



March 2019 River Currents

Speaking Up for Clean Water!



In the 2019 General Assembly, Arundel Rivers is continuing to push for legislation that will deliver clean water to our local rivers.

The Styrofoam ban has passed the House and Senate in MD. There is a shocking amount of Styrofoam in our streams and it is toxic to our fish and bird populations. The Federation also helped stop an oyster substrate law that would stop restoration efforts in the State's section of the Bay.

We are still advocating in favor of a bill to define, locate, and fix failing septic systems. Finally, the Federation is addressing construction site runoff by supporting a bill that will require local jurisdictions to make their enforcement efforts publicly available online when they inspect construction sites.

South River Osprey Thank BGE



The Federation wants to thank BGE for replacing an osprey platform after a power line pole that was home to the original platform was knocked down in a storm last fall.

The workers had to brave hazardous conditions, not only high up in the air in a crane bucket, but were also forced to dodge dive-bombing osprey who were anxious for their new flat!

Restoration Update

| In the Pipeline for 2019 Construction | Location |
|---|--------------------|
| Bacon Ridge stream restoration | Bacon Ridge Branch |
| Turnbull Living Shoreline | Glebe Bay |
| Health Department Gully Phase 2 | Broad Creek |
| Davidsonville Gravelly "Grand Canyon" | Flat Creek |
| Under Design | Location |
| Herrington Harbor North wetland enhancement | Tracys Creek |
| Broad Creek Valley stream restoration | Broad Creek |
| Broad Creek Park stream restoration | Heritage Harbor |
| Franklin State Park Living Shoreline | near Shady Side |

Katie Matta, South River Watershed Steward Leads the Way



Katie Matta graduated from [Watershed Stewards Academy](#) in 2018. For her capstone project, she organized 17 volunteers to help 6 neighbors living along her backyard stream in Hillsmere Shores make their yards more river friendly. Together they installed 3 conservation plantings, 3 stream buffer plantings and put in a rain barrel and an above ground rain cistern.

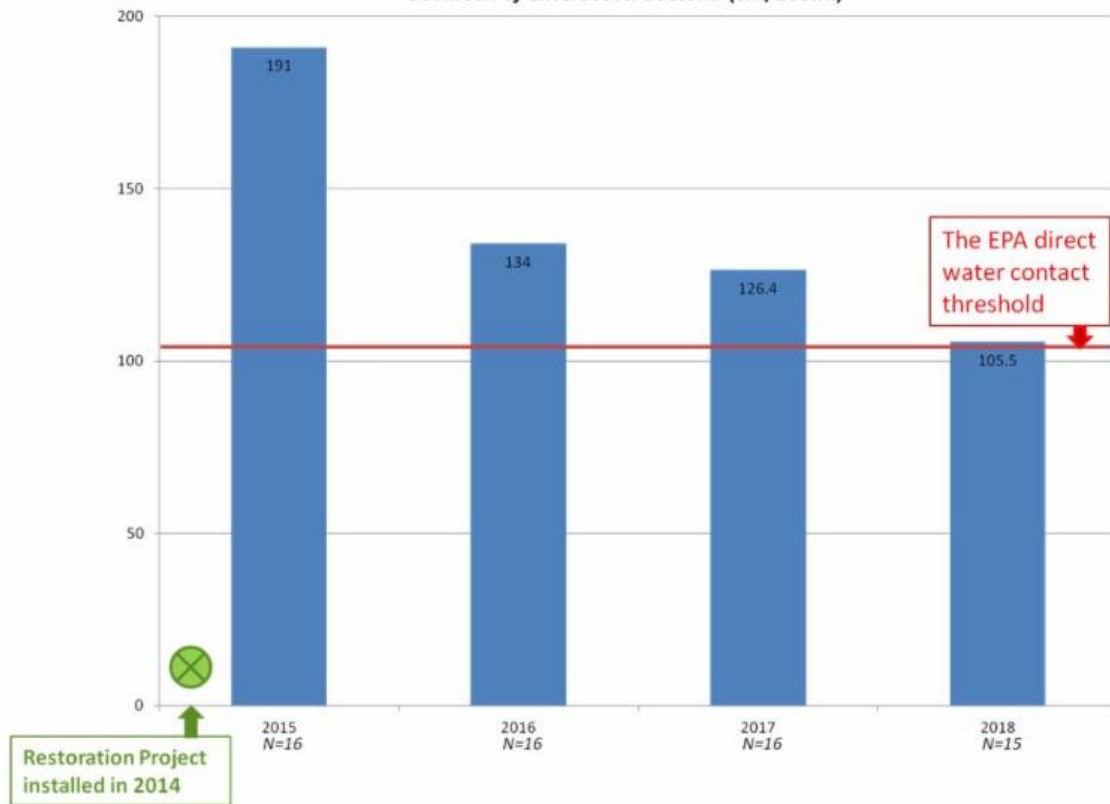
Arundel Rivers provided a mini-grant to help pay for the over 150 shrubs, ferns, and herbaceous plants installed by the group of residents! Thanks Katie for helping to create a healthier South River!

Volunteer Planting Power!

Bacteria Levels Drop in Church Creek

Below is a chart showing how bacteria levels at the tidal headwaters of Church Creek have steadily dropped since our restoration project in 2014. Since then, we have constructed two more stream restoration projects further upstream.

Church Creek Headwaters Project Geomean of Enterococci Bacteria (cfu/100ml)



Volunteers Needed



We are looking for 20+ volunteers to work our South River on the Half Shell 15th Anniversary Celebration on Thursday, May 9th at Historic London Town & Gardens in Edgewater. Please contact nancy@arundelrivers.org, or call (410) 224-3802 if you are interested in volunteering your time.

Upcoming Events



Saturday, March 23rd 11am to 4pm
Davidsonville Green Expo

Stop by and see us at the [Davidsonville Green Expo](#) hosted by [Homestead Gardens](#) on Saturday,

March 23rd to learn about environmentally-friendly products, sustainable lifestyle tips, recycling, plus free native tree seedlings! Jeff Holland, West Rhode Riverkeeper will be presenting at lunch time.

Thursday, March 28th 6pm to 7pm
Meet the Riverkeeper!

Jeff Holland, West & Rhode Riverkeeper, will present an overview of local maritime history and heritage in story and song.



Participants will receive an update on the health of our waterways.. Bring the family! The event will be held at [West Marine](#) in Edgewater, MD.

2017 Report Card
Healing the South River in One Generation



Tuesday, April 9th 7pm to 9pm State of the Rivers Presentation

We will be unveiling the South River Report Card and the West/Rhode Rivers Report Card on Tuesday, April 9th at [Historic London Town & Garden](#).

Come learn about the progress being made towards clean, fishable, swimmable waterways for our local communities. Attendance is free, but please reserve your spot in advance by signing up [HERE](#).



Thursday, May 9th--Join Us!

South River on the Half Shell will be at [Historic London Town & Gardens](#) overlooking the South River. Interested in being a sponsor for the 15th anniversary of this annual signature event? [Purchase tickets HERE](#). Please contact [Denise Swol](#) for sponsorship opportunities.

Support Arundel Rivers



Love Clean Water?

Help support Arundel Rivers Federation to ensure that the South, West, and Rhode Rivers, and Herring Bay are fishable and swimmable! Click here for a [map](#) of our expanded jurisdiction.

[Donate](#)

River News



Riverkeeper in the News

South Riverkeeper Jesse Iiff: "Counties should track stormwater complaints". In this article, Jesse describes his work with the sediment erosion and control bill. Read the op-ed [HERE](#).

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