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WATERSHED WATCH

ST. MARY'S RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
PO Box 94
St. Mary's City, MD 20686

February 5, 2020

[Join or Renew](#)

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- >>Police Fail to Cite Poacher
- >>Annual Meeting - Feb. 15
- >>Broodstock Harvest in Sanctuary this Saturday

SAVE-THE-DATE

A River Affair

Monday, May 25, 2020

1 to 4 pm

Ruddy Duck Seafood &
Alehouse

[Purchase Tickets](#)



DNR to Harvest Oysters from Sanctuary this Saturday

Maryland is underway with a large-scale restoration of oysters in the St. Mary's River shellfish sanctuary. The state hatchery at Horn Point will breed St. Mary's River oysters and return tens of millions of spat back to our



river over the next two years. To grow these spat, they need approximately 10 bushels of brood stock from our river. This Saturday February 8th the state will be dredging oysters at three locations depicted by the red polygons in the lower half of the map shown here. These areas are southeast and west of Pagan Point and between Church Point and the college pier. We will join DNR scientists on this mission aboard the work vessel. Oysters will be offloaded at the college pier.

The sites targeted for this harvest are sites that will receive 12 inches of substrate (stone or shells) prior to planting spat. Therefore this harvest is necessary to save the existing oysters from being buried. The state will return in 2021 to replant these same areas with spat in order to have multi-age class oysters remaining on each bar. Oysters reproduce best when multi-age animals are present in the same area.

Police Fail to Cite Poacher in Sanctuary



January 9, 2020—The call was made to the Maryland Poacher Hotline at 8:22 am reporting a vessel dredging and harvesting oysters in the St. Mary's River shellfish sanctuary. A photo was texted to the hotline at the same time documenting the violation. A Natural Resources Police officer showed up about 45 minutes later, simply told the violator to depart the area, and allowed the poacher to keep and sell the oysters. The officer failed to do his job, which is to cite the violator for poaching in a sanctuary, to confiscate their license or licenses, and to confiscate the illegally harvested oysters. [Read more.](#)



St. Mary's River Watershed Association

ANNUAL MEETING

10:00 a.m. Saturday, February 15 , 2020

Ruddy Duck Seafood & Alehouse—St. George Island

Light Refreshments Served



Speaker: Kate Fritz

Executive Director, Alliance for the
Chesapeake Bay

St. Mary's River Inspires Lifelong Pursuit of
Bay Restoration

Nominations and Elections for Board of
Directors will be held.

Please RSVP to 301-904-2387 (text or voicemail)

or to BobSMRWA@gmail.com



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!](#)

Upcoming Events:

- Annual Meeting
Saturday Feb. 15
10:00 to 11:15 am
Ruddy Duck Seafood & Alehouse
- A River Affair
SAVE THE DATE
Monday, May 25
1:00 to 4:00 pm
Ruddy Duck Seafood & Alehouse
[Purchase Tickets](#)
- RiverFest 2020
Saturday, September 26
SAVE THE DATE
11:00 am to 4:00 pm
Historic St. Mary's City

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