

# Tidal Wetland Restoration on the Elizabeth River

Barbara Gavin

River Star Homes Program Manager

July 14, 2022

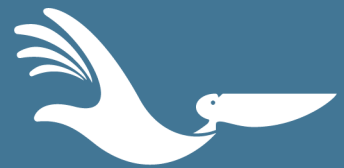
VIMS



**ELIZABETH RIVER**  
PROJECT



Mission:  
Restore the Elizabeth River to the highest practical level of environmental quality through government, business and community partnerships.



ELIZABETH RIVER  
PROJECT

RIVER STAR HOMES

# River Star Homes

- Over 6,400 River Star Homes pledged to a cleaner Elizabeth River since 2011
- Over 1,400 residential Best Management Practices (BMPs) since 2014
- Program and BMP Cost Share supported by:
  - City of Norfolk
  - City of Chesapeake
  - City of Virginia Beach
  - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
  - Virginia Environmental Endowment

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# Funding Increase for Living Shorelines & Buffers



- Living Shorelines now cost shared 50% up to \$5,000 in Norfolk and Chesapeake
- 75% when funded by VEE Grant
- Buffers now cost shared 50% up to \$2,000

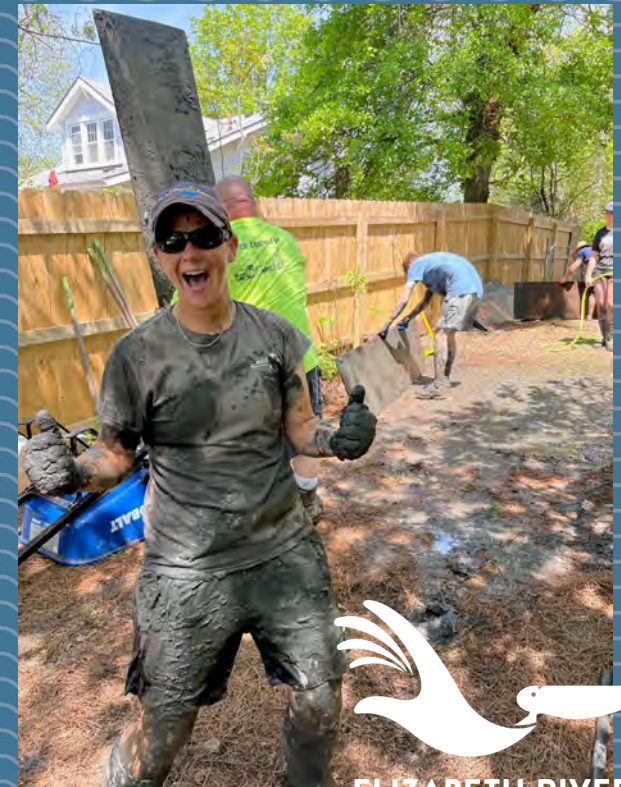
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# Restoration Season in Full Swing



[Hampton Roads Show Living Shorelines](#)



  
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## BMP Verification Program

- Since 2020, 85% of living shorelines and buffers pass inspection, high satisfaction rates
- Annual reports include site assessments, satisfaction surveys, pass & fail data, interesting findings
- Consistent Maintenance is Key, funding opportunity

