2016-17 Cecil County Watershed Stewards Academy
Applicant Information Sheet

A. Applicant Qualifications and Program Goals

A qualified applicant will:
- Live within the community s/he represents and be actively engaged in community activities. Everyone is welcome to apply but priority will be given to Cecil, Kent, and Queen Anne's County residents.
- Be proficient in basic computer skills such as Microsoft Office, internet browsing and be willing to learn new programs.
- Be able to serve as a community resource for environmental and watershed information.
- Be able to attend all class sessions listed below, except in the case of an emergency.
- Be willing to maintain certification in subsequent years.

Upon satisfactory completion of the program the Candidate will have learned about:
- Stormwater management principles and practices.
- Best management practices (BMPs) for controlling stormwater in a residential setting.
- Native plants and their role in protecting the environment.
- The stormwater professionals from the region.
- Designing and installing stormwater management practices through hands-on techniques.
- How to explain stormwater issues to interested citizens.
- Presenting the concept of stormwater management to neighbors and small groups.
- Education and Outreach activities to employ when engaging communities.
- Cecil County's online Geographic Information System (GIS) and other online tools for tracking projects.
- Identifying and obtaining funding sources to pay for projects.

The Candidate will graduate with:
- A Toolkit with supplies and materials.
- A certificate stating the Candidate has graduated as a Master Watershed Steward.

Application Due Date: Applicants must ensure that the completed application and two letters of reference (please use the Reference Form) are emailed to Eric Buehl ebuehl@umd.edu **no later than 5 p.m. on October 3, 2016.**

Application Process: Class size is limited to 15 participants.
Phone interviews will be conducted in early October. Applicants will be notified by mid-October.

Cost: Tuition is $150 per person, due after acceptance into the program. **A limited number of scholarships are available.**

B. Certification Policies, 2016-17
Requirements for Initial Certification:
- Complete the Watershed Stewards Academy coursework, consistent with the attendance policy, below.
- Complete the Class and Team Capstone Projects.

Requirements for Annual Maintenance of Certification:
- Provide 30 hours of community service for watershed actions similar to those provided during completing of the class and Team Capstone projects, which could include maintenance of installed projects.
- Complete 10 hours of continuing education activities.
- Attend Watershed Steward networking opportunities (to be specified).

Attendance Policy
The Academy expects attendance at all the training classes and field trips. We maintain the following policy for missed classes:
- Candidates who miss up to two classes due to pre-scheduled conflicts (as reported to the WSA Coordinators, at the time of application) or illness/injury/emergency may make up class material as determined by the Academy Coordinators (e.g., by partnering with a Candidate who attended a session, by reading background material or by attending a make-up activity).
- It is the responsibility of the Candidate to make up missed classes by contacting another Candidate to obtain materials and review coursework. Although we will make reasonable efforts to assist the Candidate in make-up of a missed class, this may not always be possible. If a person misses more than two classes, the candidate is unlikely to receive certification at the end of the course. Exceptions to this policy will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Homework Policy
A Candidate can expect to have reading assignments, problems to be solved illustrating GIS concepts, and assignments in design of stormwater management practices and education/outreach techniques. In addition, you will be responsible for preparing and delivering a 10-minute presentation about a stormwater management issue of your choice during class.

Class Project

The class, as a group, will design, plan and install a stormwater management project.

Team Capstone Projects

Working in small groups, you and your classmates will complete Team Capstone Projects, incorporating 1) assessment of stormwater problems of the chosen watershed or neighborhood and 2) community engagement to mitigate the problems. Team Capstone Projects must be completed by October 30, 2017.

Inclement Weather Policy

- Cecil County WSA classes will be cancelled if Cecil County Government is closed due to inclement weather.
- The field classes have outdoor components that will be held rain or shine. Participants should arrive for field classes prepared to be comfortable in the outdoors (bringing proper footwear, hat, sunscreen, rain gear, water bottles, etc.).

Topics covered include:

- Introduction to WSA
- Chesapeake Bay 101, BMP 101
- Intro to water quality monitoring data
- Re-introduction of BMPs and their role in mediating pollution
- Soils Map - web soils survey, including online tools
- Perspectives, techniques, and practice on neighborhood stormwater assessments
- Putting it all into practice: class project planning
- Community education and engagement
- Permitting your project
- Policy 101

- Stormwater: overview of problems, solutions, lessons learned
- Intro to Soils and Native/Invasive Plants
- Eastern Shore-specific pollution sources and solutions
- Intro to GIS - how people use it, what it is, how it can be used
- Identification and discussion of potential project sites in Cecil County
- Funding your project
- Team work: How to work in groups; understanding different communication styles and social norms
- Project management
- Maintenance
- Stormwater management presentations by Candidates

C. Class Schedule

Session	Date	Location	Time
1	Wednesday, 10/19/16	Cecil County Administration Building 200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton	5:30-8:00 pm
2	Saturday, 10/22/16	Field Trip/Site Visit #1 Meet at Cecil County Admin Bldg	9:00 am-3:00 pm
3	Wednesday, 10/26/16	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
4	Wednesday, 11/02/16	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
5	Wednesday, 11/09/16	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
6	Wednesday, 11/16/16	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
7	Wednesday, 11/30/16	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
8	Wednesday, 12/07/16	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
9	Wednesday, 12/14/16	2015/16 Class Graduation Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
10	Wednesday, 1/11/17	WSA CSP Showcase/Exposition Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm.
11	Wednesday, 1/18/17	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
12	Wednesday, 1/25/17	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm.
13	Wednesday, 2/01/17	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm

14	Wednesday, 2/08/17	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
15	Saturday, 2/11/17	Field Trip/Site Visit Meet at Cecil County Admin Bldg	9:00 am-3:00 pm
16	Wednesday, 2/15/17	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
17	Saturday, 2/18/17	Field Trip/Site Visit #2 - Rain Date (if needed)	9:00 am-3:00 pm
18	Wednesday, 2/22/17	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
19	Wednesday 3/01/17	Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
20	Wednesday, 3/08/17	TBD-Class Project Development Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
21	Wednesday, 3/15/17	TBD-Class Project Development Cecil County Admin Bldg	5:30-8:00 pm
22	Wednesday, 3/22/17	TBD-if needed	5:30-8:00 pm
23	Wednesday, 3/29/17	TBD-if needed	5:30-8:00 pm
Class project	Saturday, 4/01/17	Location TBD	All Day
Weather make-up Day	Saturday, 4/08/17	Location TBD-if needed	All Day
Graduation!	TBD-December 2018	Cecil County Admin Bldg	TBD