

# 2024 CALENDAR



DELAWARE  
CENTER FOR THE  
INLAND BAYS  
preserve • protect • restore





# DELAWARE CENTER FOR THE INLAND BAYS

## CONTACT US

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DE Center for the Inland Bays  
James Farm Ecological Preserve



@DEInlandBays

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### **Taylor Hoffman**

*Science Coordinator*

### **Bryanna Lisiewski**

*Watershed Coordinator*

### **Marina Feeser**

*Development Specialist*

### **Maddie Fox**

*Environmental Education Specialist*

### **Jack Gazda**

*Shellfish Program Specialist*

### **Jim Tully**

*Shellfish Program Specialist*

### **Andy Twarowski**

*Shellfish Program Specialist*

### **Morgan Krell**

*Science Technician*

## Delaware Inland Bays Watershed



## ABOUT THE CENTER

Since 1994, the Center has been a national estuary program and your local non-profit working to preserve, protect and restore Delaware's Inland Bays and their watershed.

The Center achieves this through: Education, Outreach, Science & Research, Restoration, and Public Policy.

## OUR GOALS

To facilitate the wise use and enhancement of the Inland Bays' Watershed through the coordinated implementation of the Inland Bays Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

To provide a forum where science supports public education and decision making regarding the Inland Bays Watershed.

To foster a collaborative, consensus-building culture among watershed stakeholders crucial to support research, education, protection and restoration initiatives, and policy decisions.

## OUR VISION STATEMENT

A healthy and resilient watershed, where diverse wildlife and habitats thrive, and all who live, work and visit contribute to its betterment as informed stewards.



**JANUARY 2024**

Photo Credit: Debbie Blair / A Soft Landing /  
James Farm Photo Challenge Grand Prize Winner

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> NEW YEAR'S DAY	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> TEACHER OPEN HOUSE	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  ● NEW MOON	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  ○ FULL MOON	<b>26</b> [ FIRE & ICE FESTIVAL ]	<b>27</b> —————
<b>28</b> — FIRE & ICE FESTIVAL ]	<b>29</b> DINE TO DONATE & CENTER TRIVIA @ DEWEY BEER CO. - NOON-9 PM, DEWEY BEACH	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<p><b>Want to volunteer with the Center this year?</b></p>  <p>Start by filling out a volunteer application - scan the QR code to the left. Then download the free MyImpact app to access trainings, opportunities, and more!</p> 		



**FEBRUARY 2024**

BURTON ISLAND

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

# DID YOU KNOW

Wetlands are important features in the landscape that provide numerous beneficial services for people and for fish and wildlife. Some of these include protecting and improving water quality, providing fish and wildlife habitats, storing floodwaters and maintaining surface water flow during dry periods. These valuable functions are the result of the unique natural characteristics of wetlands.



