



**PARTNER SUPPORT FOR
EXPANDED FEDERAL FUNDING TO ACCELERATE RESTORATION**
Chesapeake Bay Commission
January 5, 2023 – Annapolis, MD

WHO IS “NFWF”?

Who We Are

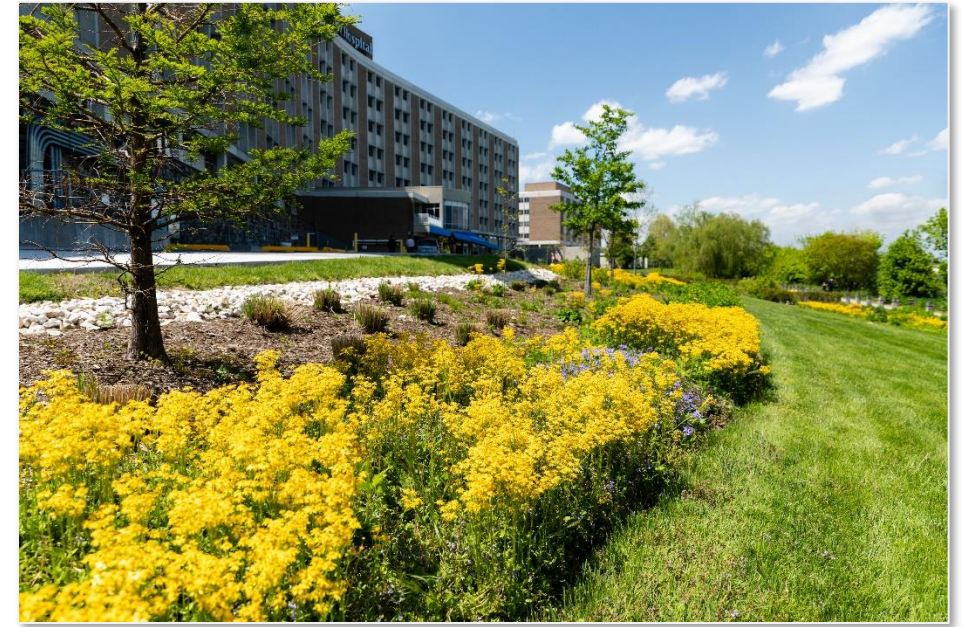
- Chartered by Congress in 1984
- Independent 501(c)(3) organization
- 30-member Board appointed by Sec. of the DOI
 - Includes FWS Dir. and NOAA Adm.

What We Do

- Sustain, restore and enhance the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats for current and future generations
- Bring collaboration among federal agencies and private sector

How We Do It

- Leverage public funding with private money – average 3:1



NFWF is

- An implementer – we fund projects

NFWF is not

- An advocacy organization that engages in lobbying or litigation



HOW WE WORK



NFWF SUPPORT FOR CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION

Since 1999, NFWF has administered the **Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund**, drawing resources from federal and private sources to provide:

- **Competitive grants** that support on-the-ground restoration efforts (e.g. Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Grants, Small Watershed Grants, Pennsylvania Most Effective Basins Grants)
- **Direct grant support** for critical networking, information-sharing, and convening partnerships that accelerate watershed restoration efforts
- **Contracted technical assistance support** for prospective applicants and grantees to increase awareness, enhance impact, and guarantee success



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NFWF SUPPORT FOR EXPANDED FEDERAL FUNDING, FY2022

In administering **FY2022 BIL increases** for **EPA's INSR, SWG, and PA MEB programs**:

- Directed focus on accelerated implementation of **structural restoration practices** that provide long-term water quality, habitat, and climate resilience benefits
- **Demand and interest are high**, esp. considering BIL match waivers, but still well beyond newly-available funding levels
- Significant interest and opportunity to advance restoration in partnership with **historically underserved communities** (consistent with BIL requirements)



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NFWF SUPPORT FOR EXPANDED FEDERAL FUNDING, FY2023+

In talking with partners on best-use of future NFWF programs to leverage BIL and IRA funding for accelerated restoration, we hear critical needs for:

- **Expanded and enhanced technical assistance** (outreach, planning and design, permitting, financing → **people**) to unlock various available BIL and IRA funding pools
- Given existing programmatic restrictions, **flexible, “program agnostic” funding** that helps fill gaps in necessary project costs
- **Education and training** on associated programs and new opportunities and **novel partnerships** to best leverage individual programs for scaled on-the-ground project outcomes



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QUESTIONS?



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