

The Severn River Log



SEVERN RIVER ASSOCIATION • BOX 146, ANNAPOLIS MD 21404 • severnriver.org • 443.569.3556 • DECEMBER 2010

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Oyster Harbor Citizens Association
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Pines Community Improv Assn
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Riverview Manor Commun Assn
Round Bay Community Assn
Rugby Hall Community Assn
Saefern Saddle & Yacht Club
Saltworks on Severn Citizens Assn
Severn Heights Improvement Assn
Severn River Garden Club
Severn River Swim Club
Severn Sailing Association
Severn School
Severna Forest Community Assn
Sherwood Forest
Shipleys Choice Community Assn
St John's College
Trollhaven Homeowners Assn
Venice Beach Citizens Assn
Wardour Improvement Assn
Wells Cove
West Annapolis Civic Assn
West Severna Park Commun Assn
Winchester on the Severn

Meetings of the Severn River Association are at 7 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, at the Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center, 975 Indian Landing Rd, Millersville MD 21108. Meetings are free and open to the public – nice people dedicated to protecting, preserving and restoring the Severn River watershed!

Does SRA do Politics?

Well, yes and no.

As a nonprofit tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, the Severn River Association (SRA) does not engage in partisan political activities, nor endorse or campaign for any party's candidates.

It's not that SRA is disinterested in politics. It's just that we recognize boundaries between our very broad membership's general objectives, and the details of partisan political means for achieving them. Furthermore, the law obliges us to acknowledge those boundaries.

We do wrangle over and choose among public policies that seem most likely to further the protection, preservation and restoration of our watershed. Our members also appear frequently before public bodies such as the Anne Arundel County Council and the Maryland legislature to articulate and support such policies.

We can assist our members by providing objective information that will help them to make up their own minds about which political candidates they will choose to support.

In that spirit, our November meeting was a forum for all three candidates for the office of Anne Arundel County Executive. They appeared, debated energetically, and responded as our members grilled them with passion over a desire for action by the Anne Arundel County government. Each candidate made his case for the votes of our individual members. We have no idea how our members voted but take satisfaction in having facilitated informed choice and candidate awareness of watershed issues.

From time to time SRA has honored elected officials (politicians) irrespective of their party affiliation, with awards for noteworthy efforts and achievements that support our goals. Although SRA is truly "blind" in partisan matters, retrospective analysis of our awards shows that they turned out to be fairly distributed among the political parties. Thankfully, courage can be found in many places.

So maybe we're a bit political but we're definitely not Political.

– Kurt Riegel



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Watershed Stewards Install Rain Gardens at Crownsville Church

Do you know what Japanese beetle grubs taste like? Two teenagers clowning around at this rain garden installation do! They decided they needed some along with their free pizza...part of the reward for donating their time to make their church grounds a better place for all who enjoy the Severn River.

Three new Watershed Stewards, Stevie Wildling, Charlotte Lubbert, and Fatimah Hasan, along with these boisterous volunteers, helped install rain gardens and rain barrels in front of the South Shore Baptist Church on Herald Harbor Road in Crownsville.

The project, designed by Jim Gerlach, and modified by Kara Crissy from GoodEarth Gardeners who also volunteered her time at the installation, will help control the rainwater coming from the impervious surfaces on the property.

Three rain barrels were installed on the downspouts from roof gutters, and the excess runoff from these will be directed into garden areas planted with a large variety of native plants – and



Watershed Stewards Fatimah Hasan, Stevie Wildling, Charlotte Lubbert

some rock areas lined with filter cloth for the rainwater to soak in.

This will remove gallons and gallons of runoff from rushing into nearby Maynadier Creek, and then into the Severn, carrying the tainted water from roof and parking areas.

The project also includes an educa-

tional aspect, with volunteers from the congregation getting plenty of hands-on experience. The final product is a beautiful garden area to showcase environmentally-sensitive landscaping.

If you would like more information on Watershed Stewards, contact Coordinator, Watershed Steward Academy, Arlington Echo at 410.222.3822. This program trains and equips new leaders to help create valuable neighborhood endeavors like this one.



