



THE SEVERN RIVER ASSOCIATION

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OYSTER NEWS – AUGUST 2015

By now all of last year's spat should be transferred to the SRA Oyster Sanctuary and enjoying the nutrient-rich waters of the Severn. The sanctuary reef has six years' of oysters filtering the waters flowing in and out with the tide. According to the UMD samples and the 7/23/15 Capital, oysters in the Severn are doing very well, with great growth and little mortality.

This begins the seventh year of growing oysters on the Severn and helping restore Chesapeake Bay water quality. The Marylanders Grow Oysters program continues to expand, as described at <http://www.oysters.maryland.gov/>. With your participation, SRA has the most growers of any tributary, and this year we will distribute spat at nine locations in the Severn watershed.

This is the yearly request for you to place your order for spat. If you haven't already, please tell your local coordinator how many cages you want to sponsor this year. The coordinators are busy compiling their orders for ORP (Oyster Recovery Partnership) who will deliver most of our spat on September 10th and 11th. Remember, one bag fills 3 cages, so only order what you need. Check with your coordinator to learn the details of distribution at:

Whitehall Marina (Whitehall Bay Conservancy) - djcarren@verizon.net

Providence - johnmenoca@aol.com

Herald Harbor (north) - lubbetc@icloud.com

Herald Harbor (south) – dlccrump@gmail.com

Long Point – lengle.t@verizon.net

Mid-river West (Saefern Marina) - sraoysters@comcast.net

Mid-river East (Severn Heights) - miller550@comcast.net

Bay Ridge Marina (Lake Ogleton) – KarstenLaw@gmail.com

Annapolis Yacht Club (Eastport docks) -- dockmaster@annapolisyc.org



Please let me or your coordinator know your needs for spat as soon as possible so they order the right quantity. If you want more cages, or recruit your neighbor or others to participate, again let us know, as ORP will deliver new cages for first-time growers. We can also obtain replacement cages if you need them. By now your cages should be cleaned and ready for the newest crop of spat.

Please take time to thank your Coordinator for the effort they put in to help this program.

Bob Whitcomb

Chair

SRA Oyster Committee