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WATERSHED WATCH

ST. MARY'S RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
PO Box 94
St. Mary's City, MD 20686

February 17, 2016

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Interpretive Sign for Oyster Reef Project

A hearty thanks to the [Chesapeake Bay Trust](#) for funding the design and manufacture of this exciting sign, which was installed last week at the college waterfront. And hats off to Dan Branigan and the college staff who endured northwest winds and temperatures in the twenties to get the sign installed promptly. It is only through the generous support of our partners and members that exciting work like this continues throughout the year.



The signage project was organized and led by Allison Rugila, SMRWA program director. "It looks fantastic!" Allison posted on FB. She is currently enrolled at Stonybrook University studying ecology and evolution, and was unable to oversee the installation.

The sign was designed by [Stephanie Sobchak Graphic Designs](#) based on Allison's content and utilizing several of the Association's photographs from actual projects and field trips at the reef.

"We are so thrilled to work with Stephanie. This is the third sign she has designed for us and each of them is truly amazing," said Bob Lewis, SMRWA executive director. "The sign is attractive, compelling, informative, and truly captures our work on the reef project."



The oyster reef is a partnership project with [St. Mary's College of Maryland](#), [Leonardtwn Rotary Club](#) and the St. Mary's River Watershed Association, The sign recognizes additional major funders -- [Patagonia](#), [Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust](#), Chesapeake Bay Trust, [Boeing](#), Rotary International District 7620, Lexington Park Rotary, College Park Rotary, South Anne Arundel County Rotary, Carruth & Son Inc, Leadership Southern Maryland class of 2014, and Colliflower & Peterson Inc. More than thirty businesses and community groups and over 200 individuals have donated directly in support of this project.

If you pass by the College, be sure to take a minute to check out the beautiful sign that showcases all the hard work done on our river so far! When our wintery spring clears, we will be holding an unveiling event at the waterfront, which will be announced in a future newsletter.

What will *You* do for your watershed?

There are numerous ways to positively impact our beloved river from collecting trash to arresting rainwater runoff *before* it reaches the river. A rain garden is the perfect opportunity to make a difference. This natural water filtration system is not only aesthetically appealing, but also a big help in reducing runoff by catching storm water from your roof and/or driveway and filtering it through plant use and organic materials. And best of all—we have grant funding to assist you in designing and building your dream rain garden!



You must be within our watershed to qualify for our 50/50 cost share program. If you are interested, are unsure about your location qualifications, or have questions concerning a rain garden, please contact us at

Email: [meghan.m.webster\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:meghan.m.webster@gmail.com)

Phone: (240) 256-0147 | [Facebook](#)

Upcoming Events:

- *Orpihi And Oysters: Marine Science, Policy, and Conservation in Hawaii and the Chesapeake*
>>>lecture by Sean Corson, NOAA<<<
4:40-6:00 Thursday, Feb 18
SMCM Library 321
Sponsor: Environmental Studies, Lecture & Fine Arts, Biology, Political Science, and Policy Studies
FREE and Open to the Public
- TBA - An Oyster Lovers Social will be held in March at the Ruddy Duck
- Earth Day on the Square
Noon to 4:30 Leonardtown
- St. Mary's River Clean Up



We're on the web!
www.smrwa.org



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9:00 April 23
RSVP

- SAVE THE DATE!

A River Affair

1:00 to 4:00 June 5
Historic St. Mary's City



- 11:00 to 4:00 September 24
Historic St. Mary's City

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