## **Senate Bill 168 - SUPPORT**

## Senate Bill 168 - Environment Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment "Environmental Justice in Confined Aquatic Disposal Act"

My name is Susan Greene. I live in the waterfront community of Nabbs and Stoney Creek in Northern Anne Arundel County. I moved to Maryland from New Hampshire three years ago and have grown to love the natural beauty, the abundant seafood, and the joy of the Stoney Creek area. I am the mother of three adult children and a grandmother. I believe that one of the most important things that we can do for our children and grandchildren is to leave them a beautiful, healthy environment.

The Confined Aquatic Disposal (CAD) project by the Maryland Port Authority would lead to dumping of dredge material contaminated with heavy metals, petroleum, PFAs, and other toxic forever chemicals over a 20-acre area off of Stoney Creek. The Maryland Port Authority plans to expand this 20-acre site to an area of up to 220 acres moving towards Fort Smallwood at the mouth of Stoney Creek.

I am concerned about impact of the CAD project on

- water quality in the Patapsco River, Stoney Creek, and Rock Creek being affected by the scraping of sand off the dump site, dumping the dredge material, and leaving the CAD site uncovered.
- aquatic plant life that will be devastated by the dredge sediment deposited on the CAD site and the sediment that then drifts throughout the mouth of the Patapsco River, Stoney Creek, Nabbs Creek, Rock Creek and nearby areas of the Chesapeake Bay
- marine wildlife (fish, crabs, oysters, and other species) living in and around the CAD dump site as well as the recreational and commercial fishing in the area
- the birds, other animals, and people that feed on the aquatic plant life and marine wildlife that are impacted by the dredge dumping
- recreational use and potential health problems due to contact (swimming, boating, water sports, etc) with contaminated water
- noise and disruption to the Patapsco River and Stoney Creek areas related to the disposal operation

It is important that environmental justice is supported in pollution-overburdened communities near the Patapsco River and that the river, its waterways, and communities near these waterways are not subjected to further pollution risks posed by Confined Aquatic Disposal of dredge material. I **STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 168** which will address longstanding environmental injustices on the Patapsco and protect pollution-impacted communities and waterways from further pollution caused by Confined Aquatic Disposal.

Sincerely,

Susan Greene - Nabbs and Stoney Creek