

State of Maryland

Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate Bill #	House Bill #	2. Name of Bill
SB587	HB16	Creation of a State Debt - Caroline County - Adkins Arboretum
3. Senate Bill Sponsors		House Bill Sponsors
Senators Richard Colburn and E.J. Pipkin		Delegate Adelaide Eckardt
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)		5. Requested Amount
Caroline County		\$800,000
6. Purpose of Bill		
The bill authorizes a State grant to the Board of Trustees of Adkins Arboretum, Ltd. for the planning, construction, replanting, restoration and expansion of Adkins Arboretum, Maryland's only arboretum dedicated to the conservation of the region's native plants.		
7. Matching Fund Requirements		
This bill requires a matching fund, which may consist of real property, in-kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act.		
8. Special Provisions		
None.		
9. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization		
Adkins Arboretum is a 400-acre native garden and preserve on the Tuckahoe Creek in Caroline County providing education, recreation and research programs, land conservation services, community events, and public outreach to promote the appreciation and stewardship of the region's native plants. Thought the Arboretum was founded in 1980 by the Department of Natural Resources, since 1998 a private not-for-profit organization has operated it under a 50-year lease and receives no state funding for its operating expenses. The Arboretum is a centerpiece for the Mid-Shore's heritage tourism and is recognized as one of the region's successful and important cultural institutions. The Arboretum offers programs on and off-site in ecology, gardening, and natural history for children and adults. Its facilities include four miles of interpretive walks through wildflower meadows and one of the region's most significant forested wetlands, a plant nursery, and a visitor's center with a library, art exhibits, nature displays, plant and gift shop and a large public meeting room. Annually more than 15,000 visitors are attracted to the Arboretum to attend programs and events and to enjoy the grounds. Five thousand of these visitors are children.		

10. Description and Purpose of Project

Adkins Arboretum is seeking capital funds to support its expansion to meet the current demands of a growing visitorship and to accommodate growth projected over the next decade. Since 1998, the Arboretum's visitorship has grown to 15,00 (70% increase); membership has reached 1,100 (a 28-fold increase); over 100 volunteers (a 100-fold increase), 15 full and part-time staff (a 150 percent increase) and new programs. Based on trends during the first two months of 2005, membership is expected to grow 40 percent in 2005. A modest increase in staff to support children's programs will enable the Arboretum to provide programs to reach 20 percent more students than in 2004. The capital improvements are proposed as part of a second phase of development described in the Arboretum's 1999 master plan. The centerpiece of the planned capital improvements is the renovation and expansion of the existing visitor's center. The visitor's center's program facilities are limited to one multi-purpose room for art exhibitions, children's programs, crafts and gardening workshops, lectures, staff work space, and community meetings. Many of these uses are not compatible and are difficult to accommodate within this limited space and as a result at times deny the visiting public access to the room to view exhibits. The proposed expansion of the visitor's center will provide offices and classrooms, a 100-seat meeting room, library, gift shop, gallery, and food concession area. The expansion is planned to address the needs of a growing visitorship and staff expansion projected for the next decade.

The proposed landscape enhancements will include renovating the main public entrance, a new parking area, irrigation, lighting, signage, removal of impervious surfaces, replacing a stormwater drainage system with a natural system that uses vegetative swales, a green for large outdoor community events, redesign and construction of an entrance walk to enable the public to experience intimately the wildflower meadows and gardens. The Arboretum's restored grounds will provide an engaging and educational experience for visitors consistent with the Arboretum's conservation mission.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 11 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 12 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

11. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	
Design	\$450,000
Construction	\$2,650,000
Equipment	400,000
Total	\$3,500,000

12. Proposed Funding Sources – (List all funding sources and amounts.)

Source	Amount
2005 Capital Bond Bill	\$800,000
2005 Transportation Enhancement Program (TEA-21)	\$1,540,000
NPS Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network Program Grant	\$100,000
Grayce Kerr Fund	\$25,000
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation	\$30,000
Knapp Foundation	\$50,000
Kresge Foundation	\$100,000
Private contributions	\$555,000
2001 Capital Bond Bill	\$300,000

Total			\$3,500,000
13. Project Schedule			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
Underway	September 2005	February 2006	August 2007
14. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised as of January 2005	15. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site		16. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete
\$450,000	15,000 visitors, 1,100 members		50,000 visitors
17. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
2000	\$200,000	Office building design and construction, site design and development, and visitor's center renovation.	
2001	\$300,000	Site design and development, and visitor's center renovation.	
18. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Adkins Arboretum, LTD. 12610 Eveland Road Ridgely, Maryland 21660			
19. Contact Name and Title		Contact Phone	Email Address
Eleanor V. Altman, Executive Director		410-634-2847 x-22	ealtman@ adkinsarboretum.org
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located			36
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check one)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	Miles & Stockbridge	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	410-822-5280		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
101 Bay Street Easton, MD 21601			
24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
10 FTE	15 FTE	\$850,000	\$1,200,000
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond issuance purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease the property to be improved?			Lease
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			NA
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			No

D. If property is owned by grantee and any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
E. If property is leased by grantee – Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
State of Maryland	50 years	Yes	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	4,000		
Space to Be Renovated GSF	4,000		
New GSF	9,500		
27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion			
		1984	
28. Comments:			
<p>In 2000-01 the Legislature generously granted Adkins Arboretum capital bond bills totaling \$500,000 for Phase I of a capital improvement campaign that was proposed in the Arboretum's 1999 Master Plan. The required 100 percent match for these funds has been achieved and a portion of the bond bill funds have been expended for site improvements, renovation of the visitor's center lobby, and a new office building located at its plant nursery. This spring the funds will be used for an additional renovation of the visitor's center and to complete the design of a new entrance and parking area using environmentally sensitive techniques. Construction for the Phase II site improvements is planned to begin early 2006. The public's support for the Arboretum and the demand for services and programs have exceeded projections made in 2000, and thus require a more ambitious capital improvement program than was conceived and present to the 2000 Legislature. Visit www.adkinsarboretum.org.</p>			