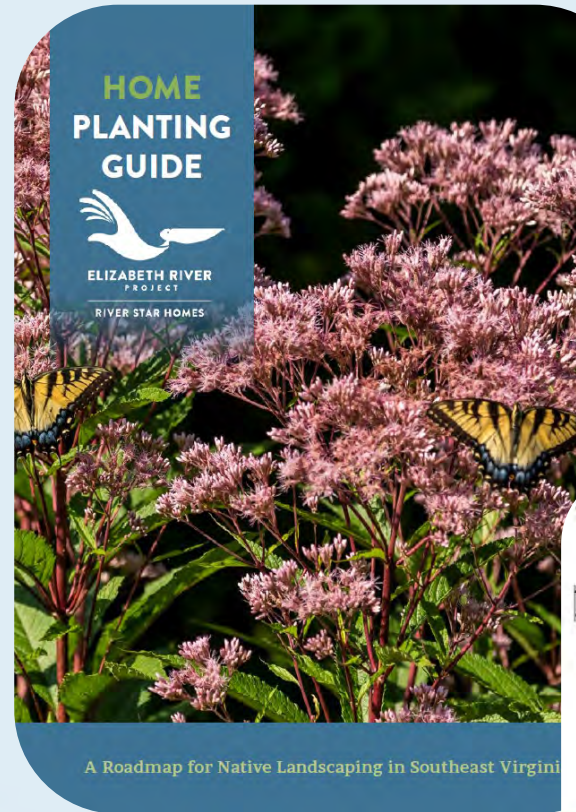


  
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# What's Coming Next?

- Living Shoreline Collaborative participation
- Re-verifications for living shorelines and riparian buffers
- New guidance created for living shorelines and D.I.Y. plantings



**OUR COST-SHARING PROGRAMS PROTECT YOUR HOME AND THE ENVIRONMENT**  
 Living Shorelines and Shoreline Buffers help protect your property from erosion, restore wildlife habitat and help your home adapt to tidal flooding and sea level rise.

### HOW DOES A LIVING SHORELINE BENEFIT YOU?



*"The primary benefit for me is being able to sit out there and relax and look out at my pier... Being able to sit out there and relax and have a glass of wine and see the egrets, foxes, otters, how all of it meshes together—walk down there and watch the oysters at low tide, spitting the water out knowing that's how they purify the water. The ultimate goal is to get the dolphins back in the river and the dolphins have come back because the quality of the water has improved."*

Continue reading to learn about funding →



ICON	QTY	PLANT SPECIES	ICON	QTY	PLANT SPECIES
	3	CULVERS ROOT <i>Xeranthoxylum virginicum</i>		6	WILD GERANIUM <i>Geranium maculatum</i>
	6	TICKSEED <i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>		6	GOLDEN RAGWORT <i>Packera aurea</i>
	2	SOFT RUSH <i>Juncus effusus</i>		6	JOE PYE WEED "Baby Joe" <i>Eupatorium dubium</i>
	6	BLUE-EYED GRASS <i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>		6	BLAZING STAR <i>Liatris Spicata</i>
	1	AMSCORIA, WILLOW <i>Amscoria tuberosomontana</i>		3	OBISIDENT PLANT <i>Physostegia virginiana</i>
	3	SWAMP MILKWEED <i>Asclepias incarnata</i>			

OUR  
ELIZABETH  
EXECUTIVE  
SUMMARY



# Watershed Action Plan

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- Watershed Action Plan highlights equitable restoration of the Elizabeth River as a top priority
  - Ensure upward marsh migration pathways are prioritized for new living shorelines
  - 10 Year Goal: Create or restore 10 acres of tidal wetlands, 4 acres oyster habitat, 15 acres riparian buffer

THE UPDATED STRATEGY FOR  
COMMUNITY-WIDE ACTION TO RESTORE  
THE ELIZABETH RIVER

Elizabeth Watershed Action Plan V · 2022





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# Louis & Pru Ryan Resilience Lab



- Demo has started, estimated completion 12 months
- Living shoreline planned to adapt to sea level rise
- Observation boardwalk, kayak launch & boat dock

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# Thank you!

## Join us

Volunteer at a living shoreline installation

Tell your clients about our funding opportunities

Become a River Star Home or Business

Donate



## Contact Us

Barbara Gavin

[bgavin@elizabethriver.org](mailto:bgavin@elizabethriver.org)

(757)-392-7135

Joe Rieger

Deputy Director,  
Restoration

[jrieger@elizabethriver.org](mailto:jrieger@elizabethriver.org)

757-399-7487

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