

December 12th, 2024



MATTAPONI TRIBAL OFFICE NEWSLETTER

Federal Recognition Update

On November 7th, 2024, Chief Mark, Tribal Council members, five previous Federal Recognition Petition Office staff, three Kenah consultants, and our Attorney delivered the Mattaponi Indian Tribe and Reservation's Petition to the Office of Interior in Washington, D.C. And met with the Director of the Office of Federal Acknowledgment and several representatives.

Goals and Objectives were met at the end of the 36-month period of the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) awarded grant.

Grant administrative activities included completed applications, creation of multiple trackers for enrollment, archival, and collection documentation, progress and budget reporting, monthly grantee meetings, to name a few project initiatives.

Chief Mark and the Mattaponi Tribal Council would like to "Thank the Petition team who worked diligently on our tribal Petition over the past 3- years. Also, the Chief and Council would like to "Thank anyone who participated in oral interviews, collection, archival activities, and anyone who contributed to our tribal success in completing this project".



Tribal Council Election

This is a notification that the Mattaponi Tribal Council Election will be coming up soon. According to the Mattaponi Indian Tribe's Constitution, three Tribal Council members and Assistant Chief will be voted on by lineal tribal resident citizens. Guidelines will be forth coming to residents who are eligible to vote.

All Mattaponi Indian Enrolled Tribal Citizens

With so many projects and initiatives taking place with our Tribal affairs, it has been difficult to conduct a virtual meeting with all tribal enrolled citizens of the Mattaponi Indian Tribe. Please continue to read our online newsletters, updates on our Facebook page, website, and any source that the Mattaponi Indian Tribe & reservation (official) is communicating updates. In time, the Chief and Council will conduct a virtual meeting with all lineal Mattaponi enrolled tribal citizens and discuss updates and ongoing happenings with our tribe.

Opportunity for Artists

The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown is inviting artists to submit their works related to the American Revolution for the "Fresh Views of the American Revolution" exhibit. Artists can submit up to three pieces, with each selected work receiving a \$500 honorarium. The works will be displayed on a loan basis, and applications are due by January 5th, 2025. For full details, interested participants should visit the link provided in the flyer.

Friendly Reminder:

Resident Town Meetings

Mattaponi tribal residents monthly meeting held the 3rd Thursday of each month.

Commemorating America's 250th Through Contemporary Voices

American Revolution
MUSEUM AT YORKTOWN

"Fresh Views of the American Revolution"
October 18, 2025 - May 3, 2026

Call for Professional Artist Submissions
Due Sunday, January 5, 2025

Seeking 50 Original Visual Artworks
Curated by Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Exhibition Staff

Selected Artists:

- \$500 Honorarium Per Piece, up To 3 Works Per Artist
- 7 Month Exhibition With Catalogue

Displayed With 15 Paintings by Oscar de Mejo From the Permanent Collection

Organized by Five Themes:
Power
Determination
Choice and Change
Liberty
Memory

Exhibited at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown
Installed by Museum Staff in the Special Exhibitions Gallery

The Boston Massacre, 1770, by Oscar de Mejo, 1973

JYF Welcomes Artists To Learn More and Submit Work
jyfmuseums.org/events/special-exhibits/fresh-views



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MATTAPONI ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE NEWSLETTER

November's Water Monitoring

Water monitoring was collected from our Mattaponi River on November 6th, for high tide monitoring and again on November 19th, for low tide monitoring.

We will be collecting December's water monitoring samples on Wednesday, December 4th from 12pm-2pm for our high tide monitoring and again on Monday, December 9th from 12pm-2pm for our low tide monitoring. If a tribal citizen would like to help with completing our monthly water samples, please visit the Environmental Office on that scheduled day. All supplies will be provided, please allow 2 hours of your time.

November 6th - High Tide Monitoring

- Air Temperature – 27.5°C / 81.5°F
- Dissolved Oxygen – 6.8 and 6.8
- pH Level – 6.89
- Salinity - 0.0
- Water Clarity - 30
- Water Temperature – 18.2°C / 64.76°F
- Rain Fall past 7 days – 0
- Rain Fall past 48 hours – 0

November 19th – Low Tide Monitoring

- Air Temperature - 15.8°C / 60.44°F
- Dissolved Oxygen – 7.8 and 7.8
- pH Level – 5.46
- Salinity - 2.0
- Water Clarity - 42
- Water Temperature – 14.0°C / 57.2°F
- Rain Fall past 7 days – 34.544 mm / 1.36 inch
- Rain Fall past 48 hours – 0

Update on the Mattaponi Shoreline Restoration Project

The final report for the archaeological study has been completed and submitted to the relevant agencies for review. Once they have reviewed the report and provided any feedback, the Environmental Department will be able to move forward with obtaining the necessary permits and beginning the initial stages of construction.

Fall Tree Giveaway

The Chief and Tribal Council, and the Environmental Department would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all citizens who participated in this year's Fall Tree Giveaway. Despite a minor setback, including a few species being removed from the list due to their inability to thrive, and adjustments to the number of trees each participant could receive, the event was a great success! We are proud to announce that we were still able to give away 108 trees, providing them with new homes to be planted. We are grateful to the Friends of the Rappahannock/York River Steward for allowing us to be a part of this wonderful opportunity. We look forward to the spring giveaway and continuing our efforts to support environmental sustainability!

A few trees are still available for pickup at the Environmental Office. They will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. If you are interested in any of the trees listed below, please contact Tammy Heath at tammy.heath@mattaponination.com or can visit the office Monday through Thursday from 8:30 am to 4 pm.

Trees that are still available

- 4 - WHITE OAKS
- 4 - EASTERN RED BUDS
- 5 - RIVER BIRCH



HAPPY PLANTING



Caroline County Water Intake/Discharge Project Updates

Previously mentioned in the October tribal newsletter, the permit to withdraw 7.9 million gallons per day (mgd), with a maximum of 13.9 mgd, of water from the Rappahannock River to supply the Caroline County data center project has been suspended. In response to this, a new study will be submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) proposing a revised withdrawal of 5.1 mgd, with a maximum of 7.9 mgd, to support the project.

A DEQ board meeting has been scheduled for December 4th, 2024, to discuss these updates. The Environmental Department will attend this meeting and then share the updates with tribal members during the next monthly Tribal meeting and in the December Newsletter.

In addition to ongoing discussions regarding the water discharge permit, there has been no further information provided about a second public hearing for the discharge permit related to the recycled and treated wastewater being released into the Mattaponi River. The first public hearing was held on September 25th, and the comment period for the discharge permit closed on October 11th.

