Purpose: To empower selected communities and other community or civic related non-profit organizations or entities to develop improved stormwater management systems through SRA funds for community assessments, engineering designs and partial project costs.

Eligibility: Funds will be awarded to SRA members. All projects must be located in the Severn River Watershed.

Guidelines:
1. Funds are available for qualifying organizations in the Severn River Watershed. Qualifying organizations are members of SRA who are applying for grants from other programs for stormwater management and seek to use best practices for infiltration and bioretention. All grants are matching funds grants requiring a 50/50 match and evidence of support from the applicant’s organization.
2. Projects must take place in the Severn River watershed.
3. Three grants are available.
   - **Community Assessment Grant**: The Community Assessment Grant is designed to assist communities in the process of identifying storm water mitigation opportunities with the goal of increasing the number of stormwater mitigation projects installed in the Severn River watershed. Up to $1500 in MATCHING funds will be awarded to a community for a professional community-wide assessment of stormwater mitigation opportunities. SRA will pay the vendor directly after evidence of matching payment from the community association. Applicants are encouraged to use this community assessment to then identify projects to be partially funded with SRA Stormwater Action Funds Design and Project Implementation Grants. SRA recognizes that a professional community wide assessment is the first step in getting a stormwater project in the ground and is hopeful that by providing matching funds for such assessments more projects on the Severn River will be installed.
   - **Design Grant**: Up to $1,000 in MATCHING funds will be available to assist in the design of the project. Funds will be paid directly to the designer. See application for more information.
   - **Project Implementation Grant**: Up to $1,500 in MATCHING funds will be available for partial payment of the actual costs of the project once it is funded. See application form for more information.
4. SAF funds are to be used as one of the funding sources for a project, **NOT** to fund a project in its entirety. Examples of possible eligible projects include:
   - Projects that slow the rate of stormwater runoff to reduce erosion and increase infiltration such as conservation landscaping and rain gardens
   - Projects that repair eroded streambeds or shorelines
   - Projects that restore natural shorelines where stormwater reaches the river

Contact Ann Jackson at 443-223-7236 or annjackson61@gmail.com for more information and/or to apply.