

# ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHTS

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

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## Weather radar data can help researchers minimize the impact of wind energy development on migratory birds



Researchers have found that data collected by weather radar networks could be used to reduce collisions and minimize habitat-related impacts of wind turbines on nocturnally migrating birds.

“As the development of wind energy expands worldwide, information to minimize impacts of this development on

biodiversity is urgently needed,” said lead author Emily Cohen. “Networked radar data are available across the United States and other countries, and broad application could provide information critical to the bird-friendly expansion of this globally important energy source.” [MORE](#)

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## UMCES welcomes Lois Colaprete as Vice President for Advancement

Join us in welcoming Lois Colaprete as Vice President for Advancement! Colaprete brings 26 years of fund-raising experience in the non-profit development field with a specialization in board development, fundraising infrastructure, and systems and planning strategies.

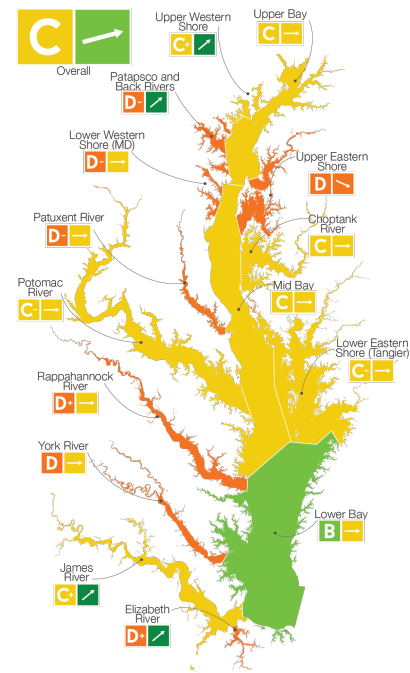
“Lois values the crucial scientific and educational work being done by UMCES and will be a passionate advocate for our mission on local, state, and national levels,” said UMCES President Peter Goodwin. [MORE](#)



## Chesapeake Bay health score remained steady in 2021

The overall Chesapeake watershed received a grade of C+ for 2021 and the Chesapeake Bay health score improved slightly from 45 to 50, a grade of C according to the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science's annual Chesapeake Bay and Watershed Report Card.

Building on social indicators that were added in 2021, new economic indicators were used to evaluate the health of local economies in the region, including median household income, job growth, income inequality, and housing affordability. [MORE](#)



[View the full Chesapeake Bay Report Card HERE](#)

## Next Generation: Nick Dawson on microplastics and microbes

Graduate student Nick Dawson's research interests focus on microplastic pollution and its interactions with microbes. He hopes to understand what interactions occur between microplastics and microbes, and what effects they might have on larger organisms within ecosystems.

"Plastics may be a new surface for microbes to colonize, and when they do, they may encourage or change the breakdown of the plastics. I think it would be fascinating to see more of what interactions occur between microplastics and microbes, and possibly what effects they have on macro-organisms within ecosystems," said Daws. [MORE](#)



## UMCES IN THE NEWS

Ocean acidification raises economic concerns for shellfish hatcheries (NPR Marketplace)

Chesapeake Bay watershed earns a C+ on latest 'report card' (AP News)

Chesapeake dolphins thrill spotters, scientists (Bay Journal)

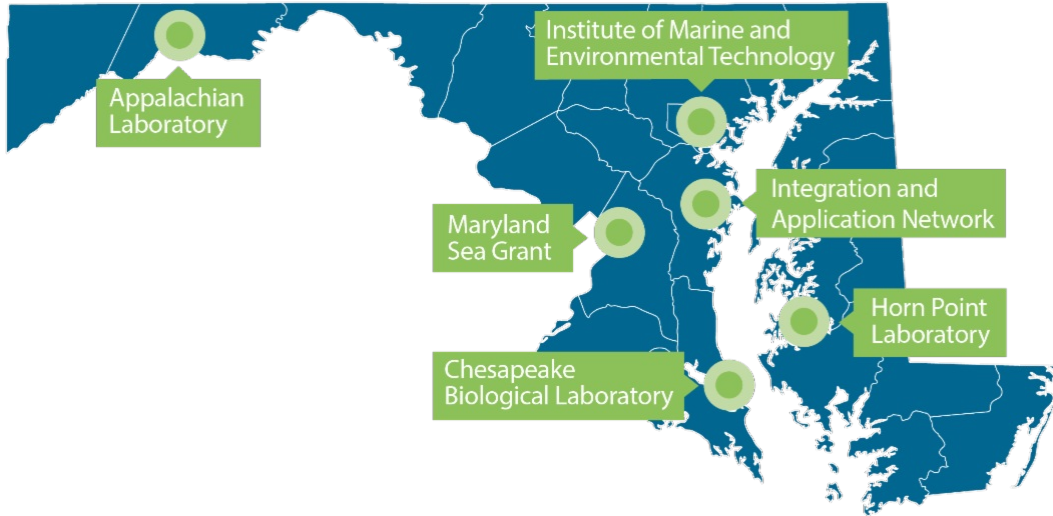
Wade-in reports 39-inch sneaker index (Bay Weekly)

Blue holes show hurricane activity in the Bahamas is at a centuries-long low (Hakai Magazine)

Chesapeake Biological Laboratory employee honored with UMCES President's Award for Outstanding Research Support (Southern Maryland Chronicle)

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