1

2 WORLD WETLANDS DAY  
GROUNDHOG DAY

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

● NEW MOON

11

12

13

14 VALENTINE'S DAY  
VOLUNTEER TEAM LEADERS TRAINING - 6 PM, CIB OFFICE & VIRTUAL

15

16

17

18

19 PRESIDENTS' DAY

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22

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24

○ FULL MOON

25

26

27

28

JAMES FARM DOCENT TRAINING - 6 PM  
CIB OFFICE & VIRTUAL

29



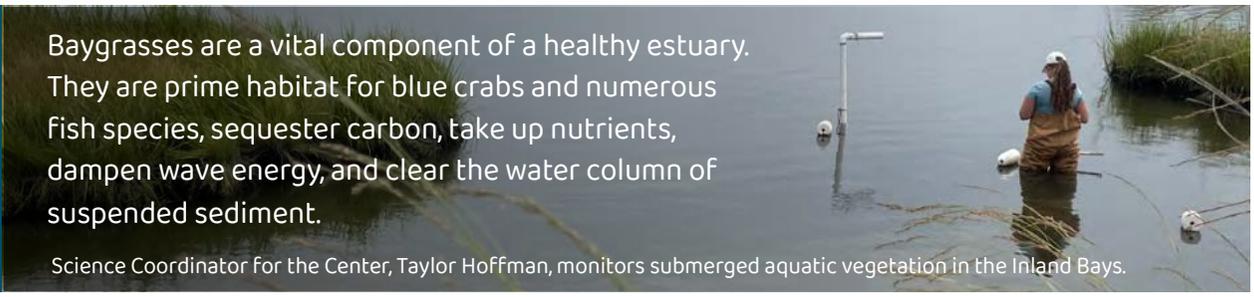


**MARCH 2024**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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**DID YOU KNOW**

Baygrasses are a vital component of a healthy estuary. They are prime habitat for blue crabs and numerous fish species, sequester carbon, take up nutrients, dampen wave energy, and clear the water column of suspended sediment.



Science Coordinator for the Center, Taylor Hoffman, monitors submerged aquatic vegetation in the Inland Bays.

**1**

**2**

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**5**

**6**  
SHOREZONE FISH & BLUE CRAB SURVEY TRAINING - 6 PM  
LOCATION TBD & VIRTUAL

**7** [ DO MORE 24 DE — ]

**8** — ]

**9**

**10** RAMADAN BEGINS  
  
● NEW MOON

**11**  
DINE TO DONATE @ BIG OYSTER BREWERY - 3-10 PM, LEWES

**12**

**13**

**14**

**15**

**16**

**17** ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**18**

**19** VERNAL EQUINOX

**20**  
REFORESTATION SURVEY TRAINING - 6 PM LOCATION TBD & VIRTUAL

**21**

**22** WORLD WATER DAY

**23**

**24**  
  
EASTER **31**

**25**  
  
○ FULL MOON

**26**

**27**  
HORSESHOE CRAB SURVEY & TAGGING TRAINING - 6 PM LOCATION TBD & VIRTUAL

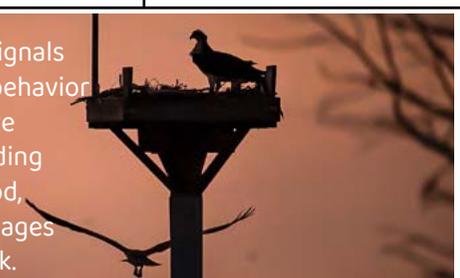
**28**

**29** GOOD FRIDAY

**30**



**APRIL 2024**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  NEW MOON	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> DIAMONDBACK TERRAPIN SURVEY TRAINING - 6 PM, LOCATION TBD & VIRTUAL	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> GREEN SCREEN ENVIRONMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> COASTAL DE COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> EARTH DAY PASSOVER BEGINS	<b>23</b>  FULL MOON	<b>24</b> INTRODUCTION TO VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE - 6 PM, CIB OFFICE & VIRTUAL	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> [ OCEAN TO BAY BIKE TOUR ARBOR DAY	<b>27</b> — ]
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	 <p><b>DID YOU KNOW</b></p> <p>Ospreys are able to express different signals in a variety of ways. A study of osprey behavior revealed that they have eight distinctive vocalizations to express feelings, including excitement, alarm, and requests for food, and 11 physical displays to convey messages of courtship, protection, rest, and attack.</p>			



**MAY 2024**

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



PHOTO CREDIT: KIM PARKS / BOXED IN / JAMES FARM PHOTO CHALLENGE WINNER

1

2

3

4 WATER FAMILY  
FEST & NATIVE  
PLANT SALE

5 CINCO DE MAYO

6

7

8

DISCOVERY BAY  
TRAINING - 6 PM,  
CIB OFFICE & VIRTUAL

9

10

11

● NEW MOON

12 MOTHER'S DAY

13

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18

19

20 EARTH DAY

21

22

INTRODUCTION  
TO VOLUNTEER  
MANAGEMENT  
SOFTWARE - 6 PM,  
CIB OFFICE & VIRTUAL

23

24 WORLD  
TURTLE DAY

25

○ FULL MOON

26

27 MEMORIAL  
DAY

28

29

30

31





DELAWARE CENTER FOR THE INLAND BAYS'

