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## 2020 Maryland Green Schools Announced MAEOE Certifies Silver Creek Middle School as Maryland Green School

Baltimore, Maryland – (June 1, 2020) – Today, the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) announced **Silver Creek Middle School** has been certified as a 2020 Maryland Green School. The Maryland Green School program has 656 schools with 46 new schools and 104 recertifying schools. Maryland Green Schools are part of a national and international community of sustainable green schools that increase awareness and understanding of environmental relationships that impact public health and the local community.

In an ELA reflection about being a Green School, this 5<sup>th</sup> grade student at Clarksburg Elementary School in Montgomery County shared the following:

"I joined the Environmental Club because I thought it would be interesting saving the environment and exploring out in the wild. I want to work with people. It is important to care about the environment because the environment is our source of life. We're a green school because we care about the environment and we take good care of it."

Over the past two to four years, Silver Creek Middle School has demonstrated and documented a continuous effort to integrate sustainable environmental management practices, environmental education curriculum, professional development opportunities, and community engagement into their daily operations. This award signifies that Silver Creek Middle School has made a commitment to developing stewards of the earth and reducing the environmental impact of the school.

MAEOE is recognizing the awardees virtually this year with videos to share with the school community in lieu of the annual Maryland Green Schools Youth Summit held at Sandy Point State Park. MAEOE hopes to return to Sandy Point State Park for the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Maryland Green Schools Youth Summit on May 20, 2021. For more information about the Maryland Green Schools program visit <a href="https://www.maeoe.org">www.maeoe.org</a>.

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MAEOE is a non-profit organization. MAEOEs mission is to encourage, engage and empower the community to understand, responsibly use and promote the natural world. MAEOE's Maryland Green School program began in 1999. For a complete listing of Green Schools and Green Centers visit <a href="https://www.maeoe.org">www.maeoe.org</a>.