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WATERSHED WATCH

ST. MARY'S RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

PO Box 94

St. Mary's City, MD 20686

August 4, 2016

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Boeing Volunteers Builds New Reef



July 30, 2016—Since the beginning of 2013, the Oyster Reef Project—a partnership between SMRWA, Leonardtown Rotary Club, and St. Mary's College of Maryland—has restored nearly five acres of crucial habitat in the St. Mary's River oyster sanctuary. Within the restoration site, located adjacent to St. Mary's College of Maryland, twenty-three concrete reef ball mounds, two shell piles, and thirteen concrete rubble mounds have been constructed, requiring 603 reef balls, 270 bushels of oyster shell, nearly 190 tons of concrete rubble. Reef mounds are built to within one foot of mean low water and range from four feet to seven feet in height. Half of the reefs are treated with oyster shell to attract natural recruitment or with spat raised in our nursery.



Saturday's project was our thirty-eight reef mound on this site and was built with twenty-two tons of "rip-rap" rock. Students from the local schools monitor and execute experiments on the reefs to determine which methods are ecologically most successful. A control site is adjacent to the reefs and is built in the traditional flat bar method.

Boeing is the primary funder of our oyster reef project. As a part of their annual community service day, Boeing volunteers came out to build this new oyster mound. Within a couple months it will be colonized by oysters and other aquatic wildlife.



TONIGHT - August 4, 2016

Mattapan Rural Legacy Area Meeting

Today, Thursday, August 4th, a public meeting will take place at the Lexington Park Library discussing the progress and proposed expansion of the Mattapan Rural Legacy Area—the areas targeted for compensation to landowners for not developing. If you want to voice your opinion, discuss possible expansion, or simply learn more, the meeting will be held from 6:00 to 7:30.

UPCOMING - August 6, 2016



Governor's Cup

This is the 43rd Annual Governor's Cup Yacht Race. Racers begin in Annapolis and sail overnight to St. Mary's City. Smaller legs are raced concurrently from Virginia's Bay and down the Potomac River. Come enjoy live music, crab feast & barbeque, and visit our exhibit! The event is at St. Mary's College Waterfront in St. Mary's City, starting midday Saturday.

For more information, visit [St. Mary's College Webpage](#).



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



Upcoming Events:

- Mattapany Rural Legacy Meeting
6 to 7:30 p.m. August 4
Lexington Park Library
- Governor's Cup
August 5-7
We will exhibit from 10 until 5 on the 6th
St. Mary's College waterfront
- MGO Cage Refill & Distribution
10 to noon August 27
St. Mary's College Waterfront



• 11:00 to 4:00 September 24

Historic St. Mary's City

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