

## **CHESAPEAKE CONSERVATION CORPS OVERVIEW**

Rebecca Lauver, PA Forests Projects Coordinator

## MY PATH

#### Messiah University 2016-2020

- Tree planting while at college with the Alliance
- Summer internships at Stroud Water Research Center
- Senior research on stream quality

#### Chesapeake Conservation Corps 2020-2021

- Found about the program through tree planting contact at the Alliance
- Placement with the agriculture and forests team at the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's PA office

#### Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

- Forests Projects Associate, August 2021-December 2021
- Forests Projects Coordinator January 2021 onward









## CHESAPEAKE CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

#### Structure

- Run by the Chesapeake Bay Trust
- Started in 2010, similar concept to Americorps but Chesapeake Bay watershed region
- Host organization placements
  - Examples: Audubon Naturalist Society, EcoLatinos, Girl Scouts of Central Maryland, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Carrie Murray Nature Center, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Maryland DNR, American Chestnut Land Trust
- Year long program, starts with interview matching process
- Follow-up alumni network

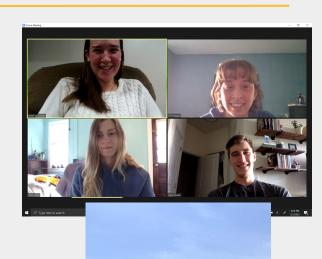




#### CHESAPEAKE CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

#### Trainings and mentorship throughout the year

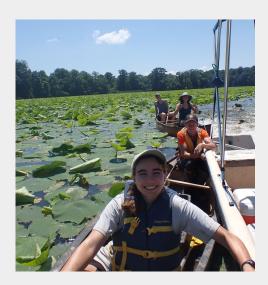
- 5 group trainings
  - Leadership
  - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Justice
  - The Job Search
  - Imposter Syndrome
  - Self-Care & Boundaries
- Peer-to-peer site visits, all hands on deck trainings
- Capstone project
- Mini grant opportunity
- Periodic check-ins to go over work plan and workplace goals
- Corps Pods
- Host organization mentor and CBT mentor support



## CHESAPEAKE CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

#### • 2020-2021 Group

- Around 35 members
- Virtual trainings with some in person site visit components
- Annual stipend of around \$20,000
- o Different than the normal structure since we were mostly virtual







## CAPSTONE- NATIVE PLANT AND POLLINATOR PORTFOLIO

Mini Grant Project, June 26th 2021: Native Plant Giveaway



#### Bee Better Kit Plant Information

Meet your native plants:

Smooth Beard Tongue (Penstemon calycosus,



owth Description: purple flower, forms upright clumps, grows 2-3"

Planting Info: likes partly sunny sites with moist fertile soil, somewhat plerant, may need watering if in full sun, plant 12-18" apart



Growth Description: clusters of orange flowers, bushy growth narry-branched stems from a sturdy tap root, 3' tall with 2' spread Planting info: likes full sun with dry soil, prefers sandyloamy soils,

Attracts: monarch Butterflies, other butterflies, leafcutter bees, green

emerges late from dormancy, space 18-74" apart



rowth Description: purple flower, forms upright clumps, 2-4' tall

Planting Info: likes full sun, grows in wet, mesic, or dry soil and sandy clay soils, can tolerate drought, will benefit from dividing every 4

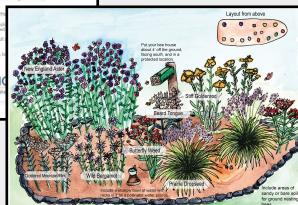
Attracts: bumble bees, long-tongued bees, leafcutter bees, sweat

