

What is Green and Blue Infrastructure?

As defined in the [Conservation Finance Act](#) (CFA), Green and Blue Infrastructure are defined as follows:

| Green Infrastructure | Blue Infrastructure |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Land-Based Natural Area Or Natural Feature, Or A System Or Feature Designed To Protect, Mimic, Or Enhance A Natural Function, That: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Absorbs And Filters Pollutants; II. Protects Communities From Flooding Or Storm Surge; III. Reduces Erosion; Or IV. Sequesters Carbon. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Water-Based Natural Area Or Natural Feature, Or A System Or Feature Designed To Protect, Mimic, Or Enhance A Natural Function, That: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Absorbs And Filters Pollutants; II. Attenuates Shoreline Erosion; III. Protects Communities From Flooding Or Storm Surge; IV. Reduces Erosion; Or V. Sequesters Carbon. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Enhanced Or Restored Natural Landscape Features, Such As Forests, Streams, Wetlands, Riparian Buffers, Headwaters, Or Floodplains; II. Rain Gardens; III. Permeable Pavement; IV. Pocket Parks; V. Bioswales; VI. Green Roofs; VII. Infiltration Planters; VIII. Tree Plantings Or Tree Boxes; And IX. Rainwater Harvesting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Enhanced Or Restored Oyster Reefs; II. Enhanced Or Restored Seagrass Beds; III. Shellfish Aquaculture Projects; IV. Floating Wetlands; And V. Restored Freshwater Mussel Populations |

What is Pay for Success?

As defined in the CFA, “Pay-for-Success contracting” means a performance-based procurement method through which a unit contracts with an organization to deliver services or commodities in exchange for payment based on the achievement of outcomes.

- CFA expanded the program authority by allowing the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to issue Pay-for-Success contracts with non-profit or for-profit organizations to achieve goals.
- The text provides definitions of environmental outcomes, aggregators, quantification plans, and other features that are necessary to make effective use of Pay-for-Success contracts.
- Additional language requires DNR to look beyond water quality benefits and also prioritize other co-benefits, including but not limited to, restoration of marine or aquatic resources such as oyster restoration, climate resilience, carbon sequestration, wildlife habitat, local employment, recreation, and environmental justice.

Resources to Review:

- <https://www.conservationfinancenetwork.org/2019/07/24/pay-for-success-financing>
- <https://www.chesapeakeconservation.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Comprehensive-Conservation-Finance-Act-Summary-2pg-1-1.pdf>