

Hail Cove Restoration Partnership Event Fact Sheet



Hail Cove shoreline, Maryland

Proposed event: A showcase of collaborative public-private partnerships in action, including citizen volunteers planting grasses at a living shoreline restoration project. The event will spotlight the opportunities available via the Coastal America Partnership, including the Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (CWRP), the Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center (CELC) network, and other partners.

Location: In Maryland at the Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge on the Chester River, a tributary to the Chesapeake Bay.

Date of Event: September 10, 2009.

Importance of the Project: This living shoreline project encompasses shoreline, wetland, and submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) habitat protection. Living shoreline projects reduce shore erosion and create marsh and reef habitat for species, such as waterfowl, blue crabs, terrapins, fish, oysters and mussels. Aerial surveys over the past 10 years have revealed the importance of maintaining the integrity of Hail Cove from damaging erosion due to prevailing winds to preserve critical SAV and habitat for roosting and feeding migratory waterfowl.

Event Goals:

- To raise awareness about the needs and opportunities for habitat protection and restoration.
- To showcase restoration partnership opportunities -- using an example along the Chesapeake Bay.
- To highlight successful public-private partnership engagement in restoring critical aquatic habitat.

Event format: Dignitaries and speakers will attend an approximately one hour kick-off of the public restoration planting efforts. Remarks will recognize partner contributions, inform the public regarding critical Chesapeake Bay restoration needs, and inspire the volunteer marsh grass planters from the National Aquarium in Baltimore -- including urban school children.

Project Partners and Sponsorship:

The project includes multiple partners: federal, state, corporate, citizen volunteers and nonprofit organizations. The MD CWRP has secured both corporate materials and in-kind services. This is the first project for the MD CWRP, which was launched in October 2008. MD CWRP is chaired by the Brick Companies and Constellation Energy. The U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Chesapeake Bay Field Office, Coastal Program is leading the restoration effort at Hail Cove. In addition to the approximately \$200,000 contributed from the Chesapeake Marshlands National Wildlife Refuge Complex, expected partner contributions include:

7/30/2009

- Chesapeake Bay Trust: grant in partnership with Maryland Department of the Environment, Keith Campbell Foundation, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Ducks Unlimited and Easton Waterfowl Festival: funds and technical assistance
- FishAmerica: grant
- Friends of Eastern Neck: in-kind services and planting
- Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Watershed Services and Migratory Waterfowl Stamp Program: funds and technical support
- Maryland Eastern Shore Resource Conservation and Development Council: permitting and administration
- North American Wetland Conservation Act: grant
- The National Aquarium (a CELC): citizen volunteers for wetland planting
- USFWS Coastal Program: project grants, development and coordination
- Vulcan Materials: in-kind services and materials
- Washington College: oyster reef restoration



Volunteers planting at Eastern Neck Wildlife Refuge

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