



**A symposium for  
Maryland's oyster industry:  
Innovative ideas from around the country**

**Sunday, October 23, 2016  
Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum  
St Michaels, Maryland**



University of Maryland  
CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE



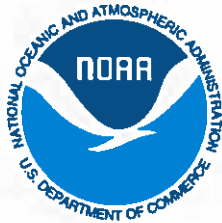
**MARYLAND**  
DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES



## ABOUT THIS SYMPOSIUM

The goal of this symposium is to learn about innovative ideas and talk about how to work together to improve Maryland's oyster industry. With invited speakers from around the country and a panel discussion that includes experts in commercial fishing and aquaculture, this public symposium will help get people thinking and talking about what we can do to improve the oyster industry in Maryland and the lives of people who depend on it.

## SPONSORS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Jeff Blair, David Blazer, Suzanne Bricker, Kim Couranz, Michael Fincham, Kiera Givens, Jeff Harrison, Bob Jones, Chris Judy, Greg Kemp, Fredrika Moser, Elizabeth North, Matt Parker, Cody Paul, Daniel Pendick, Peyton Robertson, Johnny Shockley, Suzanne Skelley, Shannon Sprague, Jane Thomas, and Michael Wilberg.

# AGENDA

**1:00** Introduction: symposium goals, recognition of sponsors.

- Jeff Blair and Robert Jones, *FCRC Consensus Center, Florida State University*
- Elizabeth North, *University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Horn Point Laboratory*

## Talks and speakers

**1:15** Rotational harvest and other strategies for Virginia's oyster fishery.

- **James Wesson**, *Department Head Conservation and Replenishment, Virginia Marine Resources Commission*

**1:35** Sustaining oyster fishery habitat and oyster fishery harvests in Delaware Bay.

- **David Bushek**, *Director and Associate Professor, Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory*

**1:55** Status of Virginia's up-and-coming oyster aquaculture industry.

- **Karen Hudson**, *Shellfish Aquaculture Specialist, Virginia Institute of Marine Science*

**2:15** Innovative ideas from Taylor Shellfish Farms – a leading producer of farmed shellfish in the country.

- **Bill Dewey**, *Director of Public Affairs, Taylor Shellfish Farms*

**2:35** Break, catered by Chesapeake Landing Restaurant.

## Audience discussion with industry representatives and speakers

**2:50** Introduction of the session and overview of the three questions.

**3:00** Introduction of three panelists.

- **Steve Fleetwood**, *Bivalve Packing Company, New Jersey*
- **Donald C. Porter Sr.**, *Commercial Fisherman, Shellfish Management Advisory Committee for Virginia Marine Resources Commission*
- **John Vigliotta**, *Aquaculturist, Mobjack Bay Seafood and Ward Oyster Co.*

**3:15** Community discussion with panel members and speakers.

- How do you think aquaculture and public fisheries can work together to improve the oyster resource?
- Is theft/poaching a problem for aquaculture and public fisheries? If so, how can we work together to find solutions for it?
- How important is a source of oyster shell to your industry? Do you have ideas about how to work together to enhance the shell resource?

**4:50** Symposium wrap-up, acknowledgements, and next steps

**5:00** Adjourn



## SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

**James Wesson** is the head of the Conservation and Replenishment Department of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC). Dr. Wesson has been involved for over 20 years in programs to replenish the Chesapeake Bay oyster populations that were devastated in the late 20th century by disease and environmental degradation. Through his leadership, commercial oyster aquaculture, which is regulated by the VMRC, has again established Virginia as a national leader in oyster production. Before earning his graduate degrees, Dr. Wesson worked on the water as a crabber and was for four years president of the Working Waterman's Association.

**Dr David Bushek** is the Director of the Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory (HSRL) at Rutgers University and an Associate Professor of Marine and Coastal Sciences. His expertise covers shellfish ecology, parasitology, aquaculture, and fisheries. He is best known for his work on Dermo disease in eastern oysters which has been used to guide shellfish management along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts. After becoming HSRL Director in 2011 he took on responsibility of the annual Delaware Bay NJ oyster stock assessment to help manage the oyster fishery. His research and that of the Haskin Lab in general covers a variety of fisheries as well as the development of shellfish aquaculture.

