



Carroll County Environmental Advisory Council (EAC)

Frank Vleck, Chair

EAC@CarrollCountyMD.gov

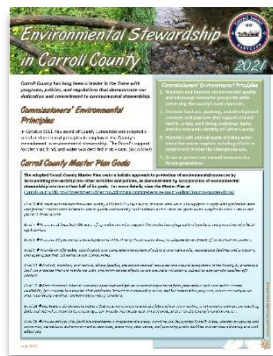
Brenda Dinne, Staff Liaison/Secretary

2021 Annual Report

2021 Work Plan Progress

Public Outreach – 2021 Environmental Stewardship Booklet Update

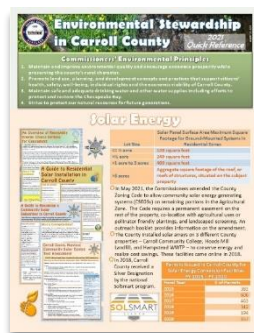
The [Environmental Stewardship booklet](#), updated every other year beginning in 2015, is intended to showcase the great work that Carroll County is doing to demonstrate good environmental stewardship. The booklet was updated this year to reflect current information (as of end of FY 2021).



Several new items were added to the booklet this year.

- ◆ Celebrating 75,000 Acres Preserved & Growing
- ◆ Financial Assurance Plans for Stormwater Projects
- ◆ Additional websites & public outreach efforts
- ◆ Community Solar Zoning Text Amendment
- ◆ Monocacy River Board

The booklet is available on the EAC's webpage and was distributed via hardcopies and/or email link to the community. Hardcopies were also provided to the delegation as a reference resource.



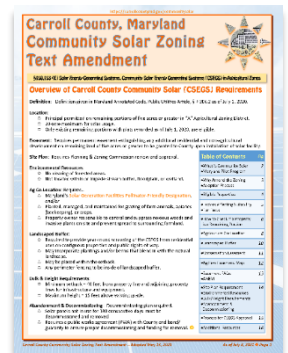
The accompanying infographic serves as a [quick reference](#) to some of the key information in the booklet. This format and information in the infographic were updated as well.

The booklet and the infographic are available online on the EAC website.

COMPLETED

Public Outreach – Community Solar Zoning Text Amendment

On May 13, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners adopted an [amendment](#) to the Carroll County Zoning Code, Chapter 158, Solar Energy Generating Systems, to allow community solar energy generating systems (CSEGS) on remaining portions of five acres or greater in the Agricultural District.



The EAC developed a public outreach booklet to help the property owners, solar industry professionals, and the public understand the amendment, its intent, and associated requirements. The [Carroll County Community Solar Zoning Text Amendment](#) booklet defines community solar, describes the requirements of the amendment, shares intentions for certain requirements, reviews the adoption process, directs the reader to resources for more information, and more.

The booklet is available on the EAC webpage. Hardcopies are also available by request.

COMPLETED

Public Outreach – Tree Planting Resource Guide

At the Board's direction, the EAC prepared a fact sheet to assist the public in finding information related to various aspects of tree planting.



This guide provides links to programs specific to Maryland and Carroll County, as well as useful online sources of general information about various aspects of tree planting and conservation. While it is not all inclusive, it can be used as a starting point for more information on topics of interest.

The [Tree Planting Resource Guide](#) is available on the EAC's webpage.

COMPLETED

2021 Environmental Action Awards

The 2021 [Environmental Action Awards](#) process incorporated and implemented the revisions made by the EAC through the awards process evaluation that occurred in 2020.



The revised awards process included a change in categories, development of nomination criteria and a ranking process, and inclusion of awards sponsored by local businesses. The EAC members solicited the awards that were presented to the winners.

The EAC rolled out the public campaign for the Environmental Action Awards in early January 2021 to solicit nominations for the awards, including, but not limited to, preparing a flyer, news release, newsletter articles, a distribution list, information on the EAC's webpage, and more. Nominations were accepted through March 1, 2021.

The EAC reviewed all nominations, and winners were selected in March 2021. An awards presentation ceremony was



held at the Westminster Community Pond, where the awards were jointly presented by the EAC and the Board of County Commissioners.

COMPLETED

Public Outreach – Residential Graywater Use in Carroll County

Graywater is untreated water collected from a clothing washing machine or a bathroom sink, tub, or shower. While not drinkable, it is suitable, and even beneficial, for irrigating certain areas of the yard, which also helps to conserve water usage. The 2018 Maryland General Assembly passed legislation (Senate Bill 496/Chapter 705) to allow residential graywater for certain uses. The legislation requires [Maryland Department of the Environment](#) (MDE) to develop regulations to implement the bill's provisions.

Per the 2018 Work Plan and continued to the 2019, 2020, and 2021 Work Plans, the EAC will research homeowner graywater usage and prepare public outreach materials to help provide Carroll's residents with basic information regarding graywater, its residential uses, and its benefits. The materials will be made available in hardcopy and online.



The EAC is currently waiting on regulations to be released by MDE. These regulations need to be available before the EAC can inform the public of the process(es) and requirements associated with use of residential graywater in Carroll County.

ON HOLD

2022 Work Plan

The EAC developed a [work plan](#) for proposed projects to be completed during the 2022 calendar year. On November 17, 2021, the EAC approved to

recommend these proposed projects to the Board. The work plan will be finalized pending discussion, any additional projects requested by the Board, and concurrence by the Board at the annual joint meeting with the EAC, which is typically held in late January.

