



NOAA CHESAPEAKE BAY OFFICE

Who We Are

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is the lead federal agency for balanced use and protection of coastal and ocean resources. NOAA's mission is:

To understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment and conserve and manage coastal and marine resources to meet our Nation's economic, social and environmental needs.

Consistent with that mission, the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office (NCBO) provides science, service and stewardship to support the protection and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay.

What We Do

Congress formally established NCBO in 1992 to provide technical assistance and coordination with Federal, State and local government agencies; support the Chesapeake Bay Program; coordinate NOAA activities in the region; and ensure sound science is conducted and communicated.

We accomplish these goals through four major programs in fisheries, habitat, integrated coastal observations and education.

Fisheries

Expanding the understanding of fish populations in the Chesapeake Bay to ensure a balanced and healthy ecosystem.

Habitat

Restoring oysters, shorelines, wetlands, submerged aquatic vegetation and migratory fish passages.

Integrated Coastal Observations

Making the connection between air, land and water to help understand, protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem.

Education

Providing hands-on watershed education to students, teachers and the public to foster stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay.



Our Core values...

- Science
- Service
- Stewardship
- Teamwork
- Focus
- Communication



How We Are Involved

Since 1984, NOAA has been a partner in the Chesapeake Bay Program, a watershed restoration partnership.

NCBO is involved with many important commitments of the Chesapeake 2000 Agreement (the latest, most comprehensive plan for Bay restoration), including leadership for four priority commitments: multi-species management, oysters, submerged aquatic vegetation and education and outreach.

Multi-species Management

Revise and implement existing fisheries management plans to incorporate ecological, social and economic considerations, multi-species fisheries management and ecosystem approaches.

Oysters

Achieve, at a minimum, a tenfold increase in native oysters in the Chesapeake Bay.

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)

Accelerate protection and restoration of SAV beds in areas of critical importance to the Bay's living resources.

Education and Outreach

Provide a meaningful Bay or stream outdoor experience for every school student in the watershed before graduating from high school.

In addition, NCBO provides support for many critical Chesapeake Bay restoration needs, including funding for fisheries and non-native oyster research, assessing the effects of air pollution and small watershed grants.

Where We Are Located

Maryland

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410-267-5660

Sarbanes Cooperative Oxford Laboratory
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Virginia

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For more information, visit: <http://noaa.chesapeakebay.net>

NCBO Mission

To understand, predict and explain changes in the Chesapeake Bay's environment, and conserve and manage coastal and estuarine resources to meet the Region's economic, social and environmental needs.

