



September 2020

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Welcome Maddie!

MCBP is happy to welcome Maddie Talnagi as our new Chesapeake Conservation Corps Member!

Maddie is from Virginia Beach and is a recent graduate from William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia with degrees in Psychology and History. During her time at William & Mary, Maddie interned with the Environmental Protection Agency and spent this past summer as an environmental fellow with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation assisting in oyster reef restoration. She also has experience as a crew leader with the Virginia State Conservation Corps. Maddie loves to hike, kayak, and spend time at the beach. She is excited to get out in the field and get some hands-on conservation experience with MCBP's science team. We are excited to welcome her to the team!!

Marine Debris Plunder!



Join us for the inaugural Marine Debris Plunder on **October 10th**. The Plunder is a debris clean up by land or by sea. It will be run similar to a fishing tournament. Participants are asked to bring their finds to the harbor for a weigh in. Awards and trophies will be awarded virtually for such categories as the largest heist, to the most unusual.



Pre-registration is required and will be available online through a virtual Captain's Meeting conducted by the notorious Captain Jack Sparrow.

Captains' Meeting will be launched no later than September 11th. For more information contact mcbp@mdcoastalbays.org.

Creature Feature: The Not-So-Common Striped Burrfish



If you're lucky enough, when visiting Ocean City and Maryland's Coastal Bays, you may spot a Striped Burrfish!! When looking at the Striped Burrfish, you might think that you are looking at a Northern Pufferfish, a similar fish found in the Coastal Bays. While they are eerily similar, there are some key features that differentiate the burrfish from the pufferfish. The first major feature that makes the Striped Burrfish stand out are its spike-like spines sticking out all over its body. These spines stay fixed in place, meaning they are always protruding out, protecting the burrfish from predators. The burrfish actually have very few predators because most animals cannot get past these spines. To learn more about these creatures, click [here!](#)

Farewell Collin!

We are also excited to announce that former Chesapeake Conservation Corps Member, Chandler Joiner, will be joining MCBP as a full-time Environmental Educator! Chandler will manage our EPA grant (mentioned below!) and run environmental education programs throughout the watershed. We're so happy to have you stay with us!



EPA Environmental Education Grant

MCBP Awarded \$70,000 EPA Grant!

We are excited to announce that MCBP has received an Environmental Education Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to expand upon the Living Local program!! The expansive environmental education project will incorporate educational activities, such as educator trainings, in-class and outdoor education, and community workshops, all of which will promote environmental stewardship and increase public literacy about environmental issues affecting agriculture and their solutions. The main goal is to create an agricultural environmental education program that builds an understanding of issues affecting agriculture and develops a lifelong appreciation of farming and the positive changes that farmers are implementing to protect natural resources. Agricultural environmental education will be provided through the development and implementation of an interdisciplinary learning module, student experiences, and community workshops that address environmental and human impacts affecting agriculture and the benefits best farm practices have on water resources of Maryland's Coastal Bays.



We are incredibly sad to see the end of summer and with that the end of our summer internship with Collin Ludwig. Throughout the summer, Collin conducted wetland assessments, seines, piezometer installations, water quality monitoring, and much more! We will miss him and wish him the best of luck as he enters his senior year at Salisbury University!

Discover Your Watershed



Join us on **October 24th** from **9:30 am** to **12:00 pm** for our first Discover Your Watershed event of the year! Watch out for more details in next month's newsletter and check out the photo for a hint about where it will be held!



LIVING LOCAL

Ocean City Summer Camp

Estuary Explorers Summer Camp a success!

MCBP's education team had a blast running Ocean City Recreation and Park's Estuary Explorers camp this summer at Northside Park!! Estuary Explorers is an annual summer camp dedicated to exploring our Coastal Bays watershed and inspiring campers to become lifelong stewards of the environment. Over four days campers are taught a unique variety of science-based lessons and activities while they "walk" through the watershed. Campers had the opportunity to design their own water filters, discover unique animal adaptations, perform slime stomach dissections, learn about human impacts, build their own boats out of recycled material, gain valuable team-building skills, and much more! While camp looked different this year, we are so grateful to Ocean City Recreation and Park's for making camp as safe as possible. Thank you to our fabulous campers for making each week a fantastically wonderful experience!

If you have any questions about registration your rising 5th or 6th grader for 2021 camp, please email cjoiner@mdcoastalbays.org.



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<http://mdcoastalbays.org>

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