



Citizens  
for a Better  
Eastern Shore

# CITIZENS FOR A BETTER EASTERN SHORE

# SHORELINE

*A Journal of Natural Resources, Public Affairs and  
Culture on the Eastern Shore of Virginia*

TM

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## Saving the Seaside Seagrass

By George Mapp, with Britt, Bo, and the Volunteers

In the past 30 or 40 years, we've experienced "modern marvels" here on the Shore. Thanks to Mike Castagna of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS); Ximing Guo and Stan Allen of Rutgers and VIMS; and the Eastern Shore seafood families – Walkers, Terrys, Ballards, and Mike Peirson among others – clam and oyster aquaculture was developed into the thriving industry that it is today, selling product all over the East Coast and employing hundreds of workers.

### Eelgrass on the Rebound

Another big success is less visible, and to a certain extent, still in progress – the restoration of eelgrass on the seaside of the lower Eastern Shore, and the bay scallop fishery that may follow. Eelgrass has ribbon-like blades that can grow to be 4 feet long. It spreads out into shallow-water "meadows." Marine life thrives in seagrass. Bay scallops are the best example, but there are many others. Migratory waterfowl feed on it. When blue crabs mate, females are soft and vulnerable, so they hide in it.

Eelgrass has a host of other benefits. It stabilizes sediments, absorbs wave energy, sequesters carbon, and generates oxygen. As it absorbs carbon dioxide, it reduces ocean acidification.

Back in the 1920s, eelgrass was abundant on the seaside, and bay scallops were harvested by watermen. Then a disease took hold, and the 1933 hurricane wiped out virtually all the eelgrass and scallops south of Chincoteague.

Fast forward to the late 1990s. VIMS marine scientist Robert Orth, who had been surveying eelgrass in Virginia waters, heard there was a single patch surviving near Wreck Island. Over the next few years, Orth collected seed from this patch and successfully planted nearby areas. Subsequently, with the help of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) scientists Barry Truitt and Bo Lusk, they scaled up the process by building a seed-curing facility and enlisting the help of volunteers to collect seed. As the grass recovered, bay scallops were brought in from North Carolina, where they are also working to re-establish the fishery.

Now there are 9,500 acres of healthy eelgrass. That's 15 square miles, almost the size of Manhattan Island.

Here in Virginia and down in Carolina, we are at the southern end of the geographical range of eelgrass. As the climate warms, we may lose it all again someday. Already it's dwindling in the Bay due to rising temperatures, turbid water, and reduced water quality, and is slowly being replaced by widgeon grass.

### Volunteers Make It Happen

Eelgrass restoration is still a work in progress. TNC, now led by Bo Lusk and Brittany Collins, carries on the work each spring. There is a corps of eager volunteers who don wetsuits, masks, and snorkels and brave the still-cold water to gather seed-bearing shoots.

Last year I was one of the volunteers. On a cold day, about 10 of us headed out in 2 Carolina skiffs to the

*See Seagrass, Cont'd on p. 2*



*Volunteers are taught how to identify female eelgrass shoots and harvest them from the shallow waters to the west of barrier islands near Oyster. Photo by Sarah Morgan*

### Contents

Saving the Seaside Seagrass. ....	1
Northampton County Planning Department – Without a Planner .....	3
Village Neighbors in Chincoteague .....	4
Study Shows Menhaden Are Critical for Osprey Reproductivity.....	4
Recycling Corner.....	6
Keeping Track.....	6
Recipe: Winter Into Spring Salad .....	7
Community Calendar .....	8

## Seagrass, Cont'd from p. 1

shallow waters behind Wreck Island, where eelgrass is plentiful. Then, after a short training talk, we all hopped overboard and started slowly swimming along the surface, sorting through the grass, seeking the thin seed-bearing shoots that remind me of wiregrass.

Anyone who has snorkeled knows that it's like entering a new world. Solitary, yes, but with novel sights and sounds, and a feeling of semi-weightlessness. The swaying grass was thick and lush, and it seemed to go on forever. The water was shallow, and on my hands and knees I could feel the dense network of runners along the bottom, which felt firm but looked a bit muddy. I scanned the grass, looking for seed-bearing shoots while at the same time, raking through the grass with my hands, plucking when I felt the stringy shoots.

