

**Watershed Advisory Committee
Annual Report – FY 22**
(to be submitted to Board by May 13)

The members of the FY22 Watershed Advisory Committee were Deborah Wessner (*Committee Chair*)- Hickory Ridge, Bob Moynihan- Town Center, Cara Heilveil – River Hill, Catherine Cradler – Harper’s Choice, Ed Warner– Owen Brown, Janine Grossman – Dorsey Search, John Klein – at large, Kate Reilly- King’s Contrivance, Mandy Elder– Long Reach, Robert Marietta – Oakland Mills, and Susan Tucker – Wilde Lake,.. The staff liaison was John MCCoy. The Committee met 6 times (May, July, Sep, Dec, Feb, Apr)___ during FY22.

A. Committee accomplishments for FY 22 (Fiscal year just ended):

- Wrote a letter to the CA BOD, Maryland Department of the Environment and Army Corps of Engineers supporting the planned Lake Elkhorn stream restoration project.
- Provided written suggestions to several Villages related to updating the Village Guidelines to be in compliance with new state legislation related to HOA restrictions on conservation landscaping.
- Developed a network of Village CARES/WAC groups, modeled after Wilde Lake CARES, that promote environmental stewardship activities.
- Worked with Weed Warriors in several villages to remove invasive vines on trees in Open Space during the winter months.

B. Proposed Charge submitted for approval by the CA Board identifying items to be addressed by Committee in FY 23 (Fiscal year just beginning) that align with the Committee’s goals, CA’s strategic plan and the President/CEO’s goals and objectives:

- Continue to work with Staff and residents to identify potential watershed projects that will help improve the quality of Open Space and Columbia’s water resources. There will be a focus on framing the priorities based on safety issues and equity among the Villages.
- Continue to engage residents and the Village Associations to encourage environmental stewardship. The Watershed Advisory Committee is interested in

working with CA staff to expand existing opportunities and provide new opportunities for residents and organizations to engage in environmental stewardship in open space.

- Provide the CA Sustainability Committee with information/analysis of water related aspects of vulnerability to climate change.

C. Committee recommendations, if any, with justification, for consideration by CA Board:

- Updates to the CA website to show current watershed actions and highlight “before/after” situations to assist residents’ understanding of the benefits of various watershed projects. (Example: removing invasive vines that strangle trees so they can remain part of the carbon sequestration and water absorption needed in Open Space areas.
- Ensure that each Advisory Committee is made aware of all strategic objectives approved by the CA Board that are relevant to the charge of the respective Advisory Committee.

Committee Charge approved by CA Board _____, 2022_

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