

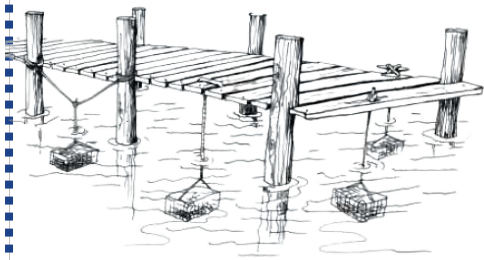
Oyster Spat Catcher



Growing the future of the Lynnhaven River

Requirements

- Must live in Virginia Beach.
- Access to dock or pier in tidal waters North of Virginia Beach Boulevard.



Responsibilities

- Place 2 spat cages with different substrates off dock/pier.
- Hang the cages below the surface so they are not exposed to air, but also not resting in sediment.
- Maintain the cages for a year.
- Return both cages at the Spat Catcher Roundup.

Fall

Volunteers shake cages once a month to remove silt and predators from cages.

Winter

Once water temperatures reach 50 degrees (usually Jan), let cages rest in the water. No maintenance.

Spring & Summer

Once water temperatures exceed 50 degrees (usually April), Volunteers shake cages once a month to remove silt and predators from cages.

After One Year

- Return cages at the Spat Catcher Roundup. Dates and times will be emailed to all participants.
- Staff & Volunteers count the spat settlement in each cage. You may drop your cages off or stay and help count.
- Pick up 2 new cages to continue in the program.
- Data is recorded and shared.
- Spat are returned to the water on a sanctuary reef by our restoration team.



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