



Chesapeake Bay Stewards Newsletter

February 2020

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NEWS FROM THE TRUST



The Start of Legislative Season Marks Celebration for the Trust

Mid-January, the Trust had the honor of hosting our 10th cohort of Chesapeake Conservation Corps members, Corps alumni, Maryland State Delegates and Senators, grant program partners, supporters, and friends of the Trust at our annual Legislative Reception. We were reminded by Senate President Bill Ferguson that “the Bay is not

political. The Bay is the most important thing that we have in the state of Maryland. It is the commerce hub and is where we have the birth of our future experiences.”

Pictured here from left: Secretary Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio; Department of Natural Resources, Gary Jobson, Chairman of the Board of the Chesapeake Bay Trust; Senate President Emeritus Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.; Jana Davis, Trust executive director; Senator Pam Beidle; Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo; and Superintendent of

the Chesapeake Bay Office for National Parks Service, Wendy O'Sullivan. Read the full blog post about this memorable evening [here](#).



Jay Fleming: Capturing the Chesapeake Bay in Photos

Join the Chesapeake Bay Trust on Thursday, March 5th as we welcome Jay Fleming to our Annapolis office from 6:30p-8p. From underwater photographs of Maryland blue crabs swimming in lush beds of underwater grasses, to incredibly poignant portraits of laborers working in an oyster shucking house, and portraits of workboats leaving the dock before sunrise, Jay Fleming illustrated the full spectrum of the Chesapeake Bay's fisheries in his book *Working the Water*. Hear his experiences, learn his tricks, and leave inspired to take your next best photo of the Chesapeake Bay. This event is free but requires advance registration: info@cbtrust.org



Prince George's County Rain Check Rebate: A Year in Review

The Chesapeake Bay Trust is proud to partner with the [Prince George's County Department of the Environment](#) and their [Rain Check Rebate Program](#). Through this program, eligible applicants can receive a rebate or reimbursement for installing approved practices that improve neighborhoods and local waterways.

We are proud to announce that Fiscal Year 2019 was another successful year with 91 approved applications, representing 180 projects, totaling \$79,035 in rebates. The projects included rain barrels, rain gardens, urban tree canopy, pavement removal, and permeable pavement. These projects help reduce stormwater runoff and pollution to nearby rivers. Participants take pride in helping to improve the

environment and their neighborhoods, while also beautifying their property.

Thank you to all the residents of Prince George's County for their participation and support! We could not have done this without you! Read more about the year in review [here](#).

Plastic Free QAC Has Long Term Plans to Eliminate Single-Use Plastic

[Plastic Free QAC, Inc.](#) let no grass grow under their feet when awarded a Community Engagement Mini-Grant last November through the Chesapeake Bay Trust for a series of informational events



regarding the effects of plastic pollution on waterways and reusable bags as better alternatives to plastic.

Plastic Free QAC (PFQAC) is a grassroots, non-profit organization committed not only to beautifying [Queen Anne's County](#) but also in changing behavior and empowering residents and businesses to make more environmentally friendly choices day to day. Only in existence for 2 years, they started with a handful of trash cleanups along county roads and waterways and grew to reusable bag distribution events throughout the County and partnerships with environmentally friendly businesses, other local non-profits. PFQAC conducted 16 monthly cleanups, each 1/4 mile in length, adding up to 4 miles. A total of 944 plastic bags were collected and counted from the 8 most recent cleanups.

Read the full story [here](#).

AROUND THE BAY

Who Runs the (Hatchery) World? "It hasn't been one program or one push that's brought women to hatcheries, according to many of the women interviewed for this article. It's happened organically, either through a charismatic professor or an interesting internship opportunity." Read the full [Maryland Sea Grant](#) blog post [here](#).

'Plasticene' Era: Edgewater-based researcher puts name to the undefined in our plastic-filled lives. "SERC's Marine Invasions Lab is studying the role of plastics in transporting species out of their native environment by rafting. Essentially, a coastal creature attaches to plastic and floats away with it." Read the full [Baltimore Sun](#) article [here](#).

Chesapeake Bay Region Celebrates Record Oyster Shell Collection Year.

"The Oyster Recovery Partnership's shell recycling program collected 36,000 bushels of oyster shell from hundreds of seafood businesses throughout the Chesapeake Bay in 2019, an overall record and testament to the region's ever-increasing support of oyster restoration." Read the full [BayNet](#) article [here](#).

Healthy Streams: The Best Prescription for the Ailing Chesapeake Bay. "You may not live on the Chesapeake Bay or any other waterfront, but chances are there is a stream, creek or river close to where you live." Read the [Patch](#)'s full article [here](#).

Hindsight in 2020: To make sure the next 10 years count, include

everyone. "To build a more resilient Bay restoration movement, I believe we need

to focus our efforts on three things: diversifying the perspectives represented in our partnerships, creating an agenda based on equity, and giving power and voice through inclusivity." Read Kate Fritz's full [Bay Journal](#) blog [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

[5th Annual Cambridge Film Festival](#). Feb. 14th. 5p-7:30p. Cambridge. Fee. Presenting 10 short environmental and adventure films illustrating the beauty of the Earth and the work that communities are doing to protect our increasingly threatened planet.