Back in Oyster, we emptied our bags into a measuring tub, fluffing the grass by hand as it fell. Then the contents were dumped into a bubbling saltwater tank, about 10 feet wide and 3 feet deep. Here, Bo told us, was where the shoots would be held as they gradually release their seed, which settle to the bottom where they remain until the fall

planting season.

I went back a second day, the final day of collection last year. While the first day was cold, this time the weather was unseasonably warm. Gazing at the grass below as I floated along, it reminded me of my first paying farm job, swapping bushel baskets as they

**The seed we collected was planted last fall; it may eventually yield 500 new acres of grass.**

filled at the end of a conveyor bearing cucumbers. After a few hours, it was easy to imagine the cucumbers standing still with me floating over them.

The seed we collected was planted last fall; it may eventually yield 500 new acres of grass. I heartily recommend volunteering with this group. Bo and Britt were unfailingly capable, courteous, and cheerful, and a pleasure to be around, as were the other volunteers.

## Return of the Bay Scallops?

Bay scallops were one of the first shellfish that Mike Castagna studied as candidates for aquaculture. He demonstrated that a hatchery was feasible, but at that time, without proper seagrass habitat, growing them outside the lab did not work. Unlike clams and oysters, bay scallops are mobile, propelling themselves by squirting out jets of water from a gap in their shell. Dick Snyder's team at VIMS has been growing juvenile bay scallops in the lab, providing them to TNC to re-colonize the newly planted eelgrass beds, and to others for grow-out experimentation.

So if in the future we have a bay scallop fishery, we can claim a third revived shellfish industry – another success of modern science and technology. 

*Ed. Note: To be notified about volunteer opportunities for harvesting seagrass, email Jen Dalke at [jdalke@tnc.org](mailto:jdalke@tnc.org).*

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Visitor Center at the Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge reopened to the public July 4, 2022, on weekends. Over the next 8 months, the Visitor Center has been well utilized. Folks are happy and eager to visit the Center and to sign up for the Saturday morning Fisherman Island Tours offered October through the end of February.

### LOCAL VOLUNTEERS MADE IT HAPPEN ...

... by giving generously of their time and talent! April through October are the peak yearly visitation months at the Refuge and Visitor Center. The hope is to have the Center open on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Additional volunteers are needed!

### What Is Involved?

- Volunteer Shifts are 10 AM - 1 PM and 1 PM - 4 PM

### You Will

- Greet visitors
- Answer any Refuge questions
- Explain the Refuge's role in the Fall Bird and Monarch Butterfly Migration
- Offer and explain the Refuge Trail Map
- Invite people to visit the exhibits in the Visitor Center

As a volunteer, you will be well trained. You select the day and time block convenient to you. And life does happen. You can always cancel your shift as needed. We are anxious to welcome you as a volunteer!

Please call Bob Toner at 757-787-2753 or email [mbtoner@verizon.net](mailto:mbtoner@verizon.net).

# Northampton County Planning Department – Without a Planner

By Mary Miller

Several years ago, with the Planning office in disarray, the Board of Supervisors advertised for a new Director of Planning, Permitting and Enforcement. According to published reports, the 2 recent Directors, hired by previous County Administrators, had no land use, planning, or zoning administration skills, or experience – and their work had been described by the Board Chair as “dismal, at best.” The new Director would be expected to have an engineering degree or a Master’s degree in planning or a related field and 5 years’ experience. Several professional state management and review certifications would be required as a condition of employment. According to a press release, the new Director would manage the planning, zoning, permitting, building inspection, and code compliance responsibilities of the county – and advise and consult with commissions, officials, and developers, among others, on strategies, policies, and procedures related to planning.

Barely a month later, the county announced the position had been filled by a candidate with Professional Engineer and Project Management Professional titles, with 18 years’ experience in project management, and was certified as a Stormwater Management Plan Reviewer. However, like the 2 previous Directors, the new hire arrived with no stated credentials or record of comprehensive experience in land use, planning, zoning, or government administration. There was also no indication of Certification through the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), as recommended by the National Association of Counties for this senior position.

