



2022 CRAB Cup Clean Regatta Report



Elimination of Single Use Items

1. Eliminate Single Use Water Bottles and Provide Two Water Refill Stations

On the water, the EYC Race Committee (RC) is a strong proponent of using reusable non-plastic water bottles for races. Each Committee boat brings a five gallon water container to refill water bottles. The RC encourages racers to adopt this practice during all of its regatta by promoting it in Sailing Instruction #16 for each event which states: “This is a Clean Regatta; all competitors are strongly encouraged to use multi-use water bottles.... and to recycle whenever possible.” Committee boats also refill water bottles for racers while on the water during a race. EYC is the only club in our area to offer this service.

On shore, EYC provided a stationary metered water refill station that is widely used by all club members. In addition, EYC provided a second transportable water refill station on the lawn where the after-party was held. The week of the CRAB Cup, the stationary water refill station registered 50,000 bottles of water filled since its installation in 2019. EYC has adopted a policy of “no single use plastic”. For the 2022 CRAB Cup, our local community environmental organization, Annapolis Green, provided its Naptown Tap movable refill water station for use during the party, and EYC is in the process of purchasing the station from them for future use on the lawn. Annapolis Green provided signage for this station and brochures explaining its various green missions in the Annapolis area, including its Responsible Events and Festivals (Green REF) program which help event organizers reduce landfill waste by encouraging attendees to recycle and compost. EYC already promotes Zero-Waste regatta events with the aim of not sending one single scrap of waste to the landfill.



2. Eliminate Plastic Straws

EYC does not allow plastic straws on site. If a straw is requested, a biodegradable straw is provided.

3. Serve All Food with Plastic-Free Compostable Dinnerware/Plates

At the CRAB Cup post-race party, the Boatyard Bar & Grill served all food on compostable dinnerware, napkins, and cutlery. Mount Gay Rum provided compostable cups for the 500+ people attending the after-party.



4. Use or Provide Reusable Bags

EYC uses compostable liner bags for all of its trash/recycle/compost cans throughout the day and during the after-party. We provided three stations with three cans each at the party, placed in strategic locations outside on the lawn. The Race Committee used reusable shopping bags or cooler bags to transport lunches on the Committee boats for races. The RC purchased cookies in bulk and repackaged the cookies in reusable containers for lunches on the water. Chips were purchased in individual bags that were collected from members for recycling. For the 2022 CRAB Cup, various swag (Mount Gay hats, T-shirts, etc.) were handed out to each skipper in reusable bags as part of their entry fee.

5. Award Practical Items or Use a Perpetual or Up-Cycled Trophy

All awards for the race were practical. Handsome glassware was awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners of each class, and CRAB hats and Helly Hansen sailing jackets were awarded to the winners of the Skippers' Challenge for their outstanding fundraising efforts. In addition, the stunning Triple Crown of Charity Trophy is presented to the winning skipper who participated in all three major charity regattas in Annapolis (CRAB Cup, Leukemia Cup and Hospice Cup). The trophy is a perpetual recycled US Power Squadron Trophy from Baltimore.



Community Involvement

6. Publicize Your Sustainability Efforts

EYC's sustainable efforts are publicized in our clubhouse and on the grounds with signage and also on our website. The Sailing Instructions contain the SFTS logo at the top of the first page. A prominent sign entitled "Are You Green? We Are!" at the entrance to our marina that reminds our members and guests of our commitment to the environment and the Bay and asks them to join us. During each regatta, competitors, event participants, sponsors, and guests are informed that we are a Green Club, and we proudly fly our SFTS flag and display SFTS banners and burgees so that everyone is aware that we have a Clean Regatta policy. Many sponsors and partners join us in our efforts. At the 2022 CRAB Cup, one of our major sponsors, Mount Gay, posted large red banners with an environmental message above the event stage and across the upper deck of the clubhouse which stated, "Together we can end the ocean plastic crisis." The signage was seen by the 500 participants who attended the CRAB Cup shore festivities and by tens of thousands who saw the CRAB Cup Media.



