

Breton Bay Yacht Club

Scuttlebutt

June 2026

BBYC Board

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commodore@bbyachtclub.com

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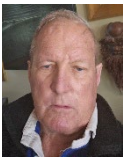
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Breton Bay Yacht Club

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703.300.3505

Commodore's Report



There is so much to share with you in this second issue, let me get straight to it!

Very exciting news – BBYC now has a website! Check it out www.bbyachtclub.com. Thanks to Jon Voigtlander for getting the site acquired and initial framework set up, and a big thank you to Jen Casolaro for countless hours getting it ready for prime time. This is the go-to spot for information about the club, outings, merchandise, and all things BBYC.

Please join me in welcoming our newest BBYC members:

Terri Raley

Susan & Frank Taylor

Michele & Mike Reing

Michelle & Tyler Radez

Fleet Captain: George Fleury



george.fleury@gmail.com

703.472.5909

Quartermaster: Jen Casolaro



guzijen@gmail.com

703.282.2990



Looking for more ways to get involved with BBYC? Consider joining a committee. Our Rear Commodore, Scott Harsha, is always looking for committee members to assist with our on-land gatherings.

If your interests lie in adding new members to the club, please reach out to me or the Past Commodore to discuss ways to get involved with sharing our amazing club with others.

I have been in touch with the Sailing Team Coach at St Mary's Ryken, and he is thrilled to have us willing to lend them support in their training and 2-3 Fall Regattas. If you are interested in getting involved with fostering the love of the water and sailing with our local youth, please reach out to me. We will have dates for the regattas and a sign-up sheet to assist in August.

I want to extend thanks to Mary and Pete Fleury for hosting our annual season kick off the Sock Burning. It was a fantastic time! Also, a thank you to Danny Fitzgerald for including BBYC in the pre-opening party of Fitzie's. We are looking forward to many great summer gatherings at the BBYC watering hole. Check out the photos of both these fun events on the website (www.bbyachtclub.com).

BBYC Outings and Gatherings Calendar:

-  **June 20:** Pier House Restaurant, Cobb Island (tentative on restaurant opening)
-  **July 18:** Ruddy Duck, St. George Island
-  **August 15:** Boat Bar Crawl. Pier 450, Salt, and Dennis Point Marina
-  **September 12:** End of Season Pool Party
-  **September 19:** Dockside Restaurant & Tiki Bar, Colonial Beach
-  **October** Annual Sock Donning Party, location TBD
-  **December 19:** Annual Christmas Party, Olde Breton Inn

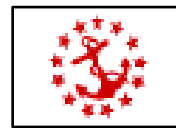
Thursday Sundowner Raft Ups – every Thursday (weather permitting) at 5:30 pm off Protestant Point in Breton Bay.



Vice Commodore's Report

Ahoy, BBYC.

Did you know that archeologists have determined that the land around Breton Bay supported Indigenous People over 13,000 years ago? The first landing of British colonists in Maryland was at St. Clements Island in 1634, where they stayed for a brief period then relocated to Historic Saint Mary's City to the south and formed the first capital of Maryland. Maryland was the birthplace of American religious tolerance and Catholics, Protestants and Jews lived and worked together. Sadly, that tolerance did not last for too many years, but at least it had its start and eventually became the way of the land. In 1651, William Bretton (two t's), an early Catholic settler, gave land to the Jesuits for them to establish a "home farm" and base at Newtown Neck. Leonardtown, formerly Seymour Town but renamed to honor Benedict Leonard Calvert, was founded in 1708.



Rear Commodore's Report

A big thanks to Pete & Mary Fleury for hosting the Sock Burning party!

I heard the food off the grill & griddle was fabulous.....!

Mark your calendars! The Christmas Party will be on 12/19 and will be at Olde Breton Inn.

More information to follow, if you would like to assist with the preparations of this event please let me know.

There is still room on the calendar for more events both on the water and on the land. If anyone is interested in hosting an event, please reach out as we have tons of resources available.



Treasurer's Report

Annual dues have been sent out, and most members have already sent in their dues. If you have not received your BBYC Annual Dues email, please reach out to me.



Quartermaster's Report

Just in time for summer and cold beers we have the BBYC pint glass in stock! \$10 each

In addition, our etched BBYC wine glasses are perfect for an Aperol or Hugo Spritz. \$10 each
 Need a boat tote? Game day bag? Get yours with the BBYC logo! Items can be customized any way you like.

