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# WATERSHED WATCH

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

March 23, 2023

## *A River Affair*

[Join or Renew](#)

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Our annual fundraiser, A River Affair, will be held on Memorial Day Monday, May 29 from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm at the Ruddy Duck on St. George Island. Enjoy rich wines, crisp, frosty beers, and hors d'oeuvres. The menu includes seared salmon with Dijonaise, oysters Rockefeller, and a plethora of other treats including vegetarian and vegan options. We are gathering original artwork, unique experiences, and several other treasures for our live auction. If you don't want to miss out, please purchase

your tickets at <https://www.smrwa.org/aRiverAffair23.html>

## 2023 River Champion

Save the Date!

The St. Mary's River Watershed Association is proud to announce our 2023 River Champion: [The Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust](#). We will honor their work and dedication to our community at A River Affair.



## *A River Affair*



The Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust preserves rural lands for current and future generations through conservation easements. Since their founding, they have preserved more than 6,000 acres in St. Mary's county. Currently, they're working to remove the invasive and non-native English Ivy vines from Historic St. Mary's City and ivy and other non-natives from Myrtle Point County Park. They are founding members of the Southern Maryland Conservation Alliance and are fierce advocates of the Patuxent River through their work with the Patuxent River Commission. SMRWA works closely with PTLT and is hoping to grow this partnership in the coming years.

Mark your calendars for May 29th and enjoy frosty libations, great food, live music, and unique live auction items.

## Come Volunteer!

We're so excited for the warmer weather and another busy spring and summer outside. We had our first volunteer work event on March 11th, and we had 15 amazing volunteers. These volunteers filled 452 bags with oyster shells - nearly a record for a single day!



The shells will be cleaned and loaded into our nursery tank at St. Mary's College this summer. We will add oyster larva to the tank to settle on these shells. Once the larva attaches to the shells, the baby oysters are called spat. The spat-on-shell will grow until they are at least 6 weeks old and then, we will plant them in the river's oyster sanctuary.

We hope to plant 4 million spat in the St. Mary's River this summer. This will require around 1600 bags of shells, and we're definitely going to need your help! Our next volunteer event is on Sunday, March 26th from 9 am - 12 pm. Please RSVP via the [Facebook event](#) or by texting Emma at 301-395-5757.

Save The Date:





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



[Join or Renew Today!](#)

- Shell Bagging  
9am- Noon March 26  
19089 Point Lookout Rd  
RSVP by text 301-395-5757
- Bay2Bay Cage Building  
11am- 2 pm April 2  
St. Mary's College of Maryland  
Goodpasture Hall Loading Dock  
Inquire by text 301-395-5757
- St. Mary's River Clean Up  
9am- Noon April 15  
St. Mary's City  
RSVP by text 301-904-2387
- Earth Day Festival  
11am- 4pm April 22  
Somerset Farm, Hollywood

*A River Affair*

- May 29  
[More Info/Buy Tickets](#)  
Inquire by text 301-904-2387
- Crab Festival  
10am- 7pm June 10  
Fairgrounds
- Juneteenth Festival  
Noon- 5pm June 17  
Lancaster Park, Lexington Park



- 11am- 4pm September 23, 2023  
Inquire by text 301-395-5757  
[Learn more](#)

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