# VOLUNTEER PROGRAM 2023 BY THE NUMBERS

<b>240</b> TOTAL VOLUNTEERS	<b>8,662</b> VOLUNTEER HOURS	<b>\$275,452*</b> VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS
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\* THE CURRENT ESTIMATED NATIONAL VALUE OF EACH VOLUNTEER HOUR IS \$31.80

## DIAMONDBACK TERRAPIN SURVEY

**131**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

**2,230**  
TERRAPINS  
COUNTED

## HORSESHOE CRAB SURVEY

**3,186.25**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

**27,860**  
HORSESHOE  
CRABS  
COUNTED

## FISH & BLUE CRAB SURVEY

**841**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

**26,400+**  
FISH  
COUNTED

## JAMES FARM DOCENTS

**734.55**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

**6,920+**  
VISITORS

## REFORESTATION

**178**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

**8,500+**  
PLANTINGS

## JAMES FARM WORK DAYS

**2,221.4**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

# SCIENCE & RESTORATION | MEET THE TEAM



From left: Taylor Hoffman, Bob Collins, Meghan Noe Fellows, Nivette Pérez Pérez, Jack Gazda, Jim Tully

## THE HIGHLIGHTS:

- 2021 State of the Bays report released, **showing some metrics** of health are improving, while many are showing no change, but **few are falling**
- As we completed the 15th year of horseshoe crab spawning survey, **3,000 horseshoe crabs** were tagged; **27,867** counted with over 1,763 counted in one night
- **Rewilded 3/4 of our Oyster Gardener program oysters** onto reefs in Little Assawoman and Rehoboth Bays
- **Over 8,500 native trees and shrubs planted** at two locations in the Little Assawoman watershed
- **Record-setting oyster collections** and **2,700 shell bags placed in the Inland Bays** to protect marsh edges
- Began a five year effort to **establish seagrass meadows in brackish Little Assawoman Bay** (and hopefully Rehoboth and Indian River Bays as well)
- **Provided continuous water monitoring data to the state** to document water quality, and ensure continued protection from pollutants, overuse and degradation



# OUTREACH & EDUCATION

## MEET THE TEAM



From left: Maddie Fox, Lisa Swanger, Jackie Knoll

## THE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Reached **1,600 people** (kids and adults alike) through its free, nature-based **Public Education Programs** hosted at the James Farm Ecological Preserve as well as at the Inland Bays Garden Center and Bayside, making it our **most successful year to date!**
- Continued to build meaningful connections with nature to inspire the next generation of environmental stewards. Our education team **led 85 programs reaching over 1,300 young learners from K-12 schools, community groups, clubs, and more!**
- **Launched a new 3-part Winter Lecture Series** in 2022-2023, covering diverse topics from oysters to marine debris to native plants, reaching a combined total of 221 people.
- Partnered with DNREC to host a successful **Water Family Fest & Native Plant Sale** in 2023, featuring an array of **hands-on environmental activities, exhibitor booths, a plant sale from local nurseries and more**, reaching a total of over 500 people.
- Hosted its **first-ever Teacher Open House to highlight its free educational offerings for K-12 students**. With interactive exhibit support provided by Delaware Sea Grant and tasty brews from Dewey Beer Co., the Center welcomed 26 teachers from across the state.

# WATERSHED & CONSERVATION

## THE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Awarded **\$454,000** in grant funds to **support restoration projects** and identified 3 new restoration projects, totaling **38 acres in the Inland Bays watershed**.
- Along with 31 other Center attendees, the team **represented the Center at the 2nd annual Conservation Day at Legislative Hall** in our state's capital.
- **100+ people engaged** at the Delmarva Chicken Festival
- Hosted the annual **Delaware Land Protection Coalition (DLPC) Retreat** in September and developed our goals for the upcoming legislative session. One significant goal includes targeting a new funding mechanism **to fund county and municipal land acquisition projects involving conservation partners**.
- Worked with DNREC's Division of Watershed Stewardship, to complete planning and source funding for **pollinator 'filter strips' on the Stockley Campus with installation set for the spring of 2024**.