**Karen Hudson** is the Shellfish Aquaculture Specialist at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science Advisory Program, affiliated with Virginia Sea Grant. Hudson provides a singularly focused point of contact for industry, communities and agencies whose actions directly or indirectly impact the conduct and expansion of shellfish aquaculture in Virginia. She is actively involved in fostering the development of applied research projects to address complex shellfish culture problems.

**Bill Dewey** has been a shellfish farmer in Washington State for thirty-plus years, taking an active role shaping local, state and federal public policy as it affects the shellfish culture industry. He has worked to develop and implement an environmental code of practice for the shellfish industry and third party sustainability certification. In 2006 the National Shellfisheries Association selected Bill to receive the David Wallace award recognizing him for his "long and dedicated service in promoting research, understanding and cooperation among shellfish scientists, culturists, managers, producers and regulators." In 2012 Washington's Governor Gregoire appointed him to the State's Ocean Acidification Blue Ribbon Panel.

**Steve Fleetwood** has been an active participant in the Delaware Bay Oyster Industry for over 30 years. He is CEO of Bivalve Packing Company, which is a leading grower, harvester and shipper of Delaware Bay Oysters nationwide. Steve has been a strong supporter and active participant in oyster restoration projects in New Jersey. As an advocate of the Delaware Bay Shellfish industry, he has served on the Delaware Bay Shellfish Council for the past 20 years and serves on the Executive Board of the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference as the Region 2 industry representative.

**Donald C. Porter, Sr** has been commercial fishing for oysters for 43 years in the waters of Virginia's Chesapeake Bay, and has crabbed, clammed and shed soft crabs as well. Mr. Porter hails from Saxis, Virginia, and has served as a member of the Shellfish Management Advisory Committee for Virginia Marine Resources Commission for the last two years.

**John Vigliotta**, originally a clam fisherman from Long Island, took over full ownership of Ward Oyster Co. in 1991. Ward Oyster Co. is one of the largest cage oyster farms in the Commonwealth of Virginia, distributing its oysters throughout the United States. He also formed Mobjack Bay Seafood, Inc. which handles wild clam and oyster purchases as well as distribution of products for both companies.

# OYSTER INDUSTRY QUICK FACTS

*Public fisheries and aquaculture (farm and private ground production)*

## Maryland

Public fishery harvest in 2015/16: **383,090 MD bushels**

Number of oyster surcharges paid in 2015/16: **1,116**

Aquaculture production in 2015: **50,637 MD bushels**

Current number of lease holders: **170**

Current number of leases: **386 for about 6,062 acres**

## Delaware Bay

Public fishery harvest in 2015: **87,430 US bushels (66,523 MD bushels)**

Number of licenses in the public fishery: **81**

Aquaculture: **seven (out of 12) farms sold a total of 1,627,669 oysters in 2014 (~4,600 MD bushels)**

## Virginia (for 2015/16 harvest year)

Public fishery harvest: **260,182 VA bushels (277,150 MD bushels)**

Number of licenses in the public fishery: **908**

Aquaculture (hatchery based) farm production: **~100,000-125,000 VA bushels (~106,500-133,000 MD bushels)**

Total private (leased ground) production: **366,321 VA bushels (390,212 MD bushels)**

Current number of aquaculture license holders: **814**

Current number of leases: **about 5000 leases for about 120,000 acres**

## Washington State

Aquaculture production of Pacific oysters in 2013: **8,793,138 pounds meat (764,621 MD bushels)**

## Estuary size

Chesapeake Bay: **4,479 mi<sup>2</sup>**

Delaware Bay: **784 mi<sup>2</sup>**

Washington State estuaries Grays Harbor (~204 mi<sup>2</sup>), Puget Sound (1,020 mi<sup>2</sup>),

Willapa Bay (260 mi<sup>2</sup>): **1,484 mi<sup>2</sup> total**

Note: conversion between MD, VA, and US bushels was based on MD bushel = 46 L, US bushel = 35 L, VA bushel = 49 L. Conversion of pounds meat to bushels was based on 8.75 lbs/US bushel.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MARYLAND?

## Maryland Department of Natural Resources



DNR is the state resource agency responsible for oyster restoration and management, which

includes the public fishery, the oyster sanctuary program, aquaculture, and the Natural Resources Police.

### For more information:

Christopher Judy, Shellfish Division Director, for the public fishery and the sanctuary program. (410) 260-8259.

