



WATERSHED WATCH

ST. MARY'S RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

PO Box 94

St. Mary's City, MD 20686

May 14, 2014

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[Join or Renew Today!](#)

NEXT VOLUNTEER EVENTS

Saturday, May 31
Potomac River Swim at
Point Lookout State Park
10:00 to 1:00 at picnic
beach
Bring a dish to share

Sunday June 1
Bagging Oyster Shell
8:00 to Noon
in Park Hall
RSVP by email
info@stmarysriver.org



Boeing Funds Oyster Restoration for the 5th Year

The Boeing Company awarded a \$25,000 grant to St. Mary's River Watershed Association for the fifth year in a row, enabling SMRWA to carry on its oyster restoration project in Horseshoe Bend.

Oyster habitat was first created through the placement of 12 concrete rubble mounds, along with 540 reef balls stacked two and three high. Then, over 15 million oysters were planted on those mounds. It's a year-round process, and many of you called us to say you have seen our contractor out on the river this past February.



Marylanders Grow Oysters participants assist in the project by nurturing baby oysters through their first vulnerable year of life at their docks. Then those year-old oysters are also planted on restoration areas in the sanctuary. The cages are cleaned, spat are placed in the cages, and the process of caring for the young oysters begins again. We always need more waterfront owners to steward cages of spat at their docks. Call us at 301-737-2903 for more information on how you can be a Marylanders Grow Oysters volunteer.

A major focus of Boeing support is to engage diverse communities of youths and youth groups in hands-on habitat restoration and education about our environment. On June 24, we will host about 50 teenagers from the Leadership Southern Maryland Teen Leadership Conference in a morning dedicated to learning about oyster culture and the importance of clean water, followed by the planting of a half million oyster spat. Please come to the college waterfront and participate in this exciting event.

The result is cleaner waters in St. Mary's River, and ultimately, the Chesapeake Bay. SMRWA is grateful to Boeing Global Corporate Citizenship, including local community investor, Oscar Ocasio. Hats off to Boeing!

SMRWA Attends Earth Day in Leonardtown



You couldn't have asked for nicer weather for Earth Day on the Leonardtown Square on Sunday, April 13, as hundreds enjoyed walking around the many vendors. The Kayak Raffle garnered a lot of attention - and if you missed out, please visit our website at SMRWA.org [to take a chance to win this 10 ft.](#)

[Trailblazer Kayak complete with paddle, PFD, and fishing outfit.](#)



SMRWA's exhibit of macro-invertebrates - diverse insects and larva - taken from local streams indicate water quality, is a tool to create awareness of our fragile environment. But by far, the biggest draw for young and old was the snake, turtle, and frogs.

Fishing Rodeo at St. Mary's Lake

SMRWA exhibited at the Fishing Rodeo on Saturday, May 10 at St. Mary's Lake. The spring weather was excellent as 75 children and their parents registered, and waited patiently for the fishing to begin. Many parents picked up the booklet "From My Backyard to Our Bay" at the SMRWA information booth.

Want to help your Watershed?

Your membership dues and donations enable us to carry out projects that help the environment. Come volunteer and help us do the work that needs to be done. Please attend the events throughout the year, and bring your family and friends. This helps to spread the word about the work we are doing! Thank you so much for your continued support.

[Join or Renew Today!](#)



OUR MISSION

To protect, improve, and promote the well-being of the St. Mary's River Watershed through the collaborative efforts of economic, agricultural, environmental, social, cultural, and political stakeholders in the community.

We're on the web!
www.smrwa.org



[Join or Renew Today!](#)

Upcoming Events:

- **Potomac River Swim**
Saturday, May 31, 2014
Point Lookout State Park
Bring a dish to share - lunch begins at 10 am
More info 301-737-2903.

- **SAVE THE DATE**
A River Affair

Sunday, June 8, 2014, 1 to 4 pm
The Inn at Broome-Howard
Historic St. Mary's City
[Purchase Tickets](#)
More info 301-737-2903.

- **LEAD Teen Oyster Planting**
Tuesday, June 24, 2014, 9 am to noon
College Waterfront

- **SAVE THE DATE**



Saturday, September 27, 2014, 11 am to 4 pm
State House, Historic St. Mary's City
More info 301-737-2903.

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