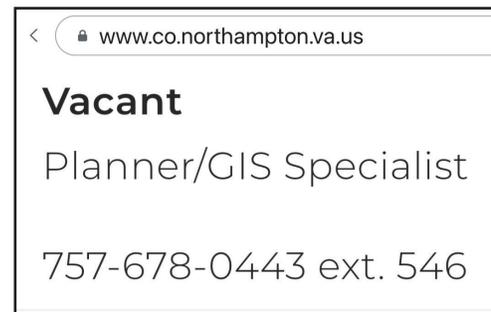
For several years, the county had also been advertising for a Zoning Administrator, another critical component in land-use management. The position is described by the state professional organization as focusing “on the legal aspects of zoning and the technical aspects of zoning and zoning practices.”<sup>1</sup> A typical list of requirements includes a degree in planning or a related field and extensive experience working with building inspection, code administration, and code and proffer enforcement. There have been several short-term Zoning Administrators, but none have stayed long. The county recently hired a former attorney as Zoning Administrator who has no stated previous training or experience in code enforcement or administration, or any state certifications.

## Is Anyone in Charge of County Planning?

The Planning Department’s website tells the story.

In a county department with a budget of \$1.329 million, there does not appear to be a single employee with credentials and previous extensive experience in planning, zoning, code enforcement, or government administration. The Director of Planning and the Zoning Administrator, with combined salaries of close to \$200,000, appear to be basically acquiring experience through on-the-job training.

Enter the county Planning Commission. The Board of



*The Northampton County website tells the story all too plainly.*

Supervisors appoints 7 citizens to the advisory commission. Each Commissioner is required to attend Virginia’s Land Use Education Program,<sup>2</sup> and successfully complete the requirements to become a Certified Planning Commissioner. The training stresses the importance of understanding land-use and compliance matters that come before them – so that their recommendations to the Supervisors are “legal, fact-based, community-oriented, and equitable.”<sup>2</sup> At this point, then, the citizen planners, the Certified Planning Commissioners, appear to have more actual land-use training and accreditation than staff. The Commission has an annual budget of \$11,796.

The Commission is supported by Planning Department professionals, and relies on them to have a well-researched Staff Report on the land-use matters before them – and to have it well before a meeting or Public Hearing. The report would ideally include a knowledgeable explanation and interpretation of the application, background on what had prompted the change or permit, a statement of compliance, or not, with the county’s Comprehensive Plan and state and local regulations, possible permit conditions to consider applying, and options for recommendation.

For almost a year, since the absence of the 1 professional planner in the department, comprehensive Staff Reports have been non-existent. Many Commission meetings have had no Staff in attendance – no one with answers to Commissioners’ questions about legislative matters before them. After one meeting, the Sheriff’s Department had to be called because there were no Planning Department Staff in the county administration building to turn off the lights and lock the doors.

In January, Commission members appealed by letter to county administration for assistance – professional consulting help on land-use matters, and experienced legal help on regulations, help that could avoid more legal jeopardy. The response from the Planning Director to the Commissioners, as recorded in meeting Minutes: “As noted on several occasions, the County currently does not have a planner with AICP certification on staff and have (*sic*) not had success in recruiting said individual or having

*See Planning, Cont’d on p. 5*

# Village Neighbors in Chincoteague

Submitted by Lisa Cannon

A small but important experiment is taking place in Chincoteague. It's Village Neighbors, a program dedicated to helping seniors age well in their own homes. It's a new core program of the non-profit Island Community House.

Launched in May of 2022, our Village Neighbors program is part of the national Village movement founded 23 years ago in Boston. A group of seniors there became frustrated that the practical help they needed to age in place was too expensive or non-existent, so they decided to organize to help themselves. There are currently over 300 participating villages in the U.S.

Village Neighbors is a volunteer-based membership program that offers members services such as transportation, light home maintenance, gardening, and help with technology – to name a few. Volunteers are not home health care aides or nurses, just caring people who want to provide practical help with everyday living. They have just started offering off-island rides for medical appointments

or shopping, up to 120 miles round-trip. Island Community House hosts classes, forums, luncheons, and other events that members and volunteers can attend. We also have lots of special volunteer appreciation days!