Need that perfect Father's Day gift? There is still time to get it personalized before June 12!

It's T-shirt and hat season! Your quartermaster can embroider tank tops, t-shirts, protection shirts and hats. Reach out to Jen at guzijen@gmail.com to inquire or place an order.



a boat, just an interest in boating and fun and fellowship :-)

Membership application available at our website: bbyachtclub.com/membership-information



Communication's Report

I hope everyone's having a fantastic kickoff to boating season! My family is aiming to get First Pint back on the water soon so we can join the BBYC fun. Big props to Jen Casolaro for doing an amazing job on our website. It's shaping up to be the go-to place for club news, event photos, and scrolling through all the irresistible BBYC merch. As a reminder from the last Scuttlebutt: we're using Signal for group chats and quick comms. There are 29 active members in the chat already — we've helped a vessel in distress, coordinated a couple of epic raft-ups, and been treated to some truly frame-worthy photos. Listen to your FOMO — create an account! Signal is free and uses end-to-end encryption, so our nautical gossip stays between us and the gulls.

To get the app:

1. Download the Signal app to your phone via the applicable store



Signal Private Messenger

2. Install the app.
3. Create an account:
 - a. Choose your notification settings or select "Not Now" to choose them later (they can be changed any time).
 - b. Create a pin.
 - c. Confirm your pin.
4. Enter your first and last name.
 At this point you should be on the home page with a message that states "No chats yet..."
5. At the bottom of your screen, make sure "Chats" is selected.
6. Android Users: In the bottom right, tap on the pen.
 iPhone Users: In the upper right, tap on the pen
 In the "Search name or number" area, enter my Jon Voigtlander's phone number:
 (808) 778-4892



Secretary's Report

Membership Cards: New membership cards will be mailed in June to paid-up Primary Members and their Spouse/S.O. (If you haven't received your 2026 Annual Membership Dues invoice, or have any questions about it, contact our Treasurer, Jack Fleury.)

Membership Info Updates: Thanks to all who responded with updates for our member info file. If you haven't yet responded, we'd still appreciate any updates, thanks. Any questions, can't find that email I sent you, never got the email, whatever -- call, text or email, my contact info below.

Invite Your Friends!! The Club is open to new members, so tell your friends! (You don't even need



7. Next to the looking glass, tap on his number.
8. Send the message "Join BBYC."
9. Wait for Jon to respond with a link (it may take me time to get to it – please be patient).
10. When you receive the link, select it and then select "Request to join."
11. You will then be added to the group and the BBYC chat will appear on your homepage.
12. Start messaging!



Past Commodore's Report

We've had past issues with the ex-military personnel in the club reverting to military lingo, specifically Navy. A major disruption arose when we scheduled meetings using the 24-hour clock. We typically met at 1400 (2 pm), but certain members got confused and showed up at either 1 or 3 PM. So that may be the reason that the meetings are now in the AM because the time is the same (1000 = 10 AM). However, some lingo is interesting and can apply to a yacht club as well as the US Navy. We now know what Scuttlebutt is for instance. This month we'll offer one that is near and dear to every sailor's heart who is stationed on a ship (I'm not sure pilots are affected by this).

Liberty Call: A Liberty Call is a formal order or signal given by a commanding officer to allow personnel to leave their duty station for a limited period of authorized absence. In the Marine Corps, it is the official notice that a unit is being released for on base or off base personal time, often during weekends or special events.

In the Navy, the term is closely related to liberty — a short, non-chargeable period of leave (up to 48 hours, sometimes extended to 72 hours for holidays) that allows sailors to disembark from a ship or station and return before the next duty period.

It's one of my duties as PC to nominate future members of the board of directors. If you're interested in serving it's never too soon to let me know. I can describe the positions and what the duties entail. It's a fun and rewarding experience!

As far as boating safety goes, there are two items that are part of the safety checklist that have expiration dates: fire extinguishers and flares: fire extinguishers have a 12-year expiration date; the date of

manufacture is stamped on the fire extinguisher. Flares have an expiration date 42 months after manufacture date and that date is also marked on the flares. Replacing them can be costly over the years and disposal is an issue. An acceptable alternative is a electronic strobe. There are many acceptable models out there, just make sure it is USCG approved. This is an example:

[Amazon.com: ACR ResQFlare Electronic Distress E-Flare and Flag, USCG Approved Replacement for Pyrotechnic Flares - ACR 3966 : Sports & Outdoors](#)



Fleet Captain's Report

BBYC's next Fleet Outing is scheduled for Saturday, June 20th.

