

May 15, 2025 | [TR Steering Committee Meeting](#)

Attendees: Kay Schultz, Sandy , Greg, [Carolyn Thomas](#), Georgette, [Bill Howard](#), Evelyn, Peggy and Trinity who took these notes at the meeting.

- **Earth Fest Recap:**

- Great success overall.
- Suggestions for next year:
 - Position some volunteers on the stream bank and in the stream.
 - Create a more efficient rinsing process for participants.
 - Confirm water quality ahead of time for child-safe play.
 - Allow more time for drying off equipment; rain this year made that difficult.
- Wildlife observed: many red salamanders, a black snake, and several crawfish.

- **Den Meeting - Meeting went well. Trinity wrote an article for our website. The group wants to participate in a Service Project:**

- Continue to involve scouts in service projects.- Invasive removal at JSB, planting at JSB, helping install native aquatic plants, making flyers, assist with storm drain project

Reminder: Send activity reminders one week in advance.

- **Film at the Opera House - Thursday, June 5, 7 pm, donations to benefit Town Run Watershed. Lucia Valentine to facilitate audience comments. Environmental nonprofits to give 1 - 2 minute “pitches”.**

- Georgette is doing collection/guidance for donations to Town Run Watershed at the film venue.

Training on Maintenance of the Website and Use of Little Green Light by Bill Howard

May 21, 4 - 5:30 with new volunteer Rebecca Palmisano, Carolyn Thomas, and Trinity and Kay. Georgette was unable to attend.

- **Recycling Discussion: 3:30 pm on Tuesday 6/24 at the War Memorial Bldg**
 - Highlight town's current recycling process:
 - Town picks up and delivers recycling to the Hagerstown center (Apple Valley Waste).
 - Grocery stores collect plastic bags, which are picked up by Trex and converted into new materials.
 - Apple Valley & Trex representatives scheduled to speak on June 24th, 3:00 or 3:30 PM.
 - materials from Berkeley County Recycling and Grapevine?
- **Volunteer Engagement:**
 - Bill Howard mentioned a potential workshop with the Rotary Club.
 - He has a contact with access to a glass recycling machine – he will provide updates.

Water Sampling Projects

- **Upper Potomac Sampling:**
 - Three locations sampled: Spring House, discharge near the junction, and lower culvert bridge.
 - Brent is continuing the sampling, planning for DNA analysis to identify fecal coliform sources. Has now reported bacterial samples will be processed at \$20/each. DNA analysis is free at present.
 - Rain event sampling planned (with 3 bottles provided).
 - Next sample: **Wednesday @ 8:15 AM.**
 - May 28th sample to be conducted by Trinity and Georgette @ 8:30 AM.
 - Trinity will deliver samples both days.
 - Greg will be unavailable 5/28

- **WV Forest & Drinking Water Forum:**

- Great networking opportunity, recommended for future engagement.
- Greg will work on a write up to put on the website

- **Town Run Sampling – Future Collaboration:**

- Dr. Sara Richards - Evelyn spoke with a student working with Dr. Richards and testing water quality in town run. Evelyn followed up and received results from the student that have been posted on Basecamp and forwarded to Greg, Bill and Than.
- Explore a possible student capstone or project summary report on ongoing Town Run sampling.
 - Post final reports on our website

Steering Committee Membership

- **New Member Possibility:**

- Shawn Walker, Trees 101 expressed possible interest in serving on the Steering committee once his busy season is behind him..
- Outreach Suggestion: Rosemary identified as a strong candidate for outreach and involvement. Carolyn? agreed to talk with her about her current interest in joining the Steering Committee.

Workshops & Programming

- **BMP Workshop:**

- Format: 25-minute presentation, followed by Q&A and an optional tour.
- Aim for **one public program per month** moving forward - feeling overwhelmed by the amount of upcoming activities back to back.

- Potential venues: a church in mid-September (target time 5:00–6:30 PM), and another event in late July. (for those who could not attend)

- **Annual Meeting: Tentative Date. Tuesday 8/12 in the afternoon at the historic church owned by CATF in the Fellowship Hall (with tech equipment) and including a 15-20 minute presentation by Sam Canfield followed by a walking tour of BMPs at Shepherd Village**

Planting & Site Planning

- **Native Planting Suggestions - replace parrot feather in Morgan Grove Park (Peggy):**

- Timing: Early spring or fall preferred.
 - Important considerations:
 - Clear site before planting.
 - Avoid high-traffic areas unless fencing is possible.
 - Potential sites: between the red bridge and culvert (dense coverage), or back alley by JSB bank (iris has returned — suggest scheduling a cleanup there).

Chesapeake Bay Forum- Bill Howard Recommended the groups attendance

- **Poster Session:**
 - Forum scheduled for **November 7–9.**
 - Deadline for poster submission in June