



Action Alert

Forever Maryland, along with other conservation and community organizations, supports **HB503**- Greenspace Equity Program.

A new **Greenspace Equity Program** seeks to provide funding to acquire, improve and protect land in our overburdened communities and underserved communities. By creating community gardens, woodlands, parks, trails, urban farms and other open space areas, we will increase access to nature for all.

Please [contact your representative](#) to let them know you encourage their support of **HB503**- Natural Resources – Greenspace Equity Program.

Here are some talking points:

- Hi, my name is _____, and I am calling on behalf of _____ (my organization / community). I wanted to get the Delegate's attention and support for HB 503, the Greenspace Equity Program. This bill is important to my organization and to many communities across Maryland that would benefit from access to more greenspace. This is a bill that would fund greenspace protection and improvement projects in Maryland's underserved and overburdened communities.
- (If they are a cosponsor): First I wanted to thank the delegate for cosponsoring this legislation.
- This bill is pending before the House Environment and Transportation Committee and it is being reviewed by House Appropriations.
- Could you help us by flagging it for your colleagues on Appropriations and Environment and Transportation and making sure that it can move forward before crossover day?
- I would be very grateful for any support that the Delegate could lend at this crucial moment.
- Thank you.

It's important to know that the grant funding for this program would be sourced from Program Open Space - stateside and not General Funds.

Targets --> find their contact information here: <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/Index/house>

- Ben Barnes, Chair of Appropriations (Prince George's County)
 - Mark Chang, Vice Chair of Appropriations (Anne Arundel County)
 - Tony Bridges (he is a cosponsor so say TY for that), Appropriations (Baltimore City)
 - Mark Edelson (he is a cosponsor so say TY for that), Appropriations (Baltimore City)
 - Jazz Lewis, Appropriations (Prince George's County)
 - Dana Jones, Appropriations (Anne Arundel County)
 - Stephanie Smith (she is a cosponsor so say TY for that), Appropriations (Baltimore City)
 - Gabriel Acevero, Appropriations (Montgomery County)
 - Catherine Forbes, Appropriations (Baltimore County)
 - Julian Ivey, Appropriations (Prince George's County)
 - Courtney Watson, Appropriations (Howard County)
 - Jared Solomon, Appropriations (Montgomery County)
 - Aletheia McCaskill, Appropriation (Montgomery County)
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- Jackie Addison (she is a cosponsor so say TY for that), Environment and Transportation (Baltimore City)
 - Nick Allen (he is a cosponsor so say TY for that), Environment and Transportation (Baltimore County)
 - Regina Boyce (she is a cosponsor so say TY for that), Environment and Transportation (Baltimore City)
 - Linda Foley, Environment and Transportation (Montgomery County)
 - Michele Guyton, Environment and Transportation (Baltimore County)
 - Anne Healey (she is a cosponsor so say TY for that), Environment and Transportation (Prince George's)
 - Mary Lehman (she is a cosponsor so say TY for that), Environment and Transportation (Prince Georges / Anne Arundel)
 - Marvin Holmes, Environment and Transportation, (Prince George's)
 - Sara Love, Environment and Transportation (Montgomery County)
 - Sheila Ruth (she is a cosponsor so say TY for that), Environment and Transportation (Baltimore County)
 - Vaughn Stewart (he is a cosponsor so say TY for that), Environment and Transportation (Montgomery County)
 - Jen Terrasa, Environment and Transportation (Howard)

Please visit our website for our full [2023 Forever Maryland State Legislative Agenda](#).