Weather permitting, we will meet in our boats on the water out in front of Fitzie's, near Flashing Green #5. Let's gather between 11:30 and 11:45. We will depart at 11:45 am and travel as a group up to Cobb Island where we will dock at the new pier and enjoy lunch at the newly opened Pier House Restaurant (formerly Shymansky's and now refurbished). I will be reaching out to the members to get an idea of how many boats and people would likely participate.

Reminder to download, monitor, and use the [Signal app](#) for communiques and updates about BBYC outings and gatherings. Sundowner raft-ups will be posted on Signal, often on the day before or the day of a raft-up.

I have been in touch with the US Coast Guard Auxiliary and the U.S. Power Squadron. I have spoken several times with Jim Brueggemann, who will be happy to come to us and perform Vessel Safety Checks for anyone interested. I am going to try to coordinate a day (maybe a Thursday before a raft-up or a Saturday morning) for the Safety Checks, he thinks he could do all of the inspections in a little over an hour or so. I will be reaching out to the members for preferred times/days to have the inspection and to get an idea of how many boats would likely participate. During the inspection, he will be checking for safety equipment only and will provide stickers for boats that pass. His goal is to pass every boat, and he has provided guidelines for us to help ensure we all pass. For those who need to

replace their current expired flares, these organizations are strongly encouraging boaters to get electronic flares (*see Past Commodore's report for a link*). They never expire, so it's a one-time purchase. I bought one last year for my boat.

A number of BBYC members have expressed interest in having a small ceremony for a Blessing of the BBYC Fleet. I am investigating having this event and will again likely look to a Thursday or Saturday. I'd appreciate hearing from members who would like to participate, as well as from those who would likely not participate.

On May 18th, BBYC members Ed Perraut, Pete Fleury, Jack Keegan Fleury, and George Fleury joined up to assist the Friends of St. Clement's Bay with their Oyster Restoration Project. The members met up with a team of dedicated volunteers to collect baby oysters that had been grown from spat by volunteers over the previous winter, and transport and deposit those young oysters to the reef being developed in Breton Bay adjacent to Buoy Red #8. The many users of Breton Bay are grateful to Liz Curtz and her husband Richard for their significant efforts over the past decade to re-establish oyster reefs in both St. Clement's Bay and Breton Bay solely for the benefit of increasing the natural water filtration provided by the bivalves. The BBYC is especially appreciative of their efforts to improve the water quality in our cherished bay.



CAPTAIN GARY'S FISHING REPORT **LATE SPRING 2026**



May 16 was the opening day of striped bass in the Potomac River. After trolling for 5 hours and not a bite we went perch fishin'. The fish bit along pretty well but a lot of smaller ones. Razor clams and bloodworms seemed to do the trick. 19 May I was privileged to be a part of the Wounded Warrior project sponsor by the Lundeberg Maryland Seamanship School at Piney Point. Twenty-one charter boats participated and fished from Potomac 9 to Mathias Point. Two stripers were caught at Mathias Pt, above the 301 bridge, a handful live-ling and the rest of us not a nibble! After again trolling for 5 hours, we went bottom fishing and had a good catch of croakers. A dozen or so were legal in Maryland waters but since we were in a Virginia creek there is no size limit but a creel of twenty-five per person.

Ten hours of trolling 26 lines and fifty-two baits was quite frustrating to have a catch of two cow nosed rays! My striped bass parties have been cancelled. I am guessing in addition to the overfishing, the bottle nosed dolphins, blue catfish, snake heads and significantly high salinity, the soft crab shed, and the May worms result in the rockfish being in skinny water and above the Harry Nice bridge. Much needed rain will hopefully push them in our direction soon, with the May worms having hatched and not a shed until the next full moon we might have a crack at them.



Small bluefish appeared last week At Smith Point, which is two weeks earlier than 2025 so hopefully they will become gangbusters by early June.

As always if I can assist in any way or you want updated information, please jingle me up!

