

# Oyster Gardening Websites and Contacts

## Oyster Gardening

Virginia Marine Resources Commission- Shellfish Farming and Gardening - [www.mrc.state.va.us/Shellfish\\_Aquaculture.shtm](http://www.mrc.state.va.us/Shellfish_Aquaculture.shtm)  
Chesapeake Bay Foundation - [www.cbf.org/virginiaoysters](http://www.cbf.org/virginiaoysters)  
Tidewater Oyster Gardens Association (TOGA) - [www.oystergardener.org/](http://www.oystergardener.org/)

## Oyster Restoration

Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program - [www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/CoastalZoneManagement/CZMIssuesInitiatives/Oysters.aspx](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/CoastalZoneManagement/CZMIssuesInitiatives/Oysters.aspx)  
Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) Molluscan Ecology - [web.vims.edu/mollusc/index.htm](http://web.vims.edu/mollusc/index.htm)  
The Virginia Oyster Reef Restoration Map Atlas - [web.vims.edu/mollusc/oyrestatlas/](http://web.vims.edu/mollusc/oyrestatlas/)  
VIMS Oyster Monitoring Program - [www.vims.edu/molluscan\\_ecology/monitoring](http://www.vims.edu/molluscan_ecology/monitoring)  
NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office - [chesapeakebay.noaa.gov/oysters/oyster-restoration](http://chesapeakebay.noaa.gov/oysters/oyster-restoration)  
Chesapeake Bay Program - [www.chesapeakebay.net/issues/issue/oysters](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/issues/issue/oysters)

## Oyster Reef Ecosystems

Oyster Reef Communities in the Chesapeake Bay - CD-Rom - [web.vims.edu/mollusc/education/orccb.html](http://web.vims.edu/mollusc/education/orccb.html)  
Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce - [www.sms.si.edu/irlspec/Oyster\\_reef.htm](http://www.sms.si.edu/irlspec/Oyster_reef.htm)  
Chesapeake Bay Program - [www.chesapeakebay.net/fieldguide/critter/eastern\\_oyster](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/fieldguide/critter/eastern_oyster)

## Teacher Resources

Virginia Institute of Marine Science –Advisory Services - [www.vims.edu/map/education](http://www.vims.edu/map/education)  
Oyster Anatomy Laboratory - [www.mdsg.umd.edu/issues/chesapeake/oysters/education/anatlab/](http://www.mdsg.umd.edu/issues/chesapeake/oysters/education/anatlab/)  
Bivalve Anatomy - [www.assateague.com/nt-bival.html](http://www.assateague.com/nt-bival.html)  
TOGA School Resource - [www.oystergardener.org/#!/education/c117](http://www.oystergardener.org/#!/education/c117)

## Oyster Disease Information and Research

VIMS Oyster Disease Monitoring- [www.vims.edu/shellfish\\_pathology/monitoring](http://www.vims.edu/shellfish_pathology/monitoring)  
Disease Resistant Oyster Research - VIMS Aquaculture Genetics and Breeding Technology Center - [www.vims.edu/abc](http://www.vims.edu/abc)

## Virginia Aquaculture

Virginia Aquaculture Association - [www.virginiaaquaculture.org](http://www.virginiaaquaculture.org)  
East Coast Shellfish Growers - [www.ecsga.org](http://www.ecsga.org)

## Eating Oysters

Virginia Marine Products Board - [www.virginiaseafood.org/the\\_trade/foodservice/recipe.htm](http://www.virginiaseafood.org/the_trade/foodservice/recipe.htm) (Great Recipes!)  
How to prepare and open oysters - a quick web search - "opening oysters" - yields videos and by-step instructions

## Permits

*Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC)*  
*Shellfish Farming & Gardening:*  
[www.mrc.state.va.us/Shellfish\\_Aquaculture.shtm](http://www.mrc.state.va.us/Shellfish_Aquaculture.shtm)

*Habitat Management Division*  
Chip Neikirk  
(757) 247-2254  
[chip.neikirk@mrc.virginia.gov](mailto:chip.neikirk@mrc.virginia.gov)

*Conservation and Replenishment*  
James Wesson  
(757) 247-2121  
[jim.wesson@mrc.virginia.gov](mailto:jim.wesson@mrc.virginia.gov)

## Water Quality

*Virginia Department of Health*  
*Division of Shellfish Sanitation:*  
[www.vdh.virginia.gov/EnvironmentalHealth/Shellfish/](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/EnvironmentalHealth/Shellfish/)  
Robert Croonenberghs  
(804) 864-7480  
[bob.croonenberghs@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:bob.croonenberghs@vdh.virginia.gov)

*Accomac Field Office:*  
Paul Widgen (757) 787-5864 x221,  
[paul.widgen@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:paul.widgen@vdh.virginia.gov)

*Norfolk Field Office:*  
Jonathan Dickerson (757) 683-8461,  
[jon.dickerson@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:jon.dickerson@vdh.virginia.gov)

*Whitestone Field Office:*  
David Geeson (804) 435-1095  
[david.geeson@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:david.geeson@vdh.virginia.gov)

*Virginia Department of Environmental Quality*  
*Water Quality Monitoring Data*  
Roger Stewart (804) 698-4449,  
[Roger.Stewart@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Roger.Stewart@deq.virginia.gov)

## Aquaculture Information

*Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS)*  
Aquaculture  
T. Robins Buck (804) 371-6094,  
[robins.buck@vdacs.virginia.gov](mailto:robins.buck@vdacs.virginia.gov)

*Virginia Marine Resource Commission (VMRC):*  
Saltwater Aquaculture  
Kathy Leonard (757) 247-2120  
[kathy.leonard@mrc.virginia.gov](mailto:kathy.leonard@mrc.virginia.gov)

*Shellfish Growers of Virginia Association:*  
Mike Oesterling (804) 815-1316  
[mikeo@vashellfish.org](mailto:mikeo@vashellfish.org)  
<http://vashellfish.org>

## Extension Support

*Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS)*  
Sea Grant Advisory Services  
Karen Hudson, (804) 684-7742, [khudson@vims.edu](mailto:khudson@vims.edu)

## Oyster Gardening Organizations

*Chesapeake Bay Foundation in Virginia*  
Virginia CBF Oyster Gardening Program  
Tanner Council, (757) 622-1964, [tcouncil@cbf.org](mailto:tcouncil@cbf.org)

*Tidewater Oyster Gardeners Association*  
[awood45858@aol.com](mailto:awood45858@aol.com), [www.oystergardener.org](http://www.oystergardener.org)

*Lynnhaven Now*  
Laurie Sorabella, (757) 962-5398, [Laurie@LRNow.org](mailto:Laurie@LRNow.org)  
[www.lynnhavenrivernow.org](http://www.lynnhavenrivernow.org)

## School Oyster Gardening

*Oyster Reef Keepers of Virginia*  
Laurie Carroll Sorabella, (757) 460-1200,  
[oysterreefkeeper@yahoo.com](mailto:oysterreefkeeper@yahoo.com)  
[www.orkv.org](http://www.orkv.org)

## Mailing Addresses

*Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program*  
629 East Main Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

*Virginia Institute of Marine Science*  
P.O. Box 1346  
Rt. 1208 Great Road  
Gloucester Point, Virginia 23062

*Virginia Marine Resources Commission*  
Habitat Management Division  
2600 Washington Avenue, 3rd Floor  
Newport News, VA 23607  
(804) 247- 2200

*U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*  
Norfolk District  
803 Front Street  
Norfolk, Virginia 23510  
(757)-201-7500