

Increasing Citizen Participation in BMP Installation and Maintenance

**CWEA Spring 2018 Seminar
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Baltimore City DPW**



Baltimore City Department of Public Works



Baltimore: Challenges and Opportunities

- **94% of city = private property (outside of the ROW)**
- **Tree canopy = 28% (40% goal)**
- **30,000 vacant properties**
- **Median income = \$42,665**



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GROW Centers

Green Resources and Outreach for Watersheds

Materials for purchase. Mulch, bricks, crushed concrete, wood products, salvaged building materials and other quality-controlled materials that would be free and/or available for purchase by city residents and non-profits to use in micro-practice installations.

Education and training. Local experts will provide advice and guidance on green infrastructure projects, including hands-on training sessions, workshops, and educational classes on design, the proper use of the materials, securing funds and resources, and maintenance.



Mayor
Catherine E. Pugh



Catherine E. Pugh
Mayor

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GROW Center Pilot 2016



10 days in April – May
22 workshops
208 attendees/61 neighborhoods



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Questions

What type of “greening” activities are of interest?

What materials are of interest / accessibility?

How is information disseminated and delivered?

Who are GROW Center partners?

What resources are needed for the GROW Center?

Would people attend? Who would attend? From where?

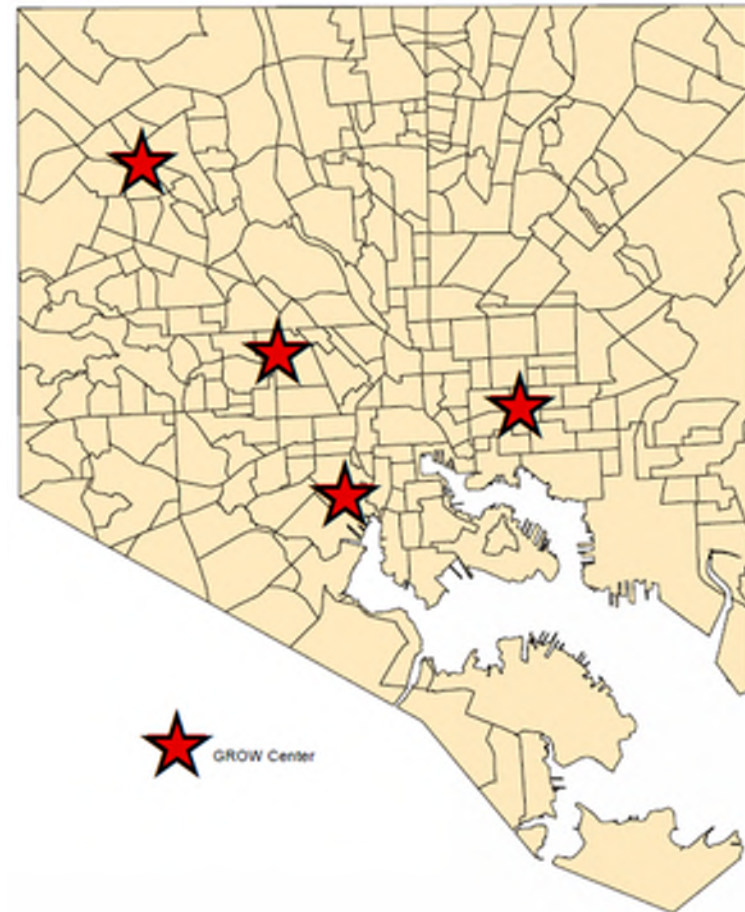


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GROW Center Pop-ups 2018

4 Saturdays
April 14 – May 5
10am – 2pm*



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Materials



Free trees
Free mulch
Native plants for sale
Bricks, aggregate for order



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Ask the Expert



Adopt-a-lot, growing plants, tree care, community beautification, stormwater, recycling, etc.



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Workshops

Two themes:

1. Stormwater BMPs
2. Community Greening



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Was it a Success?