Good fishin’

Capt. Gary

MARICA II CHARTERS

MOBILE 301-904-3670

HOME: 301-872-5506

WWW.MARICAII.COM



Member Spotlight

Capt. Gary Sacks and Jan Orr – (BBYC Member #9)



When we started *Scuttlebutt*, we thought it would be interesting to spotlight a different member in each issue so that we all get the

opportunity to learn a little about the many intriguing characters in our club. Capt. Gary Sacks and Jan Orr seemed like the perfect candidates as they were among the first members to join the Breton Bay Yacht Club behind the original board members of the club (they are Members #9). When I first met Gary, we talked about fishing, bird hunting and the good life here in Southern Maryland and I knew instinctively that we would be good friends. What I didn’t realize right away is that Gary is the master of deadpan humor. At one of the early BBYC gatherings, my sister walked up and joined Gary and I and said: “Hi Gary, I’m Kate. I’m Jack’s sister”. Gary’s only response was “Sorry, there’s nothing I can do to help you with that”. Let’s face it folks....that’s cold stuff.

With the publishing of *Scuttlebutt* approaching, Andrea and I reached out to Gary and Jan to see if we could meet them for dinner so that we could learn some of their backstory for our Member Spotlight. We met at Chiefs in Tall Timbers and after enjoying a cold pint and some of the excellent stuffed ham

eggrolls, we ordered dinner and the stories began to flow. Gary and Jan grew up in Altoona, a historical Pennsylvania railroad town, nestled in the heart of the Allegheny Mountains, about 100 miles east of Pittsburgh. While their families knew each other going back generations, Gary and Jan first really met in 7th grade in 1957. Jan was an intelligent, beautiful young woman from a big family in town and Gary was...well, just Gary (sorry, had to get that in here Gary just to give you a taste of your own warped sense of humor). The time was not yet right for their romance and both Jan and Gary moved independently from Altoona to pursue their educations, careers and families but Altoona always drew them back.

Jan worked in the insurance industry before getting her master’s degree and becoming a teacher. To this day, she is an avid reader and an excellent storyteller. Jan was married and raised two daughters and her husband sadly passed away at a young age. Gary ventured to a small college in Kansas and received his degree from George Washington University. He was attracted to Southern Maryland and settled in Ridge, Maryland to begin teaching and ultimately became a principal in St Mary’s County public schools. During his teaching career, Gary also established his charter fishing business which now has his full-time attention. While they stayed in touch through the years, it wasn’t until they both returned to Altoona for their 40th high school reunion that Gary and Jan really re-connected. It must have been quite a reunion not long after, Jan moved south and settled in with Gary in Ridge. Jan’s two daughters and Gary’s daughter all live in Florida now (but on different coasts). Jan and Gary are also members of the Corinthian Yacht Club in Ridge, and Jan served on their board for a long time with Bill Hayes (who was the Commodore at Corinthian before founding our Breton Bay Yacht Club).

When you meet Gary and Jan at one of our BBYC gatherings, you’ll now know a little of their backstory and maybe share some of your own story with them. They are a fun, interesting couple that you should all get to know.

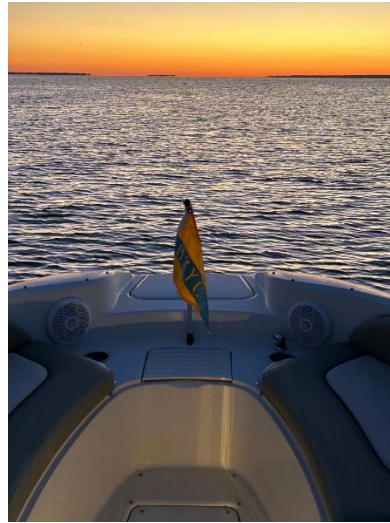
I am planning a charter fishing trip aboard MARICA II (Gary’s Baybuilt 42’ charter fishing boat). If you



have been thinking you might want to try your hand at some great fishing here in St. Mary's County, I strongly advise you to call Gary and do the same. He has set aside several days throughout the summer for BBYC member charters. Contact him to reserve some time out on the water fishing.

