

# GALVESTON BAY

## Oyster Shell Recycling Program

**Galveston Bay Foundation's** Oyster Shell Recycling Program promotes sustainable, native oyster populations that clean and filter our bay waters, provide habitat for fishery species, and stabilize the bay bottom. For restaurants, this program provides waste-hauling cost savings, a positive "green" image, and exposure to new customers.



### Did You Know...

*One oyster can filter up to 50 gallons of water in a single day!*

[www.galvbay.org](http://www.galvbay.org)

# Why Recycle Oyster Shell?

- Oysters help improve water quality, provide essential fisheries habitat, and support the local economy
- Galveston Bay lost an estimated 50% of its consolidated oyster reefs as a result of Hurricane Ike in 2008
- Reclaimed (recycled) oyster shell can be used to restore oyster reef habitat
- Local restaurants can recycle much of the necessary shell to restore reefs in Galveston Bay

## How Can You Help?

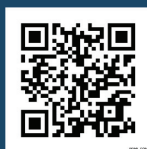
- Contact the Galveston Bay Foundation to find out about oyster shell recycling and restoration volunteer opportunities
- Visit restaurants that participate in the oyster shell recycling program and serve local oysters. Encourage restaurants you visit to participate in the program
- Educate friends and family about the importance of oyster shell recycling
- If you have an event where oysters are served, DO NOT throw the shells away or dump them directly into the bay! Contact GBF about how you can recycle your oyster shell



For more information on Galveston Bay Foundation's oyster shell recycling program, please contact:

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Join us online:



[www.galvbay.org/conservation\\_shell.html](http://www.galvbay.org/conservation_shell.html)

