

## Strengthening Our Organization and Lifting Others...

A message  
from  
Executive  
Director  
Lindsey Baker



When I began in January as the new Executive Director, I was immediately amazed by the invested community, abundant resources, and capacity for partnerships Patapsco Heritage Greenway offered. I love that this is an organization that connects others around shared interests to find ways to make the Patapsco Valley a better place to live and visit. And I love that this position allows me to combine my professional and academic background of history with my personal passions-- the environment and recreation.

PHG's environmental work is a strength. Going forward we will continue to focus on and prioritize efforts that positively impact the Valley's ecosystem. Helping people better understand the story of our Valley through programming and educational content is equally important. And finally, we will work to create a better awareness of recreational opportunities by becoming an informational hub for people who are looking to get out and enjoy all that the Patapsco Valley has to offer.

Capacity building is also a high priority for me. Internally, we will build upon our solid foundation, institute best practices for non-profit management and create policies that will enable us to deliver our mission effectively, both now and in the future. My goal is to make

investments in the effectiveness and future sustainability of PHG in ways that will ensure its solvency for years to come.

### Toward that end, in FY 18 we...

- initiated newly structured membership levels and annual giving protocol to better focus on organizational development and sustainability.
- completed a financial audit.
- streamlined and expanded our mini-grant program
- launched a sponsorship funding option to support partners
- conducted a strategic planning retreat
- completed a website refresh
- welcomed a full-time, Chesapeake Bay Trust Intern to the environmental program

### In FY18 PHG secured...

- \$100,000 from Maryland Heritage Area Authority in FY18 and matching funds from Baltimore County (\$20,000) and Howard County (\$50,000) Governments.
- \$30,000 from Baltimore County, \$3,500 from Maryland Environmental Trust (Keep Maryland Beautiful), and \$6,000 from BGE for environmental stewardship to program
- \$5,000 from REI to fund the design, translation, and printing of a fully updated Patapsco Valley State Park thru-trail map.



Improvements to the facade of the building that houses PHG offices on Tonge Row (shown above) were made by combining funds from Preservation Maryland and Historic Ellicott City Partnership's 2017 Historic Ellicott City Revitalization Grant Program with the Façade Improvement Program offered through the Howard County Historic Preservation Commission.

The diorama of the Patapsco Valley at the Ellicott City B & O Train Station Museum (shown above right) is a mainstay of the town's visitor experience. Thanks to MHAA funding the popular attraction will receive a refresh beginning in the coming year.

- \$50,000 from Howard County via Chesapeake Bay Trust to plan, implement, and evaluate a pilot pet waste management campaign in Elkridge.

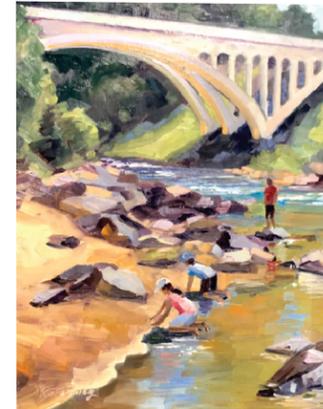
I want PHG to be both a connector and a supporter, and I plan to work with our partners and stakeholders to support their organizations in ways that best serve the Valley. As we look forward to the next year, I am excited by the enthusiasm of both our staff and board members. Our board is made up of wonderful experts in a variety of fields who share a passion for Patapsco Valley. They, together with all our members and volunteers make a great team and I look forward to working with everyone in the coming year.

THANKS  
to our  
funders



Advancing the interests of the Patapsco Valley and all who share it.

# Patapsco Heritage Greenway 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Looking Upward  
by Ann Crostic

### PHG Board of Directors

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Jim Robey

Staff  
Lindsey Baker, Executive Director  
Hannah Zinnert, Program Manager  
DJ Scheckelhoff, Program Coordinator

## How Do You Picture the Patapsco Valley Today?

Until recently I saw a Valley shaped by its river-- the Patapsco, and all its many tributaries. I saw a Valley shaped throughout history by waterpower, abundant natural resources-- flora, fauna and mineral. I saw a Valley shaped by folks with a drive to make a living, settle their families and live in peace. I saw a Valley that weathered tragic river flooding, hurricanes and storms. On May 27, 2018 however, that all changed for me.