Karl Roscher, Aquaculture and Industry Enhancement Division Director, for aquaculture and leasing. (410) 260-8313.

## Maryland Sea Grant



The Maryland Sea Grant College supports scientific research, education, and public outreach to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay and Maryland's coastal resources. We serve as a bridge between scientific expertise and the

needs of people who manage, conserve, enjoy, and make their living from the Chesapeake, America's largest and most productive estuary.

Maryland Sea Grant is a partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. We are part of the University System of Maryland and are administered by the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES). We support activities through the state of Maryland. Our headquarters are located at the University of Maryland in College Park.

We support a robust extension program to help develop Maryland's oyster industry. Maryland Sea Grant Extension specialists are training growers to use remote setting for oyster aquaculture and assisting entrepreneurs to obtain loans to start new oyster aquaculture businesses, among other projects.

### For more information:

Dr. Jorge Holzer, Fisheries Economics Specialist, College Park, MD, [jholzer@umd.edu](mailto:jholzer@umd.edu)

Dr. Chengchu (Cathy) Liu, Seafood Technology Specialist, Princess Anne, MD, [cathyliu@umd.edu](mailto:cathyliu@umd.edu)

Dr. Donald Meritt, Shellfish Aquaculture Specialist, Cambridge, MD, [dmeritt@umces.edu](mailto:dmeritt@umces.edu)

Mr. Matt Parker, Aquaculture Business Specialist, Clinton, MD, [mparke11@umd.edu](mailto:mparke11@umd.edu)

Mr. Donald Webster, Commercial Aquaculture Regional Specialist, Queenstown, MD, [dwebster@umd.edu](mailto:dwebster@umd.edu)  
[extension.umd.edu/aquaculture](http://extension.umd.edu/aquaculture)

## NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office



The NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office, a division of NOAA Fisheries' Office of Habitat Conservation, manages programs and projects related to fisheries, habitat, observations, environmental literacy, and climate, as well as collaborative

efforts in the Choptank Habitat Focus Area. Toward the goal of having more oysters in the Chesapeake Bay, NOAA contributes science and expertise to support oyster restoration. Experts and scientists conduct sonar surveys of potential restoration areas to pinpoint sites where restoration is likely to be effective, help draft blueprints to guide restoration, monitor the health of restored areas post-construction, and facilitate restoration by chairing the Maryland Interagency Oyster Restoration Workgroup. NOAA also funds production of spat-on-shell for restoration and carries out and supports research to quantify the effects of restored oyster reefs (including fish utilization and denitrification) on the ecosystem and economy.

### For more information:

[www.chesapeakebay.noaa.gov](http://www.chesapeakebay.noaa.gov)

## Oyster Recovery Partnership (ORP)



OYSTER RECOVERY PARTNERSHIP®  
— ORP —

Maryland's leading nonprofit restoring the oyster population in the Chesapeake Bay. ORP collaboratively works with state and federal government agencies, scientists, watermen and conservation organizations to restore reefs and maintain a viable future for oysters.

### Programs include:

- Oyster recovery — has planted 6.7 billion oysters on 2,200 acres of reefs in Maryland, including the largest sanctuary in the U.S..
- Shell recycling — manages the Shell Recycling Alliance. With more than 300 members, it is the largest network of restaurants recycling shell in the country.
- Oyster aquaculture — provides resources to assist watermen in producing, managing and promoting their oysters and farms.
- Public oyster fishery programs — works with Maryland watermen to plant shell and spat on shell on public fishery shellfish areas.
- Outreach — spreads environmental awareness through a wide range of educational programs and events.

### For more information:

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

[info@oysterrecovery.org](mailto:info@oysterrecovery.org)

## MARBIDCO



MARBIDCO  
growing rural ventures™

The Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (MARBIDCO) offers several financing programs to help Maryland's farm, forestry and seafood businesses to get the commercial capital and credit they need to start or expand their enterprises. With the support of the

Maryland Fisheries Service and the University of Maryland Extension, two of these programs are specifically targeted to supporting oyster aquaculture.

The Maryland Shellfish Aquaculture Financing Fund Program provides financing for on-bottom and/or water

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MARYLAND?

column production projects, including purchase of shell (substrate), oyster seed (larvae), and capital equipment (such as cages, floats, tumblers, etc.).

