



THE SEVERN RIVER ASSOCIATION

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OYSTER CARE NOVEMBER

Your oyster babies do not need much attention this month. If you “tea bagged” them since last month then you can probably ignore them now. If not, then this is a good reminder to catch up this month. You simply need to lift them out of the water and drop them down a couple of times. You don’t have to be too gentle, as they can take a little abuse and the rough treatment will help to knock loose the sediment.

The water temperature is still warm, in the mid-50’s, according to NOAA’s Annapolis buoy on 11/11, so there is no need to be concerned about freezing until next month.

Thank you for your participation. Your oysters helped make us the leading oyster garden program with the most volunteers participating. New volunteers from the Annapolis Yacht Club are most welcome, and there are now 75 cages at the Club’s floating docks on the Eastport side of Spa Creek. Most others have repeated their participation again this year, and we can proudly say we are raising spat in over 1400 cages in the Severn River watershed.

This year we started off with plenty of spat and cages, yet the distribution took longer – almost six weeks from beginning to end, and there might have been scattered shortages near the end. My thanks to sponsors in Sherwood Forest for providing extra cages and making sure extra spat found safe homes. Regardless of whether you individually are sponsoring 3 or 30 cages, you’re a significant part of this effort to restore oysters on the Severn River.

THIS IS WHAT YOUR SPAT SHOULD LOOK LIKE NOW
THEY’RE GROWING NICELY –SOME OVER 1/8” ALREADY!



Bob Whitcomb, Chair
SRA Oyster Steering Committee