Stevie Wildling, Dan Hoffman, Thistle Cone



– Thistle A. Cone

President's Column

The Severn River Association has seen a whirlwind of activity the last few months, with exciting speakers at our monthly meetings and a variety of projects that get volunteers close to the River in work to improve water quality.

Even if you've been involved in some of these, please read on because there are surely other activities that might interest you.

I won't attempt to repeat our speakers but a list of the subjects they covered displays a truly wide range of issues affecting our river.

Last Spring we featured representatives from neighborhoods that had undertaken stormwater restoration projects and cleaned up old marinas, as well as the program sponsors from Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Wind generators were July's topic, and EPA's Chuck Fox was the featured speaker at the June Annual Meeting. This fall we heard results from Operation Clearwater, experts on controlling Phragmites, and hosted a Candidates Forum for those running for County Executive.

SRA has been very busy with volunteer-driven activities to improve water quality. The project with the most volunteers is our sponsorship of Marylanders Grow Oysters (MGO) in partnership with the DNR and the Oyster Recovery Partnership. This has involved distributing oyster spat to over 300 volunteers throughout the watershed, via four distribution locations under the direction of SRA's Oyster Committee.

This, the largest number of MGO volunteers of any watershed on the Chesapeake, succeeds because of the terrific work of several Coordinators, including Ray Dumentat, Tom Lengle, Burnell Vincent, Michael Moran, and Don Carren. Don, Michael and I had

a 20% increase this year in the number of volunteer growers in our areas compared to 2009, a measure of the popularity and success of this program.

Another success is the Stormwater Action Fund which SRA initiated this year to motivate neighborhoods to find solutions and seek financial support for reducing the impact of stormwater-transported pollutants on the River. Two neighborhoods applied for funds, and one (Winchester-on-Severn) has already installed rain gardens to absorb stormwater runoff. There are still funds available for more communities to get involved.

Recently SRA helped sponsor the clean-up and installation of rain gardens at Jonas-Green Park, a gem on our River yet to be discovered by many residents. It's enjoying a rebirth thanks to Diane Evans and the Friends of AA Trails. She's provided more detail in an accompanying article, and has invited us to do more for the park. If you have an interest in helping in marsh restoration or a similar project at Jonas Green, please let me know.

A new SRA project will replace old bulkheads with living shorelines for two residences of Horn Point, to become a demonstration project. We have another opportunity to design and build rain gardens in a State parking lot that drains into College Creek. Please contact me if you have an interest in getting actively involved in either of these projects.

Other efforts include an experimental Phragmites-control effort on Plum Creek, upcoming clean-ups of Clements and Luce Creeks, and development of a 100-year historical video for presentation at our 100th Anniversary Celebration. Yes, it's hard to believe that the Oldest River Association in the country will turn 100 in 2011, and we hope you plan to celebrate with us at the Calvert House on April 29,



2011. Invitations and more details will follow, especially on our website and in our monthly e-mailed SRA News.

– Bob Whitcomb

Oyster News

As days grow shorter we are closing another glorious oyster growing season on the Severn. Docks will continue to work long after boats, poles, and swim toys are gone. They have an off-season job as "foster reefs," hosting and nurturing oyster spat.

SRA welcomed over 275 enthusiastic oyster gardeners on the Severn, collectively hosting about 1200 cages with about ¾ million tiny spat.

By the end of the year, the spat should be healthy juvenile oysters approximately an inch in diameter and ready to populate the SRA sanctuary reef. Three years from now, each mature oyster will filter about a gallon/hour of Severn River water.

Survival is improved by thoughtful care and positioning in the upper water column where food and oxygen are plentiful. With cooler weather, spat maintenance is low, with bi-weekly shaking/ hosing/ shaking. Later, cages will be lowered to cold-weather depth.

Healthy oysters will repay us with a lifetime of filtering and clean water.

Stormwater: Best Practices

The science of stormwater management has taken a huge leap forward in the past decade, but with limited public utility funding, antiquated and even broken stormwater drains continue to pollute. Hundreds of public stormwater drains along the shoreline of the scenic Severn River dump nutrients, sediment and toxins creating massive pollution problems.

