

• Accomplishments

- Goose/Duck Crossing Signs
- Coordination with Maryland Coastal Bays Program: South Gate pond shoreline issues, water quality monitoring, tree planting, invasive species removal
- Reviewed tree cutting policies, promote tree planting, control cutting

• Initiatives

- Increase volunteerism for cleanup
- Improve bay and pond water quality
- Control geese population around ponds
- Fishing Line Disposal and Recycling
- Rt. 90 Pond Nature Signs
- Turtle sanctuaries in ponds
- South Gate Pond Shoreline Restoration
- Invasive Species Eradication
- Oyster Gardening in canals

Ocean Pines Environment & Natural Assets Committee

Purpose: Monitors the air, soil, water, and flora and fauna health that are important to sustaining the natural beauty of Ocean Pines, followed by recommending to the OP Board of Directors (BOD) actions that can retain and improve the natural ecosystem for enjoyment by generations to come.

Members:

- Tim Peck, Chair Patricia Garcia
- Patricia Benner John Maziuk
- Brian Burgess Anne O'Connell
- Karen Krun Detter Don Wolski
- Patricia Gamby
- Jeff Heavner, BOD Liaison

- <https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/environment-natural-assets-committee>



Environment & Natural Assets Advisory Committee Strategic Plan: 2024 OCEAN PINES, MARYLAND

ABOUT: Ocean Pines is a residential community nestled on Maryland’s Eastern Shore in northern Worcester County, featuring more than 9-miles of waterfront property on 3,000 acres of wooded areas.

VISION: Ocean Pines will be a premier resort and residential community committed to exceptional safety, value and quality of life, while welcoming and embracing residents and visitors of all ages, ethnicity, economic status and interests.

MISSION: Ocean Pines will provide quality governance, public services and five-star amenities necessary to keep the community *and an* attractive, affordable, safe, sustainable and enjoyable place to live and work.

The Environment and Natural Assets Advisory Committee provides suggestions and recommendations for improving the health and vitality of our natural resources as well as keeping the Board informed on environmental issues impacting Ocean Pines.

Strategy 1:
Address habitat modification and erosion at South Pond.

Strategy 2:
Assessing water quality of our canals.

Strategy 3:
Mitigate loss of tree habitat.

Strategy 4:
Promote turtle sanctuaries in ponds.

Strategy 5:
Communicate issues.

Actions:
1a. Engage Coastal Tributaries for native plantings on shoreline
1b. EPA approval on funding grant for shoreline repair
1c. Engage shoreline repair contractor

2a. Collaborate with Maryland Coastal Bays and Assateague Coastal Trust for consulting and volunteer efforts

3a. Promote MD DNR tree sapling program
3b. Promote control of tree cutting on current and new home lots.
3c. Promote new tree plantings in parks and common areas

4a. Recommendation for log placement in ponds

5a. Statement on green algae in ponds, OPA [Greenstreet](#) article
5b. Exhibit at Ocean Pines Expo

Timing:
Spring 2024

Jan 2024

Early 2024

Spring 2024

Spring 2024

Winter 2024

Spring 2024

What Can You Do to Help Make Ocean Pines An Even Better Community?

- Walk with a cause by picking up litter on trails or paths
- Consider Oyster Gardening if you have waterfront property
- Mulch grass clippings to fertilize lawn and mulch leaves on yard
- Use minimal amounts of lawn fertilizer, or none
- Reduce, reuse, repair and recycle
- Utilize the OP Public Works Yard for disposal of yard debris
- Report to OPA the observed dumping of debris into canals
- Plant pollinator gardens using native species
- Do not use waterways or wetlands for disposal of cut grass, or trash
- Teach your children NOT to litter
- Participate in the MD Coastal Bays Marine Plunder
- Join Ocean City Beach Heroes
- Volunteer with the Assateague Coastal Trust

Relevant Issues for Ocean Pines



Eroding shoreline at the South Gate pond



Litter along Beauchamp Road



Invasive vines on tree at South Gate pond



Excessive tree clearing on ocean pines lots



Algal mats in North Gate pond