



Through a collaboration with Talbot County Public Works, the Talbot County Extension Office was granted funds from the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund's Local Implementation Grant for the Tred Avon River. This Trust Fund was created to provide a dedicated source of funding to accelerate Bay restoration by focusing financial resources on effective and innovative non-point source pollution control projects. This grant was made available through the Department of Natural Resources' Local Implementation Grants program and will be carried forward between November 2010 and June 2012.

***For more information:***

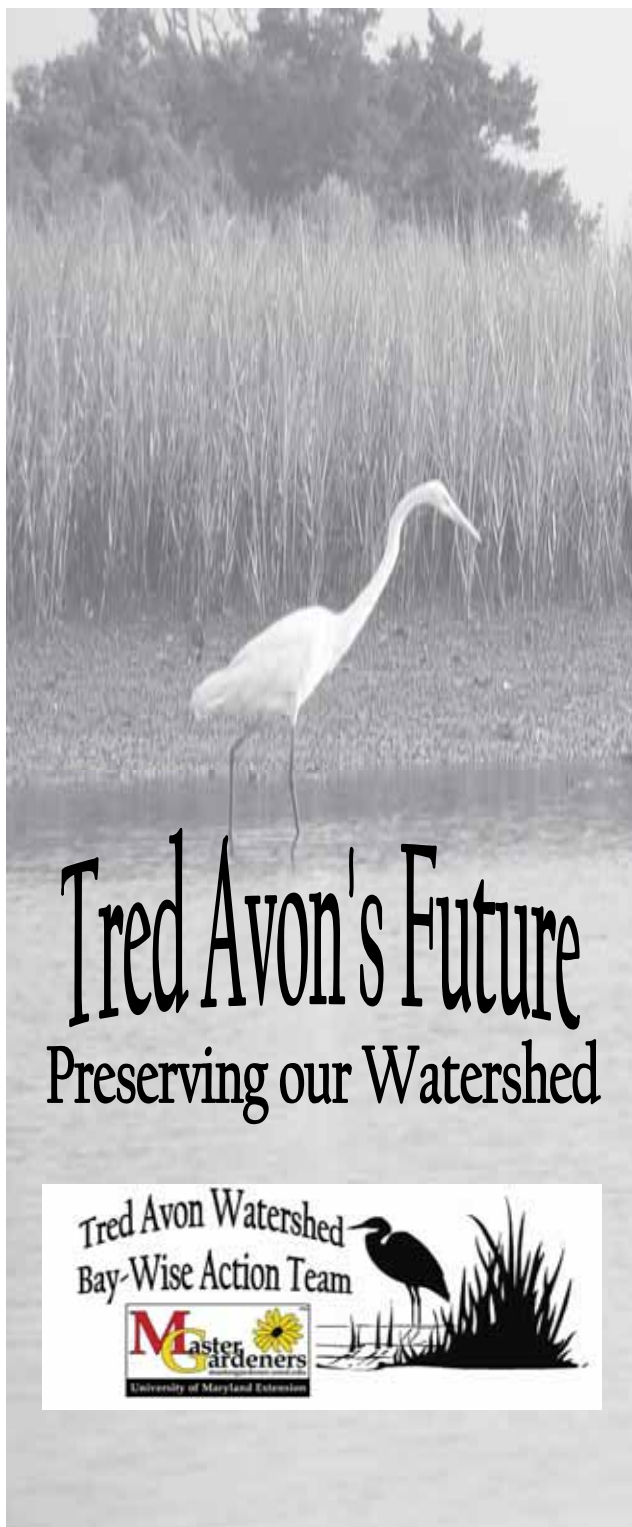
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# Tred Avon's Future Preserving our Watershed



*Become an informed homeowner. Take part in this Bay-Wise Campaign to clean up the Tred Avon Watershed.*

***What is Non-Point Source Pollution?***

The EPA defines non-point source pollution as pollution caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters, and even our underground sources of drinking water.



Photo by Jane Hawkey: [ian.umes.edu/imagelibrary](http://ian.umes.edu/imagelibrary)

Pictured above is the intersections of State Routes 322 and 33, where three large storm water culverts open to the headwaters of the North Fork of the Tred Avon River. These culverts deliver runoff from the roadways to the Tred Avon River.