Government is slow to react, so we began to examine ways in which organizations like ours could affect the pace of change.

The Severn River Association (SRA) is an all-volunteer civic organization dedicated to protecting and preserving the beautiful tributary that flows through the state capital. We volunteers find that funding such projects is a steep climb.

But we have an inspired membership, a powerful force. SRA serves its members with research, river testing and monitoring, education, testimony, and by working with government.

We joined the Governor's initiative to grow oysters. Our SRA "gardener" efforts resulted in our own oyster bar with over 350,000 baby oysters. Many thousands more will be planted, our investment toward ending old polluting ways.

Our communities have citizens armed with knowledge of the science and technology of modern stormwater management systems, such as stepped



pool conveyance systems and other bioretention methods.

Such engaged citizens are aware of a need for change because they see polluted stormwater entering the river from neighborhood pipe systems draining acres of unfiltered runoff.

Our members have heard of innovations from speakers at SRA's monthly Solution Series Programs. One program featured step pool conveyance systems, described on AA County's Department of Public Works website:

bit.ly/ar7h72

The concept replaces stormwater pipes and replicates Mother Nature's method of stormwater infiltration, which very effectively kept waterways pristine.

A bonus to this new engineering approach was seen at a recent tour of the County's Millersville property where step pool conveyance systems are being installed. They will cost the County considerably less than traditional stormwater drain systems.

The natural next step for SRA was to hasten change by empowering member communities who wanted to rid themselves of broken stormwater pipes or maybe even intact drain systems. Funding is always the key.

We needed a way in which members would be empowered to access best practice design firms with professional staff to guide our members toward

developing winning grant proposals. Our concept initiated in committee and was accepted by the SRA Board of Directors as the Stormwater Action Fund (SAF).

The SAF serves member communities by providing up to \$1,000 in matching funds for professional design input to proposals they submit to grant agencies for innovative best practice stormwater management solutions. We also provide links to grant sources and innovators in environmental design.

Chuck Fox, EPA's Chesapeake Bay expert, inspired us in his talk at our annual meeting. While he pushes for EPA enforcement of nutrient and sediment TMDLs, we need also to push at the local level.

If our private efforts have small impact on the Severn's offending stormwater sources, they may have larger impact on governments that act to eradicate antiquated pollutant control systems. The results benefit everyone with clean water and restored marine life.

– Bob Whitcomb & Betsy Love



Jordan Burroughs (Age 4) puts the finishing touches on Winchester's new rain garden.

Published by The Severn River Association. We welcome contributed articles, letters, op-ed pieces and photos for publication to:

Editor: Kurt Riegel
editor@severnriver.org

Winchester Installs Rain Garden

More than 50 residents of Winchester on the Severn turned out Sept 25 to plant the neighborhood's first community rain garden. This stormwater mitigation project is the first of several identified by the community in its efforts proactively to improve water quality in Chase Creek and the Severn River. Winchester on the Severn is a community of 100 homes on the Arnold/Annapolis line.

Funding for the rain garden was provided by the Chesapeake Bay Trust Mini-Grants Program, Winchester on the Severn Community Association, Unity Gardens, and the Severn River Association.

The community is being mentored by environmental activist Mel Wilkins of EnviroSite Design Systems, who estimated the rain garden will catch and clean 40% of the stormwater runoff in this specific drainage area of Winchester. "This is one of the liveliest neighborhood planting days I've seen lately," stated Wilkins, "and it shows

what communities can do to actively protect their watersheds."

Also participating were Sen. John Astle, Del. Virginia Clagett, and Councilwoman Cathy Vitale. Astle and Clagett sit on the Board of Directors of the Chesapeake Bay Trust, and Vitale has been a strong proponent of stormwater mitigation projects throughout Anne Arundel County.

Astle noted, "These folks have worked hard to see this project through, and they have plans for more projects that ultimately will improve the environment for all of us." Senator Astle toured the entire site the community hopes to restore, once funding can be

obtained. The rain garden is Phase 1 of a multi-phase plan to restore a ravine that currently carries silt and pollutants into Chase Creek, a tributary of the Severn.