Here is Gary's website: www.MARICAII.com

**Gary is also a contributor to *Scuttlebutt* with "Captain Gary's Fishing Report"



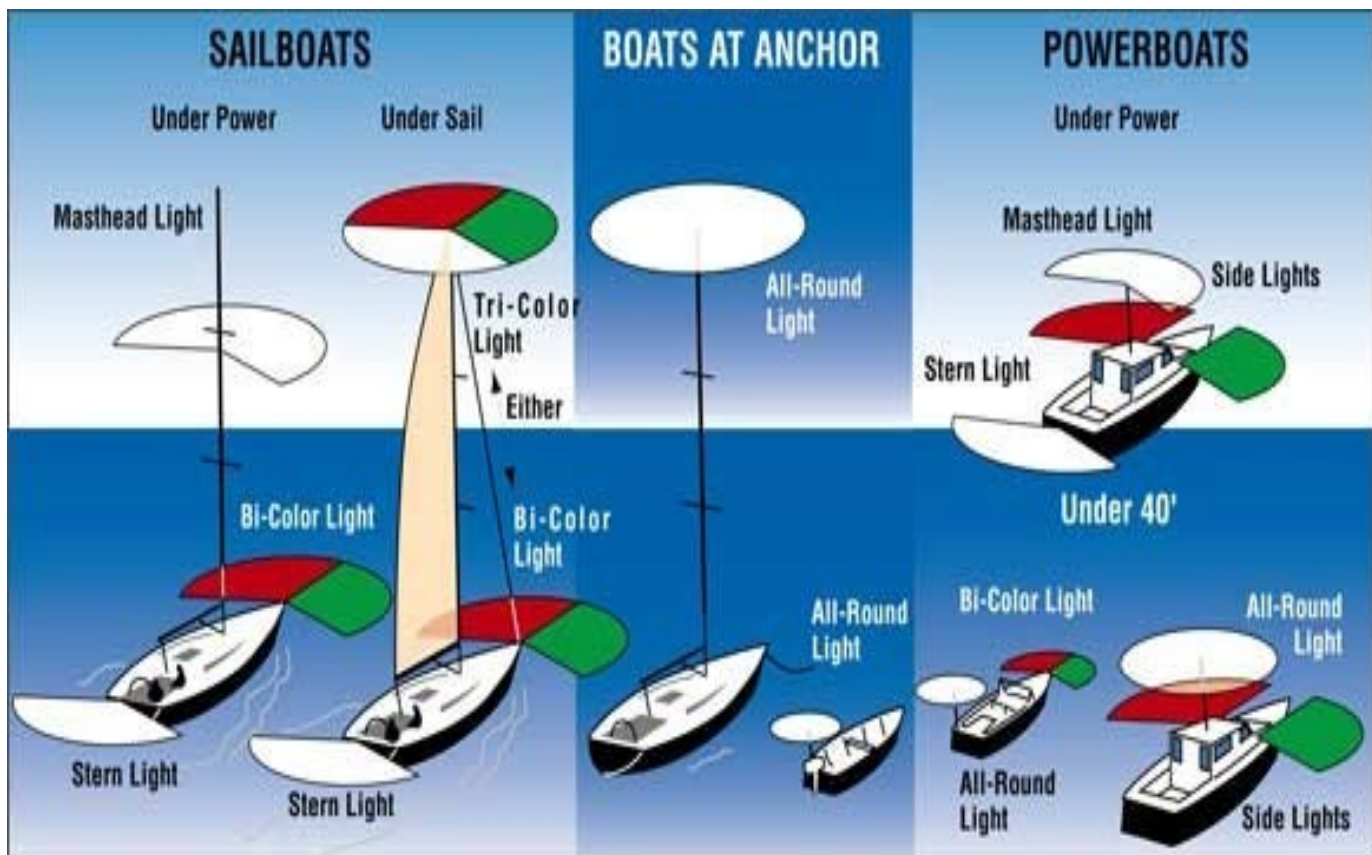
Have some boating equipment you no longer need? Here is a place you

can post items you are looking to move to a new home Please contact Julie-Anne, Commodore@bbyachtclub.com if you have something that you would like posted for sale.











Tips/Reminders/Laws for every good boater:

You can find these and other tips on the website.

