

**THE WORLD**  
— IS YOUR —

# Oyster

[All about Georgia's oysters]



Oysters are a keystone species. They play a critical role in the coastal ecosystem. Oysters filter water, protect shorelines and provide habitats.

Oysters are more than food



Oyster reefs provide habitat for fish, crustaceans and birds. These animals use the oyster habitat at different lifecycle stages for forage, refuge and reproduction.

## Habitat

Oyster reefs help control tidal-creek shoreline erosion by dispersing waves and holding sediments intact. Oysters can also be used as alternative erosion control methods.



## Shorelines

Oysters are filter feeders that help reduce levels of contamination and turbidity in water. A single oyster can filter up to 50 gallons of water per day. Oysters keep our estuaries clean.



## Water