

2017 CREEK FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE CHALLENGE

For residents of the Yellow Breeches Creek Watershed

One winner will receive up to

\$2,500

And two runner-ups will each receive up to

\$1,000

In plants, materials and technical assistance towards their own conservation landscapes or rain gardens.

Make your yard a space that:

- Conserves water
- Reduces stormwater runoff
- Includes native plants
- Decreases turf grass area/increases planted area
- Encourages and benefits wildlife
- 'Buffers' streams and water features with trees, shrubs, and meadows
- Minimizes use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: **March 1, 2017**

See back for details!

Brought to you by:



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GUIDELINES

- A. Participating properties must be located in the Yellow Breeches Creek Watershed. To check for eligibility, type your address into the search bar at the top right corner of this map (map link: <http://arcg.is/2fTA19N>). If your property is colored green, you live within the watershed.
- B. The homeowner must be a member of the Yellow Breeches Watershed Association. Membership forms can be found at www.ybwa.org (must be a current member by the 3/1/17 Challenge deadline)
- C. The Challenge is open to single family homes and townhomes only. Commercial properties, apartments, and condominiums are not eligible.
- D. One project will be selected for the grand prize of up to \$2,500 in plants, materials, and technical assistance for a conservation landscape or rain garden. Two projects will be selected as runner-ups and each receive up to \$1000 in plants, materials, and technical assistance for a conservation landscape or rain garden. The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay will cover 80% of these costs and the Yellow Breeches Watershed Association will cover the remaining 20% of costs. The winner and runner-ups agree to allow their properties and projects to be publicized as educational examples of conservation landscapes or rain gardens. The winner and runner-ups will be notified by April 1, 2017 of their selection and shall agree to install the project by June 30, 2017.
- E. Judging will take place after the March 1 registration deadline and will be conducted by a panel representing sponsors, cooperating nurseries, and the Penn State Master Gardeners program. Three primary judging criteria will be:
 - Conservation value of the project
 - Community visibility of the project
 - Likelihood of project success
- F. Applicants who do not win prizes will qualify for an 80-20 cost-share program to install a rain garden or conservation landscape. The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay will cover up to 80% of the cost of plants and project materials. Landowners must cover a minimum of 20% of project costs. Eligible areas for this cost-share program include all of the Yellow Breeches and Conodoguinet watersheds (see <http://www.stormwater.allianceforthebay.org/yard-design> for details). Projects must be installed by June 30, 2017.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

1. Go to the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's Yard Design Tool <http://www.stormwater.allianceforthebay.org/yard-design> and complete all the steps. Immediately afterward, you will receive an email from the Alliance with a PDF copy of your submission.
2. By March 1, 2017, send an email to Challenge coordinator: brooklenker@comcast.net. Please attach to the email:
 - ✓ A copy of the PDF file you received from the Alliance
 - ✓ A photo of your property that shows the proposed project area
 - ✓ A paragraph (maximum of 250 words) explaining why your project should be selected for a prize (Keep in mind the three judging criteria above). Please include any additional conservation projects you would like to do in your landscape beyond the garden designed using the tool (e.g. additional native landscaping, tree plantings, rain barrels, etc.).

Please use the subject line: **Landscape Challenge**

3. You'll receive a notification of your status (prize winner or eligibility for the regular Alliance 80-20 cost-share program) by April 1, 2017.

Thank you for your interest and good luck!

Questions? Contact Brook Lenker at 717-756-2637 or brooklenker@comcast.net