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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2017 CCPS Earth Day “Bin Beautification Contest” Winners Announced!

A Fun and Functional Contest Gets CCPS Students Involved in Inspiring Recycling in the Classroom

April 22nd was a rainy but inspiring day at the American Chestnut Land Trust’s Annual Earth Day 5k. Despite the rain, many runners, volunteers and community members came out to celebrate the holiday by admiring the natural beauty of Calvert County and the artwork created by its students. Six schools including Northern, Huntingtown, Calvert and Patuxent High Schools and Windy Hill and Northern Middle Schools re-imagined and decorated their classroom recycle bins. The best bins were then sent to ACLT’s Earth Day celebration to be judged to determine the “2017 Best Bin in the County!” Out of 10 bins selected for judging, Ms. Miranian’s team bin from Windy Hill Middle School was chosen as the overall winner.

“The student designs were so creative and fun! Our event guests were impressed and inspired by all of them,” said Pam Shilling, ACLT’s Community Relations Coordinator, who along with CCPS Energy & Environmental Specialist, Sheila Stevens, assisted the student group Crochet for the Bay in launching their contest idea county wide.

The Earth Day Bin Beautification Contest invited Calvert County Public Schools’ middle and high students to team with a teacher to design and decorate their classroom’s recycle bin. During the week prior to Earth Day, the bins were voted on within the schools. The top teams from each participating school were invited to showcase their creations at ACLT’s Earth Day 5k on April 22nd. The first place winners at each school will be receiving a free pizza party. The “Best Bin the County” winners will receive a pizza party and an impressive gift basket of prizes collected by the contest originators, HHS student environmental group Crochet for the Bay, and of course the title for 2017!

ACLT and Crochet for the Bay would like to offer a special thank you to the following groups for supporting this inaugural year: CCPS Green School Coordinators, Administrators and Staff, The Green Turtle of Prince Frederick, Domino’s Pizza of Dunkirk, Papa John’s Pizza of Prince Frederick, Domino’s Pizza of Chesapeake Beach, and Papa John’s Pizza of Dunkirk/Owings.

About the Organizers:

“**Crochet for the Bay**” (C4B) is an environmental club at Huntingtown High School. Club members sell craft items then donate the proceeds to Bay restoration efforts and organize environmental awareness events for the community.

The American Chestnut Land Trust (ACLT) is a member-supported, non-profit organization that protects Calvert County’s Parkers Creek watershed and its surrounding natural lands, waterways, cultural resources and wildlife habitats. To learn more visit <http://acltweb.org>

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