An avid gardener, Del. Clagett remarked, "These types of restorations are not only functional, they're also beautiful



The Bauman family: Fletcher, Trippe, and Paige

and bring communities together to improve the quality of the Bay and all our waterways."

Vitale remembered, "It was more than 7 years ago that (project manager and Winchester resident) Eloise Ullman e-mailed my office begging for help just to get someone to listen to her and look at this site. Seeing these projects through from start to finish takes commitment and time, and it's important that government and funding agencies work with private citizens on undertakings like this rain garden that ultimately benefit all County residents."

Vitale, still on crutches from a recent car accident, brought son, Mark (age 13), to help out. "It's the kids that know all about these types of green projects," she said. "Mark jumped right in to help – he's probably had more experience planting and figuring out how to mitigate stormwater than I have!"

– Eloise Ullman



Alice Randall, Del. Virginia Clagett, Councilman Cathy Vitale, Sen. John Astle

Hydrological Modeling, ESD, and TMDLs

The Federal Government has proposed Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) targets for the Severn River and other Chesapeake waters for nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment. The targets are specific goals for improving water quality on a defined schedule.

EPA has a three-phase process for developing Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) that will achieve TMDL reductions by 2017. The first phase is almost complete. The second phase will occur during 2011 and will be more specific.

Ideally, hydrologic modeling methods would exist to predict the likely delivery of nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment to Chesapeake Bay waterways from relevant locations under alternative management scenarios, the best of which would govern local land use policies.

Simple estimates of hydrologic impacts are already required of developers, but nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment impacts are not yet required.

The Maryland WIP requires that new Environmental Site Design (ESD) regulations be adopted to help achieve TMDL goals. These regulations will require a variety of best management practices (BMPs) such as rain gardens.

EPA's Chesapeake Bay Model is the primary tool for assessing Bay water quality and developing TMDL goals. EPA provides statewide goals and the states must develop WIPs with specific TMDL targets.

(Continued on P. 9)

Membership Letter

November 2010

Dear Fellow Watershed Resident:

The Severn River exceeds the pollution standards set by EPA and the SRA is working hard on programs to eliminate or reduce the sources of the pollutants. This includes local efforts by your neighbors as well as County and State sponsored projects. Come join us in our work to clean up the Severn River.

The Severn River Association is leading the way to help residents reduce their environmental impact on our watershed. SRA has organized major spring cleanups the last four years to remove tires, old junk, and trash from creeks feeding the Severn. We have recruited over 300 volunteers growing oyster spat at their piers, as part of a major effort to restore oyster reefs on the River. We're partnering with Broadneck High School on their Environmental Signature Program and with groups working on neighborhood parks and trails. Our monthly meetings feature speakers demonstrating techniques for reducing bacteria, nitrogen, sediment and other pollutants transported by stormwater runoff into the River.

This is also a call for communities and other supporting organizations to renew your membership. We are asking all communities in the Severn River Watershed to join the SRA in 2011. And we welcome individual memberships and donations to our non-profit organization.

Please support us by sending in your dues now. Any dues payment received in late 2010 will count as a 2011 Membership. Plus you'll be eligible to attend the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the oldest river organization in the United States. The newly simplified dues schedule means that you may join either as an Individual or as an Organization, and select whether you want to be a Regular, Patron, or Benefactor Member:

	Person	Organization
Regular	\$ 25	\$ 55
Patron	\$ 50	\$ 125
Benefactor	\$ 125	\$ 200

Again, please join the SRA in 2011 and support the restoration of our wonderful Severn River. Together we can make a difference.



Bob Whitcomb
President

Digging for Names of Severn Water Bodies

I love maps. Especially ones with interesting names on them. In 2001, I started a project to find or give names to local water bodies that lacked them, to increase stewardship of all of our water bodies.

For the Magothy and the Severn, that project evolved into getting maps made that showed the names we had found.

In working on the Severn names, I had the great good fortune to work with the late Colby Rucker. I never would have found so many historical names without him. I think he loved maps as much as I do, and he had files of old paper maps that had long since been tossed by the agencies that made them.

