think about how many trees you are going to plant. If you apply for a grant you will need to have an idea of how much money you will be asking for.

How many trees?

Target areas where you can already see significant erosion....where may that be.

Need a Budget : This is a table with items listed and cost...