#### Clustered Mountain Mint (Pycnanthemum)



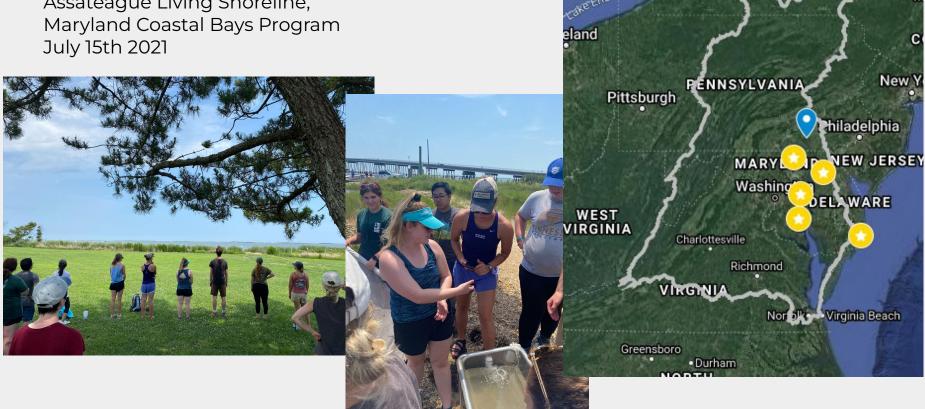
loamy soil plant 2' apart

Attracts: sweat bees, bumble bee



## **CCC SITE VISITS**

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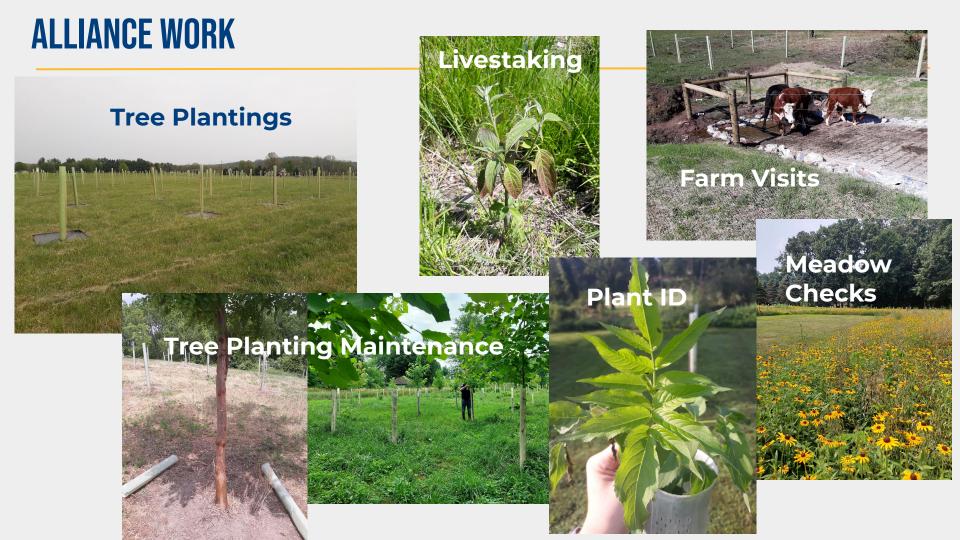
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London

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NEW YORK

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## **ALLIANCE WORK**

#### **Grant Writing**



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#### **Newsletters**



April 2021 Home Getting Started Resources Videos

With springlime arriving in our forests, this issue includes topics like how trout respond to the warmer weather and the growth of a favorite spring ephemeral. Bioocircot. This month's video features a new series, Riparian Restoration 101, and highlights how to properly plant a tree.

#### **Top Stories**



The Springtine Woods and Waters

What's Poppin' Phenological Fund

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Read the Full Story

Learn More

#### Riparian Restoration 101: How to Plant a Tree





#### Conestoga Reserve Riparian Forest Buffer Establishment Plan

Riparian Forest Buffer Size: 3.1 acres

Planting date: Fall 2021

Will be planted by Alliance staff and volunteers

Planned by: Rebecca Lauver. rlauver@allianceforthebay.org. 717-823-7076

Site Address: 8 Woodlyn Ct, Lancaster, PA 17602

Contact: Steve Carrilio, resident. 561-400-3351, sccarrilio1@gmail.com

#### Site Context

This site is owned by the Conestoga Reserve, a neighborhood just south of Lancaster City, PA. The Alliance is working with members of the HOA committee to reforest an open space between the neighborhood and the Conestoga River. The HOA committee expressed interest especially in edible and floral trees and shrubs and would like to support the wildlife in the area. The Conestoga Greenway Trail is

een mowed recently and is

Conestoga Reserve
Riginian Forest Buffer
Fall 2021
3.1 acriss

Site Plan Creation

Spillway
Retention
Basin

ed at the eastern side of left open along the borhood. A roughly 20 the planting will align with

## **EXPERIENCE REFLECTIONS**

- Prior connections were very important
  - o College connections, experience at Stroud, connections from own network
- Having meaningful paid internship experiences with intentional educational opportunities was crucial
  - Roughly in my field of interest, with respected professionals, and provided opportunities to learn about and try a variety of things in the related field
- Position with CCC program directly lead to my current job
  - Gave me a chance to try out this line of work and for the Alliance to see how I fit into the organization
- Was helpful to be exposed to a variety of experiences through the internship



## **MY CURRENT WORK**

All aspects of getting new forests established













## MY WORK AND SOIL HEALTH

- When it comes to soil health, on farm practices are crucial
  - Cover crops
  - Reduced tillage
  - Rotating crops
- Riparian forest buffers also help improve soil health and keep soil from leaving the property
  - Preventing bank erosion
  - Removing excess nutrients from farm runoff
  - Capturing sediment from farm runoff
  - o Increases rain infiltration
  - The wider the best, at least 35 feet wide to have desired benefits



# ORIGINAL 1 YEAR LATER



## **ORIGINAL**

# **3 YEARS LATER**



# **THANK YOU!**

Rebecca Lauver

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@Allianceforthebay



@AllianceForBay



@allianceforthebay

FOR OUR FORESTS. FOR OUR STREAMS. FOR OUR FUTURE.

