

# ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHTS

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE



## **NSF award supports new effort to engage island students in marine and environmental sciences**

The University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science and Maryland Sea Grant College have been awarded a \$2.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to help grow the number and diversity of students who are interested in and eventually seek careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields. This grant is part of the \$10 million, eight-institution SEAS Islands Alliance that will engage underrepresented minority students from the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Guam in marine and environmental sciences by illuminating a full career pathway, from middle school to graduate school and job placement.

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### **Stuart Clarke named Vice President for Strategic Initiatives**

UMCES welcomes Stuart Clarke as its new Vice President for Strategic Initiatives. "Stuart is a highly respected environmental leader with 25 years of philanthropic experience," said President Peter Goodwin. "I am confident that his passion and professional commitment to the environment combined with his extensive experience will translate into profound benefits for our research, impact in Maryland and beyond, and the entire UMCES community."

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### **Restoring streams: Is it possible to bring back a healthy ecosystem?**

Streams are complex ecosystems. Ecologist Bob Hilderbrand has been examining if the costly restoration of degraded streams in Maryland is



effective-or even possible. "There's good news and bad news," he says. "We'll never get back to pristine state, but to even improve a little will be good."

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### **NEXT GENERATION: Amanda Lawrence on helping policymakers set size limits for crab harvests**

"My research is working to understand how we can identify when male Jonah crabs, an understudied species of crab, become sexually mature. I am looking at hormone levels and sperm content and relating it to the crab's size to help policy makers establish size limits for fishermen who collect the crabs."

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## SCIENCE IN ACTION: Bat scientists seek answers to disease

White-nose syndrome is a fungal disease that spreads from bat to bat in close quarters, such as the caves they go to during the winter. It isn't fatal on its own, but it grows on their wings, muzzles, and other membrane areas while they hibernate and eventually becomes bothersome enough to wake them too early. The bats can then die from starvation or dehydration before winter ends. Find out how scientists are working to understand this devastating disease in this podcast from the field, [Working the Night Shift](#).

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## Fall Into Science Lecture Series

November 5 & December 3

Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology, Baltimore

Reception with food and drinks begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by lecture

### November 5: The Ecology of Baltimore Harbor: Using Community Science to Illuminate Hidden Biodiversity"

Hear how a coalition of academics, students, and citizen scientists are using visual and genetic methods to explore the abundance and diversity of life beneath the murky water of the Inner Harbor, featuring Eric Schott, IMET, and Charmaine Dahlenburg, National Aquarium.

December 3:

### "Paris to Pittsburgh: the Climate for Change is Now"

Join us for a screening and panel discussion of "Paris to Pittsburgh: the Climate for Change is Now," a National Geographic film featuring the voices of local leaders and everyday Americans sharing stories behind climate-related recovery and resiliency, and innovative efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Followed by a panel discussion with UMCES climate scientist Matt Fitzpatrick and Zero Hour founder Nadia Nazar.

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## Watershed Moments: Lab after hours guided tour

November 7, 6:45-8 p.m.

Appalachian Laboratory, Frostburg

The Appalachian Laboratory will host guided tours as part of its activities for National STEM Day. Participants will be able to visit various laboratories and hear about the research from the scientists and students who work here. This event is open to those 16 years old and up.

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## UMCES IN THE NEWS

Can bacteria help restore the Chesapeake Bay's oysters? (Bay Journal)

UN reports reality of climate change (Ocean City Today)

Speaker to kick off international bat week (Cumberland Times-News)

Dolphin population growing in Potomac (The Georgetown Voice)

Five ways to enjoy your week in Baltimore (Yahoo News)

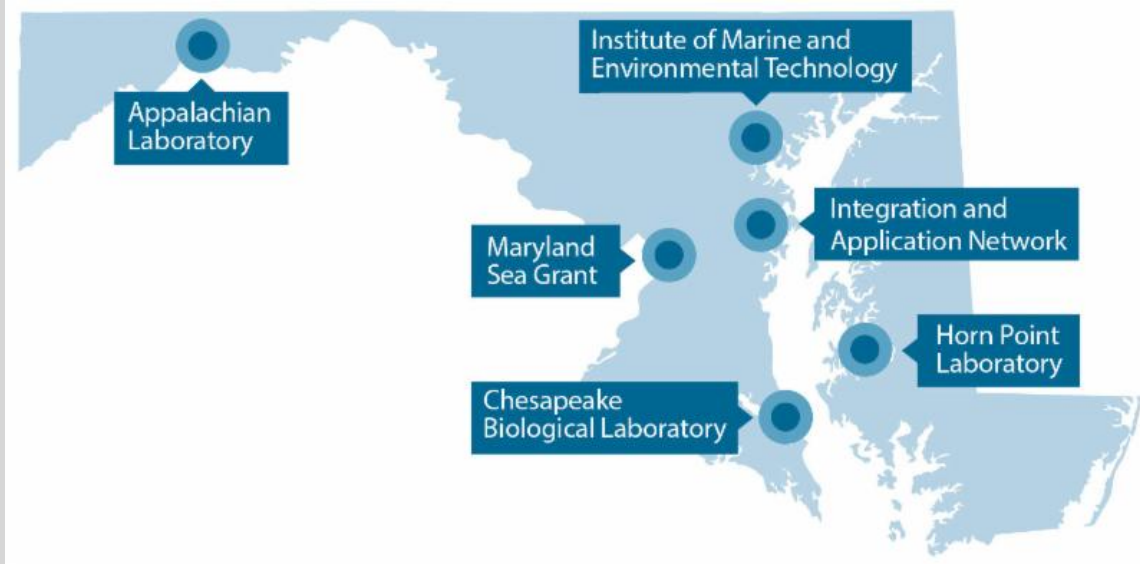
Low salinity delivers blow to Chesapeake Bay oysters (Soundings)

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Appalachian Laboratory - Chesapeake Biological Laboratory  
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