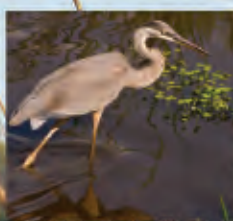


Caring for the land,
restoring the Chesapeake.



First Stop

For the Bay

You are the **owner of a property** in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area. It has never been more important than NOW to care for your property in a way that protects the Chesapeake Bay watershed from the impact of human activities.

What is the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area? In 1984, the State of Maryland designated the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, the 1,000-foot wide ribbon of land around the Bay and its tidal tributaries, and set criteria to minimize adverse effects on water quality and natural habitats.

Why protect the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area? Human activity within 1,000 feet of tidal waters has direct and immediate impact on the health of the Chesapeake Bay.

firststopforthebay.org



Proper shoreline erosion control can slow down the force of water, protecting the land while creating a natural habitat for wildlife.

Where is my “First Stop” for advice on landscaping my property? Talk to your County Planning Office. Permits are required for changes to your property if any part of your property is in the Critical Area. For further information, visit www.firststopforthebay.org.

How can I care for my property and protect the Chesapeake Bay?

- Plant native trees and shrubs
- Create wildlife habitat
- Reduce impervious surface
- Use living shorelines techniques to reduce erosion
- Minimize the use of fertilizers and pesticides

Shore Land Stewardship Council (SLSC) is publishing an illustrated guidebook for property owners on how to care for their properties in the Critical Area. To request a copy of this guidebook, visit www.firststopforthebay.org.

Shore Land Stewardship Council, an initiative of Adkins Arboretum, provides property owners and professionals accurate and consistent information, technical support, and proper referrals on best landscaping practices in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area.



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For more information,
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