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LYNNHAVEN River NOW



You are invited to LRNow's

12TH ANNUAL

Oyster Roast

Saturday, April 26th 🌿 Noon – 3:00 PM

ENJOY

- 🌿 Enjoy Lynnhaven oysters, beer, wine and delicious barbeque
- 🌿 Fun music and an oyster shucking contest
- 🌿 Beautiful location on the Lynnhaven River
- 🌿 Silent Auction and new LRNow Merchandise
- 🌿 Buy your tickets today at LRNow.org or call 757-962-5398

THE LYNNHAVEN TRASHION SHOW

#JunkToFunk

Come see local students rock the runway with designs that make recycling fun and fashionable.

RUNWAY EVENT

Saturday, June 6th, 2014

1 – 3 pm

Lynnhaven Mall – Interior Court By Macy's



SCOOP THE POOP



LRNow on Television

How do you reach 450,000 people to encourage them to scoop the poop, use less fertilizer, or install a rain barrel? Television is one way to do that. LRNow has developed seven new 15 second television spots that will begin to air this April on several different Cox channels. Our partners at DIA (Dave Iwans & Associates, Inc.) have worked with us to develop some really clever spots that will attract your attention and get our messages across clearly in 15 seconds – not an easy task. With these ads, we have developed a whole suite of new iconic images that you are going to start seeing us use many places – on our new bookmarks, on our new dog scarves, and on our 2014 Oyster Roast tee shirt. I hope you will watch out for our new public service spots and let us know where you saw them either through an email to our office (Dana@LRNow.org) or on our Facebook page.

December 12, 2013 – March 7, 2014
 Congratulations to our newest Pearl Homes.
 Thanks to you, we now have 1,380 Pearl Homes!

- ALANTON**
Mr. & Mrs. John h. Peterson, Jr.
Joyce Fain
Linda Garland
- ALEXANDRIA**
Kenya Zickefoose
Arbor Trace
Heather Street
- ARROWHEAD**
Heather Prince
- BACK BAY**
Elizabeth Cummings
Krista McNulty
- BAY COLONY**
Allison McDuffie
Steven & Nancy Freeman
Latane Brown
Susan Gentry
Joyce Klingensmith
Wanda Sellers
Katherine Richardson
Allison McDuffie
Nancy Freeman
Audrey Parrot
Nancy Johnson
- BAY POINT**
Jim & Carole Chris
- BAYCLIFF**
Clarke & Lisa Payne
- BROAD BAY POINT GREENS**
David Price
- BELLAMY MANOR ESTATES**
Christine Chambers
- BELLE HAVEN**
Kim Parris
- BLACKWATER**
Gloria Jasinowski
Mary Mason
Beth A. Couling
- BRIGADOON**
Caretha Walker
- CAMPUS EAST**
Deborah Woodhouse
Veronica J. Austin-Little
- CAPE HENRY SHORES**
Dianne D. Willis
- CAPE STORY BY THE SEA**
Sabine Stalb
Cindi & Steve Courter
Kevin Oelhafen
Jeannie Winters
- CARRIAGE HILL**
Nicole Blanchard
- CHESOPEAN COLONY**
Marian Leavitt
Melissa & Art Webb
- CHESAPEAKE BEACH**
Travis Hartneck
Mike Hancock & Dr. Vera Adams
Brad Sike
Jordan Storm
Kathy Spenser
- CHRISTOPHER FARMS**
Lisa Edwards
- COURTHOUSE ESTATES**
Elizabeth Springs
- COURTHOUSE WOODS**
Caitlin & Zachary Bucholz
- DIAMOND LAKE ESTATES**
Peggy & Bruce Weller
- DIAMOND SPRINGS**
Stacey Butterfield
Ann Farley
- EASTABROOK**
David Dearborn
- GLENWOOD**
Teresa H. Hawkins
Daniella Rosete
- GREAT NECK**
Marty Thumel
- GREAT NECK FARMS**
Julie O'Brien
Pam Coker
- GREEN HILL FARMS**
Charlotte Marriott
- GREEN RUN**
Damlano Jones
- HILLCREST FARMS**
Kerri Sabo
- HOLLAND FARMS**
Becky Burnsworth
- HOLLAND LAKES**
Clara Unique Owens
- HOLLY POINT**
Amanda Silva
- INDIAN LAKES**
Angie Coleman
- INDIAN RIVER PLANTATION**
Lauren Broccoletti
- KEMPSVILLE**
Fe Clark
Neil Lichtenstein
- KEMPSVILLE COLONY**
Brenden Watz
- KING'S GRANT**
Jennabell Duncan
Theresa Neary
Guy & Chantal Nevoret
- LAGOMAR**
Betsy Moran