## MEET THE TEAM:



From left: Bryanna Lisiewski, Michelle Koenig

## DEVELOPMENT

## MEET THE TEAM



Development team Mark Carter & Marina Feeser give away raffle prizes at the Center's first ever benefit concert starring Dar Williams, hosted by our friends at The Listening Booth.

*Photo by Ken Sigvardson*

## THE HIGHLIGHTS:

- As the beneficiary of the **Dogfish Dash**, the Center was the recipient of **\$70,000 in unrestricted funding** and **conveyed the Center's mission to over 2,000 people**.
- Created multiple new opportunities for **community engagement with the Center** to include hosting the **Green Screen Film Fest** and the **Stand Up for the Bays Paddle Race & Fest**, as well as partnering with area businesses for events like the **Dar Williams Benefit Concert with The Listening Booth** and multiple **Dine to Donate Nights at Dewey Beer Co., Dogfish Head Brewings & Eats, Surf Bagel, Crooked Hammock, Big Chill Beach Club & Big Chill Surf Cantina**.
- Reinvigorated relations with the **Bethany-Fenwick Chamber** through the **Bays Benefit at the Fire & Ice Festival** and becoming the **beneficiary of the Ocean to Bay Bike Tour's "Coastal Cruise"** ride category.
- Elevated the Center's participation in the **DoMore24 Delaware** campaign to raise in **excess \$10,000 in 24 hours** as well as tell the Center's story through multiple media outlets.

## ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

## THE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Most notably in 2023, the Admin program welcomed two new members to our team: **Christophe Tulou, Executive Director** and **Jaime Argo, Director of Finance**. We are so fortunate to have both of them supporting all aspects of the Center's work!
- As a **National Estuary Program**, the Center is subject to an evaluation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency every five years. This evaluation assesses our progress in implementing our Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) for the Inland Bays. We had our latest evaluation this year and received a determination of "Proficient," **which means we passed with flying colors!**
- A priority identified in our strategic plan for fiscal years 2023-25 was **increasing our efforts in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Environmental Justice, and Advocacy (DEIJA)**. To address this, our Board of Directors **created a DEIJA Committee, led by Dr. Marlene Saunders, our newest board member, and will hit the ground running in 2024** with three goals in mind: (1) to **assess the Center's current DEIJA efforts**, (2) **drive integration of DEIJA into all aspects of our work**, and (3) **lead accountability within the organization** around DEIJA. The committee's work will be supported by an expert consultant who will conduct assessments, deliver trainings, and help us develop a DEIJA plan for the future.

## MEET THE TEAM:



From left: Mary Hartnett, Jaime Argo, Christophe Tulou, Anna Fagan, Caitlin Chaney



**JUNE 2024**

PHOTO CREDIT: PAUL SYLVIA / HORSESHOE CRAB IN SURF /  
JAMES FARM PHOTO CHALLENGE WINNER

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

# DID YOU KNOW?

**Native plants** — they are abundant in nectar and pollen, low maintenance, generally pest-free, drought-tolerant, and have an ability to control erosion. They are good sources of food and shelter for wildlife, and naturally beautiful.