- The maximum individual subsidized loan amount is \$100,000 (with a cumulative cap of \$200,000).
- Term loans that carry an interest-only rate of just 3% for the first three years before the loan amortizes (and the interest rate resets to 5% for the remainder of the loan term).
- Borrowers have an opportunity to receive a forgiveness of 25% of the loan principal balance amount.
- Applicants must hold or have applied for a DNR Shellfish Aquaculture Lease.

MARBIDCO also offers a Remote Setting Shellfish Aquaculture Loan Program to assist commercial watermen with their nursery projects (using tanks). The maximum subsidized loan amount is \$30,000, and a DNR shellfish nursery permit is required.

**For more information:**

Linda Arnold, Financial Programs Officer  
larnold@marbidco.org  
1410 Forest Drive, Suite 21  
Annapolis, MD 21403  
(410) 267-6807  
www.marbidco.org

### National Aquarium, Seafood Smart



The Seafood Smart program promotes and supports responsibly farmed and harvested fish, shellfish, and sea vegetables. Sustainable aquaculture and wild harvest practices are critical for consumer health, growing

populations and preservation of the Bay and our Oceans. The National Aquarium will work with all stakeholders to raise awareness and encourage consumers to make smart seafood choices, support and stimulate regional economies, and improve aquatic environments. Key initiatives include:

- Connecting the relationships between healthy eating, better food security, and taking pressure off aquatic resources to meet our needs
- Supporting trends that identify responsible aquaculture for consumers
- Creating product demand through consumer education to stimulate the domestic aquaculture market
- Convening key stakeholders to create sustainable seafood solutions

**For more information:**

Tj Tate, Director of Sustainable Seafood, 410-576-4236 or 904-669-8894 (cell), ttate@aqua.org  
Susan Bitter, Sustainable Seafood Coordinator, 410-576-1503 or 410-952-1743 (cell), sbitter@aqua.org

### Chesapeake Bay Foundation



**CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION**  
*Saving a National Treasure*

The mission of CBF's Oyster Program is to assist in rebuilding the Bay's oyster stocks and their ecological and economic benefits through restoration, outreach and advocacy.

CBF is a non-profit organization with over 200,000 members throughout the Bay region. Our offices in Maryland, Virginia and D.C. advocate for oyster conservation, restoration and funding, working with citizens, decision-makers and the oyster industry.

We have Oyster Restoration Centers in Shady Side, MD, and Gloucester Point, VA, where we:

- Produce 30–50 million spat-on-shell per year that we plant on sanctuary reefs;
- Produce 400–500 concrete reef balls per year that we set with spat and deploy at sanctuary sites;
- Train and guide over 500 oyster gardening families;
- Recycle over 1,000 bushels of shell yearly; and
- Provide over 20,000 hours of involvement for citizen volunteers per year.

**For more information:**

www.cbf.org/oysters

### The Nature Conservancy



Protecting nature. Preserving life.

The Nature Conservancy is a leading conservation organization working around the world to conserve the lands and waters on which all life

depends. Restoring oysters is a focus of ours here in the Chesapeake and around the world given their tremendous value as ecosystem engineers of our bays and estuaries, filtering water, providing a natural barrier to storm waves, and adding habitat for fish and other marine life. Our conservation work focuses on developing the science and collaborations needed to restore oyster reefs for all the benefits they provide. We also partner with industry to evaluate how aquaculture can best achieve both economic and environmental goals.

**For more information:**

Mark Bryer, Director, Chesapeake Bay Program (mbryer@tnc.org) or visit nature.org

### Chesapeake Bay Trust



CBTrust.org • BayPlate.org

The Chesapeake Bay Trust, supported by the Treasure the Chesapeake license plate and other sources, funds public awareness, K-12 education, restoration, and research projects on a variety

of topics, including oysters. Examples of oyster related projects funded in the past by the Trust include community engagement in oyster restoration, K-12 environmental education projects in which students learn about oysters in

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the field and participate in growing oysters, and scientific research on restoration and aquaculture topics.

**For more information:**  
Visit [www.cbtrust.org](http://www.cbtrust.org)

## Midshore Riverkeeper Conservancy (MRC)



MRC's mission is to restore, protect and celebrate the Miles, Wye and Choptank Rivers and Eastern Bay, and all their tributaries.