[Nature Connections Workshop Series](#). Feb. 23rd. 1p-3p. Baltimore. Bring out your inner scientist with the Natural History Society of Maryland. Free. February's theme will explore all the exciting elements of iron from its creation to modern day use. Family friendly program with crafts and a visit from a local blacksmith.

[Davidsonville Green Expo 2020](#). 11a-3p. Davidsonville. Free. Featuring exhibitors offering information, education and demonstrations on environmentally friendly products, sustainable lifestyle, lawn and garden techniques, agricultural practices, energy use, water conservation, recycling, land use and conservation.

[Made in Maryland](#). May 3rd. 11a-5p. Pasadena. Fee. Mark your calendars for a one-day event highlighting all our state's best and famous offerings. The Trust will be there, how about you, hon? *The Chesapeake Bay Trust is a proud beneficiary of the event.*

[The 22nd Annual Treasure the Chesapeake Gala](#). May 7th. 6p-9p. Baltimore. Fee. Join more than 500 community leaders and friends of the Chesapeake Bay to enjoy a night on the Baltimore waterfront with open bar, silent auction, and much, much more!

[The Great Chesapeake Bay Swim](#). June 14th. A 4.4-mile swim across the Chesapeake Bay. Join the fun and cheer the swimmers on from Sandy Point State Park or Kent Island. *The Chesapeake Bay Trust is a proud beneficiary of this event.*



for the protection of all that is precious,
please check LINE **35**

Your 100% deductible donation supports the Chesapeake and protects Maryland's at-risk species.

- 100 can fund a life-changing outdoor experience for 2 students
- 100 can plant a tree based on 10 stream pollution checks
- 100 can plant 6 native trees to improve air and water quality
- 100 can help restore wetlands to save rare birds
- 100 can buy 100 wetland plants to protect habitats
- 100 can remove 100 lbs of trash from our watersheds

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Treasure the Chesapeake Celebration

Thursday, May 7, 2020
6:00pm-9:00pm
Baltimore Museum of Industry
1415 Key Highway
Baltimore, MD 21230

Connect with over 500 community leaders and friends of the Chesapeake Bay to enjoy a night on the Baltimore waterfront with an open bar, dinner, silent auction, and much, much more! Proceeds raised are administered through the Trust as grants to schools, nonprofits, community groups, and other entities for on-the-ground restoration and education projects.

Sponsorship information available: kswartout@cbtrust.org

Through signage, weblinks, newsletters, media outreach, and more you can put your organization in front of tens of thousands of likeminded constituents... starting right now!

Tickets available [here.](#)

Join influential supporters, legislative and environmental leaders, and members of the public who come together to support the Bay and its waters.

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WAYS TO GIVE

Direct donation:

You can make a direct donation to the Chesapeake Bay Trust [here](#). Or mail your contribution to: The Chesapeake Bay Trust, 108 Severn Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403.

Chairman's Circle:

Created to engage those who want to make it possible for the Trust to meet the increasing demands of restoring and protecting our natural resources. Read more and join [here](#).

Amazon Smile:

You shop, Amazon gives. Bookmark [this](#) link so that all of your eligible shopping benefits The Chesapeake Bay Trust.

Federal, State, and Local Campaigns:

Federal, state, and local campaigns are tailored to meet the needs of employees, including U.S. postal workers, state employees, and U.S. military at home and overseas. Visit your human resources department or campaign coordinator to learn how you can give to the Chesapeake Bay Trust through federal and state campaigns.

Monthly Giving:

At any level, monthly giving is an easy and efficient way to invest in the Chesapeake Bay's recovery. Your monthly gift will ensure that the Trust can provide everyday citizens with the resources they need to accomplish projects that have a measurable, positive impact on the health of the Chesapeake and its rivers and streams. You can easily start, change, or stop your gift at any time. Sign up to make your monthly gift to the Trust [here](#).

The Maryland Outdoor Recreation and Clean Water Fund

Fishers, boaters, and hunters who obtain registration or licenses through Maryland Department of Natural Resources [Compass online registration system](#) can make a contribution to support fish and wildlife habitat, clean water, wetlands, and k-12

student field trips.

Chesapeake Bay License Plates:

Did you know that sales of the Chesapeake Bay license plates support our work in Maryland? You can upgrade to a Bay Plate at any time [online](#), through a [tag agent](#), or in person at the MVA. As a Chesapeake Bay plate owner, you are invited to join our Plate Perks program, giving you preferred parking or discounts at a growing number of businesses!

Shop the Chesapeake Bay Trust

The iconic images of the Bay Bridge, crabs, grasses and blue skies all resonate with Marylanders far and wide and are now available on selected items curated by Trust staff through our [online shop](#).

ABOUT THE TRUST

The Chesapeake Bay Trust is a nonprofit, grant-making organization dedicated to improving the bays, streams, rivers, forests, parks, and other natural resources of the Chesapeake region through environmental education, community outreach, and local watershed restoration.

Since 1985, the Trust has awarded more than \$100 million in grants and projects that engage hundreds of thousands of dedicated individuals in efforts that are making a difference for all our local systems—Chesapeake, Coastal Bays, and Youghiogheny.

For nearly two decades, the Trust has received a "4-star rating" from Charity Navigator, the nation's leading independent evaluator of nonprofit organizations.

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108 Severn Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403