Chincoteague residents age 60 and up can become members for a \$20 monthly fee, which includes up to 10 services a month. The fee covers liability insurance (no fee for the volunteers), background checks, membership software, a part-time coordinator, and administrative costs. Donations to the Island Community House, Inc., are important to sustaining the program and can be made securely at [islandcommunityhouse.org](http://islandcommunityhouse.org).

To learn more about Island Community House and Village Neighbors, please visit the website at [islandcommunityhouse.org](http://islandcommunityhouse.org) or email me, Lisa Cannon, at [president@islandcommunityhouse.org](mailto:president@islandcommunityhouse.org).



## Study Shows Menhaden Are Critical for Osprey Reproductivity

By Sue Mastyl

In July 2022, Michael Academia, of the Center for Conservation Biology (CCB) at the College of William & Mary, presented his MSc thesis defense ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4cP\\_gHSSrU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4cP_gHSSrU)) of his study to assess whether supplementing with additional menhaden would improve reproductive success for ospreys. He noted that bird populations, such as ospreys, “may serve as an early warning system for changes in fish populations [such as menhaden] that have ecosystem implications.” Possible localized depletion of menhaden in the lower Chesapeake Bay could affect many different fish and bird species, with impacts on commercial and recreational fishing and ecotourism.

Mobjack Bay, in the lower Chesapeake Bay, has been the focus of osprey research since 1970. For this study, the team focused on 31 osprey nests in Mobjack Bay, randomized to receive supplemental feeding (by telescopic pole) with menhaden (mean of 3.4 fish, every 3.55 days for 6 weeks) or control treatment with an empty mirror pole. Nesting success was seen in 13 (81%) of the 16 supplemented nests, compared with 5 (33%) of the 15 control nests. The reproductive rate was 1.13 fledglings per nest

in the supplemented group, compared with 0.47 fledglings per nest in the control group.

Academia noted that the nesting success with supplemental feeding “barely met” the “break-even” reproductive rate for the Chesapeake Bay of 1.15 young per nest, while the rate for the control group was below that seen during the population crashes of the DDT era, noting that this is “cause for alarm.” This

**Without supplemental feeding, the reproductive rate was below that seen during the population crashes of the DDT era, which is “cause for alarm.”**

**- Michael Academia, Center for Conservation Biology**

is particularly concerning given that the Chesapeake Bay is home to the world’s largest breeding population of ospreys (20,000 out of 100,000).

Elsewhere, the global osprey population seems healthy. OspreyWatch (<https://www.osprey-watch.org/>), a project of CCB, includes 7,605 people in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, United Kingdom, Finland, and Australia reporting breeding data on 8,456 osprey nests. They consider a reproductive rate of 0.8 to 1.2 as the minimum necessary to sustain a population. Data from 2012 to 2022 show a range of 1.2 to 1.6 young produced per active nest.

*Ed. Note: To submit data on any local osprey nests, go to [www.osprey-watch.org](http://www.osprey-watch.org).*

## Planning, Cont'd from p. 3

a consultant provide the consultation requested.”

WHY? Salary issues? Northampton County salaries for senior professionals are competitive, even a little higher, than many rural counties with similar populations.

WHY? No qualified job seekers? With the help of a third-party recruiter, Accomack County has just hired a trained, experienced land-use professional as an Assistant County Administrator of Planning and Community Development. The new hire has degrees and experience in government management and public administration, urban and regional planning, as a planning administrator, and is a certified Zoning Administrator.

### Solutions?

There are remedies to the deficiencies in the county Planning Department. The administration could:

- Restaff the department with professional, certified, experienced planners, using a recruiting firm if necessary
- Require at least 1 department official, ideally the Director, to achieve AICP accreditation
- Until Staff capacity can be put in place, retain consultants on an as-needed basis to provide the Planning Commission with researched Staff Reports on zoning and legal issues – this would be a supplementary expense added to the \$1.3-million department budget
- At the very least, require current planning and zoning officials to complete Virginia’s Land Use Education Program – senior Staff would then have the same basic training as the Planning Commissioners
- Require current planning and zoning officials to attain certifications through the Virginia Association of Zoning Officials

Northampton County taxpayers should be expecting more from their County Planning Department.