For some reason, the maps that Anne Arundel County made in the early 1980's for the expansion of public sewer include historical names for almost all of the creeks on the western shore of the Severn, often names that we did not find on any other maps.

Finding old names on a map is the best way to identify them, since many historical records such as deeds include old creek names, but do not show exactly what that name applied to.

Colby and I discovered that it's hard to give anything an official place name today. Descriptive names are preferred, but these tend to be repeated across many rivers (such as Cypress, Forked, Mill, Broad, College, etc.), so they are ambiguous.

SRA seeks nominations (self or others) for year 2011 Officers & Board members. Please drop a note to nominating@severnriver.org indicating interest and for more information. SRA needs your energy & talent!

Any person honored must have been dead for at least 5 years, and they need to have done something significant related to the feature being named. Simply owning it may not be sufficient as it was for so many of our historical place names.

We also had to demonstrate that there was local support for the new name. Sometimes when the official name of a feature is changed, the new name is unpopular with residents who were not consulted. This happened with Henderson Point on the Magothy and the name was changed back.

In a few cases, the current owner of a water body did not want to have it named because they thought this would attract attention to it and encourage trespassing on their property.

As I worked on the project, I hoped that a few of the new names might some day be used on maps; although our most detailed local maps, the ADC map books, did not show most of the creeks and other water bodies that we were naming.

What I didn't realize then was how popular the various computer mapping products would become, and now I can see names that I gave to or found for local water bodies in online maps.

Most of those products draw their place names from the official Federal place names database, where the new names for the Severn and other rivers are recorded.

You can search for official place names online at

bit.ly/brBCJV

and click "Search" under "Domestic Names." Once you find a name, you can click on links on the right of the page to see it on a map.



For creeks, the upper and lower ends are usually marked on the map. You can even find a water body by its "variant name" if these are in the database.

For example, Brewer Creek was called "Idle River" on an old Sherwood Forest map, so that it one of its variant names, and Luce Creek was called "Underwoods Creek" on a map from 1690. You can't easily show variant names on a map, but you can add them to a database.

To see a detailed description of the sources for "new" names on the map, and the reasons for choosing them, go to the SRA site offering maps for sale

bit.ly/drsvwD

and scroll down past the map.

– Peter Bergstrom

Hope for the Bay: Chesapeake Watershed Forum

Two years ago I co-authored a column in *The Capital*, concluding that the glass of hope for the future of the Chesapeake Bay was half full rather than half empty. Sometimes I wonder if I can keep that rosy hope alive.

Recently I attended the 5th Annual Chesapeake Watershed Forum. It brought together people who are working hard for conservation and restoration, from the headwater states of New York, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia to the downstream states of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Topics ran the gamut, including Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems permits, environmental leadership development, the Total Maximum Daily Load “pollution diet,” fundraising, stormwater management, databases and geospatial data, education, advocacy and public engagement, the Farm bill, manure, soils, bacterial pollution and more.

It was like trying to drink from a fire hose. I loved being in the company of like-minded Greenies, every one of whom was passionate, sincere, and knowledgeable. I was impressed that many participants seemed to be under 30-40, so the younger generation is taking to heart the message that we have only one Earth and one Chesapeake. After those of us with grey hair are gone, they will keep up the fight for our planet and our Bay.

Personal connections made there are invaluable. If the environmental community sometimes doesn't play well together, opportunities like this are wonderful. It reinforced a belief that little things we do in our daily lives really can make a difference.

The conference setting was perfect, at the National Conservation Training Center on the shores of the Potomac in West Virginia. It's a very Green facil-

ity set in the woods, and the campus layout requires that you walk through this beautiful wild landscape that is home to bald eagles, deer and more.

But at the end of this great gathering, I listened to the outgoing Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, John Quigley, give the keynote address. He detailed the potential impact of drilling to extract natural gas from three-quarters of that state. It was chilling, not only for the citizens of the Keystone state, but also for us who live downstream.

Pennsylvania lies atop one of the country's largest fields of natural gas. The Marcellus Shale formation, 6,000 to 8,000 feet below the surface includes Pennsylvania, southern New York, Ohio, almost all of West Virginia, western Virginia and western Maryland. Quigley said that hundreds of thousands of individual wells might be drilled, mostly on private land and with some on publicly owned forests and parks.

