



GreenPort of Baltimore

March/April
2016

Green Business Is Good Business



Welcome to the GreenPort Newsletter

Welcome to GreenPort, a bi-monthly newsletter from the Maryland Port Administration about its projects, programs, and events that help protect natural resources in the Chesapeake Bay region. The Port Administration believes that stewardship and sustainability of the environment and protection of human health are essential elements of its mission.

Please spread the word! Anyone interested in a new subscription to the GreenPort newsletter please click [HERE](#), or visit the [GreenPort](#) web site.

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Read the 2015 GreenPort Annual Review

The GreenPort Annual Review is a yearly round-up of the MPA's work to maintain a thriving port while protecting clean air and water for both people and wildlife. It's just four pages, but packed with information. Click [here](#) to read the annual review online or download a copy for printing.



Environment

MPA teams up with Environmental Defense Fund

A partnership between the MPA and Environmental Defense Fund is benefiting air quality in Baltimore. Supported by grants from the Abell Foundation, the collaboration pairs EDF's environmental experience with the MPA's interest and ability to get projects on the ground.

Already, EDF has strengthened the MPA's [dray truck replacement program](#) by sharing their knowledge of a similar program in Houston. The next project is a feasibility study of shore power, which involves installing power stations that would allow a ship to be run by electricity when at a berth. "Plugging in" would allow the ship to shut off its engines, reducing both fuel consumption and emissions.

Barbara McMahon, MPA manager of Safety, Environment & Risk Management, said that EDF is bringing valuable insight mixed with real-world practicality. "They know that no two ports are alike," McMahon said. "They want to cooperate. They know how important ports are to economies locally."

Milkweed for Monarchs



Photo Credit: Living Classrooms Foundation

of Engineers were recently recognized by [Monarch Watch](#) for creating a “monarch waystation” on [Poplar Island](#), which has been restored using dredged material. A waystation provides milkweed, nectar plants, and shelter to support the life cycle of the monarch butterfly.

The Living Classrooms Foundation is also growing milkweed in the [Masonville Cove](#) greenhouse. Increasing monarch habitat and food sources is an initiative of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, which named Masonville Cove the first USFWS Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnership in 2013.



Milkweed plantings at Masonville Cove Education Center.

Photo Credit: Living Classrooms Foundation

Education

New Faces at Masonville Cove

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has partnered with the Hispanic Access Foundation to fund an

internship at the [Masonville Cove Environmental Center](#). Nia Edwards, a senior at Towson University, is now serving as the community outreach liaison to help connect local Latino communities to environmental education resources at Masonville.

Also, the [Living Classrooms Foundation](#) has hired Julian Whitley as a full-time Masonville educator. Julian served as an intern at the center in 2014 and was an educator for the BEE SMART summer program in 2015. He will now be working with local students on SLURRP – the School Leadership in Urban Runoff Reduction Project.



Julian Whitley



Nia Edwards

Photo Credit: Living Classrooms Foundation

Dredging

Up-close look at the Cox Creek Expansion

On March 2nd, about 20 people from Anne Arundel County communities and the MPA's advisory committees gathered for a tour of the [Cox Creek Dredged Material Placement Facility](#).

Larry Bannerman of the Turner Station Conservation Team enjoyed learning how the facility operates and was impressed by the "before and after" samples comparing the wet sediment that flows into the site and the soil that results after it has dried. "I believe that should be a part of every discussion in the future," Bannerman said. "The transformation, after the removal of the water, is amazing."

The Cox Creek facility began operating in 2005 to receive material dredged from the Baltimore Harbor. The capacity of the site is now being expanded by demolishing old industrial buildings in the upland area, a process that will likely take a year to complete.

Guests on the tour traveled along the dike, viewed the dredging barge in the Patapsco River, and watched as sediment and water was discharged into the placement area through a large pipe.



Joe Brooks lives in the Bear Creek area and participated in the tour. "As a frequent kayaker of these waters I feel much better about dredged material containment than I did prior to the tour," Brooks said.

Photo Credit: Bill McAllen for MPA

Progress at Pearce Creek

The MPA continues to work with the Pearce Creek communities of West View Shores, Bayview Estates, and Sunset Pointe, and individual property owners in Cecil County, where a former dredged material placement site will be re-opened. The US Army Corps of Engineers is installing a liner at the placement site, and work is about to begin on a waterline that will connect area residents to the Cecilton water supply.



Construction activities in the Pearce Creek DMCF
Photo Credit: Sealaska Constructors, LLC

The Pearce Creek placement site has been closed for 20 years. Re-opening the site will provide a much-needed location for placing sediment that is removed from upper Bay shipping channels. About 100 people attended an informational meeting in January, and citizens are invited to tour the site on April 15. For information, visit <http://pearcecreekoutreach.com>.

Upcoming Events

Masonville Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting - April 5th at 5:30 PM

Masonville Cove Environmental Education Campus:

1000 Frankfurst Avenue, Baltimore MD 21226

Cox Creek Citizens Oversight Committee Meeting - April 13th at 5:30 PM

Big Vanilla Athletic Club:

26 Magothy Beach Rd, Pasadena, MD 21122

Harbor Team Meeting - April 28 at 6:00 PM

Maryland Transportation Authority Police Headquarters:

2310 Broening Highway, Baltimore, MD 21224

Masonville Cove Education Festival - May 24-26 from 9:45 AM to 2:10 PM

Masonville Cove Environmental Education Campus:

1000 Frankfurst Avenue, Baltimore MD 21226

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GreenPort Newsletter is the Maryland Port Administration's bi-monthly update of projects and programs that help the agency contribute to a thriving economy,



environmental stewardship, and community partnerships.

*As always, we thank the many private sector businesses,
government leaders, communities, and individual
citizens who have helped make these achievements a reality.*

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