## **Special CBOCS Event**

CBOCS joined a special oyster restoration event on July 29th. John Bacon along with David Sikorski from The Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) and Ben **Hutzell from The Resource Restoration Group (RRG)** traveled with Captain Jay Berry on his boat to a location east of Holland Point. We went to view and document The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) depositing of 78 spat covered 300 pound reef balls on the northern part of the Old Rock Reef. Photos were taken by John Bacon and Jay Berry. A video from the boat was taken and narrated by David Sikorski and another video was taken from a drone by Ben Hutzell which is included in a CBF video of Allison Colden explaining the procedure. They are attached at the end of this report. This event now expands the efforts started by CBOCS in 2010 by former Mayor Bruce Wahl and Keith Pardieck to restore oysters to the Old Rock Reef which was totally harvested in the 1970's. During the past 10 years CBOCS has placed more than 1 Million oysters on the reef.

During the trip reef balls and oyster shells were deposited on the CBOCS section of the reef. These reef balls will protect the oysters from poachers, and the oyster shells will be used by reproducing oysters to set larva creating new spat. Used oyster shells are collected from Traders Sea Food and Ale and behind the Chesapeake Beach Town Hall. Recently CBOCS has

been receiving some reef balls from CCA. CBOCS will continue this effort until reaching its permitted limit of reef ball.

The next CBOCS oyster event is September 10, at 10 AM, at the boat ramps at Marina West behind the Northeast Community Center. At this time will be depositing 100,000 oyster spat and several reef balls on our reef. Volunteers are encouraged to participate in this hour long event. Bring a box cutter and wear gloves.

Power Point photos by John Bacon and Jay Berry



Boat video and audio by David Sikorski <a href="http://fb.watch/72">http://fb.watch/72</a> RMydhP4/ and IMG\_9371.MOV

Drone video and audio by Ben Nutzell and commentary by Allison Colden

https://whatsupmag.com/news/partnership-adds-78oyster-reef-balls-off-coast-of-chesapeake-beach/

Magazine article by Catherine Wilson in Southern Maryland Chronicle

<u>https://southernmarylandchronicle.com/2021/08/02/conservation-foundation-drops-78-oyster-reef-balls-in-the-chesapeake/</u>