

November 22, 2021

Christopher Judy, Director
Eric Campbell, Biologist
Shellfish Division
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
580 Taylor Avenue, D-4
Annapolis, MD 20401

Dear Chris and Eric,

The Advocates for Herring Bay (AHB) are pleased to report that we have planted over 1 million spat-on-shell in the Herring Bay Oyster Sanctuary since your office gave us permission in June 2019 to restore a quarter-acre area on one of the Sanctuary's historic "Yates" bars.

We owe the success of this effort to citizens from across Herring Bay, who donated funds and the time and physical labor needed to pick up spat from hatcheries, load it on boats, and plant it in the bay. With their support, we launched a Herring Bay Build-A-Reef Project—a collaboration between AHB and the Oyster Recovery Partnership (ORP)—to expand our capacity to complete restoration projects. As shown in Attachment 1, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) and Maryland Grows Oysters program (MGO) also donated spat-on-shell for this reef.

The early results are promising. As shown in the photo below, there was evidence of three-dimensional growth by the spring of 2021.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to help restore the oyster population in Herring Bay. We look forward to working with you and our other partners in the future on new oyster restoration projects in the Sanctuary.

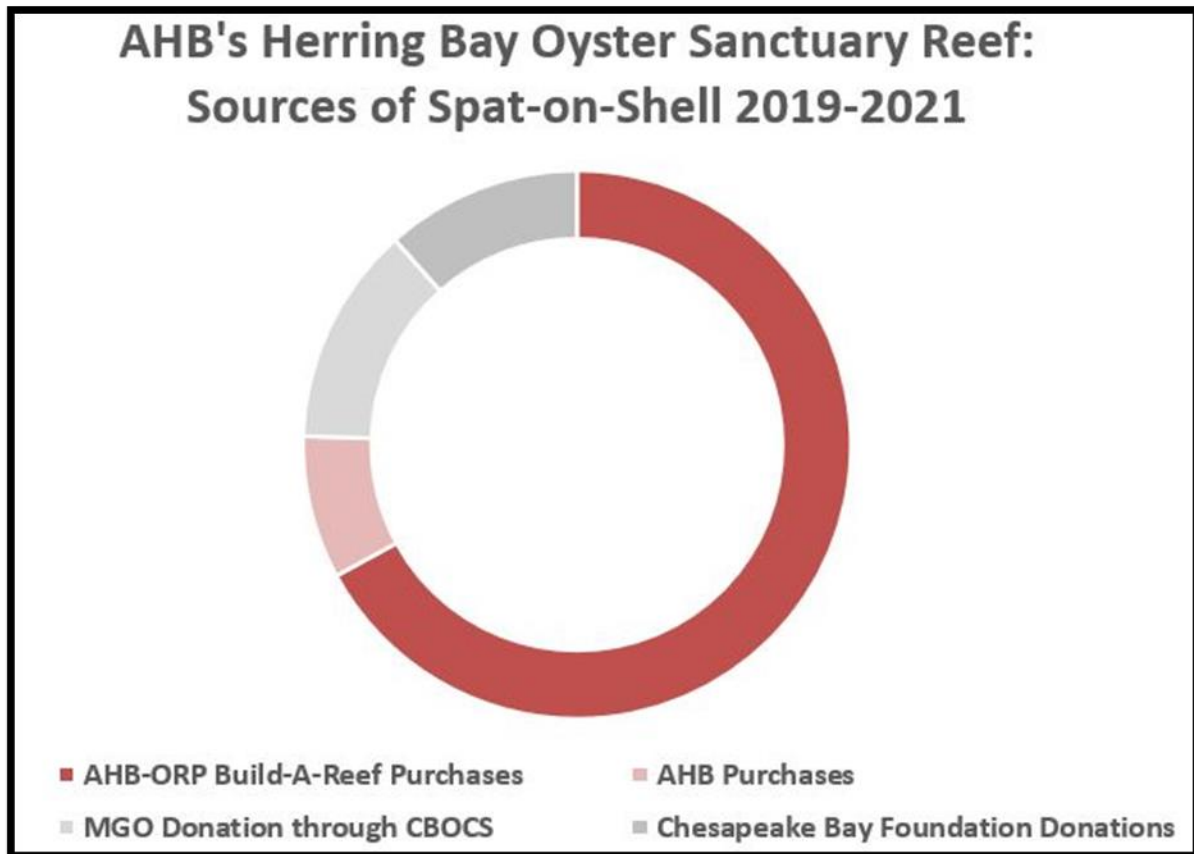
Sincerely,

Kathy Gramp
President
Advocates for Herring Bay

Cc:
Senator Sarah Elfreth
Delegate Seth Howard
County Executive Steuart Pittman
Paul Schurick, ORP
Allison Colden, CBF
John Bacon, CBOCS
Matthew Ogburn, SERC



Attachment 1: Sources of Spat on Shell for Herring Bay Oyster Restoration Project



Spat on Shell Placed on Herring Bay Sanctuary Reef by the Advocates for Herring Bay

Date and Source	Spat on Shell
9/9/19 – AHB - Purchased from Horn Point	60,000
9/11/20 – MGO via Chesapeake Beach Oyster Cultivation Society (CBOCS)	131,000
10/9/20 – AHB - Purchased from Horn Point	25,500
11/8/20 – Chesapeake Bay Foundation Donation	61,000
5/22/21-- Chesapeake Bay Foundation Donation	8,600
8/31/21 – AHB - ORP Build a Reef (Piney Point)	43,800
9/30/21 – AHB - ORP Build a Reef (Horn Point)	635,500
11/6/21 – Chesapeake Bay Foundation Donation	47,600
TOTAL	1,013,000