<sup>1</sup> Virginia Association of Zoning Officials

<sup>2</sup> <https://cura.vcu.edu/land-use-education/>

**SL Comment:** *We hope the county administration will approach this issue with the appropriate sense of urgency. The strength of our Planning Department is critical for supporting our zoning ordinance and avoiding legal liability.*

## Plant Virginia Natives



As the weather warms, thoughts turn to gardening. To find out about native species that will benefit pollinators and other wildlife, go to the website of the Virginia Native Plant Society at <https://vnps.org/>. To see natives growing on the Eastern Shore, look for information on the many demonstration gardens in Accomack County at <https://www.plantvirginiannatives.org/accomack-county>. For Northampton County, go to <https://www.plantvirginiannatives.org/northampton-county>.



## Showcase Your Business to 2,000+ Shore Visitors

***Become a Bike Tour Sponsor!***

**90% of cyclists come from off-the-Shore and stay the entire weekend**

**Lodging, dining, shopping, house-hunting, and playing up & down our peninsula**



## GET THEM TO YOUR DOOR

**Opportunities range from \$100 to \$5,000**

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**Start getting your business out there!**

**CBES Bike Tour is October 28, 2023**

**Start/Finish Exmore VA**

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**“PEDAL TO PROTECT THE SHORE”**

For a sponsorship packet, go to <https://my.visme.co/view/90r8wr8g-cbes-btw-bike-tour-sponsorship-packet> OR see [www.cbes.org](http://www.cbes.org).

For questions, contact Matt Pienkowski, Bike Tour Coordinator: [cbesbiketours@gmail.com](mailto:cbesbiketours@gmail.com), 757-607-7659.

## RECYCLING CORNER

By Sue Mastyl

### One Family's Journey to Reduce Paper and Plastic Use

CBES member Kit Norland recently posted a blog (<https://www.cbf.org/blogs/save-the-bay/2023/02/our-family-journey-to-slash-plastic-use.html>) about her family's efforts to reduce their use of plastics. She noted that, as a volunteer Clean Water Captain for Chesapeake Bay Foundation and an advocate for expanding our tree canopy, she's already working for "two vital parts of a healthy environment." But she realized that she and her spouse "could do much more to cut waste and help reduce the plastic amassing in our oceans and waterways."

One source she used is *Zero Waste Home: The Ultimate Guide to Simplifying Your Life by Reducing Your Waste*, by Bea Johnson, which describes how a family of 4 cut their annual waste to a tiny amount.

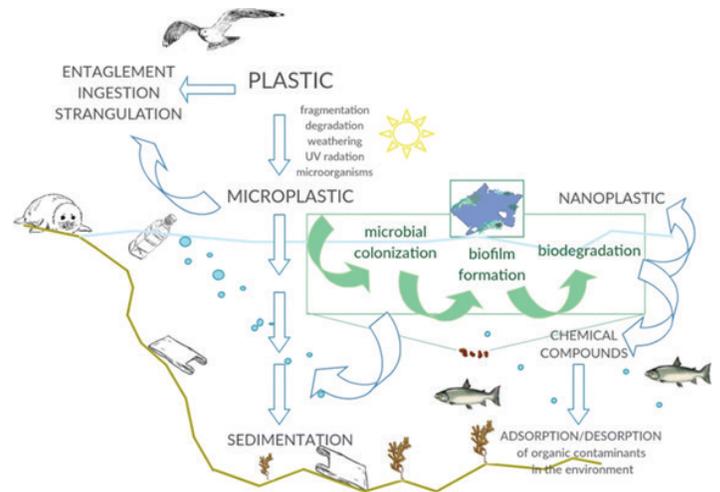
Some of the changes Norland and her spouse made in their daily lives include –

