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WATERSHED WATCH

ST. MARY'S RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

March 18, 2015

PO Box 94

St. Mary's City, MD 20686

**Spring Starts
in two days!
March 20!**

St. Mary's River Watershed Plan Nearing Completion

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INSIDE THIS EDITION
Watershed Plan
River Clean Up

Give the Gift of a
Living Reef



Please consider giving a satisfying gift for a healthier St. Mary's River!

Public input is crucial to finalizing this plan.


The Association nears the end of the St. Mary's River Watershed Restoration plan and Action Strategy. After a long haul, hampered by a lack of funding, the Association is anticipating to take the plan to a public input meeting in late spring 2015. *We will keep you informed of place, date, and time.*

In all there will be five documents, consisting of a (1) characterization, which is a whole-systems look at the watershed throughout time, (2) [synoptic survey report](#), (3) [stream corridor assessment report](#), (4) [water quality assessment](#) and a (5) [watershed action strategy and implementation plan to achieve a healthy St. Mary's River](#).

Serving as a "snapshot in time," the characterization report uses a holistic approach to summarizing the watershed's natural and social resources. With the intent to conserve, protect, and restore the St. Mary's River and its tributaries, the purpose of this document is to inform public policy decisions.

The three research studies (2-4) address the health and water quality of the tidal and non-tidal St. Mary's River watershed through the completion of

St. Mary's River Watershed Synoptic Survey



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In Partnership with
St. Mary's River Watershed Association, Inc.
PO Box 94, St. Mary's City, MD 20686

A birthday gift, in Memory of, in Honor of, a favorite saying, or just because! How many reasons can you think of for a Reef Ball? The best reason of all is that up to 1,000 oysters and lots of other marine animals will make it their home! One Reef Ball will be etched per your instructions, and installed in the St. Mary's River this summer. [Download form:](#) or [purchase online.](#)

[Please email](#) us today!

extensive field surveying. The last document, the watershed action strategy and implementation plan prepared by the Center for Watershed Protection, provides recommendations on feasible restoration opportunities, prioritizes these sites, and provides and cost estimates.

Public input is crucial to finalizing this restoration plan and action strategy. We need your input! The future health of this watershed lies in its residents' actions. By implementing a plan that accurately represents the current state of this watershed, we can better our local waters and contribute to improving the Chesapeake Bay.

River Clean Up Call for Volunteers

**Saturday, April 11
9:00 a.m. to Noon**

Enjoy a wonderful paddle while helping cleanup the St. Mary's River, Saturday, April 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon during the 7th Annual St. Mary's River Cleanup hosted by the St. Mary's River Watershed Association. Volunteers will paddle up and down the St. Mary's River Water Trail from the end of Adkins Road. The public is invited to participate. Registration is required. Please contact: [Bob Lewis@stmarysriver.org](mailto:Bob.Lewis@stmarysriver.org)



Upcoming Events:

- **STREAM SAMPLING**
TBD
March thru April 2015
Email Bob to get on the schedule
Bob.Lewis@stmarysriver.org
- Join us for the
7th Annual
RIVER CLEAN UP
Saturday, April 11, 2015
9 am to noon
Paddling event



OUR MISSION

To protect, improve, and promote the sustainability 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!](#)

Call to register to volunteer at info@stmarysriver.org

- **EARTH DAY on the Leonardtown Square**
Sunday, April 19, 2015
12:30 - 4:00 pm
- **ARTS FESTIVAL**
Saturday, May 2, 2015
Time TBD
Chesapeake Charter School
- **YOUTH FISHING RODEO**
Saturday, May 9, 2015
St. Mary's River State Park
- **POTOMAC RIVER SWIM**
Saturday, June 6, 2015
Point Lookout State Park
Bring a dish to share -
lunch begins at 10:00 am
More info 301-737-2903.
- **NATIONAL ENVIROTHON OYSTER PLANTING**
Monday, June 15, 2015
9:00 am to noon
College Waterfront
- **SAVE THE DATE**



Saturday, September 26, 2015
11:00 am to 4:00 pm
State House,
Historic St. Mary's City
More info 301-737-2903

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