**12 partner
organizations**

**206 participants from
86 neighborhoods**

10+ cu yds free mulch

110 free trees

75 native plants purchased

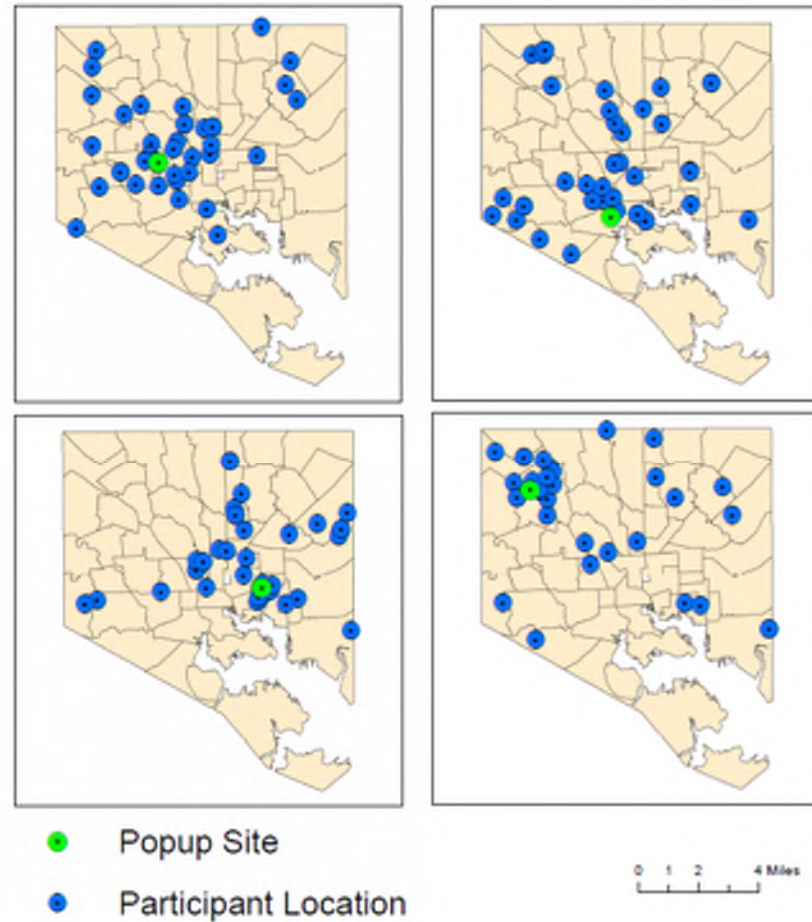
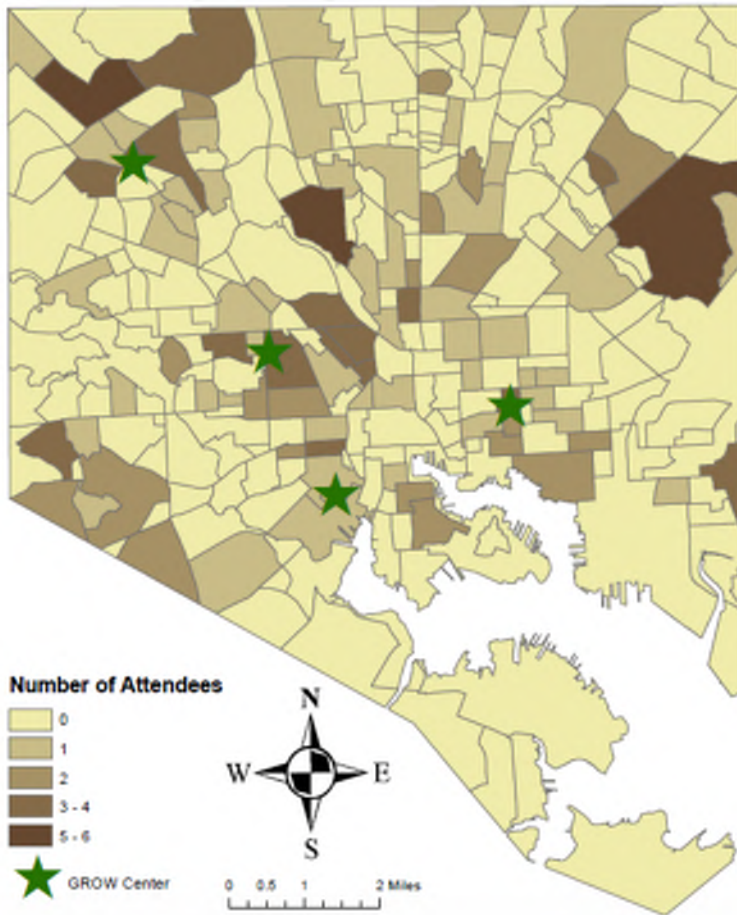
15 rain barrels constructed



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Reach / Outreach



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Lessons Learned

- Pop-up locations drew from local area / workshops drew from wider area
- Attracted people with varying experience, in particular new “greeners”
- Materials / information primarily for residential / home gardening
- Mulch and trees were popular, plants not so much (\$)
- Workshop attendance not as successful as expected (25% attendance / registrants)
- Partners are needed!
- Utilize multiple means of promotion
- Logistics / logistics / logistics



Catherine E. Pugh
Mayor

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Next Steps

Organize Fall 2018 pop-ups

- Community greening (planning for Spring / adopt-a-lot network / neighborhood trees) + Stormwater BMPs
- Community greening = water quality
- Continue to experiment and collect data (new partners sites / repeat workshops / targeted promotion)

Feasibility study

- Alternatives analysis / business plan
- Proposals due June 22



Questions



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