



Chesapeake Bay Stewards Newsletter

June 2020

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NEWS FROM THE TRUST



The Treasure the Chesapeake Celebration has been a highly anticipated event for over 21 years. While we are all currently navigating uncharted waters, The Trust is reviewing every option in hopes of continuing the festivity for 2020. While we know for sure that our celebration will not look the same as in the past, we are committed to designing an exciting, enjoyable, and meaningful program to continue the tradition in 2020.

We could not do this alone. Our sponsors have remained stalwart in their support of our work and are a pivotal part of our ability to successfully continue our mission during unforeseen and challenging times. We invite you to read on and learn more about these exemplary industry enterprises [here](#).



Wild Rice & The Changing Landscape of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Did you know that wild rice is more than just a side dish found at dinner time?

Native to the Chesapeake Bay region, [wild rice](#) is an annual grass found in freshwater marshes that has been declining in reproduction due to an increase in of non-migratory waterfowl, invasive plants, and water pollution.

In 2015, [Prince George's County Public Schools Department of Curriculum and Instruction](#) began collaborating with the [William S. Schmidt Outdoor Education Center](#) to engage seventh-graders from 15 different schools in restoring the wild rice growing along the Patuxent River. Educators saw an opportunity to develop a [Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience](#) (MWEE) for understanding watershed water quality issues and the decline of native species. Read the full story of the success of a Trust [Environmental Education Grant Program](#) project [here](#).

AROUND THE BAY

Global emissions plunged an unprecedented 17 percent during the coronavirus pandemic. But scientists say the drivers of global warming could quickly bounce back as social distancing ends and economies rebound. Read [The Washington Post's](#) full article [here](#).

Study: Bay Rockfish Die at Twice the Rate of Those in Atlantic. The study, published Thursday in the journal *PLOS One*, appears likely to draw further attention to disease and overfishing, two suspects in the decline of striped bass, also known as rockfish, which are among the most sought-after fish in the Chesapeake and along the Atlantic coast. Read [Chesapeake Bay Magazine's](#) full article [here](#).

Annual Bay report card notes overall watershed health is faring better than the Bay itself. The report card was issued by the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES) and features several inaugural research components that provide a more holistic, inclusive evaluation of the Chesapeake region. Read the [Chesapeake Bay Program's](#) full report [here](#).

'Ugly' mahogany tide paints Chesapeake Bay, rivers the color of rust. A reddish-brown patina has overtaken several Maryland rivers that feed into the Chesapeake Bay. Yep, the mahogany tide is back. Read the [Southern Maryland Chronicle's](#) full account [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Because of the rapidly changing environment resulting from COVID-19, The Trust is suspending promotion of grantee and partner events to minimize misinformation.



Have some REEL fun this summer!

Get your fishing license ONLINE and get hooked on the Maryland Outdoor Recreation and Clean Water Fund.

When you purchase your MD fishing license online, you can make a contribution that supports cleaner water, fish and wildlife habitat and so much more!

For more information visit www.cbtrust.org/mdoutdoors

Many dealerships and tag & title agents are OPEN and working to process vehicle sales, deliveries, and registrations. Support area businesses who support the Chesapeake Bay! Find your next car dealership [here](#). Find a Maryland tag & title agent [here](#).





Making Powerful Investments in the Chesapeake

SAVE THE DATE

Chesapeake Bay Trust's
Treasure the Chesapeake
22nd Annual Celebration

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020

Visit CBtrust.org/TreasuretheChesapeake
For Information Contact Kelly Swartout at 410-974-2941 ext. 107

The Chesapeake Bay Trust is beyond thrilled and deeply touched by the continued support of our Treasure the Chesapeake event sponsors, winery & brewery partners, and auction donors.

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2020 TREASURE THE CHESAPEAKE SPONSORS**

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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 Youghiogeny.

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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