I now have a vision of turbulent water thundering down Main Street in historic Ellicott City carrying with it trees and cars that smash into storefront windows... a vision of manhole covers blowing in Catonsville, impassable roads filled with mud and debris, sleeting water pouring into basements, washouts of recreational trails in Patapsco Valley State Park, and life lost. Everyday my new vision is reinforced by unoccupied buildings on Ellicott City's Main Street, covered with plywood marked both in red by first responders and with hopeful paintings of optimism. And now when I visit town, I anxiously search the sky for rain clouds.

Erasing this vision will not be easy but Patapsco Heritage Greenway will do its part. Stormwater must be controlled and conveyed in a better way. Safety, of course, is of utmost importance, however our solutions must also evaluate and consider the preservation of the historic structures and artifacts that tell the Valley's story. Much work lies ahead as we seek to rebuild and renew a vision of our much beloved Patapsco River Valley.



*Grace Kubofcik*

Grace Kubofcik, President, Patapsco Heritage Greenway

## Caring for Our Heritage & Natural Resources ...

PHG President Grace Kubofcik (center) testifies before the US Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works at their local Oversight Hearing on Repeated Flooding Events in Ellicott City, MD: Reviewing the Federal Role in Preventing Future Events in August.

### In written testimony submitted to Senator Inhofe, Chair of the Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, PHG stated...

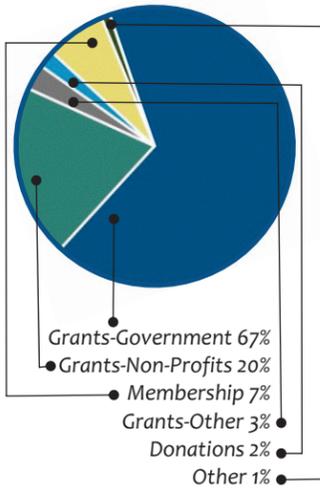
"...we appreciate all that Baltimore and Howard Counties, and the state of Maryland have done to preserve history and help the area recover from these tragic events. However, a viable, long-term solution is simply beyond local resources."

Our request for Federal Assistance is based on the core necessity of safety for residents, retailers, business owners and visitors.

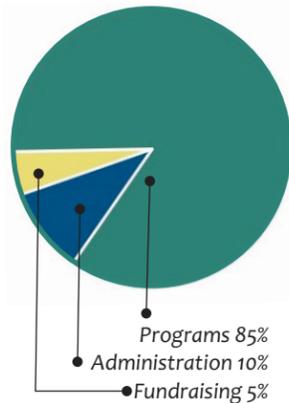
### Our priorities are financial support to:

- use technology to control storm water and to convey water safely through the Ellicott City residential areas and the Historic District
- preserve and restore historic buildings
- assist with flood mitigation products and flood insurance
- maintain the "National Road -Main Street" as a transportation and pedestrian corridor.

## INCOME



## EXPENSES



# Reaching Out to the Community...

- After the May 27, 2018 flood, PHG extended its clean-up season to conduct 7 additional clean ups by activating with 175 volunteers to remove over 3 tons of trash.
- Partnered with local organizations including Lurman Woodland Theater, Howard County Library System, Catonsville Chamber of Commerce, Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum, and Howard County Arts Council, to support and present programs.
- Partnered with Thomas Viaduct Middle School to teach 200 middle-schoolers about the current state and natural history of the Patapsco River Valley. PHG staff and stream team leaders led the students in a hike, trash cleanup, invasive plant removal, and scavenger hunt along the Union Dam Trail in the Hollofield area of Patapsco Valley State Park.
- PHG issued a call for entries to "paSNAPsco - a photo contest and exhibit" to depict the diverse beauty of Maryland's most historic river valley. **Special thanks to our presenting sponsor, The Rogers Family of Ellicott City for their generous support of prize money awards.**
- Partnered with the Oella Historical Society and Oella Community Association to remove invasive plants, re-mulch trails, and clean up the Oella Cemetery. Twenty-seven volunteers removed 300 pounds of stilt grass and 50 pounds of trash to help restore the historical site.

PHG staff and Stream Team leaders lead Thomas Viaduct Middle school students (right) in educational and environmental activities.



