



February 2020

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Burley Oak Charity Night!



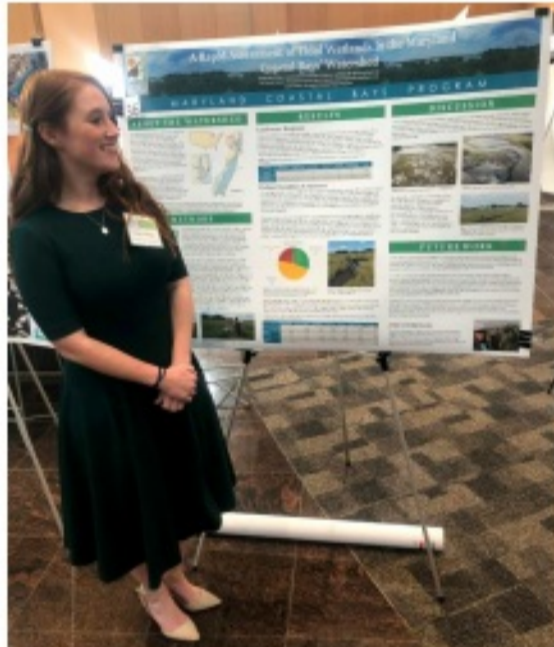
Thank you so much to everyone who can out to our Burley Oak charity night on Monday, January 27th! We are so excited to announce that we raised over \$2,000! It was a fantastic night with a great turnout. The evening would not have been possible without help from our amazing community. We would like to give a specific thank you to Tom Simon for hosting trivia, Das Buut for their amazing music, Shelley Messick and Amber Santor for being fantastic guest bartenders, and Burley Oak Brewing Company for hosting us! And, of course, our amazing donors for the incredible silent auction items.

Growing Up Wild and Flying Wild Educator Training



DNR Wildlife & Heritage Service and the Maryland Coastal Bays Program hosted an educator workshop on January 31st at Assateague. The two courses taught, Growing UP WILD and Flying WILD, both offer an interdisciplinary, hands-on approach to environmental education. A special thanks to Kerry Wixted, Education and Outreach Specialist with MD DNR, who led the workshop for over 25 educators!

DE Wetlands Conference



MCBP staff attended the DE Wetlands Conference in Wilmington, Delaware. Environmental Scientist, Katherine Phillips had the opportunity to present work on the Terrapin Survey and the tidal wetland assessments in the Coastal Bays. This conference provides wetland professionals an opportunity to share their work and learn about new and innovative research.

Coastal Bays Clam Survey



Each year, the MD Coastal Bays Annual Report details the health of the bays using four water quality indicators and two biotic indicators. One of those biotic indicators is the hard clam (*Mercenaria mercenaria*); a filter-feeding species whose population helps ecosystem health. MCBP staff, the Shellfish Division from MD DNR, and Captain Brian and Buddy of the "Riptide" collected the first hard clam count for this season's survey from the Chincoteague Bay. An average count per square meter is taken for each bay, and it is from this that the report card score is derived (compared against historic data). As the clams "ride" up the conveyor, the scientists quickly grab them off to be measured. Anything else on the conveyor immediately returns to the bay. Once data has been taken on each bay, they too, are returned to the bay!

Earth Day Clean Up



Save the date for the 10th Annual Earth Day at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 4th at Ocean City Town Hall. Bags, glove, t-shirts (while supplies last) and assignments will be provided at sign up. You are welcome to choose your own area to collect trash. Contact Sandi at sandis@mdcoastalbays.org for more information.

Discover Your Watershed

Join us this spring for our first Discover Your Watershed event of the year!

We are excited to announce our 2020 Discover Your Watershed dates for the Spring and Fall:

- March 28, 2020 - Greys Creek Nature Park
- June 13, 2020 - Lizard Hill Restoration Site
- October 24, 2020 - Assateague Living Shoreline
- November 7, 2020 - Showell Nature Preserve

DYW events will be held on Saturdays from 9:30 am - 12:00 pm. All DYW events are FREE for all ages and lunch is provided. Please contact Liz Wist at lwist@mdcoastalbays.org or (410) 213 - 2297 ext. 110 for more information and to RSVP.

