

# NOTICE

CRD Notice: 11-01

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## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF SEED OYSTERS FOR PRIVATE INDUSTRY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PLANTING ON PRIVATE OYSTER GROUND LEASES

Notice is hereby given that the Virginia Marine Resources Commission will make available up to approximately 20,000 bushels of seed oysters to be harvested from the Piankatank River by the private oyster industry.

THE COMMISSION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES IN THE PROGRAM AT ANY TIME.

### GENERAL:

Harvest dates will be April 1, 2011 through April 22, 2011.

The harvest area will be designated and marked by VMRC personnel.

Harvesting will be done by standard oyster dredges or hand tongs. All harvesting will be completed by 2:00 p.m.

Seed oysters will be unculled and a minimum count of 400 count/bushel.

VMRC personnel will be present to measure and/or tally and document each harvester's daily catch. All bushels shall be standard Virginia bushels. Receipts for seed harvested will be provided to participants and will provide a record of shells to be replanted or monies to be paid.

These seed oysters are being made available to the private oyster industry on the basis that for every bushel of seed oysters harvested by private industry, two bushels of shell will be planted on the same beds by the buyer of the seed oysters in the summer of 2011. Shells may be replaced by the buyer of seed oysters or payment for the cost and purchasing, transporting, and planting of those same shells can be paid directly to VMRC at a rate of \$2.60 per bushel.

Harvest must be reported on the appropriate harvest buyers tax form and the per bushel Replenishment Tax paid.

VMRC personnel will be present for all planting of shells back on to the harvest areas. VMRC will tally and direct replanting of shells in the Piankatank River in quantities equal to the seed harvest

**RESPONSE DEADLINE:**

All interested buyers must contact the Conservation and Replenishment Department in writing by mail, fax, or e-mail no later than March 18, 2011. The response must indicate the amount desired (500-bushel increments) and whether shell replacement on public grounds will be by shellplanting themselves 2-bushels of shell for 1-bushel of seed basis or by paying VMRC \$2.60 per bushel of seed harvested.

If all responses should total more than the approximately 20,000 bushels made available, then the requests will be adjusted proportional to the number of bushels requested.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

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