GreenPort of Baltimore **Newsletter**

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ENVIRONMENT

Captain Trash Wheel Reports for Duty at Masonville Cove

On March 24, equipped with its very own Go-Pro Camera to document the journey, Captain Trash Wheel arrived at Masonville Cove ready to work. Baltimore's third trash wheel was commissioned by the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) and will help keep trash from entering the Patapsco River's Middle Branch. Captain Trash Wheel is part of the mitigation package for the Masonville dredged material placement site.

MDOT MPA called on the public to help name the new trash wheel. Captain Trash Wheel received the most votes, taking the lead over other contenders such as Trashzilla, Uncle Curtis and Trash Smasher. MDOT MPA also provided funding for Mr. Trash Wheel in the Inner Harbor and Professor Trash Wheel at Harris Creek Park in Canton.

Watch Captain Trash Wheel's arrival!
Photo: Bill McAllen
(click the image below)

Tags for Terrapins

During the school year, children throughout Maryland have been taking care of hatchling terrapins in their classrooms. Originally from the Paul S. Sarbanes Ecosystem Restoration Project at Poplar Island, the terrapins came to the classrooms for a "head start" during which they thrive free of predators. Soon the terrapins will be re-released at Poplar Island.

Last week, the 177 head start terrapins received Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags that are similar to a microchip that a family pet might receive. If a terrapin is ever recaptured, scanning the tag will reveal information such as the hatch date and location, and the name of the school that raised the terrapin.

This partnership with MDOT MPA, Maryland Environmental Service (MES), Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center, and the National Aquarium is a hands-on way to

engage children with nature and the Chesapeake Bay, and collect data for research.

Juvenile terrapins await their Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags. Photo: Maggie Cavey, MES

MDOT MPA Continues the Greening of Its Fleet

The push to improve air quality by greening the fleet continues. MDOT MPA Fleet Department is replacing its older diesel trucks and equipment with new low-emission and fuel-efficient versions. Recently, three new dump trucks equipped with innovative technology were purchased, promising to reduce emissions and fuel consumption as compared to the older trucks they are replacing.

MDOT MPA Air Quality Policy and Program Manager Chandra Chithaluru stated that the MDOT MPA is committed to reducing air emissions to protect public health and the environment. Another benefit, according to MDOT MPA Deputy Director of Crane, Facility and Fleet Maintenance Joe Nickoles, is that the upgrades will also save the state money on fuel and maintenance. This win-win situation is both economically and environmentally beneficial.

Three new 2018 Western Star 4700SF dump trucks are certified as compliant with 2010 Environmental Protection Agency and California Air Resources Board emission standards.

MDOT MPA & MES Employees Make a Difference in Baltimore

Last fall, 64 volunteers including employees from the MDOT MPA Safety, Environmental, and Risk Management Department and MES, university students, and local residents gathered at a grass median along U.S. Route 40 in Harlem Park.

Together, they planted 81 tree saplings for the MDOT MPA's Urban Forestry Partnership with Blue Water Baltimore, a nonprofit restoring Baltimore's rivers, streams and harbor. "This was fun, and I'd do it again. I learned about native tree types, and how trees will help the city," said Henry Jett, a Port employee's 10-year-old son.

Increasing Baltimore's tree canopy helps offset sources of carbon dioxide, reduces stormwater runoff, creates wildlife habitat, saves energy, improves property values, and deepens the connection to nature for city residents.

MDOT MPA Environmental Manager Bill Richardson said the partnership is "a unique opportunity allowing the Port to engage with communities in a meaningful way and at the same time solve environmental challenges."

MDOT MPA and MES employees join members of the community to give back, planting trees with Blue Water Baltimore
Photo: MDOT MPA's Safety, Environment & Risk Management Department

DREDGING

Masonville Dikes Raised to Increase Capacity

Efforts are underway to increase capacity of the Masonville Dredge Material Containment Facility (DMCF). The roughly 105-acre site is located in Baltimore on the south shore of the Patapsco River, north of the Masonville and Fairfield Marine Terminals.