<https://www.bbyachtclub.com>



USCG Minimum Equipment Requirements for Recreational Vessels - [2010 Edition](#)

Boat Length in Feet	Less than 16', canoes, kayaks	16' to 26' (8m)	26' to 39.4' (12m)	40' to 65'	65' to 165' (50m)
 Personal Flotation Devices	One Type I, II, III, or V per person. PFD's must be CG Approved, wearable by the intended user and readily accessible	One Type I, II, III, or V per person plus one Type IV throw able device. PFD's must be CG Approved, wearable by the intended user and readily accessible. The Type IV throw able device must be located such that it is immediately available.			
 Fire Extinguishers No fixed system	One B-I any type. Fire extinguishers required on any boat with enclosed fuel or engine spaces, enclosed living spaces, or permanent (not movable by one person) fuel tanks.	One B-II or two B-I		One B-II and one B-I or three B-I	One to eight B-II (Depends on weight) Plus additional requirements in machinery space - for detail specifics see 46CFR25-30.20
With fixed system	No portables required	One B-I		Two B-I or one B-II	
 Visual Distress Signals on Coastal Waters	Night signals required when operating between sunset and sunrise.	Minimum of three day-use and three night-use or three day/night combination pyrotechnic devices. Non-pyrotechnic substitutes: 1 orange flag (day-use) and 1 electric S-O-S signal light (night-use)			
 Sound Producing Devices	Horn or whistle recommended to signal intentions or position. Under Rule 33 of the Navigation Rules, boats under 20m MUST have aboard a means of making an efficient sound.			Bell no longer required by Federal Regulations	One bell not less than 300mm for boats larger than 20m and one whistle or horn required to signal intentions or position.
 Backfire Flame Arrestors	One CG-Approved device on each carburetor of all gasoline-powered engines built after April 1940, except outboards. Arrestor should be kept clean to prevent contamination from propagating a flame.				
 Ventilation	CG-standard powered system required on gasoline-powered vessels with enclosed engine spaces built after 1 August 1980. Boats built earlier must have either natural or powered ventilation in the fuel tank compartment.				
 Navigation Lights	Under power	Sidelights, stern light, masthead light. Boats 16' or longer must also have an 360° all-around white anchor light capable of being lit independently from the red/green/white running lights. Sailboats under power are considered powerboats and must follow "under power" rules.			
	Under sail	Sidelights and stern light. Boats under sail under 20m (65.6 feet) can substitute a tri-color light for separate sidelights and stern lights. Sailboats under power are considered powerboats and must follow "under power" rules.			
	Rowing	Sailboats and powerboats under 7m and under 7 knots can substitute a white lantern in place of the required lights.			
	At Anchor	All around white light visible for 2nm at night unless in a chart-designated anchorage.			
Visibility range	1 nm side lights, 2 nm all others		3nm masthead, 2 nm all others		5nm masthead, 2nm all others
 Pollution Regulations	"Honor system", no plaques required.		5" X 8" Oil Discharge placard and 4" X 9" MARPOL Trash placards. Vessels over 39.4' with a galley must have a Waste Management Plan.		
 Marine Sanitation Devices	Vessels with installed head facilities must have an operable CG-Certified Type I, II, or III Marine Sanitation Device (MSD). Any "Y" value for discharge overboard must be located in such a manner or affixed to prevent accidental discharge of untreated waste into water.				Type II or III MSD only.
 Navigation Rules	Familiarity with the rules is recommended but not required. Boaters should be familiar with the "Rules of the Road" for crossing and overtaking situations, as well as meeting other vessels head on.			Vessels 12m (39.4') or over are required to have a current copy of the USDOT USCG International - Inland Navigation Rules aboard.	

Update on the state of the water

Disclaimer: This is a collection of information on the state of the Potomac River and nearby waterways. This by no means should be taken as the authoritative source. Please research and act in accordance with your level of comfort around and in the water.

Water quality in the Potomac from DC down to the Bay is generally back to normal for recreation and shellfish harvesting after the 2026 sewage spill, while the Andrews jet fuel leak remains a localized concern in Piscataway Creek but is not affecting drinking water or prompting broad Potomac advisories at this time.^{[1][2][3][4][5][6][7]}

Sewage spill (Potomac Interceptor, Jan 2026)

- A 6-foot Potomac Interceptor sewer line collapsed on January 19, 2026 near Clara Barton Parkway in Montgomery County, releasing about 240–300 million gallons of untreated sewage into the Potomac, several miles upstream of DC.^{[8][5][9]}
- DC, Maryland, and Virginia sampling showed very high E. coli levels close to the break initially but much lower downstream in DC because of dilution and winter conditions.^{[5][9][8]}

