



## **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. Like the last instruction all you need to do is lift them out of the water and drop them down a couple of times. You don’t need 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, so there is no need to be concerned about freezing. Next month we’ll remind you to give them some freeze protection.

Also, congratulations on your participation. Your oysters helped make us the leading oyster garden program with the most volunteers participating. We welcome waterfront residents of Lake Ogleton, where 130 cages are full of new spat, including neighbors in sponsoring Bay Ridge as well as Annapolis Roads. Most other folks have repeated their participation again this year, and we can proudly say we are raising spat in over 1200 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 all spat found safe harbors. 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 CRITTERS SHOULD LOOK LIKE NOW**  
**THEY’RE GROWING NICELY – SOME OVER 1/8” ALREADY!**