

State of Maryland

2006 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate		House		2. Name of Project
LR #	Bill #	LR #	Bill #	
2801	SB706	2385	HB535	Creation of a State Debt – Prince George's County - Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center
3. Senate Bill Sponsors				House Bill Sponsors
Sen. Miller				Del. Proctor, et. al.
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)				5. Requested Amount
Prince George's County				\$500,000.00
6. Purpose of Bill				
Authorizing the creation of a State debt to serve as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Alice Ferguson Foundation, Inc. for the planning, design, acquisition, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of improvements to the Potomac River Habitat Study Complex at Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center.				
7. Matching Fund Requirements				
The grantee shall provide and expend a matching fund. The matching fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of the Act.				
8. Special Provisions				
None.				
9. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization (3000 characters maximum)				
<p>Our mission is to provide experiences that encourage connections between people, the natural environment, farming and the cultural heritage of the Potomac River Watershed, leading to personal environmental responsibility. Located in Accokeek, the Alice Ferguson Foundation is an environmental education organization 501(c) (3) operating Hard Bargain Farm, a 330-acre working farm along the Potomac River.. It implements its mission through educational programs at Hard Bargain Farm and in area national parks, the annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup and other community outreach programs. At Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center, credentialed educators using experiential learning techniques annually teach thousands of pre-K through 12th grade students in both day and overnight programs. Students both have hands-on opportunities to explore the local watershed and to experience food production in a family farm setting as well as being encouraged to think about the meaning of sustainability. Professional development opportunities for teachers include environmental education, curricula and instruction methods, through summer institutes. For further information, please see our website: www.fergusonfoundation.org.</p>				

10. Description and Purpose of Project (3000 characters maximum)

1) WAREHAM LODGE RENOVATION AND EXPANSION

The planning and design phase will allow for the renovation and expansion of the Wareham Lodge (constructed in 1974) and surrounding education facilities to improve our ability to accommodate students and teachers in day and overnight education programs that will result in increased programmatic flexibility.

Renovation of the Lodge is necessary to meet our education program needs in the following ways: the wooden exterior is rotten; electrical service undersized; poor ventilation in first floor area; install sprinkler system for fire protection and security system; update entrances, decks and bathrooms to meet ADA requirements; exterior meeting space and ramps are inadequate during inclement weather to hold all students.

All renovation and expansion measures will employ “green” (i.e., sustainable) design principles, which have been shown to be more economical in the long-term, and can be incorporated for demonstration into the environmental education program.

The Lodge expansion will include:

- a) Development of covered decks for outdoor, sheltered classrooms
- b) Development of expanded dormitory facilities to include some private and/or semi-private sleeping accommodations (particularly for teachers and Teacher Institute attendees)
- c) Provision of additional classroom space, particularly for science and computer laboratories, and office space for educational program staff
- d) Provision of additional bathroom facilities

2) WETLANDS STUDY BOARDWALK

This proposed boardwalk/trail will be constructed in the area of our former nature trail which is unusable since the area has developed into a wetland. An 1800 ft. ADA-compliant loop trail would be designed and constructed around the emergent wetland. A spur platform would be built off of the main boardwalk that drops down closer to the marsh to allow access by students for collecting water samples or to provide for other marsh experiences.

a) The boardwalk portion of the trail will provide an environmentally-sensitive alternative to the current, frequently-flooded route.

b) The boardwalk will provide new opportunities for individuals with limited mobility to experience the landscape.

3) DAY USE BUILDING

A new Day Use Building (~ 40' x 60') will provide shelter, gathering space during bad weather, eating space and a group-activity area for the younger, day-use students visiting Hard Bargain Farm. Young children do not have a sheltered space on the farm for such functions that does not interfere with the activities of the older children, who are housed in the Lodge. Our day program currently is housed on nearby private property.

The day use building will be constructed of recycled and/or other sustainable materials and will be located such that it protects existing woodland and blends into its setting. It will contain built-in storage and restroom facilities.

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

Name:	Richard Hubbard	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No	
Phone:	202-942-5000		yes	
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value		
Arnold & Porter 555-12 th St., NW Washington, DC		3/2000	3,200,000	
24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site				
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget	
25	25	1,924,014	2,000,000	
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond issuance purposes)				
A. Will the grantee <u>own</u> or <u>lease</u> (pick one) the property to be improved?			own	
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			no	
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	
26. Building Square Footage:				
Current Space GSF		4382		
Space to Be Renovated GSF		4382		
New GSF		10,000		
27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion			1974	
28. Comments: (3000 characters maximum)				