Current status along the river corridor

- DC completed emergency repairs and restored flow to the interceptor by March 14, 2026.^[11]
- DC’s Department of Energy & Environment has lifted its Potomac River recreational advisory; DC residents are told they may return to normal recreational use, and DC drinking water was never affected (all intakes are upstream of the spill).^{[3][5][1]}
- Maryland health officials report that downriver areas beginning at Lock 8 are open for recreation, with the remaining advisory only in the immediate spill zone in upper Montgomery County; they emphasize there have been no reported illnesses linked to the spill.^[2]
- Virginia’s Department of Health notes that Potomac bacteria levels outside the immediate spill site are within acceptable ranges for all

recreational uses; Virginia shellfish areas on the lower Potomac are not impacted.^[1]

- Maryland’s Department of the Environment says recreational advisories have been lifted for Washington, DC, Prince George’s, Charles, and St. Mary’s counties, and shellfish harvesting bans for Charles and St. Mary’s out to the Chesapeake Bay have also been lifted.^[6]

In short, between DC and where the Potomac meets the Bay, agencies say E. coli levels are now in the normal range for recreation and shellfish harvest, with long-term ecological monitoring ongoing but no blanket restrictions currently in place.^{[2][3][5][6][1]}

Andrews jet fuel leak (Piscataway Creek, early 2026)

- Between roughly January and March 2026, an estimated 22,000–32,000 gallons of jet fuel leaked from a Joint Base Andrews refueling system, with some of that fuel reaching Piscataway Creek, which flows into the Potomac.^{[4][10][7][6]}
- The leaking section of pipe has been isolated and shut down, and the base’s environmental team and contracted cleanup crews are working under Maryland Department of the Environment oversight to contain and recover fuel and sample soil and water.^{[10][7][4]}

Current risk to Potomac mainstem

- Maryland environmental officials state there is no threat to public drinking water because intakes are upstream of where Piscataway Creek meets the Potomac.^{[7][4][6]}
- MDE specifically advises the public to avoid contact with any sections of Piscataway Creek where they see a petroleum sheen or smell fuel, and to avoid affected areas near containment booms; this advisory is targeted to the creek, not the entire tidal Potomac.^{[4][6]}
- As of mid-May 2026, state and federal agencies and Maryland’s congressional delegation are still investigating the full environmental impact on local waterways, but public statements continue to frame it as a localized contamination site feeding into a

much larger river system with no broader Potomac recreation bans issued.^{[1][6][7][4]}

Practical takeaways for DC-to-Bay boating and recreation

- Drinking water from public systems drawing on the Potomac remains reported as safe; all active intakes are upstream of both the sewage spill site and the Andrews fuel leak.^{[8][5][6][7][2][4][1]}
- For boating, paddling, and casual water contact from DC down past Prince George’s and Charles counties to the river mouth, health agencies have lifted their post-sewage-spill advisories and say bacteria levels are within recreational standards.^{[3][5][6][2][1]}
- The one clear “avoid” area is portions of Piscataway Creek adjacent to Joint Base Andrews where petroleum sheen or fuel odor is present or where containment/cleanup operations are active; this is a tributary, not the main navigation channel.^{[10][6][7][4]}
- Agencies in Maryland, DC, and Virginia plan to keep sampling Potomac water quality through at least the 2026 recreation season to track any lingering impacts from both the sewage and fuel incidents.^{[5][6][7][1]}

1. <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/news/potomac-sewage-spill/>
2. [https://health.maryland.gov/newsroom/Pages/Maryland health officials provide update on recreational water advisory for Montgomery County impacted by Potomac Interceptor spill.aspx](https://health.maryland.gov/newsroom/Pages/Maryland%20health%20officials%20provide%20update%20on%20recreational%20water%20advisory%20for%20Montgomery%20County%20impacted%20by%20Potomac%20Interceptor%20spill.aspx)
3. <https://doee.dc.gov/release/potomac-interceptor-update-and-faqs>
4. <https://news.maryland.gov/mde/2026/04/13/maryland-department-of-the-environment-investigating-32000-gallons-of-jet-fuel-leaks-at-joint-base-andrews/>
5. <https://potomacriverkeepernetwork.org/potomac-sewage-spill-data-updates/>
6. <https://www.facebook.com/MDEnvironment/posts/-potomac-river-update-moving-from->