7. Involve Local Organizations

The Annapolis community is very involved in the CRAB Cup. There were a total of 50 sponsors for the 2022 CRAB Cup, most of them local. At the CRAB Cup, EYC promoted the importance of Citizen Science to Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts by providing educational display boards describing the club's oyster recovery efforts over the years. These efforts include providing oyster triangles with living spat and placed on a wave attenuation wall by divers; and oyster cages growing spat that, when mature, are placed on designated oyster reefs in local rivers. The club is an active member of the Marylanders Grow Oysters-Severn River Program.



In addition, the EYC Foundation set up display boards describing their efforts to educate over 90 fifth grade students in June through their STEM Sailing and Boating Program. Each class spent a day at EYC learning about tides, navigation, wind, mechanical advantage, and ecosystem health. Then each student puts these skills to the test on the water.



Finally, as indicated earlier in this report, Annapolis Green closely partnered with EYC efforts by lending the club portable water re-fill stations known as Naptown Tap, and setting up various educational display boards to educate the public about their green efforts around the town of Annapolis. Through each organizations' outreach efforts via newsletters, media posts, and outreach efforts, the CRAB Cup community had widespread awareness of efforts to keep this regatta clean.



8. Post Educational and Reusable Signage

EYC has permanently posted educational signage in and around our clubhouse and grounds including the "Are you Green" sign mentioned earlier, and a "Clean Marina" plaque that announces we are a certified Maryland Clean Marina. Additional SFTS stickers are located on the grounds and in the clubhouse. A permanent display board for the Environmental Committee exist on the first floor of the club where we proudly display all of our regatta certifications from Sailors for the Sea.



During the regatta event, reusable educational compost and recycle signs are posted by the respective waste bins. Reusable SFTS corporate sponsor banners were displayed in the CRAB Cup event tent and around the perimeter of the clubhouse.

9. Serve Local Food or Source Sustainable Seafood

EYC has a policy to serve locally sourced food as much as possible and strives to serve sustainable seafood when on the menu. The Boatyard Bar & Grill, which is the founding sponsor of the CRAB Cup, orders food from vendors that support the sustainable seafood initiative.

10. Organize a Green Team

EYC has a standing Environmental Committee which supports our Clean Regatta efforts. Every year the “Green Team” raises the Sailors for the Sea flag at the beginning of the season. For the 2022 CRAB Cup, Jan O’Connor and Peggy Donald served as the on-site Clean Regatta coordinators. Ann Powers and Jason Simpson were Green Ambassadors on the water working with the Race Committee and also during the party. Many more volunteers operated as Green Ambassadors, posted at the three different compost/recycle stations. Dan McQuay, EYC General Manager, and his staff supported our efforts to ensure a successful and clean regatta party.



11. Ensure Proper Waste Bin Placement And Storage

Eco-stations with compost and recycle bins were placed at several prominent locations for the event. Reusable signage with examples of the event dinnerware and possible waste products were displayed on the signs. Staff and environmental committee volunteers helped event participants determine what was compostable versus recyclable. Since there was no single use plastic, most of the waste went into the compostable bins.

12. Divert Food Waster From The Landfill

During the CRAB event, all food waste was diverted from the landfill and sent to a reputable local commercial facility for processing in an environmentally friendly manner.

13. Use Paperless Event Management

The EYC RC employs on-line registration for its regattas as well as payments via PayPal. Race documents are posted on-line via an electronic bulletin board for competitors to access. EYC no longer posts paper copies of documents on a physical bulletin board at the club. 2022 post-race 'protest hearings' were virtual and conducted via ZOOM or teleconference. Racers filled out and filed protest documents electronically. The RC Co-Chair also submits check requests to the club electronically.

Environmental Stewardship

14. Host a Beach and Marina Cleanup

On the day of the CRAB Regatta, there was no beach or marina clean-up. However, during the summer, EYC staff and Grounds and Green Committee members pick up trash when they walk around EYC's property and marina. EYC members are encouraged to pick up trash when out boating on the Bay. We encourage our members to make a difference to improve the quality of Chesapeake Bay.