Heavy drilling machinery and trucks, drilling pads as large as five acres, road construction and pipes disrupt parks and forests. Millions of gallons of water are needed for high-pressure injection into each well to fracture the strata deep underground so that natural gas will be released. Most of the water will remain underground, being taken out of the natural water cycle. What does return to the surface will be polluted with toxics and naturally occurring radioactivity.

Here's a shock – effluent from the hydraulic fracturing process is not covered by the Clean Water Act. EPA has no regulatory power over it.

Here's the scenario for us downstream: that water could carry toxins and sediment into the Bay, adding to the ticking time bomb of sediment al-



ready behind the Conowingo and other dams on the Susquehanna.

One environmental group has a bumper sticker that says “We Can't Drink Natural Gas.”

That brings us to politics. As citizens of the watershed, the region and the planet, and we have a responsibility to keep ourselves informed of what's local and what's upstream and downstream and then to take action. Quigley said that on the natural gas drilling issue we are all Pennsylvanians. As downstream citizens we certainly are.

Collaboration among non-profits and well-meaning citizens is vital, but to achieve substantial improvement in the Bay we've got to continue to demand action from our elected officials. If that fails, we've got to take them to court.

Having witnessed four days of outraged older folks, energized young people, and evidence of so much good work being done, I guess my glass is still half full. I just hope that the water in that glass will still be drinkable in the future.

– Elvia Thompson

Continued from page 6: Hydrological Modeling, ESD and TMDL

This model may not be well suited for assessment of small individual development sites. No one tool can provide a complete assessment of impacts, so further tool development and good professional judgment are still required.

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has a methodology relying on the Universal Soil Loss Equation (USLE) to assess soil loss due to sheet, rill and interrill erosion. It was originally developed to provide soil conservation agents with tools for individual field and land parcels.

The improved Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation 2 (RUSLE2), covers soil loss on construction sites, disturbed forests and other land uses. RUSLE2 can assess differential soil loss impacts of development from construction. It can be downloaded with databases, at no cost from the USDA web site at

bit.ly/cV7ce1

USDA has also developed the Wind Erosion Equation (WEQ) and a Wind Erosion Prediction System (WEPS) computer application. Wind erosion is less significant in the Severn River area than water and gully erosion. Future USDA models will likely address both water and wind erosion.

Models of gully erosion are generally location-specific and are not validated for use in other areas.

The US Army Corps of Engineers Hydrologic Engineering Center (HEC) has developed the Geospatial



Hydrologic Modeling Extension (GeoHMS), a geographic information system (GIS) based tool built on ESRI ArcView with Spatial Analyst extension. The GeoHMS extension can be downloaded free from the USACE HEC web site at

bit.ly/9Zq6k4

USACE HEC intends to include soil erosion and transport of nitrogen and phosphorus in future versions. Thus, it might become a useful tool for assessing the Severn River watershed for likely impacts of existing and proposed land uses.

Hydrological modeling and land use decision processes must be improved to achieve TMDL goals for improved water quality in the Severn River and Chesapeake Bay. You may expect vigorous dialogue over TMDL goals and the methods to achieve these goals, many of which will have to rely on models discussed briefly above.

– Don Morris-Jones

Treasurer's Report

Ending Dec 31	10/2010	12/2009	2/2008
ASSETS = LIABILITIES	\$63,465	\$72,645	\$62,521
Ordinary Income	\$ 6,552	\$13,618	\$50,550
Ordinary Expense	\$18,467	\$11,176	\$39,294
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 4,787	\$ 2,442	\$11,255
Other Income	\$ 75	\$ 7,683	-\$10,094
NET INCOME	-\$11,925	\$10,125	\$ 1,161



This is a condensed version of the full report, which is available to members from treasurer@severnriver.org

– Bob vom Saal

Jonas Green Park “A Slice of Heaven on the Severn”

For many decades, Jonas Green Park has been one of those seemingly well-kept secrets only true locals knew about.