PHG helped activate 27 volunteers to clean up the historic Oella Cemetery



A call for entries in a new photo contest attracted more than 40 entries. Watch for a 2019 calendar featuring the winners.



Board members, staff and volunteers (below) raised funds and awareness by partnering with Catonsville Chamber of Commerce at a well attended Frederick Road Fridays event.



PHG once again supported Howard County Arts Council's Ellicott City Plein Air event with a Juried Award presented by Board members and staff to artist Ann Crostic for the best depiction of the river.



On January 9, 2018 more than 70 stakeholders with interests in the Patapsco Valley Heritage Area gathered for the second annual Patapsco Summit (above). The inter-jurisdictional effort spearheaded by Baltimore County Councilman Tom Quirk and Howard County Councilman Jon Weinstein, provided an opportunity for attendees to explore ways to build a better experience for all in the Patapsco Valley. Following an informational update provided by a representative of the new Guinness Open Gate Brewery in Relay, participants participated in concurrent, table-top breakout sessions to define opportunities and challenges. Discussion focused on developing visitor experiences, Patapsco Valley State Park access challenges and opportunities, regional and local trails and byways, and the upcoming 200th anniversary of the Thomas Viaduct.

## Supporting Our Partners... PHG provided more than \$29,000 to partners for initiatives in the Patapsco Valley Heritage Area, including

### 2018 FLOOD RELIEF SUPPORT (\$10,000)

- \$4,000 - Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park
- \$4,000 - Ellicott City Partnership
- \$2,000 - Catonsville Chamber of Commerce

### 2017 -18 MINI-GRANT AWARD RECIPIENTS (\$12,575)

- \$2,500 - Benjamin Banneker Foundation for 2018 Colonial Market Fair re-enactors
- \$2,500 - Catonsville Recreation & Park Council for "Catonsville Tree Canopy" street tree plantings
- \$2,000 - Howard County Conservancy for environmental awareness outreach to Baltimore County Schools
- \$2,500 - Columbia Families in Nature for "Forest Forensics" educational outreach
- \$575 - Benjamin Banneker Foundation for interpretive signs at Banneker Historical Park
- \$2,500 - Oella Historical Society for gridline survey for historic Oella cemetery

### SPONSORSHIPS (\$6,626)

- \$2,500 - Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park for "Cocktail for Trails"
- \$500 - Howard County Arts Council for "Paint It! Ellicott City"
- \$3,626 - Howard County Recreation & Parks for Rockburn Park water fountain refill station

## Looking Forward...

The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) announced matching grants for FY19 totaling \$211,862 for Patapsco Valley Heritage Area to support heritage tourism projects and activities that draw visitors and expand economic development and tourism-related opportunities in the Patapsco Valley. Projects to receive funding are:

- \$65,685 for restoration of the Ellicott City Station Caboose (Howard County Rec. & Parks)
- \$15,000 for artifact restoration and interpretive reframe of Ellicott City Station's freight room diorama (Howard County Rec. & Parks)
- \$11,177 for an Oella archiving and oral history project (Oella Historical Society, Inc.)

PHG received a \$100,000 Management Grant to support its ongoing work and a \$20,000 Block Grant to distribute an increased number of mini-grant funds. In 2018 the state nearly doubled the funding for MHAA Grants. Nearly \$5 million was awarded to Maryland non-profits, local jurisdictions, and other heritage tourism organizations. \$9.7 million in non-state matching funds will be leveraged for these projects within Maryland's thirteen certified heritage areas.

## PHG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Joan Cwi  
Maryland Ornithological Society  
Baltimore Bird Club

Rob Dyke  
Patapsco Valley State Park

Dave Ferraro  
Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park

Shawn Gladden  
Howard County Historical Society

Joanne Heckman  
Sierra Club

Amanda Hof  
Howard County Tourism & Promotion

Lori Lilly  
Watershed Steward

Leonardo McClarty  
Howard County Chamber of Commerce

Dan McNamara  
Howard County Recreation & Parks

Amy Poff  
Howard County Center for the Arts

Cathy Schneider  
Catonsville Chamber of Commerce

Maureen Sweeney Smith  
Catonsville Rails to Trails & Ellicott City Partnership

Kirby Spencer  
Baltimore County Arts Guild

Cassie Kilroy Thompson  
UMBC & Baltimore County Historical Society



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