

Montgomery County Council  
4/20/2021 Chesapeake Bay Proclamation

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My name is Sheldon Fishman. We raised our four children from this home in Montgomery County. I am representing the Montgomery County Climate Action Plan Coalition and its over 25 member organizations including Chesapeake Climate Action Network, Sierra Club, MoCo Students for Climate, Bethesda Green, Friends of Sligo Creek.

The CAP Coalition appreciates and recognizes the Montgomery County Council as a leader in protecting the Chesapeake Bay.

Our county is nationally recognized for our stormwater management practices — including a focus on:

- green streets
- stream restoration projects
- the use of rain gardens (for example Bethesda Green has a rainscape project at Glen Waye gardens condos in silver spring )

All of which help to protect the Chesapeake Bay

Montgomery county is also known for being a real leader in agricultural practices that protect the Chesapeake Bay. Every farmer in the county must have a nutrient management plan that has dramatically reduced the amount of fertilizer that is used on cropland. Manure must also be managed so that it does not reach into our streams. We also have a high percentage of farmers using cover crops which prevent erosion and also riparian buffers (stream buffers) that protect streams with trees, shrubs and grasses that lead to the Chesapeake Bay. Our county extension office helps each farmer develop a conservation plan, assists with technical guidance and also

helps farmers and landowners get grants from local, state and federal agencies to make these practices affordable.

Your actions contribute to making the County a leader in bay-friendly agricultural practices.

In summary, the preservation and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay is critical to the state's and the region's efforts to address the **climate crisis**.

We thank Council President Hucker and Councilmembers Albornoz, Friedson, Glass, Jawando, Katz, Navarro, Rice and Riemer for their leadership in supporting these initiatives in our county.

Sincerely,

Sheldon Fishman  
Montgomery County Climate Action Plan Coalition  
Friends of Sligo Creek  
Safe, Health, Playing Fields, Inc.