



# WATERSHED WATCH

ST. MARY'S RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

PO Box 94

St. Mary's City, MD 20686

April 16, 2014

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## PLEASE SEND IN COMMENTS BY APRIL 21

Aquaculture Leasing in the St. Mary's River Oyster "Sanctuary" Public hearing closes April 21 - [Read more.](#)

[Join or Renew Today!](#)

## NEXT VOLUNTEER EVENT

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

## Church Point Needs Our Help

The spit of land running west into the St. Mary's River in front of Trinity Church is fondly known as Church Point. Many nautical charts use the label *Seminary Point*, as does the shellfish harvest maps prepared by our state. Just ten years ago, a 12-foot tall cross sat in the sand at the end of this point. This photo from summer 2013 shows how the land has washed away and left the cross adrift.



This area is very popular with walkers, college students, and local fishers, who come here to picnic, catch dinner, or just absorb the fresh air and scenery.

"It's a community area that we'd like to maintain. The college empties the trash and the church provides access and a picnic area," said Rev. John Ball recently when SMRWA toured the site. Everyone is expected to police the area and show respect for the land, river, and each other.

Currently the state is reviewing the final plan to restore and stabilize this cherished point. The cost to install a higher breakwater and living shoreline features is about \$100,000. Trinity Church already has a state grant to cover \$58,000 and will look to the community to help raise another \$40,000. With funding, the project could be completed later this year.

If you would like to help out with the project or contribute to its cost, contact Rev. John Ball at 301-862-4597.





## Thanks to our Volunteers who made a huge haul for St. Mary's River



Thirty-seven volunteers enjoyed a beautiful day paddling on the river while wrestling trash during the 6th Annual St. Mary's River Clean Up. Tractor, car, and bicycle tires were discovered, along with a V-8 motor, Adirondack chair, carpet scrubber, bathtub, and rubber ducky - along with tons of other trash.

"It's hard to imagine that after 6 years, we are still digging this much trash out of this river," said Geoff Westbrook, a new volunteer to the clean up effort.

The predominant brand name item of trash was the Bud Light beer can. [Read the press release.](#)

## 50-plus Volunteers Clean Up Chancellors Run Park

What do the Rope 'N Wrangler's 4-H Club, Life Community Church of God, and the Great Mills Honor Society all have in common?

Over 50 volunteers from the three groups converged on Chancellor's



Run Regional Park on Thursday evening, April 3, to remove trash. While at first glance, the Park appeared relatively clean, in a 1-1/2 hour time frame, the volunteers filled 19 recyclable bags and 22 trash bags. They also found eight tires: 3 tractor, 4 car, and 1 bicycle, plus a grill from a car.

The most useful trash discovered was several balls, including a lime-green softball. The most unusual find of the day was a beautiful, but dirty, conch shell.

## 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 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.

### 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  
More info 301-737-2903.
- **LEAD Teen Oyster Planting**

**We're on the web!**

[www.smrwa.org](http://www.smrwa.org)



**[Join or Renew Today!](#)**

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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