

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Fishing and Boating Services
Opening of Middle Ground Oyster Bar (Charles County) — Effective 11/29/2021

WHAT THIS NOTICE DOES

The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources announces that a portion of Middle Ground oyster bar in Charles County is open to shellfish harvest through the end of the 2021-2022 oyster season. The area will close to all oyster harvest at 3 p.m. March 31, 2021, and will remain closed until further notice. This notice supersedes all previous public notices opening or closing the described area.

AREA OPENED

Middle Ground (PSFA 136 (NOB 20-3): Wicomico River (West))

The portion of Middle Ground being opened is: All of the waters of the Wicomico River (West) enclosed by a line beginning at a point defined by Lat. 38°17.673' N, Long. 76°50.397' W, then running 302° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°17.718' N, Long. 76°50.487' W, then running 51° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°17.881' N, Long. 76°50.233' W, then running 169° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°17.779' N, Long. 76°50.208' W, then running 235° True to the point of beginning.

HARVEST CONDITIONS

Recreational harvesters must follow the rules described in [2021-2022 Recreational Oyster Rules — Effective 7/4/2021](#) with the following exception:

- Days of the Week that an Individual May Catch Oysters:
 - An individual may catch oysters for recreational purposes from the described area only on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Commercial harvesters must follow the rules described in [2021-2022 Commercial Oyster Rules — Effective 7/4/2021](#) with the following exceptions:

- Days of the Week that an Individual May Catch Oysters:
 - An individual may catch oysters for commercial purposes from the described area only on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
- Daily Catch Limit: A licensee may harvest up to 10 bushels per licensee per day, not to exceed 20 bushels per boat per day, if at any time during the day they harvest oysters from the area described in this notice.

PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE

This area is being opened to allow the harvest of market-sized oysters. This opening was requested by the Charles County Oyster Committee. Based on Department survey work, there are enough market-sized oysters to support this opening.

WHO THIS NOTICE AFFECTS

This opening applies to all individuals who catch oysters or clams recreationally or commercially.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This notice is effective at sunrise on November 29, 2021.

AUTHORITY

Code of Maryland Regulations 08.02.04.11G

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Fishing and Boating Services at 410-260-8302.

Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio
Secretary of Natural Resources