What can I win?

The most valuable prize for everyone… a cleaner Chesapeake Bay!

By cleaning or upgrading your septic tank, you may also qualify to win:

Grand Prize:

One night stay for two at the Holiday Inn Select in Solomons and up to $250 reimbursement for the septic tank pump out or upgrade.

2nd Place Prize:

Reimbursement of up to $250 for the tank pump out or upgrade.

Other prizes may include:

* Prints from Carmen's Art Gallery
* Gift Certificates from local establishments like Merillat Pools, Twin Shields Golf Course, West Marine, DiGiovanni's Restaurant, etc.

PLUS! Some winners will receive free passes to County recreational facilities (Calvert Marine Museum, Flag Ponds State Park & Breezy Point Park).

Recent Sponsors

Calvert County Board of Commissioners

Calvert County Department of Community Planning & Building

Calvert County Natural Resources Division

Calvert County Environmental Commission

Calvert Marine Museum

Constellation Energy Group

Holiday Inn Select, Solomons

Merillat Pools

Twin Shields Golf Club, Inc.

University of Maryland – Chesapeake Biological Laboratory

West Marine

Ninth Annual

Septic System Pump-Out Contest

Pump out or upgrade your septic tank now and qualify to win cash or other great prizes at Patuxent River Appreciation Days

2013

October 12-13

The Calvert County Environmental Commission needs your help to clean up the Bay!

Why "Pump for the Bay?"

Too much of the nutrient nitrogen is polluting the Chesapeake Bay, Patuxent River and Solomons Harbor. This nitrogen increases the growth of algae. Algae clouds the water and prevents sunlight from reaching the rooted aquatic plants necessary for a healthy bay. When algae die, the decomposition process uses up oxygen that fish, crabs, and other marine life need to live. Together, these factors create poor water quality and dead zones.

We all use the water in Calvert County– we swim, sail, fish, catch crabs, use motorboats, and more! It's important to keep our water clean because a healthy bay means a healthy Calvert County.

What does this have to do with my septic tank?

Sewage contributes up to 25% of the excess nitrogen in Solomons Harbor. Even when operating properly, traditional septic tanks do not treat for nitrogen. It is released into groundwater and eventually enters the Bay. You can help reduce this nitrogen pollution by pumping your septic tank out more frequently (every three to five years) or switching to a model that converts nitrogen to gas that enters the atmosphere rather than the groundwater. Every little bit helps!

What's in it for me to pump or upgrade?

- You will be helping clean up the waters of Calvert County.
- There will be more fish and crabs.
- You could win money to offset the cost of pumping/improving your septic tank.
- You could win prizes and gift certificates donated by local businesses that care about the Bay.
- By emptying your septic tank more frequently, you might avoid the high cost of repairing a failed septic system.

Who's eligible to win?

Any resident of Calvert County who pumps or upgrades their septic tank between the dates of October 8, 2012 and October 10, 2013.

When's the drawing?

The drawing will be held at the October Environmental Commission meeting. Winners will be notified by letter.

To find out more about the Environmental Commission, go to www.co.cal.md.us.

To find out more about PRAD, go to www.pradinc.org.

How do I enter?

Upgrade to a nitrogen-removing tank with a Bay Restoration Fund grant (call 410-535-1600, ext. 2338 for more information) or hire a company to pump-out your septic tank.

– Send a copy of your bill/receipt along with the entry form below to:

**"Pump for the Bay" Contest
Department of Community
   Planning & Building
150 Main Street
Prince Frederick, MD 20678**

Entries must be received by the Dept. of Community Planning & Building no later than **4:00 p.m. on Thursday, **October 10, 2013.**

**For additional information call:
410-535-1600 ext. 2338**

Entry Form:

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone: _____

Email:_____

Date of Service:_____

Company Used:_____