***How do I get involved?***

- ◆ A Spring Kick-Off Event will be held at the Avalon Theatre on March 15 from 4:30-8pm. Free and open to the public, come and visit the Bay-Wise Master Gardeners, as well as supporting agencies throughout the community. Participants will be able to visit booths and talk with supporters, following which Talbot County Extension and Public Works will give a brief address to discuss the grant program. Following the presentations, a panel of supporters and partners will be on hand for a question and answer session.
- ◆ Residents in the watershed will receive introductory packets and instructions on how to receive a free soil test and a calendar of workshops that will be held by the Master Gardeners.
- ◆ Participants will be invited to take part in the Bay-Wise program to receive free Bay-Wise Consultations and Certifications by the Bay-Wise Team.
- ◆ The grant program will be followed closely by local media and updates will be available monthly.
- ◆ Call or email us for more information on the project or for a Bay-Wise Consultation

Visit us at [www.tawaction.umd.edu](http://www.tawaction.umd.edu)  
 Or call 410-822-1244

*We all live in a watershed. Everything we do in our lawn, garden or driveway affects the soil, water, air, plants and animals in our watershed, as well as watersheds downstream.*

### Who we are:

The Bay-Wise Residential Landscape Management program was developed by the University of Maryland as a part of the Maryland Master Gardener program. The goal of this program is to educate individuals who care for their lawns, gardens and /or landscapes and to certify private and public properties as “Bay-Wise”.

Through a grant provided by the Chesapeake and Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund, the University of Maryland Extension in Talbot County and the Master Gardener program will be carrying forward an educational campaign to reduce non-point source pollution entering the Tred Avon Watershed. Grant activities will include:

- ◆ Free soil tests and “Urban Nutrient Management Plans” for Tred Avon watershed residents
- ◆ Free workshops and demonstrations
- ◆ A county-wide art contest for grades 3-12 to raise program awareness
- ◆ In-ground demonstration rain gardens
- ◆ Education for lawn care professionals
- ◆ Essay contest for residents to win a rain garden
- ◆ Free Bay-Wise Consultations and Certifications
- ◆ Community Awareness and publications

### What is a watershed?

The land that water flows across or under on its way to a stream, river, or lake. Everyone lives in a watershed, whether you are on the water or inland. Watershed features:

- ◆ All of the water runs to the lowest point, such as a stream, lake or river
- ◆ There are 2,011 watersheds in the Continental United States
- ◆ In Maryland, there are 138 watersheds, and more than 1,100 sub-watersheds
- ◆ 94% of the land in Maryland drains to the Chesapeake Bay, which is the largest watershed on the eastern seaboard



Photo by Jane Hawkey: [ian.umces.edu/imagelibrary](http://ian.umces.edu/imagelibrary)  
 Pictured above is a Northern water snake hunting Sheepshead minnows in the marsh of the Tred Avon River. Everything we do around our own home affects the soil, water, air, plants and wildlife in our watershed, as well as watersheds downstream.

### Tred Avon Watershed:

The Tred Avon Watershed covers 31,242 acres and represents approximately 6% of the Choptank Watershed. The water quality of the Tred Avon is degraded by low oxygen, sediment, nutrients, fecal coliform and biological impairments.

### What can we do?

As residents, we can learn how to be more responsible in the way that we care for our lawns and gardens. Some great ways to do this include:

- ◆ Test your soil
- ◆ Learn how to fertilize wisely and only when needed
- ◆ Manage pests using integrated pest management (IPM)
- ◆ Only use pesticides (herbicides and insecticides) when necessary and use them correctly
- ◆ Learn to care for lawn effectively and safely
- ◆ Control storm water runoff
- ◆ Mulch appropriately
- ◆ Compost and recycle yard waste
- ◆ Water efficiently
- ◆ Use native plants that require less water and fertilizer
- ◆ Protect the waterfront
- ◆ Maintain septic properly
- ◆ Make our properties “Bay-Wise”

### Land uses in the Tred Avon Watershed:

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Agriculture     | 11,826 acres |
| Urban           | 6,429 acres  |
| Forest/Wetlands | 5,358 acres  |
| Water           | 7,629 acres  |

Urban land owners need to take more responsibility for their actions around their home. Both Agriculture and Wastewater treatment have adapted plans to reduce pollutants and will continue to do so.

