

Photos taken over three years show the use of a living shoreline strategy to protect an eroding shoreline at the Captain Sinclair's Recreation Area in Gloucester County.

Photos: Shoreline Studies Program, Virginia Institute of Marine Science.



2015



2016



2017

VIRGINIA SHORELINE EROSION ADVISORY SERVICE

For more information, visit
www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil-and-water/seas
or contact a SEAS engineer at:

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SEAS is a program of the Virginia
Department of Conservation and Recreation.



The Virginia **Shoreline Erosion Advisory Service**, or SEAS, was established in 1980 to help private landowners and localities in Virginia with shoreline erosion problems. Services are free of charge in tidal and non-tidal areas of the state.

STAFF CAN PROVIDE:

- Site investigation and analysis.
- Technical assistance.
- Written advisory reports.
- Construction plan review.
- Construction inspections.
- Information and education.



Some Virginia shorelines have historic erosion rates of up to 30 feet per year. If left unmanaged, shoreline erosion can cause a loss of productive land, a drop in property values and a buildup of nutrients and sediment in the water. In the worst cases, shoreline erosion can cause injury or loss of life.

Upon request, SEAS staff will evaluate your shoreline and recommend actions tailored for the property. These recommendations can result in a properly designed and built solution that will provide better shoreline protection, last longer and minimize negative impacts to adjacent properties and the environment.

Wave energy is the main cause of shoreline erosion. The best strategies to prevent shoreline erosion should be tailored to site conditions at each property. Prevention strategies can include:



Low wave energy environments
Establishment or enhancement of existing vegetation.



Medium wave energy environments
Vegetation plus some type of structural control.



Large wave energy environments
Structural controls.

There are advantages and disadvantages to any shoreline erosion control strategy. SEAS staff will help you choose the best fit for your site — one that meets your goals for the property.