



# News Blast

November 2017

## First Annual “Get Into Mallows Bay Day” a Success!

More than 125 people participated in this event hosted by more than a dozen local, regional and national partners. The event featured the 4<sup>th</sup> annual trash clean up as well as numerous family-friendly activities on the Potomac River and throughout Mallows Bay Park. A huge thanks to all of our volunteers, event participants, sponsors and partners! Already planning for next year!

## BBC’s *The Travel Show* Produces Video on Mallows Bay and the Ghost Fleet

The history of the Ghost Fleet and the natural beauty of the Potomac River was delivered in a brilliant 6-minute video. With a reach of more than 37 million viewers worldwide, this product has already attracted new audiences and interests. Kudos to Don Shomette, Joel Dunn, and Charlie Stek for on-site expertise and excellent on-camera narratives. <https://youtu.be/AAIRMGZOTC8>.

## National Trust for Historic Preservation Lists the “Ghost Fleet” as a National Treasure

NTHP is a privately funded non-profit organization that works to save America’s historic places and inspire people to take action where history happened. On October 26, 2017, they unveiled a new exhibit at the Woodrow Wilson House in DC and announced the listing the Ghost Fleet as a National Treasure. Such awards validate the contribution of these resources to the nation’s history and heritage. The exhibit is open through March 2018. <https://savingplaces.org/places/ghost-fleet#.Wgx7xvmnFPY>

Photo: Anne Stark



## **US WWI Commission Features Mallows Bay in Newsletter and Podcast**

This weekly newsletter highlights WWI Centennial and WWI Commission activities. This issue promoted the new Ghost Fleet exhibit opening at the Woodrow Wilson House, sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation <http://www.worldwar1centennial.org/communicate/2015-12-28-18-26-00/2015-12-28-18-29-45.html>

## **North Point HS Receives NOAA Ocean Guardian Awards**

Congratulations to Lolita Kiorpes and the students who earned their Year 3 banner for successful completion of the Ocean Guardian program as well as continued funding for Year 4. North Point HS has made a commitment to the protection and conservation of its local watershed and the resources of Mallows Bay through the implementation of hands-on conservation projects. Spoiler alert – Deanna Wheeler and JC Parks ES will receive a Year 2 banner and Year 3 funding on Dec 1 at 9:30a (please plan to attend). [http://www.somdnews.com/independent/news/local/north-point-receives-third-noaa-banner/article\\_976871b4-3507-54e4-9f69-1b8b66372bfa.html](http://www.somdnews.com/independent/news/local/north-point-receives-third-noaa-banner/article_976871b4-3507-54e4-9f69-1b8b66372bfa.html)

## **Alice Ferguson Foundation Names the Institute of Maritime History as a “Potomac Champion”**

Congratulations to Dave Howe and the incredible team at IMH. For decades, they have led the effort to explore and better document the underwater history and heritage assets associated with the Potomac River. More so, his team has supported thousands of volunteers at numerous trash clean ups along the Potomac. AFF presented the award on November 16, 2017 as part of their annual Trash Summit. <http://fergusonfoundation.org/potomac-watershed-trash-summit/potomac-watershed-trash-summit/>

## **Institute of Maritime History Partners with Duke Marine Lab to Collect New Drone Imagery of Ghost Fleet near Widewater State Park**

In September 2016, Duke Marine Lab partnered with University of North Carolina, Syracuse University, MD DNR and senseFly to capture detailed imagery of the Ghost Fleet and the associated vegetation within Mallows Bay using drones and high definition cameras and video. As a follow up, these universities have joined forces with IMH (there’s Dave Howe again!) to image a second collection of the Ghost Fleet near Widewater State Park during the week of November 13. Nice work team!

## **NOAA Provides \$300K Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Grant to Charles County Public Schools**

This 3-year grant supports outdoor education for the training of teachers and students regarding care for their watershed and environmental resources. It builds on work initiated through Alice Ferguson Foundation’s Bridging the Watershed program, through an original grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, which reaches all CCPS students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade science and high school biology and earth science. [http://www.somdnews.com/independent/news/local/charles-county-schools-receive-noaa-education-grant/article\\_99a6fd6a-f937-54e5-a7e9-7203bea2b387.html](http://www.somdnews.com/independent/news/local/charles-county-schools-receive-noaa-education-grant/article_99a6fd6a-f937-54e5-a7e9-7203bea2b387.html)

## **Status of the Proposed Mallows Bay-Potomac River NMS**

NOAA continues to work in partnership with MD DNR, MD Historical Trust and Charles County to complete the designation documents and the Memorandum of Agreement for Joint Management. Additionally, NOAA is consolidating responses to public comments and conducting consultations. No date has been set for designation.