15. Promote Alternative Transportation

EYC encourages alternate transportation. The club has good bike racks on the grounds and pedestrian friendly side walks that connect the eco-friendly community of Eastport and historic Annapolis. Many of the EYC members and event participants who are local just walk to the club rather than drive. The club also provides guest slips and kayak/canoe/paddleboard floating docks and racks for members and guests who want to come by water.

During the holidays, we have a boat parade known as the EYC Lights Parade and a Lighted Bike Parade which is coordinated by our Waterfront and Junior Sailing Coordinator.



16. Increased Awareness of Wildlife and Habitat Protection

The club is an active steward of the Chesapeake Bay in many ways. Our oyster initiatives include: oyster gardening with cages, an on-site oyster reef under our docks which attenuate wave action in the marina (i.e. a living wave wall), and the recycling of oyster shells for Bay conservation efforts. We place mature oysters that have been raised in our cages on designated conservation reefs located in the Severn River. Divers use SUPs to annually place spat covered concrete triangles on the EYC oyster reef wave wall. We also collect/recycle discarded oyster shells to create new oyster habitat. An Oyster RecoveryZone sign located in EYC's marina describes the club's initiative to support Maryland's Oysters Program.





Our water quality monitoring program evaluates trends and helps us determine if our water is safe for swimming and water sports. We also educate our members on environmental issues, reach out to our relevant communities and abide by best practices to organize clean regattas and ensure a green clubhouse, grounds and marina. An important component of our environmental program is our outreach efforts to EYC members and the Annapolis community. Our in-person and virtual EYC 2022 environmental lecture series is educational and informative. We engage both members and nonmembers throughout the winter and spring in substantive issues including climate change, bay restoration and local environmental action. We collaborate with our partners on “Kids on the Creek Day,” when we take children out on volunteer boats to learn about Spa Creek and the bay.



To celebrate spring, we decorated the EYC clubhouse with displays highlighting our initiatives and hosted a special Earth Day event about Annapolis Bay Stewardship. Leaders from Spa Creek Conservancy, Severn River Association, Arundel Rivers Federation and Anne Arundel County Watershed Stewards Academy spoke at the event and set up informative tables. Club members who own EV and Hybrid cars placed their vehicles on display and answered questions.

17. Offer Vegetarian or Vegan Alternatives

Boatyard Bar and Grill provided a vegan menu along with the regular menu at the post-race party. EYC offers vegetarian and vegan meals in the dining room and at events.

18. Use Eco-Smart Boating Management Techniques

CRAB Cup 2022 was a very eco-friendly regatta. We promoted eco-smart boating techniques for the participants. The event was paperless with sailing instructions, notices, amendments, and communications distributed electronically. Registration for the race and post-race party was conducted on-line. The RC used refillable water bottles and had refill water stations on committee boats. Upon request, racers' water bottles were refilled.

To address energy concerns, committee boats anchored and turned their engines off. In addition, only committee boats with diesel or efficient four stroke engines are used for clean regattas at EYC. The entire CRAB fleet of 22A sailboats operated with eco-friendly propane gas.

19. Prevent Toxins from Entering the Water

EYC was the first yacht club in Maryland to be designated a Clean Marina. We renew our certifications every year by maintaining practices that ensure toxins do not enter the water. We have oil spill clean up equipment and response procedures in our marina. We also maintain a pump out facility for waste. Our porous concrete parking lot, rain barrels and landscaping minimizes runoff into the bay.

20. Encourage Green Boating Practice.

The 2022 CRAB Cup Regatta was governed by Racing Rules of Sailing. In particular, Rule 47 provides: "Competitors and support persons shall not intentionally put trash in the water." Event participants were notified that the race was a clean regatta and were encouraged to follow Sailors for the Sea best

practices. SFTS Signage and Best Practices informative flyers were available for all participants. In addition, Green Boating practices are actively encouraged on site at EYE through signage, displays, electronic communications, program activities and environmentally educated members.