

PORT CURRENTS

THE PORT OF VIRGINIA'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to The Port of Virginia's new community newsletter

Welcome to the most recent edition of Port Currents, a quarterly newsletter about what is happening at America's most modern port. Being a good neighbor in our host communities is important and we believe that communicating with you is essential to long-term success. Thus, this quarterly publication is one means of helping you stay informed about the projects and initiatives underway at our terminals.

Port Milestones

The Port of Virginia continues to be an industry leader in innovation and operational excellence. Read more about the port's latest accomplishments below.

Clean Ports Grant

The Port of Virginia is moving closer to its goal of eliminating all greenhouse gas emissions by 2040 thanks to a recently announced multi-million-dollar federal grant that will be used to buy electric equipment and the infrastructure needed to support it. In October, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that The Port of Virginia is receiving \$380 million from the EPA's Clean Ports grant program. The grant money will be used to buy and install electric assets and equipment while retiring legacy equipment powered by engines that burn gasoline or diesel fuel. Using the grant, the port will retire more than 150 pieces of legacy equipment. Most of that equipment is at Norfolk International Terminals (NIT), but there will also be equipment replacement at Richmond Marine Terminal (RMT). Further, the grant will allow the port to forgo renewing the lease for some legacy equipment at RMT. All of the retired units will be replaced with new battery-electric equipment; the old units will be scrapped for recycling. The port's grant application was supported by US Sens. Mark R. Warner, Tim M. Kaine (both D-VA) and US Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA-03).

Emergency Response Summit

The Port of Virginia hosted the second annual National Port Partner Emergency Response Summit in early November. The summit brought together approximately 200 attendees from across the United States, Canada, and England, creating a collaborative platform to share best practices for planning and responding to maritime emergencies. Participants engaged in discussions and training focused on fostering an all-hazards mindset, enhancing port community preparedness and response capabilities, and protecting critical port infrastructure and national security. Additionally, the summit emphasized strategies for safeguarding the national supply chain, ensuring its resilience in the face of potential disruptions. This event underscored the importance of international collaboration and knowledge-sharing to strengthen maritime emergency response on a global scale.



Approximately 200 first responders, industry experts, port representatives, and community leaders from across the globe attended the summit.

Environmental Awards

The Port of Virginia will receive its 23rd consecutive River Star Business Award from the Elizabeth River Project (ERP), a regional non-profit that focuses on protecting the river and its watershed through supporting and promoting sustainable development and redevelopment, shoreline restoration and education. In addition, the port will also receive the Norfolk Innovation Corridor's inaugural Resilience Award.



Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Living Shoreline Project

The Port of Virginia is proud to have partnered with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the City of Hampton, and Amazon to complete a 158-foot living shoreline at Bluebird Gap Farm earlier this month. Overall, more than 100 volunteers across the multiple organizations worked together on the living shoreline project that will help improve the overall health of the Chesapeake Bay. In total, volunteers installed more than 1,000 native plants.

What are living shorelines? They are a sustainable, natural approach to protecting tidal shoreline from erosion. Living shorelines utilize native wetland plants, grasses, shrubs, trees, and other natural materials to create a better shoreline habitat for wildlife. The projects also improve water quality by settling sediment and filtering pollution.

The Port of Virginia and Amazon each committed \$100,000 to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation project, supporting the Bluebird Gap Farm Living Shoreline project entirely and additional Virginia shoreline restoration initiatives in the coming months including oyster restoration efforts.



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Exporting Smiles

The Port of Virginia and Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) co-hosted the 4th Annual Exporting Smiles Tournament earlier this month at Top Golf Virginia Beach. The event raised more than \$91,000 to benefit Operation Smile, a Virginia-based global charity that provides free cleft surgery and related medical care to those who need it most. A special thank you goes out to the event's 18 sponsors and more than 175 attendees.

Terminal Updates

An update on our operations and infrastructure projects.

New Ship-To-Shore Crane Arrival

In early November, The Port of Virginia welcomed the arrival of the first of four new ship-to-ship cranes to be installed at Virginia International Gateway in Portsmouth, further expanding the port's big ship capabilities. These new 170-foot cranes will double the amount of berth spaces available for ultra-large containers vessels at the terminal. Upon completion of our \$1.4B Gateway Investment Program in 2027, The Port of Virginia will have a total of 33 electric ship-to-shore cranes across all terminals.

GO-Zero Program

The first truck purchased under the port's GO-Zero Program is now operational. Givens, a leader in third-party (3PL) logistics and supply chain solutions, debuted introduced their first CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) tractor into service in late November. The GO-Zero program is an initiative created to help reduce the amount of air pollution from drayage trucks, or motor carriers, in the Commonwealth of Virginia and to provide funds for partners to purchase zero-emissions (ZEV) and near-zero emission (NZEV) drayage trucks. The port recently announced the second round of awards for the program.



Givens, a leader in third-party (3PL) logistics and supply chain solutions, debuted introduced their first CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) tractor into service in late November. (Photo Credit: Givens)

Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Project

Progress continues at America's most capable offshore wind hub. In late October, Dominion Energy successfully completed its first season of monopile installations for the Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) project, the largest offshore wind farm under construction in the US. The Port of Virginia has invested \$220 million to transform Portsmouth Marine Terminal into an offshore wind hub to support the project and this growing industry. Upon completion in 2026, the CVOW project will power up to 660,000 homes, save Virginia customers \$3 billion in costs, and add to Virginia's diverse energy mix.

Annual Stormwater Training

In early December, The Port of Virginia hosted its annual stormwater training for all port tenants. The training reviewed spill response and best practices to avoid stormwater pollution entering local waterways.



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