

State Of Maryland

2026 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Back River Trash Wheel		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
Salling		
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Baltimore County	\$440,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Back River Trash Wheel		
7. Matching Fund		
Requirements:	Type:	
Grant		
8. Special Provisions		
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian	
9. Contact Name and Title	Contact Ph#	Email Address
Desiree Greaver		410-241-0259
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>The Back River Restoration Committee, Inc. (BRRC) was founded in 2009 and is based in Essex, Maryland. The BRRC's mission is to restore the tidal portion of the Back River Watershed. This section of the Watershed is approximately 7,720 acres (12 square miles) or 22 percent of the back River Watershed. The entire Back River Watershed encompasses 35,645 acres and includes 73 miles of streams located in both urban and suburban portions of Southeastern Baltimore County and the Northeastern quadrant of Baltimore City. Back River flows directly into the Chesapeake Bay, which is the largest estuary in the United States. The organizations well-connected and experienced staff and board have the ability to successfully navigate the permitting process, as well as professionally manage the project.</p>		

11. Description and Purpose of Project (Limit length to visible area)

BRRC requests funding for site work and installation of a Trash Wheel in the Back River in Essex, MD. BRRC has received an award from the Chesapeake Bay Trust to commence the design and fabrication work and needs additional funds to complete the project. This wheel will use patented technology to assist in automating the removal of significant trash and debris from the water. The proposed project is a large-scale, long-term investment that will have a community-wide impact of less trash in the waterway for the benefit of residents, watermen, recreational usership, and overall watershed and ecosystem health. BRRC has the resources and experience to take on installation, operation, and maintenance of this proven model for trash removal, and has already engaged key players that will be involved in the execution of this project.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 12 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 13 (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.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	
Design	\$57,000
Construction	\$440,000
Equipment	\$518,000
Total	\$1,015,000

13. Proposed Funding Sources - (List all funding sources and amounts.)

Chesapeake Bay Trust	\$575,000
2026 LBI (this request)	\$440,000
Total	\$1,015,000

14. Project Schedule (Enter a date or one of the following in each box. N/A, TBD or Complete)			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
1/1/2026	3/1/2026	7/1/2026	12/31/2027
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised	16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site		17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete
575000.00	estimated at least 100,000		estimated at least 100,000
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
n/a			
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Back River Restoration Committee 1522 Galena Road Essex, MD 21221		322 Oriole Avenue Baltimore, MD 21224	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	6 - Baltimore County		
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check One)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
[]	[]	[X]	[]
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	Michael Baumgartner	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	410-241-0259		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
1522 Galena Road Essex, MD 21221			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
5	8	125000.00	175000.00
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			Lease
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 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	
Baltimore County	15 years	Yes, potential to acquire	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	n/a		
Space to be Renovated GSF	n/a		
New GSF	n/a		

27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion

n/a

28. Comments

BRRC is currently under contract with Clearwater Mills for the design and fabrication of the Trash Wheel using the Chesapeake Bay Trust Award. Clearwater Mills fabricated and installed.

25. BRRC is working with Baltimore County's legal to determine options for acquiring the property for logistics.

BRRC understands that the project must be capital in nature and have a useful lifespan of at least 15 years. The funding requested through session will cover site work and installation of the wheel. The Wheel is highly engineered and made from durable materials suggesting a lifespan of at least 15 years. The partners are dedicated to continuous and efficient operation of the wheel to the benefit of all in the community and watershed for at least 15 years. If there is a question of eligibility, we would love the opportunity to gather and present evidence, or receive guidance on any continuing operations and maintenance agreements that would satisfy requirements.