MRC manages the The Marylanders Grow Oysters (MGO) program for the Miles, Wye, Tred

Avon, and Choptank Rivers. The goal of the program is to engage property owners in protecting the young oysters during their vulnerable first year of life, so they may be planted on local sanctuaries where the oysters can enrich the ecosystem and the oyster population. MRC has established a network of 230 waterfront properties who's owners actively grow a total of 930 cages worth of spat-on-shell oysters.

MRC is active in oyster protection legislation during the Maryland Legislative Session. Earlier this year, working in concert with other environmental organizations, Matt Pluta, the Choptank Riverkeeper helped to form a state-wide oyster advocacy group consisting of scientists, researchers, and advocates to prepare a unified response during the legislative session. This group of experts advocated for legislation that became the Sustainable Oyster Harvest Act of 2016. This legislation allows scientists to develop biological reference points to help guide oyster management and set forth scientific guidelines to measure harvest potential.

**For more information:**  
Matt Pluta  
Choptank Riverkeeper  
Office: 443-385-0511  
[matt@midshoreriverkeeper.org](mailto:matt@midshoreriverkeeper.org)  
[midshoreriverkeeper.org](http://midshoreriverkeeper.org)

## VIMS Aquaculture Genetics and Breeding Technology Center (ABC)



ABC is an applied shellfish breeding group at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science dedicated to the improvement of shellfish germ plasm

for the benefit of aquaculture in Chesapeake Bay. Our breeding program offers improved disease resistant lines of oysters for industry use and the creation and improvement of tetraploids for commercial production of triploids. ABC does not sell seed, but provides its broods stock to hatcheries for commercial propagation. ABC also has an active applied research program in shellfish genetics and aquaculture and operates a training program to turn out new professionals for growing businesses.

**For more information:**  
Dr. Standish Allen, [ska@vims.edu](mailto:ska@vims.edu)  
Dr. Jessica Small, [jamoss@vims.edu](mailto:jamoss@vims.edu)

## Cooperative Oxford Laboratory



Cooperative Oxford Laboratory (COL) is home to units of NOAA, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and U.S. Coast Guard. Oyster related science conducted at the Lab includes:

- Oysters & Bioextraction: NOAA researchers are working with University of Maryland and Maryland shellfish growers to

provide information on oysters' capacity to extract nutrients from the water. This info will guide development of the use of oysters as a best management practice in comprehensive nutrient management programs.

- Pathogen forecasting: Using NOAA's world class observational and modeling framework, COL is leading a national effort to reduce the risk of illness from naturally occurring, harmful *Vibrio* bacteria. <https://coastalscience.noaa.gov/products/vibrioforecast/default>
- Oyster Marking: Researchers at COL in collaboration with University of Maryland and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources are working to develop a methodology for marking oysters for re-identification. This may give restoration managers, growers, and the natural resource enforcement community tools to address oyster related management questions.
- Oyster Diseases: DNR scientists perform expert testing for diseases among oysters sampled during annual DNR surveys that monitor abundance, reproduction, mortality, and diseases in wild oysters of Maryland, Chesapeake Bay waters.

**For more information:**  
[coastalscience.noaa.gov/about/centers/col](http://coastalscience.noaa.gov/about/centers/col)  
[dnr2.maryland.gov/fisheries/Pages/oxford/index.aspx](http://dnr2.maryland.gov/fisheries/Pages/oxford/index.aspx)

## Maryland Department of the Environment



**Maryland**  
Department of  
the Environment

Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) is responsible for identifying and eliminating pollution sources affecting Maryland's shellfish harvest. MDE's Shellfish

Certification Division is responsible for regulating shellfish harvesting waters. This effort has three parts: 1) identifying and eliminating pollution sources; 2) collecting water samples for bacteriological examination; and 3) examining shellstock samples for bacteriological contamination and chemical toxicants. Through the efforts of this extensive program, Maryland has enjoyed an excellent reputation as a source of safe and wholesome shellfish products to seafood lovers throughout the nation and the world.

