



WATERSHED WATCH

ST. MARY'S RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

PO Box 94

St. Mary's City, MD 20686

February 6, 2014

Thank You!!!

[Join or Renew Today!](#)

Need a Last Minute Valentine's Day Gift?



A satisfying gift to a healthier St. Mary's River - one Reef Ball will be etched with your sweetheart's name and installed in the St. Mary's River where up to 1000 oysters will make it their home. [Download form:](#) or [purchase online:](#) Download and [print this graphic](#) to surprise your sweetheart.

[Please email](#) us today!



St. Mary's River Watershed Association is grateful to everyone who sent in their membership renewals over the busy holiday season. If you have not done so, we encourage you to renew your membership, or join our Association. It's easy, and a great way to help save our environment. We couldn't do all that we do without you!

Free Lecture on the Ecological Value of Oysters

People generally believe oysters are important to the Bay, and most cited is the oyster's prodigious water filtering ability. "Reef-forming oysters, their biology, ecosystem services, and related restoration," a lecture coming to St. Mary's College of Maryland on Feb. 19, will provide a much more in-depth look at the ecological value of the oyster and why restoration is necessary. According to a recent report, the population of oysters in the Chesapeake Bay is 0.3% of what it was in 1800. The Bay is now a different place. From infrastructure development to the diverse creatures that cohabit the oyster reef, the oyster is truly a key species in our Bay and in nearly all salt water bodies around the globe. This free lecture is intended for a general audience, and the public is invited to attend.



The speaker, Dr. Loren Coen, is an expert in oyster habitat restoration, monitoring, and assessment. He is a Research Professor of Biology at Florida Atlantic University and holds positions at other institutions. Dr. Coen received the NOAA Restoration Center Excellence in Restoration Award in 2007. His talk, which is co-sponsored by St. Mary's River Watershed Association, will begin at 4:40 p.m. in Schaefer Hall, Room 106. [More info.](#)

For more information please contact 301-737-2903 or visit:
<http://www.smrwa.org>

Dr. Coen will meet informally with us on Tuesday afternoon at 4 pm in the Awesome Room of the Muldoon River Center. Join us for some enlightening conversation!

You Must Register CRAB POTS at Private Piers

As of January 1, 2014, registration is required to use crab pots off private shoreline property including piers. A crabbing license is not required, unless you harvest more than two dozen hard crabs per day. Registration is free, and is intended to provide greater information to resource managers about recreational crabbing. You must register online through DNR's Compass System at <https://compass.dnr.maryland.gov/dnrcompassportal>. Those without Internet access can phone 410-260-3233 for assistance or visit your local DNR Service Center.

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. 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 for your continued support.

Upcoming Events:

- "Southern Maryland Birds: Who lives here, Who visits here, and How do we attract them to our backyards?"
A lecture by Dr. Ernie Willoughby
February 15, 2014, 10 am
Cole Cinema, Campus Center
St. Mary's College of Maryland
More info Jennifer Walker,
jawalker1@smcm.edu
- Meet Dr. Coen in an Informal Discussion
February 18, 2014, 4 to 5 pm
Awesome Room, Muldoon River Center
St. Mary's College of Maryland
More info 301-904-2387.
- Colloquium Lecture, "Reef-forming oysters, their biology, ecosystem services,



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



and related restoration"
February 19, 2014, 4:40 pm
Schaefer Hall, 106
St. Mary's College of Maryland
More info 301-904-2387.

- Earth Day on the Leonardtown Square
Sunday, April 13, 2014, 12:30 to 4 pm

- *SAVE THE DATE*

A River Affair

Sunday, June 8, 2014, 1 to 4 pm
The Inn at Broome-Howard
Historic St. Mary's City.
More info 301-904-2387.

- *SAVE THE DATE*



Saturday, September 27, 2014, 10 am to 4 pm
State House, Historic St. Mary's City.
More info 301-904-2387.

TO UNSUBSCRIBE FROM THIS E-NEWSBRIEF, REPLY TO THIS EMAIL AND TYPE INTO THE SUBJECT LINE - UNSUBSCRIBE.
OR EMAIL US AT INFO@STMARYSRIVER.ORG AND REQUEST TO BE REMOVED FROM THIS E-NEWSLETTER LISTSERV.