

## **The Fairmount Heights Green Team**

Sustainable Maryland supports Maryland's municipalities seeking cost effective and strategic ways to revitalize their communities, protect their natural assets, and strategically design a resilient future where residents and businesses can thrive. Fairmount Heights became a registered Sustainable Maryland municipality in 2015 and by 2017, created the Fairmount Heights Green Team. The first meeting was held on November 4, 2017. The Green Team's vision is to provide a platform for new ideas and initiatives, implement practices that lead to cost savings in energy, to stimulate economic and community development, and to lead to environmental sustainability.

The Green Team's initiatives include transforming alleyways to encourage foot traffic while introducing storm water management; designing and creating community gardens; health and wellness and living well programs; transforming vacant lots into edible orchards; creating an urban farm, and creating and designing green streets. The team will explore ways to include grant funded projects. In August 2017, the Atlanta Georgia, Morehouse School of Medicine awarded the Town a \$10,000 grant to focus on: (1) boys of color, (2) students' role in the environmental movement, (3) the benefits of Urban Agriculture, and (4) living a sustainable life style. At our May 2018 meeting, Mr. Jaime Guerrero, a town resident and a chef for Whole Foods Inc., demonstrated how to prepare healthy meals using vegetables grown in community garden. Through Mr. Guerrero, the Town will benefit from a \$5,000 grant to be awarded to a Fairmount Heights non-profit that will focus on community gardening and healthy eating. In early spring, The Green Team planted its first community garden and by mid-June held its first farmers market. See photo gallery for more pictures.

## The Green Team



Participants from left to right first row: Doris E. Sarumi, Town Manager, Former Mayor Patricia Waiters- Rear: James Pinkney Code Enforcement Officer, Former Council Member Timothy Burley, Melvin Taylor Business Owner, Daisy Capers, President of the Fairmount Heights Community Development Corporation, former Council Member Eleasa Saunders, Council Member Patricia Ukkundo'Oohwaka, Council Member Jacqueline Wood-Dodson, Council Member Stella Hargrove, Dr. Alexander Chan, Youth Development Educator, University of Maryland Extension and Esther Mitchell, Master Gardener Coordinator, University of Maryland

The Green Team members include: elected officials, citizens, business owners, town employees, and the President of the Fairmount Heights Community Development Corporation. Doris E. Sarumi, Town Manager is the team's coordinator. The Team meets the second Thursday of each month at Town Hall, 6100 Jost Street from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

For more information, please contact Doris E. Sarumi, Town Manager  
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