

WATERFRONT PARTNERSHIP OF BALTIMORE

Healthy Harbor Initiative and Pilot Projects

Baltimore, Maryland



from top: Volunteers install floating wetland plants; Floating wetlands in Baltimore's Inner Harbor

The Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore, Inc. (WPB), envisions the city's Inner Harbor as a "swimmable, fishable harbor" that will serve as a model sustainable waterfront park.

A series of innovative, educational, and attention grabbing pilot projects such as floating islands, pedal-powered aerating pumps, and rainwater harvesting cisterns bring the Healthy Harbor Initiative to life.

To help bring this vision to life, Biohabitats worked with the WPB to craft a planning document called the "Healthy Harbor Initiative" (HHI). The HHI set strategies toward creating a hub that reconnects people to the Chesapeake Bay in a way that improves the health of the Inner Harbor for all living creatures. The HHI, a critical step toward the creation of a sustainable, educational landscape along the waterfront, is focused on seven key areas: education and awareness; surface water; potable water; landscape and ecology; mobility; energy and climate change, and materials and waste.

In addition to fulfilling WPB's vision, the HHI aims to reduce potable water demand; stimulate development of alternative

transportation; and work towards climate neutrality, waste re-use, and use of only sustainably sourced materials among WPB member properties.

Biohabitats designed, installed and implemented floating wetland islands, the first of the HHI's innovative pilot projects to improve water quality and habitat. Future projects include rainwater cisterns, a bike-powered water aeration pump, rain gardens, and a public education campaign regarding cigarette butt litter.

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