



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Media Advisory

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Chesapeake Bay's Underwater Grass Abundance Rose Last Year *Scientists to Discuss 2014 Findings with Media*

In a **conference call Thursday, July 30 at 11 a.m.**, scientists with the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) will discuss the 2014 results of their annual Bay-wide survey of underwater grasses from Susquehanna Flats to the mouth of the Bay and the many rivers in between.

The Chesapeake Bay Program tracks underwater grass abundance as an indicator of Bay health. Underwater grasses, also known as submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV), serve many essential functions and are among the most closely monitored habitats in the Bay. They provide critical shelter to blue crabs, fish and other key species; improve water clarity by helping sediment settle to the bottom; reduce nutrient pollution, add oxygen to the water; reduce shoreline erosion and are a major source of food for over-wintering waterfowl.

*Media are invited to attend the release event virtually or in person.
All embargoed materials will be available in CBP's
[Press Center](#) by 10:30 Thursday.*

WHO: Robert Orth, Professor, Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) / CBP
Brooke Landry, Chair, CBP's [SAV Workgroup](#) &
Biologist, Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) / CBP
Rebecca Golden, Vice-Chair, CBP's [SAV Workgroup](#) &
Biologist, Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) / CBP

WHEN: Thursday, July 30 at 11 a.m.

WHERE: Conference call line: 866-299-3188 Code: 410 267 5710

RSVP: Margaret Enloe, menloe@chesapeakebay.net or 410-267-5740

The Chesapeake Bay Program is a regional partnership that has coordinated and conducted the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay for 30 years, since its formation in 1983. Partners include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, representing the federal government; the U.S. Department of Agriculture; the states of Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia; the District of Columbia; the Chesapeake Bay Commission, a tri-state legislative body; and advisory groups of citizens, scientists and local government officials.

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