

March 15, 2021

**Policy on MD HB 843 Allowing Commercial Fishing in Lake Ogleton**

The Anchorage Community Association is opposed to Maryland House Bill 843 that would expand the use of commercial, haul seine nets in Lake Ogleton and other area bodies of water from the current maximum 50-feet in length to 750 feet. Lake Ogleton is a very busy recreational area with a lot of sail, power and small boat traffic, paddleboarders, family crabbers and fishermen, and swimmers. The presence of commercial boats with extended nets would pose a safety hazard and severely restrict the current recreational use of the lake. Most importantly, commercial fishing has the potential to adversely affect the fish populations and water quality of the lake. The Anchorage Community Association is committed to actively opposing this legislation through communicating with elected officials and the media and will also provide information to Anchorage residents so they may do so as well if they so choose.