

Press Release

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Green Your School!

Potomac Conservancy, Frederick County Public Schools Team to Plant Trees and Create Healthy Habitat

SILVER SPRING, MD---This fall, Potomac Conservancy, with Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) and the Schoolyard Habitat Program, are leading students in tree planting projects on local school grounds. These demonstration projects will help to increase the estimated 12% of tree canopy existing on Frederick County public school sites. Increasing tree canopy through school tree plantings will provide the students and surrounding community with valuable and lasting outdoor educational opportunities, as well as cool shade and water quality benefits for the Monocacy and Potomac watersheds.

“This is an exciting opportunity for Frederick County Public Schools to lead school districts nationwide in adopting a tree canopy goal to preserve and increase tree cover on school grounds,” said Heather Montgomery, Potomac Conservancy Conservation Program Associate. “Thanks to support from FCPS staff and students, Potomac Conservancy’s planting events will add more than 300 native trees and shrubs to the landscape of Frederick County public schools this fall.”

Schools hosting tree plantings include

- Urbana Middle School on Oct. 17,
- Walkersville High School on Oct. 22,
- Kemptown Elementary School on Oct. 23, and
- Tuscarora Elementary School on Nov. 1.

The tree planting projects are part of a larger effort led by Potomac Conservancy to work with Frederick County’s Board of Education to adopt a school district-wide tree canopy goal and supporting policy related to tree preservation and enhancement on Frederick County public school grounds.

Parents, teachers, PTA members, local businesses, and community members can contact Heather Montgomery at montgomery@potomac.org or 301-608-1188 x209, for more information about Potomac Conservancy’s school greening initiative, and to learn how your support can help advance our efforts.

About Potomac Conservancy

Since 1993, Potomac Conservancy has protected the health, beauty, and enjoyment of the Potomac River and its tributaries. Our conservation programs address the goals of improving water quality, protecting the river’s scenic integrity, enhancing recreational resources, and building an informed and engaged constituency, using a range of tools, including restoration, permanent protection, advocacy, and citizen education and engagement. The Conservancy’s innovative programs engage landowners, youth, public officials, and the public in providing long-lasting solutions to the conservation challenges facing the Potomac River and its tributaries.

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