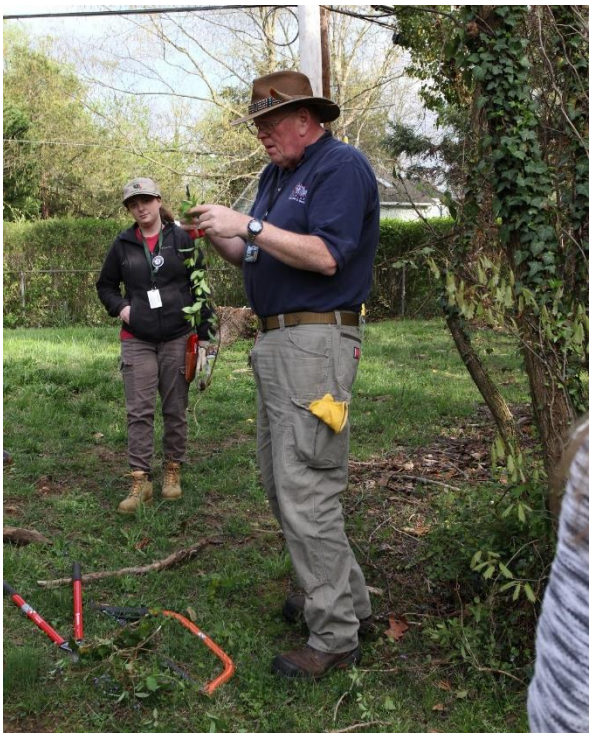
Let's Give Thanks for the Canopy!

A Fall Invasives Removal Campaign

This Fall, the Stewards from Pines on the Severn will be leading a Fall Invasives Removal Campaign to help our tree canopy thrive and reduce stormwater damage to Chase Creek and the Severn River. From mid-October through the entire month of November, we will be asking you to **show thanks for everything trees do to fight pollution and stormwater runoff by giving them some TLC and removing invasive English Ivy.**



Join us on **October 26th from 9 am to noon**, when we'll have a formal training event at our community playground. **County Forester Bud Reaves** who leads **Anne Arundel Weed Resistance** will provide background information on invasive plants, do an ivy-removal demonstration, and offer "hands-on" advice. If you're curious about how to remove ivy from trees on your own property, you won't want to miss this special event!

And for those of you already experienced at clearing English Ivy, there's no need to wait until then—you can start clearing the ivy off your trees now! Beginning on **October 15th**, Martin Wittel **will begin collecting your removal statistics to report to AA Weed Resistance and WSA**. Watershed Stewards from at least 5 other Anne Arundel County communities will also be collecting removal statistics from their neighbors, too. Will Pines residents remove more ivy than the folks over in Winchester, Glen Isle, or Moorings on the Magothy? **Let's win this for Pines!**

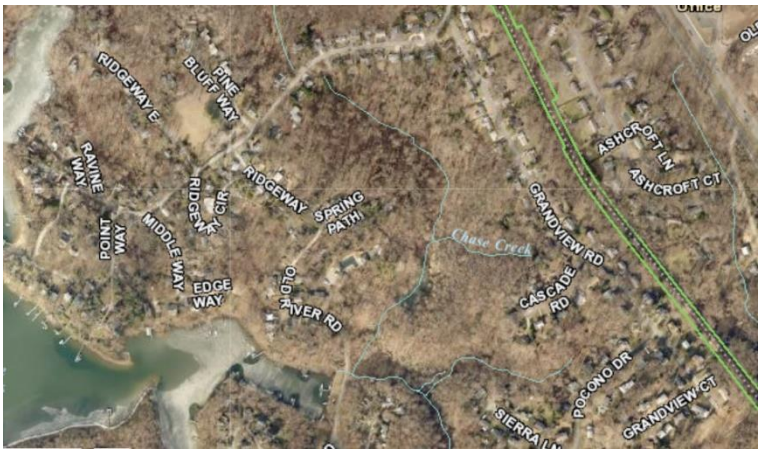
Over the next few weeks, we'll be reaching out over our community email list to share information about invasive English Ivy and what we can do to protect our tree canopy in Pines. Continue reading onto the next page for details about English Ivy and why it has a negative impact on our beautiful trees in Pines. And for more information about how you can get involved, contact Pines Vice President and Community Steward **Martin Wittel** (mwittel@verizon.net) and Pines Master Watershed Steward **Noelle Chao** (noellechao@gmail.com). **Thank you for your support!**

What's wrong with English Ivy?

Not sure why we want to control English Ivy? After all, it's evergreen, grows well, and is very pretty. All of this may be true, but unfortunately, English Ivy is an invasive plant in Maryland. If left unchecked, it will take over. Please keep in mind that over time, English Ivy will kill trees:

- It climbs trunks and spreads through the canopy—blocking vital sunlight from the tree's own leaves
- The weight of the ivy also stresses the tree and makes it more likely to fall in heavy winds
- English Ivy also acts as a reservoir for bacterial leaf scorch which attacks elms, oaks, and maples.

Why should we protect our native trees?



The tree canopy in Pines is one of our neighborhood's greatest assets for fighting pollution and protecting the Chesapeake Bay. As the satellite image shows, Pines has a greater density of mature canopy trees than most communities in Anne Arundel County.

Trees help our community fight pollution from **stormwater runoff**.

- Stormwater runoff is created when a drop of rain fails to seep into the ground.
- Instead, it "runs off" our rooftops, streets, and other impervious surfaces, collecting pollutants along the way. This stormwater runoff also increases the potential for erosion on steep slopes and areas with bare soil.
- When stormwater runoff enters our waterways, it impairs the health of Chase Creek, the Severn, and ultimately, the Chesapeake Bay.

A good canopy tree can significantly reduce stormwater runoff by

- Capturing drops of rain on its leaves until the water evaporates
- Breaking the fall of the rain so it doesn't disturb the soil so much upon impact
- Holding soil in place with its roots and preventing erosion
- Absorbing a tremendous amount of stormwater, with its massive root system

Reducing stormwater runoff improves the health of Chase Creek and the Severn by

- Reducing pollutants and bacteria that are washed into our waterways
- Reducing soil erosion and resulting the silting that can kill aquatic plants and animals