[response-to-recoveryweve-received-several-ques/1342023631288230/](https://www.facebook.com/fox5dc/posts/the-potomac-riverkeeper-network-says-new-watersampling-results-from-a-recent-sew/1359947169503173/)

7. <https://www.cbf.org/news/joint-base-andrews-jet-fuel-leak-raises-major-concerns-for-local-community-and-waterways/>
8. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2026_Potomac_River_sewage_spill
9. <https://potomac.org/blog/2026/1/30/potomac-interceptor-sewage-spill-updates>
10. <https://www.jba.af.mil/News/Press-Releases/Article/4458254/press-release-joint-base-andrews-investigates-22000-gallon-fuel-leak/>
11. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2026/05/13/jet-fuel-spill-joint-base-andrews-sparks-concerns-about-potomac-river/>
12. <https://potomacriverkeepernetwork.org>
13. <https://www.dewater.com/about-dc-water/media/potomac-interceptor-collapse>
14. https://www.reddit.com/r/environmental_science/comments/1r7kk6o/how_long_for_potomac_and_adjoining_waters_to_be/
15. <https://www.facebook.com/fox5dc/posts/the-potomac-riverkeeper-network-says-new-watersampling-results-from-a-recent-sew/1359947169503173/>

For your own decision-making as someone boating out of the lower Potomac, here are links to county-by-county beach and advisory pages so you can check conditions right before specific trips?

Maryland side (Prince George’s, Charles, St. Mary’s to the Bay)

- State recreational and shellfish status (including Potomac to the Bay):
 - Maryland Department of Health update on Potomac recreational water advisories: health.maryland.gov/newsroom/Pages/Maryland%20health%20officials%20provide%20update%20on%20recreational%20water%20advisories%20following%20sewage%20spill%20in%20Potomac%20River.aspx^[2]
 - MDE sampling and commentary (often via updates linked from their newsroom and

social channels) for Potomac recovery and shellfish harvesting; their posts note that St. Mary's County and other lower-Potomac areas are outside the sewage-plume advisory and open for recreation.^{[10][2]}

For the Andrews jet fuel leak, there is not a standing Potomac-wide advisory page, but you can monitor:

- Maryland Department of the Environment news release and updates on the Joint Base Andrews jet fuel leak and impacts to Piscataway Creek:

– news.maryland.gov/mde/2026/04/13/maryland-department-of-the-environment-investigating-32000-gallons-of-jet-fuel-leaks-at^[11]

Non-government “one-stop” resources

- Potomac sewage spill data and ongoing sampling summaries (very boater-friendly):
 - Potomac Riverkeeper Network spill data and maps:
potomacriverkeepernetwork.org/potomac-sewage-spill-data-updates^[12]
 - Potomac Riverkeeper main site, including a “Water Quality & Swimming Safety” section and contact numbers if you see a problem on the water: potomacriverkeepernetwork.org^[13]
- General “is it safe to swim?” guidance for the Potomac, including common-sense rules like avoiding several days after major rain:
 - Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin: “Is it safe to swim?”
potomacriver.org/potomac-basin-facts/is-it-safe-to-swim^[6]

2. [https://health.maryland.gov/newsroom/Pages/Maryl and health officials provide update on recreational water advisories for counties impacted by Potomac Interceptor spill.aspx](https://health.maryland.gov/newsroom/Pages/Maryl%20and%20health%20officials%20provide%20update%20on%20recreational%20water%20advisories%20for%20counties%20impacted%20by%20Potomac%20Interceptor%20spill.aspx)

6. <https://www.potomacriver.org/potomac-basin-facts/is-it-safe-to-swim/>

10. [https://www.facebook.com/MDEnvironment/posts/-potomac-river-update-moving-from-response-to-](https://www.facebook.com/MDEnvironment/posts/-potomac-river-update-moving-from-response-to-recoveryweve-received-several-ques/1342023631288230/)

[recoveryweve-received-several-ques/1342023631288230/](https://www.facebook.com/MDEnvironment/posts/-potomac-river-update-moving-from-response-to-recoveryweve-received-several-ques/1342023631288230/)

11. <https://news.maryland.gov/mde/2026/04/13/maryland-department-of-the-environment-investigating-32000-gallons-of-jet-fuel-leaks-at-joint-base-andrews/>

12. <https://potomacriverkeepernetwork.org/potomac-sewage-spill-data-updates/>

13. <https://potomacriverkeepernetwork.org>