



Maryland's Oyster Industry: Past, Present And Future by Johnny Shockley, 7 February 2015

Johnny Shockley is Co-owner/founder of Hooper's Island Oyster Aquaculture Company located in Fishing Creek, MD. He is a 3rd Generation Waterman, growing up on Hooper's Island and working in all the major seafood industries on the Chesapeake Bay including the Crab, fish and oyster industries. He made the switch to oyster aquaculture in 2009 after the state of Maryland allowed individuals to lease water column from the state to grow oysters.

Hooper's Island Oyster Aquaculture Company (HIOAC) is designed to support the growing oyster aquaculture industry in the state of Maryland. HIOAC manufactures a line of equipment ranging from upwellers used for seed grow out to specialized boats and tumbling equipment used to process and handle a large amount of oysters and cages used for grow out. In addition to equipment, HIOAC currently grows two varieties of oysters, Chesapeake Golds and Holy Grails, which can be found in restaurants and whole foods stores throughout the country.



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