

Septic System get Overhaul

Are you aware that Monocacy & Catoctin Watershed Alliance partners are working with the Frederick County Health Department and the State of Maryland Department of the Environment to offer grants to replace old septic tanks? Old tanks leak nitrogen into groundwater. New tanks create an aerobic environment to neutralize the nitrogen resulting in a system that leaches very little nitrogen into groundwater.

This restoration project is paid for with grants from the State's flush tax, a \$300 fee the state collects annually from property owners with septic tanks. The Canaan Valley Institute (CVI) and the Frederick County Health Department applied for and received a grant to work with County residents and business to upgrade their systems, thereby reducing nitrogen flowing in local streams and the Bay. Most of the initial grant is committed; another grant is anticipated.

Karen Gardner with the Frederick NewsPost interviewed Kristin Mielcarek, watershed circuit rider for CVI and provides more details on the system overhauls. See the article here <http://www.fredericknewspost.com/ee/page.htm?id=43> .

Check out the MDE web site - **FREE** Septic System Upgrades! Sign up today to save \$\$\$, protect our water and protect your investment
<http://www.mde.state.md.us/water/cbwrf/osds/>