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TURNING A NEW LEAF CONFERENCE

Sustainable Practices for Landscape Professionals and Gardeners

The Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council (CCLC) will hold its fourth “Turning a New Leaf” Conference on Friday, December 2 at the DoubleTree Resort by Hilton in Lancaster, PA. The conference educates professionals on sustainable landscaping and development best practices. Sustainable landscapes are becoming increasingly necessary for maintaining healthy local and regional watersheds and the greater environment. The day-long event expects to attract landscape professionals, scholars, educators, and representatives from federal agencies and local governments. Registration including continental breakfast and lunch is just \$99 before November 1, \$119 thereafter. On-line registration is available at www.chesapeakelandscape.org/2011leaf.htm or call 410-634-2847 x41 for a mail-in form.

Because every effort to be sustainable counts, this year the conference tracks are titled Every Design Counts, Every Drop Counts, Every Plant Counts and Every Message Counts. Conference tracks will cover the art of sustainable landscape design as well as advances in stormwater technology and new online native plant resources. Speakers will also discuss how edible plants can contribute to the landscape and how communities can work to improve water quality in streams. The conference also hosts an EcoMarketplace featuring a variety of local organizations and green businesses. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. More information on the conference can be found at www.chesapeakelandscape.org/2011leaf.htm.

CCLC is excited to be holding this year's conference in Pennsylvania. The Susquehanna River Basin is the source of half of the Chesapeake Bay's freshwater and is home to more than 3 million people. Landscaping practices in Pennsylvania's homes, farms and urban areas can make a considerable contribution to the health of the Chesapeake Bay region. Kevin Staso of North Creek Nurseries in Landenberg, PA and a conference committee member notes, “Given that nearly 64,000 square miles of the bay’s watershed is located in the state, it makes a lot of sense to host our conference here in PA. It’s everyone’s responsibility to protect and preserve this great resource, and there are so many industry professionals, educators and municipal leaders contributing to these efforts. This year’s conference will highlight a variety of successful programs and reinforce the need to enhance the biodiversity of our region and sustain a healthier watershed.”

The CCLC encourages individuals, businesses and organizations to join the non-profit organization. Members receive a discount on conference registration and other events, a membership directory and can be listed on the CCLC's web site EcoPro page. Every person counts and CCLC wants to bring conservation landscaping practices to the mainstream.



The Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council (CCLC) is a coalition of individuals and organizations dedicated to researching, promoting, and educating the public about conservation-based gardening and landscaping practices in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The Council is committed to fostering changes in public attitudes and the implementation of practices that result in a cleaner, healthier and more beautiful environment benefiting residents and the region's biological diversity.