

# 2019 Local Government Forum: **Workforce Development**

## **Potential Problem Statement:**

*What are the biggest issues we need to address in this one day forum?*

- **Demand for workforce?** There's been growth in the construction and installation of stormwater management and green infrastructure projects, all in which need *adequate maintenance* over time to function properly. If not, these projects waste valuable time and resources, and will ultimately fail to address water resource issues. **Without a trained workforce**, the Bay won't meet its water quality and quantity goals. Thus, it is imperative to train workers in operating and maintaining such projects.
- **Supply of jobs?** Even if training programs are in place, do jobs exist? How will trainees go about getting employed? (DC is having this exact issue)
- **Target under/unemployed?** This also provides an opportunity to employ targeted populations often left out of the workforce.

# Forum Goal(s)?

- Identify opportunities to build upon and/or replicate existing workforce development models in order to bolster the “green collar” workforce.
- This forum will bring together experts to brainstorm Baywide and/or jurisdiction specific recommendations for expanding existing models and introducing new and innovative workforce development opportunities.
- This forum may also recommend ways in which the Chesapeake Bay Program can support workforce development programs *and* ensure job opportunities exist once workers are trained.