



Maryland Sea Grant appreciates Congress' support for the National Sea Grant College Program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. We seek continued support for our efforts in marine and coastal research, education, and outreach.

## SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES

Aquaculture, or farmed seafood, provides food security and jobs, reduces pressure on Maryland's natural resources, and supports local economies. Maryland Sea Grant (MDSG) supports the development of aquaculture as a growing commercial opportunity.



## OUR WORK

### Projects

In collaboration with fish farmers, NGOs, and regulatory partners, we achieve far-reaching impacts. Here are some of our recent research, education, and extension projects:

MDSG assisted in funding and organizing the 2025 Sustainable Aquaculture Systems Supporting Atlantic Salmon Conference in Baltimore. The meeting brought together nearly **80 industry, research, and education leaders in aquaculture** for panel discussions and presentations, all helping to expand land-based domestic salmon production.

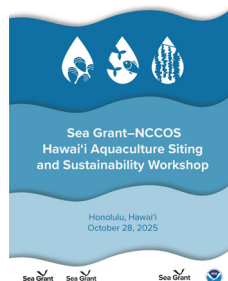


Every year, our seafood and aquaculture extension team plans and hosts a day of seminars at the **East Coast Commercial Fishermen's and Aquaculture Trade Show**. Industry members praised the biological and technical updates shared during the



2026 seminars, as well as presentations on marketing and workforce development.

MDSG Extension **trained 27 people in Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP)** principles in 2024. The Maryland seafood industry generates millions of dollars in sales each year. HACCP trainings ensure the continued growth of this industry, improved product quality, and increased public trust in seafood.



MDSG is in the final year of a collaborative project building capacity among coastal-ocean groups to advance responsible near and offshore aquaculture siting and industry growth across coastal regions of the United States. More than **250 people** attended MDSG-led regional workshops. Our team completed the **sixth and final workshop in January 2026**.

# OUR WORK

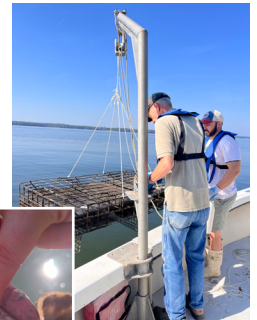
## Projects



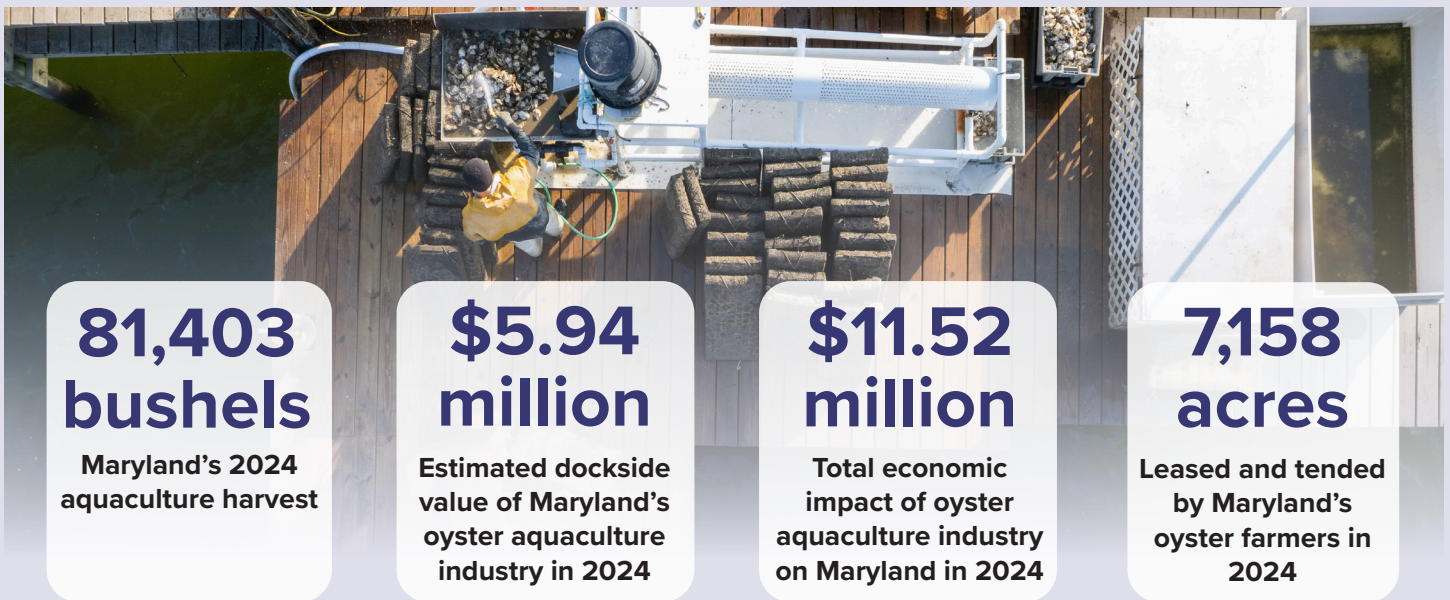
MDSG's award-winning *Chesapeake Quarterly* magazine provided in-depth [coverage of invasive blue catfish in the Bay](#). Stories in this issue were delivered to more than 4,000 print subscribers and garnered upwards of **7,600 online views**.



To support a potential **soft-shell clam aquaculture industry** in Maryland, MDSG-funded researchers partnered with shellfish growers to test grow-out methods, created heat-resistant broodstock lines, and are publishing a manual to guide commercial shellfish operators interested in soft-shell clams.



## The Economic Benefits of Oyster Aquaculture\*



\*From *Maryland Oyster Aquaculture Industry Summary*, University of Maryland Extension/MDSG

Maryland Sea Grant is a federal-state partnership program that is part of the University System of Maryland. We are administered by the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science and located in College Park, Maryland. Sea Grant Extension faculty are administered by the University of Maryland, College Park, and located in offices around the state. The National Sea Grant College Program is a network of 34 university-based programs in coastal and Great Lakes states, Puerto Rico, and Guam.

### Contact Maryland Sea Grant

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