



Maryland

Department of the Environment

Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

Ben Grumbles, Secretary
Horacio Tablada, Deputy Secretary

November 16, 2021

Ms. Jeanne Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Tawes State Office Building
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Secretary Haddaway-Riccio:

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has been notified by the Maryland Department of Health of an illness outbreak in Virginia, where the sources identified may have been oysters harvested from St. George's Creek, St. Mary's River in St. Mary's County. Currently, a thorough investigation is underway to determine the source of illness. As a precaution and to meet the strict requirements under the National Shellfish Sanitation Program, MDE is required to close the implicated area at least until the investigation is complete.

Therefore, pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, Natural Resources Article § 4-742 (2005 Replacement Volume), and effective November 13, 2021, MDE hereby closes the area described below for the harvesting or storing of shellfish until further notice.

ST. GEORGE CREEK, ST. MARY'S RIVER, ST. MARY'S COUNTY

Due to illness outbreak that occurred since the harvest of oysters on November 1, 2021, the Department has issued an emergency closure to:

All the waters of St. George Creek, St. Mary's River downstream from a line extending in an easterly direction from Hodgson Point (38°08'45.3" North Latitude, 76°30'09.0" West Longitude) near St. George Island directly across to Tarkill Point (38°08'44.5" North Latitude, 76°29'42.0" West Longitude) on the opposite shore, and all of the waters upstream of a line extending in a northeasterly direction from Russel Point (38°07'11.8" North Latitude, 76°28'15.4" West Longitude) on St. George Island to Cherry Field Point (38°07'44.5" North Latitude, 76°28'00.7" West Longitude) on the opposite shore.

The closure is necessary to protect public health and will remain in effect until further notice.

A map of the areas is attached.

Sincerely,

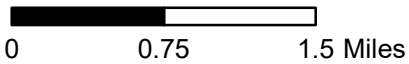
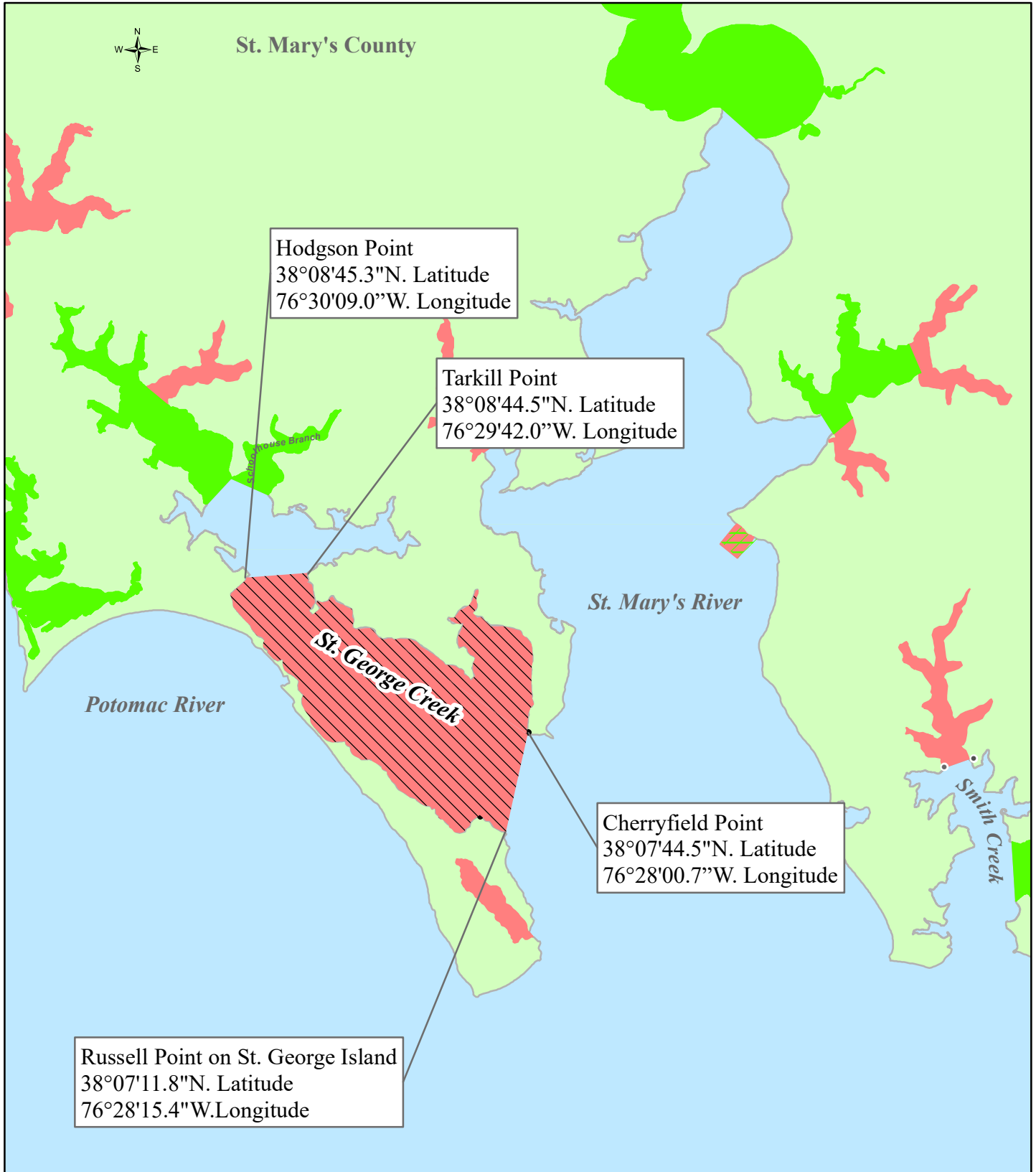
D. Lee Currey, Director
Water and Science Administration

