

ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHTS

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE



Born in the Horn Point hatchery, a record number of oysters are planted in Chesapeake Bay this year

More than 1.7 billion new juvenile oysters have been planted on sanctuary and public oyster reefs in the Chesapeake Bay this year, setting a new annual record. Oysters for the five-large scale restoration tributaries are grown primarily at UMCES' hatchery at the Horn Point Laboratory in Cambridge, one of the largest on the East Coast.

“Mother nature was in a fantastic mood this year. We have a great hatchery team, had great salinity, and we were able to start spawning in March with larvae growing really well,” said Oyster Hatchery Manager Stephanie Alexander. [MORE](#)



Summit explores how 'big data' and collaboration can solve environmental challenges

More than 150 leaders in science, industry, government, and the nonprofit world came together at the end of September to discuss how to harness the power of big data and new technologies to accelerate solutions to society's most complex environmental challenges. The conversation centered around the Chesapeake Global Collaboratory, a “think and do tank” at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science aiming to accelerate solutions to complex problems by bringing a new generation of tools, voices, and approaches to environmental research.

“We are facing major global challenges, and new science and tools are rapidly evolving. Scientists collect 8 to 10 million data points each year on Chesapeake Bay alone. The Chesapeake Global Collaboratory is about thinking about how to put this data together to create new insights and have a global impact,” said UMCES Interim President Bill Dennison. [MORE](#)



Bill Dennison steps in as UMCES Interim President

A professor of marine science and expert in science communication, Bill Dennison steps in as Interim President after serving as Vice President for Science Application since 2002. He has led the Integration and Application Network, responsible for the annual Chesapeake Bay report card and environmental assignments around the world.

"We are now in an era of unprecedented environmental change and UMCES scientists have been at the forefront of understanding the causes and implications of these changes. My passion is using science in support of environmental management, and I'm excited to take on this role to help UMCES continue to serve as a catalyst and facilitator of environmental solutions," said Dennison. [MORE](#)



Long-term data tracking in the Arctic reveals the impact of changing climate on gray whales

Arctic researcher Jacqueline Grebmeier has been studying the changes in the waterways near Alaska for more than 30 years. Her measurements were instrumental in understanding what has been causing the die offs of gray whales in the region in the recent years—fluctuating stocks shrimp-like creatures that the whales feed on and whose abundance is shifting with changing climate. The study was recently published in *Science*.

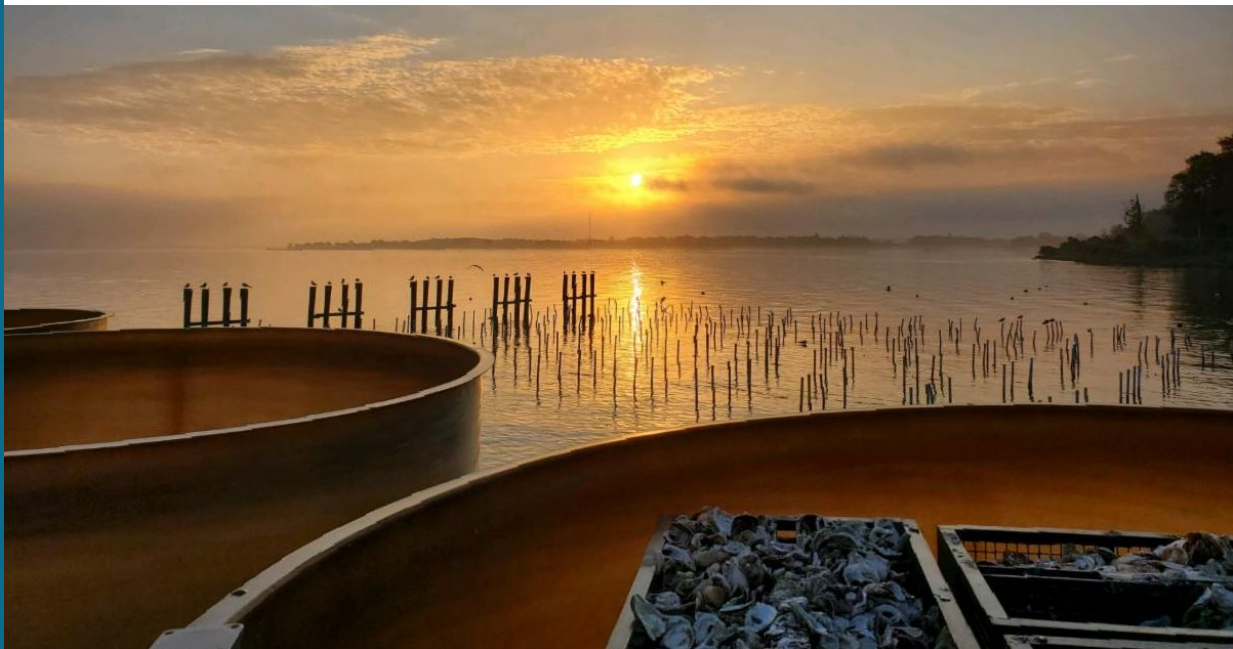
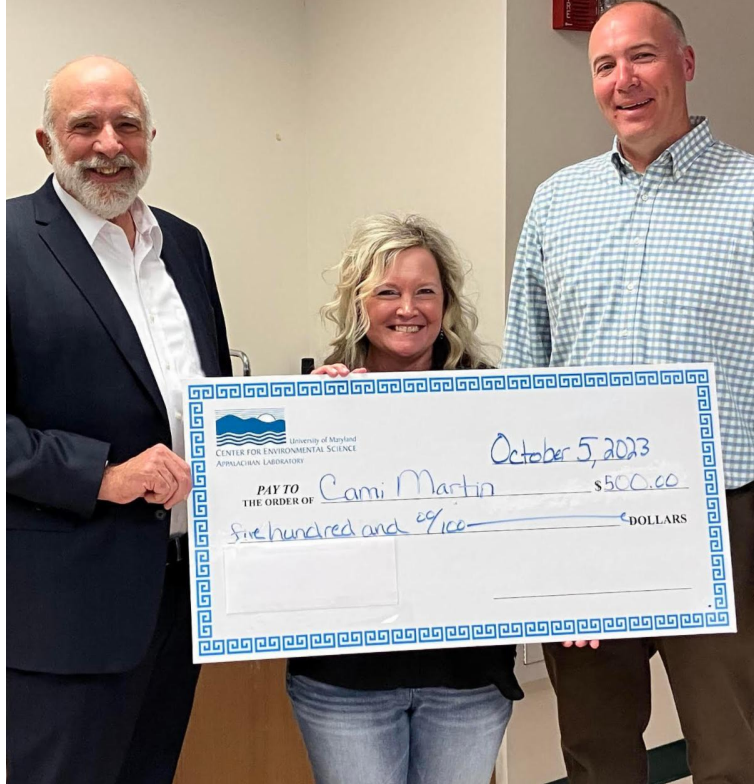
“This study shows the value of collecting data year after year in the Arctic to address the question of how climate change is impacting the ecological system. Physical changes such as the retreat of sea ice are well-documented, but it is much more challenging to understand how these changes affect the biological system,” said Professor Jacqueline Grebmeier." [MORE](#)