DEAR MEMBERS,

Dear Members,

What a wonderful time of year spring is. And this year, we can feel like we earned the warmer days and the burst of color and the exploding life all around us. Our baby eaglets were born in March, the osprey are returning and the oysters are waking up from their winter slumber. It is a good time to be outside and appreciate the beauty of this special place where the ocean and the land meet.

If you are like me, there is no place you would rather be on these first warm spring days than in your garden. Are you already enjoying daffodils breaking through with their promise of beautiful yellow blooms to brighten our days and thinking about the new possibilities for your garden this year? As you plan your garden, please think about ways to add Hampton Roads native plants into your landscape.

LRNow is launching a new program, A Year of Natives, to familiarize you with hardy, beautiful native plants that you can add to your garden throughout the year. Each month, throughout the next year, we will be featuring one native plant for you to consider adding to your landscape. We are working with our local garden centers to make sure that these plants are available for you to purchase. Please read the insert in this newsletter to get more information about our April choice and watch the E-News for our monthly plant selections.

Balanced communities of native plants contribute to the biodiversity of our landscape. Native plants have co-evolved with animals to form interdependent communities. Not only will these native plants bring color and beauty to your yard, they will also bring wildlife. The birds and butterflies that we hope to see in our yards are dependent on these native plants. Without the native plants, we do not have the birds and butterflies.

An added benefit of natives is that they are well adapted to our climate and growing conditions. Once established, they will require little extra water, fertilizer or pesticides. They express the character of our region in a way that alien plants do not. And you will not be contributing to the problems caused by invasive plants. When a plant is introduced to a new area, it may have few natural controls and take over, crowding out the diversity that we need. English Ivy is a good example. Have you seen English Ivy gone wild in your neighborhood? It will grow over trees and kill them and all other plant life in its path.

Have you ever thought about what Virginia Beach must have been like before humans? Oyster reefs filled the river, underwater grasses swayed with the tide, lush wetlands lined all the shorelines, and upland forests provided food and shelter for a wide variety of birds and mammals. We cannot go back to those times, nor would we want to remove all the humans. But, we can help our native wildlife by understanding that our yards are part of this ecosystem and we can help restore the diversity of native plants that once thrived on our coastal plain.

Thank you for all you do for the Lynnhaven River,

Karen
Karen Forget
 Executive Director

Marsh Island Task Force

As much as 70-75% of the healthy, productive wetland areas in the Lynnhaven are contained in our marsh islands. And they are starting to disappear. In most cases, the erosion losses are small, but they are noticeable and we fear are a sign of worse things to come.

Many factors could be influencing the effects that we are seeing—currents and boat wakes, animals like geese and muskrats, storm events, and sea level rise. Scientists are predicting five feet of sea level rise in the Lynnhaven before 2100 and our marsh islands lie at sea level. As the water levels rise, wetlands along the shoreline where there is no bulkhead or rip rap can slowly migrate landward. As the seas rise, the vegetation adapts and there is no loss of vital habitat. However, the same is not true of shorelines hardened with bulkhead and the same is not true of our marsh islands. As the seas rise, these wetlands are very vulnerable to drowning.

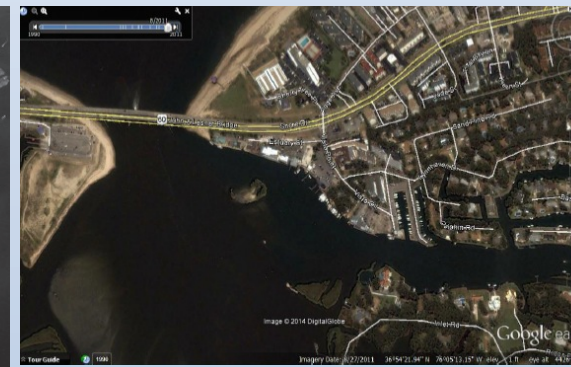
Wetlands are essential to a healthy river. They perform many valuable functions: habitat, hydrologic and water quality. Wetlands filter sediments and excess nutrients, cleaning the water before it enters the river. Wetlands mitigate the effects of flooding and sea level rise and reduce erosion. They create essential habitat for juvenile fish and crabs, snails, and many species of birds. Wetlands are among the most productive ecosystems in the world and contribute greatly to the health of the river and all of our marine organisms.