Attachment
cc: (see attached list)






CCListing

Mr. Rusty McKay, Compliance Monitoring Division
Dr. Cliff Mitchell, MDH, Community Health Administration
Mr. Karl Roscher, Dept. of Natural Resources
Mr. Bill Sieling, Chesapeake Bay Seafood Industries Association
Mr. John Hartline, Executive Director, Tri County Council for Southern Maryland
Dr. Maureen Edwards, MDH Environmental Health Coordination
Ms. Kim Coulbourne, MDH, Division of Food Control
Mr. William Beatty, Compliance Monitoring Division
Mr. Stephan Abel, Oyster Recovery Partnership
Mr. William Evans, MD Dept. of the Environment
Ms. Robin Henderson, MDH
Mr. George O'Donnell, Dept. of Natural Resources
Honorable James Randy Guy, President, Board of St. Mary's County Commissioners
Honorable Peter F. Murphy, President, Board of Charles County Commissioners
Mr. Martin L. Gary, Executive Secretary, Potomac R. Fisheries Commission
Ms. Jodi Baxter, Fisheries Service
Mr. Chris Judy, Fisheries Service
Mr. Daryl W. Calvano, Director, Office of Environmental Health
Ms. Lisa Laschalt, Director, Environmental Health Division
Dr. William Icenhower, Health Officer
Ms. Julie Anbarchian, USFDA
Mr. Gary J. Wolf, USFDA
Dr. Chinnadurai Devadason, Health Officer
Mr. Aaron Nelson, Natural Resources Police
Mr. Robert Wayne Wilson, Kent County Oyster Committee
Mr. Alan Keith Bradley, Wicomico County Oyster Committee
Mr. Cody Paul, Dorchester County Oyster Committee
Mr. Daniel Ralph Webster, Somerset County Oyster Committee
Mr. Gregory Wesley Price, Somerset County Oyster Committee
Mr. Herman J. Harrison, Talbot County Oyster Committee
Mr. Dale S Dean, Calvert County Oyster Committee
Mr. Walter R. Witt, Jr., Anne Arundel County Oyster Committee
Mr. Craig F Kelley, St. Mary's County Oyster Committee
Mr. Milburn A Buckler III, Calvert County Oyster Committee
Mr. Hollice John Edward Lowe, Baltimore County Oyster Committee
Mr. Bill Kilinski, Charles County Oyster Committee
Mr. John Alden Orme, Anne Arundel County Oyster Committee
Mr. William Troy Wilkins, Queen Anne's County Oyster Committee
Mr. Robert T. Brown, Sr., President, Maryland's Watermen's Association
Mr. Joe Stine, Director, Charles Co. Watermen's Association
Mr. Richard G. Swann
Mr. Robert Lance Lumpkins
Mr. Sheldon Russell
Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference

Notice of Emergency Closure



**St. George Creek, St. Mary's River, St. Mary's County
 Emergency Closure
 November 2021**

-  Restricted By This Letter
-  Remains Approved By This Letter
-  Remains Conditionally Approved By This Letter
-  Remains Restricted By This Letter
-  Closed Safety Zones



Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor
 Boyd K. Rutherford, Lieutenant Governor
 Ben Grumbles, Secretary