Cami Martin receives UMCES Staff Excellence Award

Coordinator Cami Martin, the Appalachian Laboratory's expert on purchasing and procurement, was awarded UMCES' Staff Excellence Award for a 20-year dedication to the

university. She is lauded for her boundless enthusiasm and positive impact on the western Maryland campus, particularly for her tireless efforts to help the students and make them feel like part of the community, and her commitment to keeping the lab a safe and healthy environment.

“This well-deserved recognition of her significant contributions to our lab and employees. She routinely goes above and beyond to significantly improve and enhance our unit,” said Appalachian Laboratory Director Dave Nelson. [MORE](#)



UMCES IN THE NEWS

Dolphins in the Chesapeake: App reveals 1000s visit the Bay each year (The Baltimore Banner)

Are manatees trying to tell us something about the Chesapeake Bay? (Bay Journal)

Maryland surpasses 2023 oyster planting goal, sets new record with over 1.7 billion planted (Southern Maryland Chronicle)

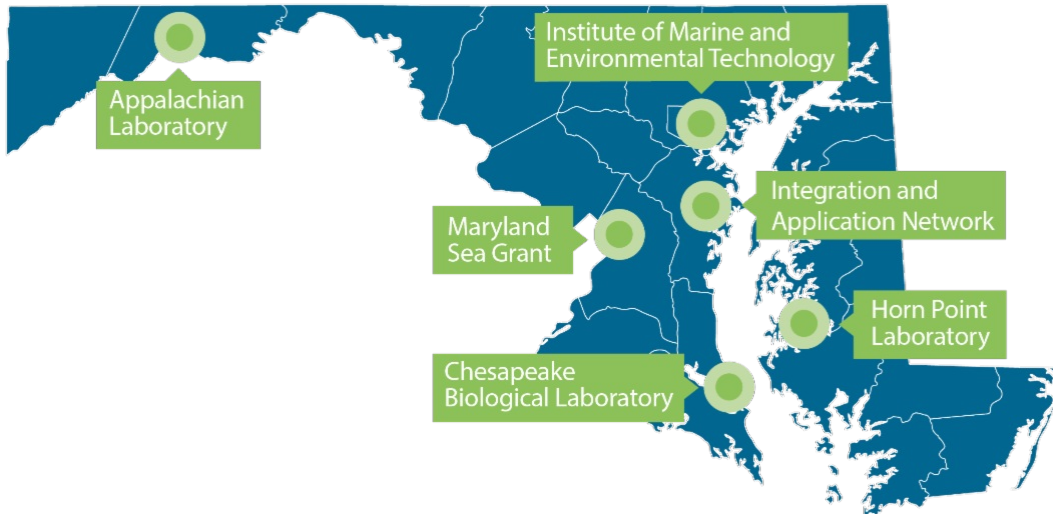
Environmental groups concerned about upcoming construction along Herring Run (Baltimore Sun)

Mammoth-sized news for the Natural History Society of Maryland (and life in climates of the past) (WYPR)

Marine program provides updates to offshore wind projects (OC Today)

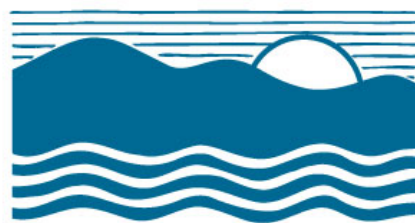
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University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science | 2020 Horns Point Road, Cambridge,
MD 21613

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