**1** NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

**2**

**3**

● NEW MOON

**4**

**5**

**6**

● NEW MOON

**7**

**8** WORLD OCEANS' DAY

**9**

**10**

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**12**

**13**

**14** FLAG DAY

**15**

**16** FATHERS' DAY  
EID AL-ADHA BEGINS

**17** NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK BEGINS

**18**

**19** JUNETEENTH

**20** INTERNATIONAL HORSESHOE CRAB DAY  
SUMMER SOLSTICE

**21**

○ FULL MOON

**22**

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**JULY 2024**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY	5 ● NEW MOON	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 ○ FULL MOON	22	23	24	25	26 CENTER'S 30 <sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY	27
28	29	30	31			



**AUGUST 2024**

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



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5 NATIONAL OYSTER DAY

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● NEW MOON

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○ FULL MOON

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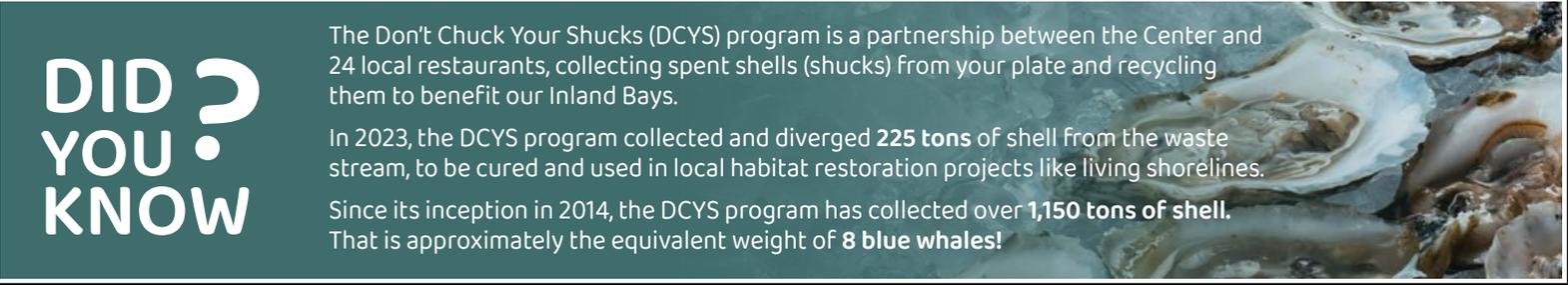
29

30

31



**SEPTEMBER 2024**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 LABOR DAY  ● NEW MOON	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 DECKED OUT	13	14
15 FESTIVAL HISPANO GEORGETOWN	16	17  ○ FULL MOON	18	19	20	21
22 AUTUMNAL EQUINOX	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 WORLD RIVERS DAY	30	 <p><b>DID YOU KNOW</b></p> <p>The Don't Chuck Your Shucks (DCYS) program is a partnership between the Center and 24 local restaurants, collecting spent shells (shucks) from your plate and recycling them to benefit our Inland Bays.</p> <p>In 2023, the DCYS program collected and diverged <b>225 tons</b> of shell from the waste stream, to be cured and used in local habitat restoration projects like living shorelines.</p> <p>Since its inception in 2014, the DCYS program has collected over <b>1,150 tons of shell</b>. That is approximately the equivalent weight of <b>8 blue whales!</b></p>				



**OCTOBER 2024**

PHOTO CREDIT: DICK SNYDER /  
SUMMER'S END / JAMES FARM  
PHOTO CHALLENGE WINNER

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1

2 ROSH HASHANAH BEGINS

3

4

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NEW MOON

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12 YOM KIPPUR

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14 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

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FULL MOON

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31 HALLOWEEN  
DIWALI BEGINS





**NOVEMBER 2024**

PHOTO CREDIT: RICHARD GIANNOLA /  
WHO GOES THERE / JAMES FARM  
PHOTO CHALLENGE (CONTRIBUTOR)

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



**LET'S CELEBRATE!**

Please join the Center staff and volunteers for our "Grateful Shellabration" at Camp Arrowhead by the Rehoboth Bay as we celebrate 30 years of working to protect, restore, and preserve our Inland Bays. Live music, oysters, food trucks, refreshing beverages, games, & more.

