

Member Updates

Chesapeake Bay Program Communications Office and Web Team

Planned press releases for June (dates TBD):

- Oyster restoration report.
- Reducing Pollution Indicator.
- State of Environmental Literacy across the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
- Blue crab abundance.

Our summer Multimedia Intern – Kaitlyn Dolan – began on June 4, 2018.

Will Parson, our Multimedia Specialist, led a field trip at the Choose Clean Water Coalition conference on ‘Making Pictures that Make People Care’.

Caitlyn Johnstone, our Outreach Specialist, led the second webinar in conjunction with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay’s Businesses for the Bay on Abundant Life on May 16.

Rachel Felver, CBP’s Director of Communications, presented at the Pennsylvania WIP Steering Committee meeting in Harrisburg on May 17.

In May, we updated our Forest Buffers indicator with data from 2016. We expect to update this indicator with data from 2017 later this summer. Over the next month, we also expect to update the indicators that track our progress toward the Blue Crab Abundance, Blue Crab Management and 2017 Watershed Implementation Plan outcomes.

NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office

Blue Crab Advisory Report: The NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office is developing a draft of a press release on behalf of the Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team, which is slated to review (and ideally approve) the annual Blue Crab Advisory Report at its in-person meeting later this month. The Blue Crab Advisory Report is developed by the Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee, a subcommittee of the Fisheries GIT. The press release will be distributed (thank you!) by the Chesapeake Bay Program.

NOAA Chesapeake Bay Interpretive Buoy System (CBIBS): CBIBS, which traditionally has 10 buoys operating during summer months, currently only has six. This is due to damage from icing over the winter and delays in parts acquisition for the new buoys CBIBS intends on deploying in place of the aging original buoys. The team is developing a plan for moving forward, and NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office will then develop messages to share with partners and the public about the buoys' future/timelines.

University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

Major indicators of the health of the Chesapeake Bay are up!

[Join us](#) June 15th, 10:30-12:00 at the District Wharf waterfront (Hyatt House, 725 Wharf St SW) as we release the 2017 Chesapeake Bay Report Card! Coffee and food will be provided as we talk about the health of the Chesapeake Bay while overlooking the beautiful Potomac River in Washington, D.C. Local officials, scientists, and managers will be discussing key indicators of Chesapeake Bay health, and what you can do to get involved!

This is the 12th Annual Chesapeake Bay Report Card. To learn more and view previous years' Report Cards, please visit www.chesapeakebayreportcard.org

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Fish and Wildlife Service has published several stories just in time for Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week!

The homeplace past the hollow: Sue Mitchell's family has farmed in the upper Potomac River headwaters for over 100 years. More recently she's watched the river threaten those memories as her family property has eroded, chunk after chunk of land washing downstream. Federal agencies and Trout Unlimited partnered to find the Mitchells a better solution for cattle operations, stream health, and for the enjoyment of future generations.

Pearl in the making: Oysters may be staging a small comeback in a segment of the Chesapeake Bay thanks to local watermen, federal and state agencies, and local conservation organizations. For several years, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been helping local communities and folks like Jason Ruth create new oyster beds on Kent Island as well as restore some stretches of shoreline.

Farmers & fish: In Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, partnerships are flourishing between Plain-Sect landowners and the federal and state agencies, and NGOs that rely on one another to maintain working lands, improve stream quality and conserve at-risk wildlife like the Chesapeake logperch.

From wet spots to wetlands: Farmers on the Delmarva are working with federal and state agencies to take poor agricultural land and restore it back to productive wetlands for wildlife. Meet [Matt and Marilyn Spong in Felton, Delaware](#), owners of Viola Farm, who are enjoying the wood ducks in their new wetland, and [Bob and Judy Spiering of Greensboro, Maryland](#), who took the family farm and upgraded it into a mosaic of crops and habitat for quail and other wildlife.

No updates offered

- Sustainable Fisheries GIT
- Habitat GIT
- Water Quality GIT
- Maintain Healthy Watersheds GIT
- Stewardship GIT
- Enhancing Partnering, Leadership and Management GIT
- Chesapeake Bay Program Diversity Workgroup
- Citizens Advisory Committee
- Local Government Advisory Committee
- Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee
- Scientific, Technical Assessment and Reporting
- Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
- District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment DOEE
- Maryland Department of the Environment

- Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
- West Virginia Conservation Agency
- Environmental Protection Agency
- National Park Service
- U.S. Geological Survey
- University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center
- Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
- Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- Chesapeake Conservancy
- National Aquarium
- Virginia Conservation Network
- Choose Clean Water Coalition
- Maryland Sea Grant