

# Maryland Stormwater Fee

## Creating a Public Participation Event

### REGISTERING AN EVENT

An event organizer should register the event through Baltimore City 311 at least 30 days prior to the intended date. The organizer should provide the type and duration of the event, date of the event, and expected number of participants.

**Department Verification:** Once Baltimore City Department of Public Works (DPW) has verified that the event qualifies as eligible for the Participation Credit, the Department will send the event organizer a certification form via email or regular mail. The certification form will include the event name, event type, event date, and estimated duration in hours. **This certification will be necessary for participants to receive their credit.**

**Eligible Participation Events:** DPW verification of participation events is contingent upon the following criteria:

1. Eligible events for the Participation Credit must be located within the geographic boundaries of Baltimore City
2. Participation in events located at the drinking water reservoirs in Baltimore and Carroll Counties (Loch Raven, Liberty, and Prettyboy Reservoirs) will not be eligible for this credit
3. For the purpose of this credit, eligible events are limited to volunteer activities targeted at a specific geographic area (such as a park, neighborhood, school, or stream)
4. Events are to be completed within a short duration (less than 1 day) and have a specific outcome that will directly improve water quality

### EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE EVENT TYPES

- **Stream Cleanup** – An event in which participants patrol a defined portion of a water body to remove trash and other debris.
- **Community Cleanup** – An event in which participants patrol a defined portion of a neighborhood to remove trash and other debris.
- **Tree Planting** – An event in which volunteers plant multiple trees and may include street trees. Typically, these events include planting approximately 30 trees. These events should be coordinated with the [Tree Baltimore Initiative](#) to verify compliance with landscaping standards, appropriate property access, and proper maintenance to ensure the survival of the trees.
- **De-Paving** – An event in which participants remove impervious surface from a private parcel, public parcel, or public way, such as removing blacktop from a school play area. Once the impervious surface is removed, the ground must be stabilized with vegetation such as grass, plantings, or trees. Event organizers must demonstrate permission from the owner to access the parcel. For de-paving events disturbing more than 5,000 square feet of land, proper building and grading permits must be obtained from the City.
- **Best Management Practice (BMP) Installation** – An event in which participants install an approved stormwater BMP on a public way or a public parcel, such as a school. Event organizers must demonstrate permission from the owner to access the parcel. For BMP installation events disturbing more than 5,000 square feet of land, proper building and grading permits must be obtained from the City.