DISCOVER YOUR WATERSHED

MARCH 28	PLANTS, POETRY, AND POLLINATORS GREYS CREEK NATURE PARK	SATURDAYS FROM 9:30AM - 12:00PM
JUNE 13	INVASIVE INVASION LIZARD HILL RESTORATION SITE	
OCT 24	SPOOKTACULAR SPAT ASSATEAGUE LIVING SHORELINE	
NOV 7	ON THE PROWL AT SHOWELL SHOWELL NATURE PRESERVE	

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE FOR ALL AGES AND LUNCH IS PROVIDED!
Contact Liz Wist at lwist@mdcoastalbays.org or (410) 213-2297 ext. 110 to RSVP or for more information

Bay Day at Ocean Pines

Save the date!

Come out to the 3rd Bay Day at White Horse Park in Ocean Pines on Sunday, May 17 from 11:30-3:30. Come for an hour or stay all day, we will have something for everyone.

Ocean Pines and the Maryland Coastal Bays Program will be hosting this day of fun, hands-on activities, and educational exhibits that highlight how watershed residents can make a positive impact in our Coastal Bays! There will be St. Martin River boat tours on the OC Swam, beverages from the Burley Oak Beer Truck, a food garden, kids activities, live music by the George and Pat Bilenki Duo, hands-on demonstrations, nature crafts, dozens of educational booths, a DIY workshop pavilion, and an interactive art piece- just to name a few!

Day of Watershed Info, Food & FUN for all ages!

free admission!

BAY DAY at Ocean Pines
on the St. Martin River

learn how to make a difference in your own backyard
& HELP TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF THE LOCAL ST. MARTIN RIVER

Sunday, MAY 17 11:30am-3:30pm
WHITE HORSE PARK | 239 Ocean Pkwy, Ocean Pines, MD

MDCOASTALBAYS.ORG
Rain Date: May 31

Live Music by The George and Pat Bilenki Duo

FOOD & BEER

BAY BOAT RIDES | HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES | LIVE ANIMALS
WORKSHOP PAVILION | NATIVE PLANT GIVEAWAY
ENVIRONMENTAL EXHIBITS | LIVE MUSIC

National Aquarium Visit

Behind the scenes site visit!

Through the Chesapeake Conservation Corps (CCC) program, Liz and Chandler had an amazing opportunity to go on a behind the scenes visit of the National Aquarium! The CCC program encourages participants to visit other Corps members site locations and learn about the projects they are completing. Liz and Chandler spent the day with other Corps members and their mentors learning about the conservation projects the Aquarium is involved in and exploring all 16,000 critters found at the aquarium!



Terrapin Survey

Join us for the annual Terrapin Survey!

Join us from **Tuesday, May 26th to Saturday, May 30th** for this year's Terrapin Survey. Survey from land, boat, or kayak to help us determine the population status of diamondback terrapins in our Coastal Bays!

Trainings will be offered **Wednesday, May 13th** and **Tuesday, May 19th** from **5:30 to 6:30 p.m.** at the MCBP office. A third training date will be offered on **Thursday, May 21st** from **2:00 to 3:00 p.m.** To sign up or for more information, please contact Katherine at kphillips@mdcoastalbays.org or at 410-213-2297 ext. 109.

JOIN THE ANNUAL TERRAPIN SURVEY
May 26th to May 30th

Survey from land, boat, or kayak to help determine the population of terrapins in our Coastal Bays!

Terrapin Survey trainings will take place:
Wednesday, May 13th at 5:30 pm
Tuesday May 19th at 5:30 pm
Thursday May 21 at 2pm

8219 Stephen Decatur Highway
Berlin, MD 21811

TO SIGN UP, OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT KATHERINE PHILLIPS AT [KPHILLIPS@MDCOASTALBAYS.ORG](mailto:kphillips@mdcoastalbays.org) OR 410-213-2297 EXT. 109