**For more information:**  
SSA (Science Services Administration)  
Environmental Risk Assessment Program-Shellfish  
Certification Division  
(410) 537-3906  
Facebook and Twitter: @MDEnvironment



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## Talbot Watermen Association and Talbot County Shell Committee

The goals of the Talbot Watermen Association are to promote Talbot County seafood, and to support the industry through ecological, as well as economic measures that seek to revitalize the Chesapeake Bay. The Association is comprised primarily of watermen, their families, and related industry businesses such as processors, shipping companies and drivers, restaurant workers, and other marine related activities. In 2016, the Talbot Watermen Association and Talbot County Shell Committee has spent almost \$700,000 in shell replenishment through the Oyster Shell Replenishment Program which uses shell from shucking houses and oyster seed from private hatcheries.

**For more information:**

P.O. Box 324  
Bozman, MD 21612  
(410) 745-9759  
talbotwatermen@gmail.com

## U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, plays a key role in interagency oyster restoration efforts and aquaculture activities throughout the Chesapeake Bay. The Corps constructs reefs in the Harris Creek and

Tred Avon River sanctuaries — touted as one of the largest oyster restoration projects in the world. The initial monitoring results from Harris Creek, the first tributary where construction was completed in Maryland, show restoration efforts are meeting established goals. In addition to oyster restoration, our Regulatory Branch works with Maryland Department of Natural Resources to permit and lease, respectively, aquaculture activities in Maryland. During summer 2016, the Corps reinstated Nationwide Permit #48 for aquaculture activities in Maryland. Under this permit, project acreage limitations have been removed for qualifying projects, and the state and federal review process with Maryland DNR will become more streamlined.

**For more information:**

www.nab.usace.army.mil  
CENAB-CC@usace.army.mil

## University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science



The University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science leads the way toward better management of Maryland's natural resources and the protection and

restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. From a network of laboratories located across the state, UMCES scientists provide sound advice to help state and national leaders manage the environment, and prepare future scientists to meet the global challenges of the 21st century.

**For more information:**

www.umces.edu

## OysterFutures



The goal of OysterFutures is to test a new approach for developing recommendations for oyster policies and management that meet the needs of industry, citizen, and government

stakeholders in the Choptank and Little Choptank Rivers. With funding from the National Science Foundation, we are holding a series of workgroup meetings with a representative group of stakeholders from the key interest groups that affect and are affected by the oyster fishery. Through these meetings, the stakeholders will produce a collective vision for the future of oysters in this region and build consensus on policy and regulatory options which will be informed by stakeholder and scientific knowledge and by the joint development and use of a modeling tool. Professional independent facilitators with experience in fisheries issues are convening the stakeholder meetings. The facilitators will ensure that a consensus-based approach is used to develop the collective vision and recommended actions for a sustainable and profitable future for the oyster industry and resource in the Choptank and Little Choptank Rivers. Scientists from the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science participate.

**For more information:**

oysterfutures.wordpress.com/about-oysterfutures  
Dr. Elizabeth North, enorth@umces.edu

## Coastal Conservation Association



The purpose of the Coastal Conservation Association of Maryland (CCA MD) is to advocate for the health and sustainability of our marine resources and to conserve, promote and enhance the availability of these resources. CCA MD is also committed to enhancing the interaction, education and angling enjoyment of its members through events,

tournaments, seminars and meetings. It is our resolute belief that an organization with a close-knit, well-informed and active membership can achieve profound results in conservation while cultivating the individual recreational success and enjoyment of its members.

**For more information:**

www.ccamd.org  
1-800-201-FISH (3474)  
information@ccamd.org

## Phillips Wharf Environmental Center



**Phillips Wharf Environmental Center**

Phillips Wharf Environmental Center, located on Tilghman Island,

MD is a non-profit organization created to provide a hands-on experience and education with the animals

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and plants that inhabit the Chesapeake Bay region. In addition to learning about the environment, visitors also learn how the Chesapeake Bay watermen harvest the Bay's resources. Our mission is nothing short of saving our precious Chesapeake Bay as a natural resource and as a source of healthy seafood and productive jobs for our residents along its shores. It is through our many programs that we can help others understand how the daily decisions we

make each day can impact the Bay and its health and well-being. Phillips Wharf Environmental Center is supported by volunteers, interns, grants, donations and memberships from generous people who want to take action to help restore the Bay and its inhabitants.

**For more information:**

Kelley Cox, [kelley@pwec.org](mailto:kelley@pwec.org)  
[phillipswharf.org](http://phillipswharf.org)



Reef community at a constructed oyster reef. Photo credit: Jay Fleming photography commissioned by Oyster Recovery Partnership.