

The Bay Restoration Grant Fund

The Chesapeake Bay is considered to be Maryland's greatest environmental treasure consisting of one of the most complex and expansive ecosystems in the United States. Protecting the Bay and improving the water quality is important in maintaining the different habitats, animals and plants within the Bay. Increased nitrogen and phosphorus levels in the Bay have caused poor water quality and jeopardize the health of many of the plants and animals living in the Bay. It is our job as Marylanders to help find solutions, and to contribute to the reduction of unwanted nutrients going into the Bay.

The Bay Restoration Fund (BRF) was created in 2004 by Governor Robert Ehrlich and is financed through wastewater treatment plant users and Onsite Sewage Disposal System (OSDS) users. Fees from wastewater treatment plant users are dedicated to upgrading Maryland's wastewater treatment plants with Enhanced Nutrient Reduction (ENR) which reduces nitrogen and phosphorus levels in wastewater. Fees are collected from OSDS users yearly and are used for OSDS upgrades that include the installation of a Nitrogen Reduction Advanced Treatment Unit (ATU) and cover crops.

Senate Bill 554 was enacted in October 2009 and requires all OSDS installations/upgrades within the 1000-foot Critical Area Buffer to include the Best Available Technology for removing nitrogen. The BRF grant program provides funding to help cover the cost of the installation of an ATU.

St. Mary's County received its first installment of grant funding in July 2010 and to this date has helped fund over 70 property owners. Grant funding is limited and to ensure fair distribution, grant awards are prioritized into four categories: 1) Properties with a failing OSDS located within the Critical Area buffer, 2) Failing OSDS outside of the Critical Area Buffer, 3) Non-failing OSDS in the Critical Area and 4) Non-failing OSDS outside of the Critical Area. Properties that fall into the first category are eligible for 100% grant funding of the ATU while grant funding for the remaining three categories are determined by an income based sliding scale and availability of funds.

Property owners who are interested in applying for grant funding to upgrade their OSDS with Nitrogen Reduction or have questions about the BRF grant program can contact Heather Moritz, Division of Environmental Health at 301-475-4321 or moritzh@smhd.com. I encourage all property owners to take advantage of the BRF while grant funding is still available.

Income Based Sliding Scale

% Septic BAT Grant Subsidy*	Federal 2010 Marginal Tax rate	<i>Taxable Income</i>							
		Single		Married Filing Jointly		Married Filing Separately		Head of Household	
		over	up to	Over	up to	over	up to	over	up to
100%	10%	0	8,375	0	16,750	0	8,375	0	11,950
100%	15%	8,375	34,000	16,750	68,000	8,375	34,000	11,950	45,500
75%	25%	34,000	82,400	68,000	137,300	34,000	68,650	45,500	117,650
50%	28%	82,400	171,850	137,300	209,250	68,650	104,625	117,650	190,550
25%	33%	171,850	373,650	209,250	373,650	104,625	186,825	190,550	373,650
25%	35%	373,650		373,650		186,825		373,650	

***2009 Federal Income Tax Return required if an IRS time extension was requested for 2010 return**

****For all other applications (businesses, non-residential, apartments, etc), not in the Critical Area, only 25% of the ATU will be funded****

BRF Approved Nitrogen Reduction Advanced Treatment Units

Model	Contact Information	Fixed Cost*	Operation and Maint. Costs per Year **	Increase in Electrical Cost and Consumption per year***	Reduction of Total Nitrogen
Hoot Aerobic Systems, Inc Hoot 600 BNR® www.hootsystems.com	Distributor Mayer Bros, Inc. Contact: Nancy Mayer Phone: (410) 796-1434 Email: mayerbro@connext.net	\$12,740	\$150	\$71.22/year 765.77kWh/year	52%
Norweco, Inc. Singulair 960 TNT® www.norweco.com	Distributor Superior Tank, Inc. Contact: Jeff Earnshaw Phone: (301) 274-3772 Email: superiortank@olg.com	\$10,903	\$300	\$91.11/year 979.66kWh/year	50%
Orenco Systems®, Inc. Advantex®-AX www.orenco.com	Distributor Atlantic Solutions, Ltd Contact: Owen Townley Phone: 1-877-214-9283 Email: otownley@septicssystems.net	\$12,740*	\$200	\$31.23/year 335.8kWh/year	69%
SeptiTech, Inc SeptiTech® M440D, M550D, M750D www.septitech.com	Distributor RCR Septic Services, LLC Contact: Chris Wireman Phone: (443) 463-0637 Email: cwireman@rcrsepticsservices.com	\$12,740*	\$300	\$179.91/year 1934.5kWh/year	59%

*Predetermined fixed cost of unit. Additional cost not covered by grant is the responsibility of the property owner.

**Based on price to homeowner per year. All prices are Estimates and subject to change, contact manufacturer.

***Based on an average rate from BGE, 8/2011 of \$0.093 per kWh and unit sized for 3 to 4 bedrooms.

Information provided from the Maryland Department of the Environment website
http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Water/BayRestorationFund/OnsiteDisposalSystems/Pages/Water/cbwrf/osds/brf_bat.aspx

ST. MARY'S COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
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P.O. BOX 316
LEONARDTOWN, MD 20650
Fax: 301-475-4373 Phone: 301-475-4321

BAY RESTORATION GRANT APPLICATION
NITROGEN-REDUCING ADVANCED TREATMENT UNIT
FOR GRANT PERIOD JULY 2010-JUNE 2012

This application is designed to aid in determining your eligibility. Submit completed applications to the address above. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE REVIEWED.

RESIDENTIAL _____ COMMERCIAL _____ EXISTING HOUSE _____ NEW CONSTRUCTION _____

1. PROPERTY OWNER: _____

2. PROPERTY ADDRESS: _____

3. TAX MAP _____ PARCEL _____ LOT # _____ SUBDIVISION _____

4. PROPERTY IN 1000-FT CRITICAL AREA: YES _____ NO _____ UNKNOWN _____

5. EXISTING SEPTIC SYSTEM IN FAILURE: YES _____ NO _____

6. REPAIR PERC TEST COMPLETED: YES _____ NO _____ UNKNOWN _____

APPLICANT/CONTACT PERSON: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ FAX NUMBER: _____

The Property Owner hereby certifies and agrees that:

(1) the applicant is authorized to make the application; (2) the information is correct; (3) the applicant will comply with all regulations of St. Mary's County which are applicable hereto; (4) the applicant grants St. Mary's County officials and approved contractors the right to enter onto the property for the purpose of evaluation, inspection of the work permitted and performing any required maintenance and sampling.

Property Owners Signature _____ **Date** _____