

The river does so much for us.

It's time to return the favor.

River Star Homes are a special group dedicated to making our river safe for swimming and eating oysters once again. It's easy and the rewards are so great! Join many Hampton Roads residents to make small changes that add up to a big difference.



River Star Homes follow 7 easy practices

Help us build a community engaged in these simple actions at home to restore the environmental quality of your river:

1. "SCOOP THE POOP"

after our dogs. When pet waste washes into the river, bacteria levels make swimming unsafe.



2. PROTECT STORM DRAINS

from grass clippings, leaves and oil. Storm drains lead to the river. Even leaves add excess nutrients that harm river life.



3. HELP GEESE MIGRATE

by not feeding them. Over-populations of geese mean too much poop in the river - and unsafe swimming.

4. DON'T FLUSH MEDICINES.

Treatment facilities can't remove medicines from sewage. Keep them out of the river by following safe disposal methods.

5. NO GREASE IN SINK.

Pouring grease down the kitchen sink can cause clogged drains, leading to sewer overflows - and raw sewage in the river.

6. PUMP OUT

boat sewage at proper facilities. When boats dump directly into the river, it adds to unswimmable conditions.



7. REDUCE FERTILIZERS

on our lawns. Over-fertilized lawns lead to algae blooms that choke river life.



Join the home team!

• Proudly display your River Star Home yard flag. It's free just for agreeing to seven simple actions you can take at home to bring back a healthy river.

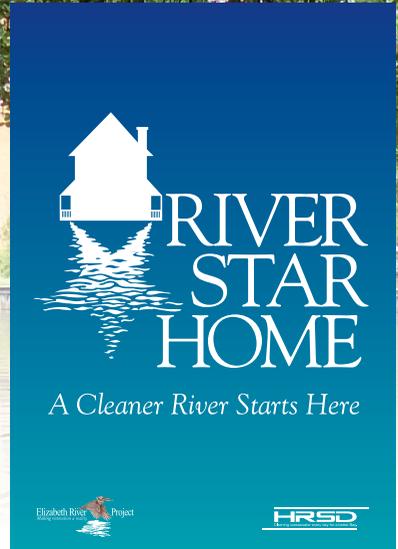
• Next will come helpful tips on how to do more, plus invitations to fun outdoor outings and workshops.

• Meet your neighbors, get outside to enjoy the river, and feel good about helping achieve a powerful legacy: a clean river!



Just fill out this form to become a River Star Home

Earn your free yard flag



Yes, I agree to do these few easy things to make my home a River Star Home. I will proudly display the River Star Home yard flag to show I'm part of this team effort.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

Turn this form in to a River Star Home representative, or mail to:
Elizabeth River Project
475 Water Street, Suite 103A
Portsmouth, VA 23704



Visit www.RiverStarHomes.org for more information, or call (757) 399-RIVR (399-7487).



photo by Kenn Jolemore

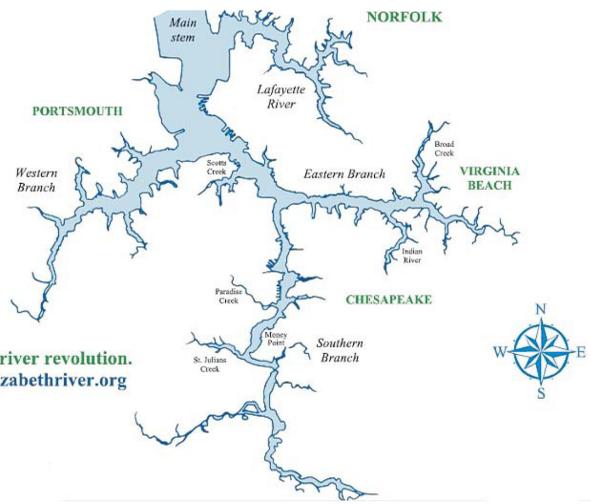


photo by Kenn Jolemore



The Elizabeth River Project

The Elizabeth River is one of the great urban harbors of the world. She's also home to 500,000 residents who today miss out on the benefits of a healthy river. Our bold goal: To make the Elizabeth River safe again for swimming and eating oysters by 2020. Our still bolder goal depends on you: Make the Lafayette branch of the Elizabeth "swimmable and fishable" by 2014.



Join the river revolution.
www.elizabethriver.org

Incorporated in 1993, the non-profit Elizabeth River Project has made great strides toward restoring the environmental health of your river through an award-winning collaboration with businesses, government and citizens.

River Star Businesses

Our first stars in river stewardship were businesses that began "doin' right by the river" in 1997. Since then, more than 80 River Star Businesses have reduced pollution voluntarily by 267 million pounds – and restored or conserved more than 1,100 acres of wildlife habitat. That's a big help – but it takes all of us to restore an urban river.



River Star Schools – and the Learning Barge

We've also recruited the younger generation. To date, 126 schools have completed hands-on river stewardship projects as River Star Schools. Since 2009, our Learning Barge has also offered students a unique experience aboard the world's first floating wetland classroom.

Now it's your turn – River Star Homes!

Join the home team. At last – a program just for you, with easy things you can do at home that make all the difference – now and for generations to come. Become a River Star Home today.

Make Your Home A Star!



A Cleaner River Starts Here



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