LRNow has assembled a group of experts to help us gather the data we need to understand what is happening to our marsh islands, to help us determine the causes. And explore strategies that may be employed to protect these marshes and build in resiliency to sea level rise. This work will take two years. And at the end, we hope to have a menu of strategies that we can undertake to protect the large marsh islands in the inlet as well as smaller ones in other areas of the river even into our shallower creeks in the headwaters.

We are excited to have scientists from Virginia Institute of Marine Science and Old Dominion University, representatives of several state agencies including Virginia Marine Resources Commission and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, the US Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Virginia Beach, marine engineers, and the leading wetlands experts in Hampton Roads represented on this Task Force. The work ahead of us is not going to be easy, but could have long term benefits for the Lynnhaven River and for other tributaries throughout the Chesapeake Bay.



Fish House Island 1968



Fish House Island 2013

- Chitra Sharma
- DH Foster
- Jennifer Lustenberger
- Lake Edwards
- Jewel Fauntleroy-Marshall
- LAKE JAMES**
Thomas Etter
- LAKE SMITH TERRACE**
Chris Payne
Lakeview Park
Suzanne Stevens
- LAKEVILLE ESTATES**
Beth Bryan
- LARKSPUR**
Barbara Disney
Matt Mancoll
- LAUREL COVE**
Colleen Paine
- LINKHORN PARK**
Selby Smith
Melissa Davis
- LITTLE NECK**
Anne Hudson
- LYNBROOK LANDING**
Shelley Scott-Johnson
- LYNNHAVEN WOODS**
John & Vonja Ickes
- MILL DAM**
E Singer & G Caldwell
- NEW CASTLE**
Dolores K. Phipps
- NORTH END**
Mary Jo O'Connor & Robert E. Steinhilber
Nancy Saunders
- NOTTINGHAM ESTATES**
Heather Cook
- OCEAN LAKES**
Jena Safos
Carrie Broussard
- OCEAN PARK**
Jim & Anita Coney
- PECAN GARDENS**
Kuron conner
- PINE RIDGE**
Mark Runyan
- PLAZA**
Lindsay Crain
- POCOHONTAS VILLAGE**
Elycia Atkinson
- PRINCESS ANNE HILLS**
Melodie & Tom Middlebrooks
- PRINCESS ANNE PLAZA**
Pypatchia Mitchell
Virginia G. Mutuc
- PUNGO**
Betsy Cromwell
- RED MILL FARMS**
Dale DeSarro
Jeff Ballowe
Shannon Davis & Shaun Reinheimer
- RED WING**
Rosie Tallos
- ROCK CREEK**
Matthew Francis & Jennifer Shearer
Amy & Fran Fentress
Ryleigh Potter
- SALEM LAKES**
Krisha Loftus
Shermain Reed
Diane Okolovitch
- SALTMEADOW BAY**
Christian Ebert
- SANDBRIDGE**
Patricia Matthews
Cindy Graf
Joan Davis
Charlie Elin
Mike & Ginny Maloney
- SAWYER LAKES**
Susan Whiteman
- SCHOOLHOUSE CROSSING**
Jennifer Williamson
- SHADOWLAWN**
Carin White
Christina Williams
- SHORE HAVEN**
Tyler James Dean
Wendie Kalafsky
- SOUTHAMPTON AT SALEM SPRINGS**
Fran Matthews
- SOUTHGATE**
Kim Bowles
- STRAWBRIDGE**
Cara Haley
- SUMMERSET LAKE**
Claire Nixon
- THALIA**
Scott Flex
- THOROUGHGOOD**
Debbie Dougherty
- TIMBERLAKE**
Trysten Glad-Gonzalez
- TRANT BERKSHIRE**
Jim & Martha Jacobs
- WILDWOOD SQUARE**
Wendy Baylor
- WINDSOR OAKS WEST**
Arleta Dawson
- WITCHDUCK LANDING**
Robin Bandrowski
- WOODHURST**
Elizabeth Balrar-Tepletz
- WOODSHIRE**
Telia Dulp
Sandra Baylor
Sue Polini