- Using an alternative to liquid dish detergent that comes in compostable pods that are mixed with water
- Replacing paper towels with reusable towels and Swedish dish cloths
- Replacing plastic wrap with beeswax wraps, which "come in different sizes and tightly seal food containers"
- Shopping with cloth bags and reusable mesh produce bags; some stores are also offering compostable produce bags
- Replacing dinner napkins with cloth ones, and replacing facial tissues with handkerchiefs (which are "hung out to dry to minimize our dependence on the energy-guzzling dryer")
- Switching to toilet paper made from fast-growing bamboo
- Changing from plastic toothpaste tubes and toothbrushes to tooth "mints" that come in glass jars and bamboo toothbrushes
- Replacing plastic jugs of laundry detergent with detergent sheets, packaged in compostable cardboard
- Using shampoo bars, which come in a paper wrapper and "cleans without leaving a film, doesn't dispense tiny plastics into the drain, and lasts for weeks" instead of shampoo in plastic bottles
- Resisting the urge to buy in volume, since "containers and packaging are a major source of plastic waste"

Norland notes that they're looking to do even more – "It's a good time to explore, as choices of planet-conscious supplies are proliferating."

## Keeping Track

### Microplastics Increase Disease Severity in Fish and Other Marine Life



A recent study from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science ([https://www.vims.edu/newsandevents/topstories/2023/virus\\_microplastics.php](https://www.vims.edu/newsandevents/topstories/2023/virus_microplastics.php)) found that the presence of microplastics increases the severity of a specific viral infection common in aquaculture of rainbow trout, steelhead trout, chinook salmon, and sockeye salmon. They studied viral exposure in concert with 3 different types of microparticles: those naturally derived from *Spartina*, and 2 synthetic sources that are widely used in aquaculture and also found in nature – nylon (from fishing nets, fishing lines, and clothing) and polystyrene (from fishing floats, buoys, and food containers).

Nylon microfibers had the greatest impact on disease severity, increasing the risk of mortality by more than 4 times over exposure to the virus alone. The researchers speculated that since nylon microfibers are larger, they could damage the delicate tissues of the gut and gills, making it easier for the virus to enter.

"This is the first time this interaction has been documented, and emphasizes the importance of testing multiple stressors, which is more environmentally realistic," noted lead author Dr. Meredith Evans Seeley. Co-author Rob Hale added, "If you just test microplastics alone you might not see any impacts and call it a day, but in the real world those microplastics may interact with pathogens, rising temperatures, decreasing pH, increasing water turbidity, and other variables."

Seeley added that the study is relevant to aquaculture, and "is applicable to natural environments as well," where "at any given time [microplastics] may be co-occurring with a variety of natural pathogens." It is also relevant to human health, including "how indoor microplastic contaminants (in household dust for example) may affect the progression of airborne diseases such as COVID-19."

## Help Save Lives – Donate Blood

According to the American Red Cross, nationwide someone needs a unit of blood every 2 to 3 seconds, and most of us will need blood in our lifetime. There are several opportunities to donate blood on the Eastern Shore in the coming months. Also, check with the American Red Cross for new blood drives being organized.

### April 18, Tuesday, 12 - 5 PM

Eastern Shore Community College  
29300 Lankford Highway  
Melfa, VA 23410

### April 19, Wednesday, 10 AM - 3 PM

Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital  
20480 Market St,  
Onancock, VA 23417

### May 18, Thursday, 2 - 7 PM

Hungars Episcopal Church  
10107 Bayside Rd,  
Machipongo, VA 23405

### June 13, Tuesday, 12 - 5 PM

Eastern Shore Community College  
29300 Lankford Highway  
Melfa, VA 23410

### June 19, Monday, 1 - 6 PM

Exmore Moose Lodge  
15315 Merry Cat Lane  
Belle Haven, VA 23306

For more information and to schedule an appointment, call 1-800-RED CROSS [1-800-733-2767] or see <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>.



## WINTER INTO SPRING SALAD

### With Brie and Glazed Walnuts

The lovely citrus of winter is in the markets for a little while more – pink grapefruits, pomelos, and navel, Cara Cara, and Mineola oranges. And now the first of the tender spring greens are starting to appear – in the markets and in the gardens. This salad, with glazed walnuts and soft Brie, makes the best of the 2 seasons. No recipe needed for combining favorite citrus and greens. A fresh, tangy orange-mustard vinaigrette gives just the right amount of contrast to this pretty seasonal salad.



#### Orange-mustard vinaigrette:

- 2 tbsp white wine or champagne vinegar
- Juice from 1 orange
- Zest from 1 orange
- 1 tbsp honey
- 1 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- Salt and pepper

Whisk all ingredients except olive oil. Then whisk in olive oil until well blended. Store in a sealed glass jar in fridge until ready to use. Shake well before pouring.

