

Potomac Watershed Roundtable

The Clubhouse at Aquia Harbour
204 Bow Cove
Stafford, VA 22554

(This is the correct link for 204 Bow Cove using Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/p8ncYafZnoQ2>)

Friday, October 12, 2018

9:30 Registration and Morning Refreshments Served Prior to the Meeting

(The Potomac Council will meet from 9:00 to 9:50)

10:00 Call to Order and Introductions

Approval of the Minutes of the July 13, 2018 meeting at Westmoreland State Park in Montross

10:15 Updates from the Chair

10:30 Members Time and Announcements

10:45 Update on the Fairview Beach Shoreline Stabilization and Bacteria Loads

Michael Bennett, President, Fairview Beach Residents Association Board of Directors

Since the late 2000s, the residents of the Fairview Beach community have worked to relieve the shoreline erosion taking place along their Potomac River waterfront. Mr. Bennett will provide an update on the efforts the community has made since April 2016 to protect their shoreline and some concerns that continue.

11:15 Don't Chuck the Shuck – Virginia's Oyster Shell Recycling Program

Todd Janeski, Director of the Virginia Oyster Shell Recycling Program, VCU – Rice Rivers Center

At our last PWR meeting in July, we learned that restoring oyster beds is an expensive endeavor especially due to the high cost and limited access to oyster shell. Since 2013, the VCU Rice Rivers Center has facilitated the collection of waste oyster shells from restaurants and returned them to the Virginia portion of the Chesapeake Bay to help restore wild oyster populations, improve water quality and provide new fish habitat.

The Virginia Oyster Shell Recycling Program is a public-private and nonprofit collaborative effort. The program takes shells destined for the trash and returns them to the bay. Currently, the VOSRP collects from 50 restaurants and 30 public drop-off locations in Charlottesville, Richmond, Williamsburg, Newport News, Hampton, Norfolk, Suffolk, Chesapeake, Portsmouth, VA Beach and on the Northern Neck of Virginia. Oysters are important to Virginia's heritage and economy. In addition, they serve as natural filters for the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Opportunities to expand this program to bring in additional shell from other portions of the Potomac River watershed are possible.

12:00 Lunch and Networking – \$15 in cash or check (made out to the Northern Virginia SWCD); receipts will be provided.

1:00 Planning Ahead to Address the Needs of our Roundtable Members – Roundtable Discussion

There are several issues coming up in calendar year 2019 worth discussing as a roundtable. None more important than the Chesapeake Bay Phase III Watershed Improvement Plan. Roundtable members will use this time to discuss ways of capitalizing on the time we spend together as a group to ensure that needs in the new year are understood and can be planned for.

2:00 Adjourn