Tucked away at the foot of the Naval Academy Bridge on Route 450 outside the City of Annapolis, it had languished until Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks took ownership of it several years ago.

Once primarily known for its picnic areas and fishing, it has become a destination spot for not only those activities, but painting, canoeing, kayaking, reading, biking and hiking.

Prominently situated on the Severn River, one of Maryland's Scenic Rivers, it is a stopping-off point for the East Coast Greenway, a national trail stretching from Maine to Florida. Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails (FOAACT) has taken a special interest in preserving, protecting and enhancing this spot.

This non-profit is helping the county to care for a growing number of gardens, raising money for benches, designing a memorial area, dedicating its efforts to improving the treatment of stormwater runoff and planting native trees and bushes better suited to the weather conditions affecting this area.

FOAACT actively recruits volunteers to accomplish these objectives. Not only have local environmental organizations such as the Severn River Association and the Spa Creek Conservancy participated, but so have the Midshipmen's Action Group, Boy and Girl Scouts and high school students seeking community service credits.

On September 11, 2010 over 70 people worked to complete 3 rain gardens in the upper parking area, to improve a stormwater swale in the lower parking



area, and to clear weeds from the large grassy area adjacent to the stormwater pond below the Visitor Center. The county has been especially supportive of these efforts, providing heavy equipment and materials that supplement grants and donations. With the goal of designing a wildlife area complete with additional native plants attractive to butterflies and other fauna, the FOAACT will lead efforts to secure grant funding and recruit necessary volunteers.

Over 50,000 people frequent Jonas Green each year. FOAACT looks forward to working with the communities of the Severn River Association to better protect this tributary. FOAACT is confident that even in this era of scarce governmental resources, collaboration and ingenuity can lead to improving water quality in the Severn River, with volunteers, grants and other contributions.

If you are interested in getting more involved with Jonas Green Park, or simply have questions about it, please contact diane.r.evans@gmail.com

– Diane R. Evans
Board Member, Friends of
Anne Arundel County Trails

Thank You, SRA

for your support for our September 11th Project Green Clean-Up Day!

After opening ceremonies at the Maryland World War II Memorial, volunteers picked up, catalogued and recycled 325 pounds of debris.

We were very successful in our attempts to beautify Jonas Green Park in Annapolis, where three bio-retention cells were installed in the upper parking area. Over 70 volunteers from the community (including 50 midshipmen) collaborated for Project Green. Volunteers came from all over the county: the Youth Volunteer Corps, local schools, the U.S. Naval Academy, the Severn River Association and the Spa Creek Conservancy.

Volunteers also worked on smaller projects, opening the way for stormwater in the lower area of the park to infiltrate more slowly and naturally and tackling a large swath of overgrown grasses located below the Visitor Center by digging out weeds and invasive plants.

– Fay Mauro, Executive Director
Volunteer Center, AA County



Join the Severn River Association

All membership donations are fully tax deductible since SRA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization:

	Person	Organization
Regular	\$ 25	\$ 55
Patron	\$ 50	\$ 125
Benefactor	\$ 125	\$ 200

For convenience, you may use the Click and Join Checkout button on the SRA website at severnriver.org
 Voluntary contributions in larger amounts are gratefully accepted.

Alternatively, you may handle this by mail, sending in this form with your check to:

The Severn River Association (Telephone 443 569 3556 to leave voicemail)
P.O. Box 146, Annapolis, MD 21404-0146

Name:

Mailing address:

Telephone number(s):
 (specify home/work/cell)

E-mail address(es):

Type of membership selected:

For Community Associations (Please provide the Community Association’s Representative’s name who will be on the SRA Board of Directors, and their phone, address, and email):

Can you volunteer on SRA programs, projects, outreach or governance? YES NO (circle below)

Zoning & Variances	Legislation & Regulation
Membership	Volunteer Coordination
Restoration & Other Projects	Oyster Grower
Officer or Board Member	Outings and/or Social
Land/Water Issues	Publications
Enforcement/legal action	Public Access to Water
Education	Other:

What programs & actions do you think are needed to better protect and restore the Severn River, and other comments?