Upper Little Patuxent River Stream Restoration

WHERE: Howard County

WHAT: Restoring more than 4,400 linear feet of the Upper Little Patuxent River and a tributary to the Little Patuxent River near Ellicott City. All work will be performed on Howard County property between Horned Owl Court to Windflower Drive.

HOW: The project will re-grade and stabilize stream banks, clear debris jams and other water flow obstructions contributing to excessive erosion, and use native plants and natural stone to significantly reduce sediment from flowing into the stream. The Maryland Department of Transportation's State Highway Administration (SHA) is investing nearly $600 million ($598.8M) in the State Highway Administration's six-year capital budget (FY 2015 – FY 2020) on a variety of projects, including stream restorations, to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment from entering the Chesapeake Bay.

WHY: Heavy rainfall and rushing water running off local roadways and parking lots have significantly eroded the stream banks causing pollutants to flow into the stream and ultimately into the Chesapeake Bay. The project will restore the Upper Little Patuxent River and a tributary to the Little Patuxent River to help reduce excess nitrogen and phosphorus loads, as well as sediment, from entering the Chesapeake Bay by way of the Patuxent River.

The Upper Little Patuxent River feeds into the Patuxent River that travels 110 miles through seven counties before it ultimately reaches the Chesapeake Bay near Solomons Island in Southern Maryland. The Patuxent River drains an area of about 930 square miles directly into the Chesapeake Bay. The watershed includes the following counties: Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's and St. Mary's. The Patuxent River is the largest and longest river located <u>entirely</u> within Maryland.

WHEN: Construction started late summer 2014 and will be complete spring 2015, weather permitting.

WHO: Ecotone, Inc. of Forest Hill and JMT of Hunt Valley.

COST: **Total: $1.7 million**

# # #