PENDING BOARD CONCURRENCE

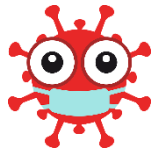
Solid Waste Committee Service on Solid Waste Advisory Council (SWAC):

The SWAC, which is facilitated by the Department of Public Works (DPW) staff, serves in an advisory capacity to the DPW regarding implementation of recommendations from the former Solid Waste Work Group's report, input on potential capital projects and future directions, as well as public outreach efforts. An EAC member typically serves on the SWAC as a liaison between the two groups to allow for additional collaboration and input to the SWAC. The SWAC has been inactive. Therefore, with Ellen Cutsail's resignation from the SWAC, a replacement EAC liaison has not yet been chosen.

ONGOING - NO ACTIVITY IN 2021

Actions Taken

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many of the regular monthly meetings for the EAC were held virtually via GoToMeeting. The agendas for these meetings are posted on the County's Upcoming Meetings, Agendas, and Public Hearing webpage. When virtual, access to call into the meeting to participate is available for the public. Meeting summaries are posted on the EAC webpage once approved.



2021 Environmental Action Awards:

- ▶ The EAC members secured donations of gift cards for the winners and a scholarship for the student winner.
- ▶ On March 2, 2021, the EAC members received for review the nominations submitted. Review and ranking were completed by March 12, 2021.
- ▶ Winners were notified in mid-March 2021.
- ▶ The EAC jointly presented awards to the winners with the Board at a ceremony at



Westminster Community Pond on April 21, 2021.

Public Outreach – Community Solar Zoning Text Amendment Booklet:

- ▶ Per the 2021 Work Plan, upon adoption by the Board of the Community Solar Zoning Text Amendment, the EAC prepared a booklet to assist the public in understanding the requirements. The EAC approved the booklet on May 19, 2021.



Public Outreach – 2021 Environmental Stewardship Booklet:

- ▶ Per the 2021 Work Plan, the information in the booklet was updated to current information and new information added. The EAC reviewed the content and approved the final document on June 23, 2021.



Public Outreach – Tree Planting Resource Guide:

- ▶ Per the 2021 Work Plan, the EAC developed a one-page guide with links to web resources related to various topics related to tree planting. The EAC reviewed and approved the guide on June 23, 2021. It is available online.

Work Plan:

- ▶ On January 28, 2021, the EAC and the Board of County Commissioners held their annual joint meeting to review the 2020 Annual Report and discuss the proposed 2021 Work Plan.
- ▶ In fall 2021, the EAC drafted a proposed 2022 Work Plan in preparation for the annual joint meeting with the Board, which will tentatively be held in late January 2022.
- ▶ On November 17, 2021, the EAC approved the proposed work plan as a recommendation to the Board.

Annual Report:

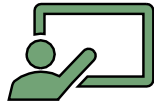
- ▶ The 2021 Annual Report to the Board was reviewed on January 19, 2022 and approved as a final product to present to the Board.

Member Removal:

- ▶ On April 30, 2021, the EAC voted to recommend removal of two members, Ellen Cutsail and Natalie Kartalia, who were unable to commit the time needed to EAC responsibilities. The EAC Chair forwarded the recommendation to the Board.

Informational Briefings Received

- ♦ *January:* Overview of the Ad Hoc Committee Process (Tom Devilbiss)
- ♦ *March:* Overview of the County Attorney's Office Ad Hoc Committee Process (Jim Almon)
- ♦ *August:* Carroll County Environmental Codes Revisions (LRM Staff)
- ♦ *September:* Zebra Mussel Eradication at Hyde's Quarry (Zach Neal)
- ♦ *October:* Westminster's Bee City Designation (Monica Schmitt)



County. In 2021, EAC members participated in the following public education activities:

- ♦ The EAC presented the 2021 Environmental Action Awards on April 21, 2021, in an open forum at Westminster Community Pond. The event was publicized and recorded. The purpose of the awards is to raise environmental awareness and stewardship.



Citizen Concerns/Issues

Concerns or issues are periodically brought to the EAC's attention. The EAC responded to or referred the individuals to the appropriate agencies, as needed.



- ♦ *No citizen concerns or issues were brought to the attention of the EAC in 2021.*

Public Education

Part of the EAC's charge is public education on environmental issues that are pertinent to Carroll

Member Activity

Member	Action	Term Expiration
Cathleen Anthony Curtis Barrett Jesse Drummond Charlene Norris Craig Paskoski Frank Vleck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Served as current members throughout the entire year. ♦ Frank Vleck continued to serve as Chair. Craig Paskoski continued to serve as Vice Chair. Both were reelected to serve another 2-year term, to expire in August 2022. 	--
Tiffany VanDerwerker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Resigned due to move to another state in March 2021. 	--
Ellen Cutsail Natalie Kartalia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Removed from the EAC by the Board on April 30, 2021, due to being unable to commit the required time to the EAC. 	--
Tom Scanlan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Appointed June 11, 2021. 	May 31, 2025
Craig Paskoski	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Reappointed on September 30, 2021. 	October 31, 2025
Kathleen Marasco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Appointed November 18, 2021. 	November 30, 2025
Vacancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ One seat is currently vacant. 	--
Upcoming 2022 Term Expirations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ No terms expire in 2022. 	--



Find Us on the Web at: www.CarrollCountyMD.gov/EAC