1

● NEW MOON

2 GRATEFUL SHELLABRATION & FRIENDS OF THE BAYS AWARD & VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

3

4

5 ELECTION DAY

6

7 RETURNS DAY

8

9

10 HORSESHOE CRAB HUSTLE RUN & WALK

11 VETERANS DAY

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13

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15 NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY DAY  
AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

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○ FULL MOON

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28 THANKSGIVING

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**DECEMBER 2024**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b>   NEW MOON	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> GIVING TUESDAY	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> DELAWARE DAY
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>   FULL MOON	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> WINTER SOLSTICE
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> CHRISTMAS EVE	<b>25</b> CHRISTMAS FIRST NIGHT OF HANUKKAH	<b>26</b> FIRST DAY OF KWANZAA	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>   NEW MOON	<b>31</b> NEW YEAR'S EVE	 <p>Please consider a year-end gift to help us keep protecting, restoring, and preserving <b>OUR</b> Inland Bays for generations to come.</p> <p>To donate: Please scan the QR code, use the included donation envelope, or visit <a href="http://inlandbays.org">inlandbays.org</a> to donate online.</p>			

# GRATITUDE REPORT

The following funds/donations were received during the 2023 Fiscal Year (10/2022–9/2023). Thank you to all donors/funders that wish to remain anonymous. If you believe there is an error, please contact the Center at your convenience.

## \$10,000 AND UP

Carl M. Freeman Foundation  
Dogfish Head Craft Brewery  
Lori and Craig Hardwick  
Austin F. Okie Rev Trust  
Ken and Susan Sigvardson

## \$5,000–\$9,999

Ashton Pools by Design  
Casella Waste Systems  
Collins Charitable Foundation  
Chesapeake Utilities  
Michael and Carolyn Curry  
Ecobay Kayak and SUP  
Linda Vista Real Estate  
Thomas and Nancy Sager  
United Distributors of DE, LLC  
United Way of Delaware

## \$2,500–\$4,999

Bethany-Fenwick Chamber of Commerce  
Del-Coast Design & Build  
Delmarva Power, an Exelon Company  
Espo Enterprises, Gerard L. Esposito  
La Vida Hospitality  
The Listening Booth  
Kim Parks and Sharon Denny  
The Sidley Austin Foundation  
Sussex Conservation District  
State of Delaware  
Truitt Environmental Solutions LLC  
Rich Weissmann and Patti Drago

## \$1,000–\$2,499

Accent on Travel  
Julie Anderson and Chris Strong  
Brent and Malinda Baker  
Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund  
Dennis Bartow  
Christopher Bason and Archer Larned  
Marc Bastow  
Stephen and Marjorie Bernhardt  
BFACC Community Fund of the  
Delaware Community Foundation

BioEnergy DevCo  
Bonbright Family Foundation Trust  
Pam Brown and Dawnel White  
Browseabout Books & Gifts  
Cape Gazette  
Pat Coluzzi and Dale Sheldon  
Coral Cove

DCM and MSM Charitable Fund  
Heather DeMarie  
James and Holly Dempsey  
Dewey Beach Lions Club  
Dewey Beer Co.

Lora Drewer  
Tom and Veronica Fishbein  
Marty Geier  
Debra Grafton  
Jim Gray  
Harbour

Harvey, Hanna & Associates  
Joseph and Mary Headman  
Jaime L. Howard

Eugene and Aimee Isaac  
The Martin Family Charitable Foundation, Inc.  
Piper Moffatt

Frank Miranda & MaryHelen Staruch  
George C. Murphy  
Steve & Ginger Nobles  
NRG Indian River Power Plant

Ocean Atlantic Sotheby's International Realty  
Jane O'Leary and Jonathan Ruckdeschel  
The Parker Real Estate Group LLC

Anne Powell, Realtor  
Robert and Patricia Ragan  
The Sierra-O'Connell Family Fund  
Claire and Michael Simmers  
Sovereign Consulting  
Target

Mildred H. and Ray A. Thompson Fund  
Christophe Tulou  
Andrew Twarowski  
Christopher Vanuga  
Village Improvement Association  
The Wallace Family  
Gail and Seth Warner  
Barbara and Bruce White

## \$500–\$999

The Air Products Foundation  
All Saints Parish Thrift Shop  
Velo Amis  
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