Earthen retaining walls called dikes are being raised in phases. Currently, the dikes average 10 feet high and the DMCF's total capacity is 4.5 million cubic yards. When this phase of the dike raising is complete, capacity will be 6.1 million cubic yards.

"A portion of sand recovered from the Confined Aquatic Disposal pilot project was used for dike construction which resulted in a cost savings because that sand was not purchased," said Bertrand F. Djiki, project engineer, Harbor Development- Dredging Programs, Maryland Port Administration.

Planning for the design of the next phase is underway.

Earthen retaining walls called dikes are being raised to increase capacity at the
Masonville Dredge Material Containment Facility
Photo: James Cooper, MES

EDUCATION

Teachers Learn About Port's Environmental Stewardship

The Port of Baltimore's environmental stewardship was showcased for educators from the throughout the state at the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) 2018 Conference in Ocean City in February.

MDOT MPA and MES employees displayed educational opportunities in the exhibit hall and led an interactive double workshop about the history of four dredged material placement sites. Educators learned about the past, present, and future of Poplar Island, Hart-Miller

Island, Masonville, and Cox Creek.

"Not only did the participants learn about Port facilities and related MDOT MPA stewardship first-hand, these teachers walked away with an engaging lesson they could present to both student and adult groups," said Rachael Gilde, an environmental specialist with MES.

Teachers from throughout Maryland feeling enthusiastic about new lesson material they can take back to their classrooms about the Port's environmental stewardship.

Photo: Maggie Cavey, MES

PORT

Maryland Hosts GreenPort Congress Conference

After 12 years of international locations, Maryland was chosen as the site of the first GreenPort Congress conference to be held in North America, May 16-18, 2018 at the Baltimore Convention Center.

"This is an important event for the maritime industry and a great opportunity to share the ongoing success of the Port of Baltimore with an international audience," said Governor Larry Hogan. "We look forward to hosting Greenport Congress conference and welcoming those leading environmental efforts around the world to Maryland."

The keynote speakers are Raymond Fitzgerald, chief operating officer of Wallenius Wilhelmsen Solutions and chairman of American Roll-On Roll-Off Carriers and Patrick Verhoeven, managing director, policy & strategy, International Association of Ports and Harbors.

Topics include advancements in dredging technology, measuring air emissions in the maritime and shipping industries, and improving relationships with stakeholders. Click here for more information.

In May, international visitors will be attending the GreenPort

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cox Creek Citizens Oversight Committee - April 11 at 5:30PM
Riviera Beach Library
1130 Duvall Highway, Pasadena, MD 21222
For questions or to confirm attendance please contact *Greenport*.

Pearce Creek Implementation Committee Meeting - April 20th at 10:00AM
Cecilton Community Center at Parklands
90 B North Center Street, Cecilton, MD 21919
For questions or to confirm attendance please contact *Greenport*.

Hart Miller Citizens Oversight Committee Meeting - April 24th at 6:30PM
Pt. Breeze Maritime Center I
2200 Broening Highway, Baltimore, MD 21224
For questions or to confirm attendance please contact *Greenport*.

Harbor Team Meeting - April 26th at 6:00PM
Pt. Breeze Maritime Center I
2200 Broening Highway, Baltimore, MD 21224
For questions or to confirm attendance please contact *Greenport*.

DMMP Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting - May 9th at 6:00PM
Point Breeze Maritime Center I
2200 Broening Highway
Baltimore, MD 21224
For questions or to confirm attendance please contact *Greenport*.

Hart Miller Citizens Oversight Committee Meeting - May 15th at 6:30PM

Pt. Breeze Maritime Center I

2200 Broening Highway, Baltimore, MD 21224

For questions or to confirm attendance please contact *[Greenport](#)*.

Innovative Reuse Committee Meeting - May 22nd at 5:30PM

Pt. Breeze Maritime Center I

2200 Broening Highway, Baltimore, MD 21224

For questions or to confirm attendance please contact *[Greenport](#)*.

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MARYLAND PORT ADMINISTRATION

GreenPort Newsletter is the Maryland Department of Transportation's 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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