

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
10 May 2018

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
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**Project Oyster:
A Mission to Improve Local Water Quality**

PENSACOLA – The Bream Fishermen Association (BFA) in partnership with the Pensacola Bay Oyster Company are working to improve water quality throughout Pensacola and Perdido Bays using oysters. Interested citizens, schools, and organizations are participating to learn more about these important filter feeders and the different surface waters they live in. With the receipt of the needed state permit, the next step in the Project Oyster Pilot (POP) study will begin.

The Project: Can hanging 75 oysters - living bio-filters in oyster cages off every dock really make a difference? An oyster can filter up to 50 gallons of water per day, could 75 oysters each filtering 50 gallons per day make a difference at your dock. Could oyster cages on each dock in a bayou make a bigger difference for that system? Let's find out!

Participants who attended the POP Workshop in Dec 2017 received the following information; including a short course on oysters, their care, their life cycle, along with everything you would need to know about the POP project. BFA Members evaluated the sites, collecting water quality information, depth and habitat types from registered participants.

Next Step: Citizens who attended the Dec 2017 POP Workshop and paid \$50 for kits are invited to pick up their instructional booklet, a calendar and rain gauge for recording information, an oyster cage along with 75 triploid baby oysters which will be counted, weighed and measured before deployment.

When:

Saturday, 12 May 2018
10:00 – 12:00 Noon

Where:

Miraflores Park (Boy Scout Bldg)
1615 East LaRua Street
Pensacola, FL 32501

Want to participate in the next workshop? Please join the BFA & Pensacola Bay Oyster Company in using oysters as bellwethers by participating on this program to encourage improvement of local water quality in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. To learn more about this program, please send an email to TheBreamFishermen@gmail.com and visit our website, www.BreamFishermen.org