FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Solomons Co-op
Media Contact: Ted Haynie
Release Date: November 9, 2027

The Magic of Chesapeake Bay Skipjacks Comes to Solomons October 9, 2027



Skipjack photography by Glenn Thompson

After more than 60 years, a skipjack sailing race is returning to Solomons Island.

There will be opportunities to step aboard these living pieces of Chesapeake Bay history and heritage, meet the watermen who sail these vessels, and hear their stories. Skipjack Heritage Day will join Calvert Marine Museum's Patuxent River Appreciation Day (PRAD) and Solomons Island's Shuck It! Oyster Trail to create an amazing day in our Southern Maryland community.

SOLOMONS, Md. — The magic of the Chesapeake Bay's historic skipjack fleet is coming back to Solomons on October 9, 2027. The Solomons Co-op and Calvert Marine Museum invite residents and visitors to join in this celebration of Solomons history and heritage.

Join us in giving a warm Solomons welcome to the captains and crews who keep this remarkable maritime tradition alive. Tour these historic wooden vessels, meet the captains, and hear firsthand stories of decades spent working the Chesapeake Bay's winter oyster season. Their accounts of cold mornings, changing winds, and life on the water offer a personal connection to the people and traditions that helped shape our region.

Then gather along the Solomons Riverwalk to watch a traditional skipjack race on the Patuxent River, with the fleet sailing toward the Thomas Johnson Bridge with sails raised against the autumn sky. These working vessels will bring a memorable piece of Chesapeake history to our waterfront.

Maryland's official state boat, the skipjack, represents generations of boatbuilding knowledge, sailing skill, and working-on-the-water heritage. Skipjack Heritage Day offers an opportunity to experience that heritage through the vessels themselves and the people who care for and sail them.

The Solomons event will also serve as the final stop in the 2027 Triple Crown of Skipjack Racing, connecting Deal Island, Cambridge, and Solomons in a shared celebration of the Bay's living maritime traditions.

"Skipjacks are living history," says Susan Schneider, organizer with Skipjacks Heritage, Inc. **"They're iconic to our region, and this festival offers a rare chance to experience them up close in a place like Solomons that understands the importance of oysters for our community."**

Bring family and friends, explore the waterfront festivities, and help welcome the skipjack fleet to Solomons for a day of oysters, storytelling, and sail.

Vessel tour times, the race schedule, and additional visitor information will be announced closer to the event.

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