Dear Frederick,

2014 Marks the 10th year since the founding of Patuxent Riverkeeper!

Our work serving people and communities along the State’s longest and deepest intrastate waterway includes many warm and abiding partnerships with local communities concerned about the future of their water supply and the quality of life for all.

We send out periodic newsletters that brief our members about our direct activities in the Patuxent watershed attacking pollution, pursuing enforcement of environmental laws, advocating for environmentally underserved communities and building a stronger conservation movement to protect the living resources of the Patuxent and the communities along its track.

Not a current member? [Join now]

Sincerely,
Patuxent Riverkeeper
Patuxent Riverkeeper & Crop Hop 2014
Join us for a cycling tour of Southern Maryland Farms!

Saturday, October 25, 2014, Prince George's County, Maryland

The CROP HOP (A Cycling Tour of So. Maryland Farms) is a fundraiser bike tour designed to highlight the connection between farms, fresh food and good health, and to help provide fresh farm foods to low-income families in Southern Maryland.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY WILL CO-HOST THE 2014 CROP HOP! Riders will tour farms in Prince George's County and enjoy food grown and raised locally at each stop and during the after-ride picnic. The event features four spectacular routes through the scenic Southern Maryland countryside.

Choose from the challenging Silo Century (a metric century), the Harvest Hop (about 35 miles), the Barnstormer (about 17 miles) or the family-friendly Sprout Route. Registered riders will receive a FREE commemorative T-Shirt and lunch while supplies last. (Register early!) A portion of the proceeds will be used to purchase fresh farm food for low-income families through an organization working to feed the hunger community.

Rides start and end at historic Nottingham, where additional events will be taking place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Non-bikers can participate in canoeing and kayaking throughout the day. Additionally, this is the 100-year anniversary of the Battle of Bladensburg of the War of 1812, during which armies marched and fought on farms along the Patuxent River. The after-ride picnic will feature locally grown and raised foods with a vegetarian option available. So in addition to cycling to farms, canoeing, and kayaking, families will also be able to enjoy educational, entertaining period re-enactments.

Register at: http://www.crophop.com
New Hire at Patuxent Riverkeeper

Meet Katie Mettle, Pauxent Riverkeeper's new volunteer Coordinator. Katie comes to Patuxent Riverkeeper as a Volunteer Maryland Coordinator through AmeriCorps. A University of Maryland, Baltimore County graduate, Katie has experience working in the legislative and executive branches of government at the state and local level. She has spent time with the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, the Maryland General Assembly, and the Howard County Economic Development Authority. She looks forward to her position as Volunteer Coordinator and meeting the community. You can reach Katie at: Katie@paxriverkeeper.org

WHAT PATUXENT RIVERKEEPER IS DOING TO PROTECT THE RIVER:

The Patuxent Riverkeeper works on many fronts to advocate for a clean healthy river. We've put together a comprehensive update on current litigations, community efforts and advocacy for citizens in the Patuxent River Watershed. Read Full Document

IMPROVEMENTS AT THE VISITOR'S CENTER:

THE NOTTINGHAM DOCK:
The winter ice and storms of 2014 thrashed our poor little dock at Nottingham. We are working on pulling in some grant opportunities to replace this relic. It is still serviceable but between splinters and the sort of serpent's back with off level spots it is time to go with something more modern and easier to maintain. Funding to replace the dock has been
secured, demolition of the old one has begun, the permit issues resolved and we are in the procurement process to obtain the newly installed dock.

CAMP SITES UNDER CONSTRUCTION:
We have work under way both at Nottingham and also further South at Indian Creek in St. Mary's County. The Indian Creek area is a gorgeous camp site located just South of the town of Benedict and is only accessible by water. We need to install a portal John, plus clear brush and poison ivy to the water as well as replace the picnic bench and filtering. Once this work is done we will start booking group camping on this very nice location we expect during the Spring of 2015.

CARETAKER NEEDED FOR THE 2015 SEASON!
Lots of significant work has been done at the Visitor's Center with landscaping, repair and painting on the outbuildings, kayak trailers and kayaks needing regular repairs and maintenance. There have been inquiries about whether we will sell some of our kayak fleet and the current plan is to keep the fleet intact until we are able to replace with new boats, hopefully in early Spring 2015. We also will be recruiting a new caretaker for Nottingham for the 2015 kayaking season who will live in site during the summer months and help maintain security, help with weekend boat rentals and manage day to day upkeep on the place. The position requires references, and includes a modest living allowance. Inquiries to: info@paxriverkeeper.org

More Upcoming Events - Save the Dates!

Saturday, Oct 4; 1:00 - 5:00 pm ~Marsh Ecology by Canoe

Ages: 7 and up, with adult
Fee: $20 per person
Discover the abundant wildlife in the Patuxent River wetlands. We'll paddle up some of the smaller branches of the river to look for beavers, birds, and flowering wetland plants. Please arrive promptly at the starting time. Bring plenty of water, sunscreen, a lunch, and shoes that can get wet. Children must be at least 7 years old and accompanied by an adult.

Registration: Call 410-741-9330 or e-mail programs@jugbay.org to check availability. Your reservation will be secured when a payment is received. Checks should be made payable to Friends of Jug Bay.
October 18, 2014 ~ 6th Annual American Indian Festival
At the Patuxent River Park Group Camp--All ages welcome.
FREE
For more info call (301) 297-4575

Saturday, Oct 25; 5:30 - 7:00 pm ~ Family Fun Campfire
Ages: All, Families Welcome Fee: $4.00 per person plus $6 per vehicle entrance fee
Come for some Halloween fun around the campfire. We'll listen to Storyteller Charlotte Smutko weave marvelous tales, gaze at the stars, and make s'mores.
Registration: Call 410-741-9330 or e-mail programs@jugbay.org

Sunday, Oct 26; 1:00 - 4:00 pm ~ Fall Hike at Riggleman Preserve
Ages: All, Families Welcome Fee: $4.00 per person plus $6 per vehicle entrance fee
Get out for a hike in the brisk fall air and explore one of the Sanctuary's less visited habitats with Naturalist Elaine Friebele.
Registration: Call 410-741-9330 or e-mail programs@jugbay.org

Saturday, Nov 8; 1:00 - 4:00 pm ~ Color Fall
Ages: All Fee: Free with $6 per vehicle entrance fee
Enjoy the fall colors on a hike, see birds up close during a bird banding demonstration, then gather for refreshments. Registration: Call 410-741-9330 or e-mail programs@jugbay.org

Saturday, Nov 22; 10:00 am - 1:00 pm ~ People with Pups
Location: Plummer House, 5702 Plummer Lane, Lothian, MD
20711
Ages: All  Fee: FREE
Join a naturalist for a doggy hike in the Glendening Preserve! Dogs must be well behaved around other dogs and remain on a leash while on the property.
Registration: Call 410-741-9330 or e-mail programs@jubay.org