



Media Advisory

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Award from President Bush to be presented to Poplar Island Environmental Restoration Project Team

Baltimore – The Poplar Island Environmental Restoration Team will be honored as one of this year's recipients of the Coastal America Partnership Award. This award from President Bush will be presented to the project team comprised of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District and the State of Maryland during a special ceremony Nov. 3, 2003. The ceremony will be held at the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club, 500 Marina Club Road, Stevensville, Md., from 11 a.m. to noon with light refreshments provided.

John Paul Woodley, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, will present the award on behalf of President Bush and Coastal America. Col. Robert J. Davis, Jr., commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, will accept this award on behalf of the U.S. Army. Trent M. Kittleman, Deputy Secretary for the Maryland Department of Transportation, will accept the award on behalf of the State of Maryland. Other participants include U.S. Rep. Wayne T. Gilchrest and Rick Bennett, Regional Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Since the mid 1990s, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Maryland Port Administration and other federal and state agencies, and environmental organizations have supported the Poplar Island project, a dredged material beneficial-use placement site. Using dredged material from the approach channels to the Port of Baltimore, the Poplar Island team has successfully created more than 1,100 acres of upland, marsh and wetland habitat. Today, this habitat provides nesting areas for a variety of native wildlife species. For more information on Poplar Island visit the project's web site at **www.nab.usace.army.mil/projects/Maryland/PoplarIsland/index.html**.

The Coastal America Partnership Award recognizes outstanding team efforts to protect and restore coastal resources working through partnerships with federal, state and local governments, non-profit organizations and private industry. The assistant secretaries of the federal agencies in the Coastal America partnership select nominations for this award. More information on Coastal America is available at **www.coastalamerica.gov**.

The Chesapeake Bay Beach Club is located on Kent Island just across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. Directions from the bridge - take the first exit (#37), Route 8 Stevensville. Turn right off this exit (South), and then turn right at traffic light onto Pier One Road. Take the first left off Pier One Road and follow signage for Beach Club. For more information on the Beach Club, log onto **www.chesapeakebaybeachclub.com**.