#### Glazed walnuts:

- 1 cup walnuts, halves or pieces
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- 1 tbsp butter

Have ready a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. In small pan melt butter, then add sugar and walnuts. Heat over medium for about 5 minutes, stirring constantly. As sugar melts, keep stirring, making sure all nuts are getting coated. Immediately transfer nuts to parchment-lined pan and separate nuts. Two forks will help with this. The nuts cool quickly, so use your hands to make sure all are separated. Cool thoroughly and store in airtight container.

Arrange the greens and cut citrus, dot with small bits of Brie. Drizzle with orange vinaigrette and top with glazed nuts.

*The Kitchen Hive – Mary Miller*

Reprinted with permission: <https://www.talkrealnow.com>



## Calling all Bike Tour Volunteers & Wannabees

### MEET MATT!

Sunday, April 30, 3-5 PM

Exmore Social Hall

Join new Bike Tour Coordinator, Matt Pienkowski, and learn about fun volunteer opportunities for CBES 30th Between the Waters Bike Tour, to be held on Saturday, October 28

Enjoy light refreshments, beer, wine, & friendly folks

#### TO ATTEND

Contact Matt at [cbesbiketours@gmail.com](mailto:cbesbiketours@gmail.com)  
or 757-607-7659 to register.

Citizens for a Better Eastern Shore  
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## INFORM, ENGAGE, EMPOWER!

Check your label - if it doesn't show '23 or Life, you need to renew ([cbes.org](http://cbes.org))

## Save The Dates For CBES FUN

APRIL 1

**Bike Tour Registration Opens**

**APRIL 30, Sunday, 3-5 pm:  
MEET MATT!**

Meet & Greet  
for Bike Tour Volunteers  
(See Announcement on p. 7)

**JUNE 3, Saturday**

**CLEAN THE BAY DAY**

Partnership with The Nature  
Conservancy at Oyster Harbor

**JUNE 11, Sunday, 4-7 pm:  
PICNIC@theBARN**

Annual Meeting  
Cherry Grove Farm, Eastville  
Celebrating Community and Livin'  
On the Eastern Shore!



## Community Calendar\*

\*Note: For current status of public meetings, go to the appropriate website or contact by email or phone.

### Accomack County

757-787-5700

[www.co.accomack.va.us](http://www.co.accomack.va.us)

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 1st Wed   | Board of Zoning Appeals<br>10 AM, Accomac    |
| 2nd Wed   | Planning Commission (PC)<br>7 PM, Accomac    |
| 3rd Tues  | School Board<br>7 PM, Metompkin ES           |
| 3rd Wed   | Board of Supervisors<br>5 PM, Accomac        |
| 3rd Wed   | PC Work Session<br>7 PM, Accomac (as needed) |
| 4th Thurs | Wetlands Board<br>10 AM, Accomac             |

### Northampton County

757-678-0440

[www.co.northampton.va.us](http://www.co.northampton.va.us)

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 1st Tues  | Board of Zoning Appeals<br>10 AM, Eastville   |
| 1st Tues  | Planning Commission (PC)<br>6 PM, Eastville   |
| 2nd Tues  | Board of Supervisors (BOS)<br>6 PM, Eastville |
| 2nd Thurs | School Board Work Session<br>6 PM, Machipongo |
| 3rd Wed   | Wetlands Board<br>10 AM, Eastville            |
| 3rd Wed   | PC Work Session<br>2 PM, Eastville            |
| 4th Tues  | BOS Work Session<br>5 PM, Eastville           |
| 4th Thurs | School Board<br>6 PM, Machipongo              |

### CBES and Other Activities

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| 3rd Tues                     | ES Ground Water Committee<br>10 AM, Melfa                        |
| 3rd Tues                     | CBES Board Meeting<br>7 PM, via Zoom                             |
| 4th Thurs<br>(odd<br>months) | Eastern Shore of Virginia<br>Broadband Authority<br>2 PM, Exmore |

For membership and other  
CBES information:  
[www.cbes.org](http://www.cbes.org)