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WATERSHED WATCH

ST. MARY'S RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

PO Box 94
St. Mary's City, MD 20686

June 6, 2019

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A River Affair

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May 27—What a great turnout we had this year at our ninth annual A River Affair! We had 140 in attendance and raised over \$35,000! A River Affair was held May 27th at The Ruddy Duck Seafood & Alehouse on St. George Island. We had a warm and sunny afternoon that was enjoyed by all!



This day is so important to our operation as it is our biggest fundraiser of the year and supports our restoration efforts on the St. Mary's River. We are so grateful to those who could not attend but supported our fundraiser with their donations and services. We also extend many thanks to our attendees, auction winners, generous donors, and our hosts: Jeffrey Clark, Brian & Marie Tarleton, Diana Mendes & Mark Bassett, John & Karen Garner, Mary Barber & Curtis von Kann, Bob & Susan Paul, Julie & Larry O'Brien, Bob & Kathy Groat, Wayne Cook—Cook's Deli, Bob & Sue Taylor—Taylor Gas Co., & John Giusti & Sherry Stanley—we could have not done it without you all!



Congratulations to this year's River Champions—Dr. Chris Tanner and Allison Rugila. Chris has been integral in the design and implementation of the St. Mary's Oyster Reef Project, and has supported us for many years. Allison Rugila worked for the association during a strategic five-year period of growth and success. Make sure to join us next year for our tenth annual A River Affair! You won't want to miss it!

Webster Field Informational Meeting

June 13th at 5:00p.m. at the Charlotte Hall Library

The Navy's annex, Webster Field, is the only point source of pollution in the St. Mary's River. Over time rumors have risen suggesting this source, the wastewater treatment plant, encountered overflows and violations of environmental regulations. Most of these rumors had no facts to back them. In fact, the Navy has upgraded this plant and is currently undergoing final state permit approvals for discharge into the river. At the request of the St. Mary's River Watershed Association, the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Department of Natural Resources will hold a public information meeting at the Charlotte Hall Library at 5:00 pm on June 13 where they will discuss compliance with regulations, restrictions on the harvest of shellfish, answer questions, and provide other information regarding this facility. Persons living on or near Webster Field, users of the waters in the tidal St. Mary's River, and watermen are strongly advised to attend this meeting. For more information, call 410-537-3363 and cite permit #16DP2523.

Metropolitan Commission Sewer Line Break



On May 30, 2019 at 1:22pm, a Metropolitan Commission (Metcom) sanitary sewer line leak was reported from the St. Mary's College of Maryland campus. This leak occurred on the college's Townhouse Green. The leak was contained by 3:30 that afternoon, though repairs were not completed until Friday at 1 a.m. This leak resulted in a sanitary spill into Wheritt's Pond. The downstream waters of the St. Mary's River were also affected, including the college's beachfront. It was recommended in a press release from the St. Mary's County Health Department that contact with these waters be avoided for a minimum of 7 days after the spill.

WIN A KAYAK!!

\$2 a chance, 6 for \$10

Our Raffle is open to participants!

This year we are raffling off a brand new 10' Pelican Kayak. The drawing takes place September 28, 2019 at 4:00p.m. at RiverFest.

[Buy tickets here!](#) All proceeds go to SMRWA.





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



Upcoming Events:

- St. Mary's County Crab Festival
Saturday June 8
10:00 am to 7:00 pm
St. Mary's County Fairgrounds
- Juneteenth Celebration
Saturday June 15
Noon to 8:00 pm
John G Lancaster Park
- Maryland Envirothon State Finals
Tuesday June 18 to Thursday June 20
(Oyster planting 5:45 pm Wed June 19)
St. Mary's College of Maryland
- Governor's Cup Yacht Race
Saturday, August 3
St. Mary's College of Maryland Waterfront
- RiverFest 2019
Saturday, September 28
11:00 am to 4:00 pm
Historic St. Mary's City

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