**AUGUST 2022** 



NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

### Community eyes on the Chesapeake help track dolphins



Thousands of Marylanders with their eyes on the Chesapeake Bay have helped scientists track bottlenose dolphins throughout the Bay. Researchers at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science launched the Chesapeake DolphinWatch app in 2017 to get real-time reports of dolphin sightings on the largest estuary in the United States. Over the past five years, researchers have used these sightings submitted by over 12,000 Chesapeake Bay community members—to help track the patterns of dolphin visits to the Bay.

"I hope that dolphin sightings and the increased awareness that Chesapeake Bay is a bottlenose dolphin habitat will inspire community members, natural resource managers, and policy makers to continue their work in Chesapeake Bay conservation and push forward restoration goals across the board," said Chesapeake DolphinWatch

### Next Generation: Isabel Sánchez-Viruet on floating wetlands



Growing up in Puerto Rico and seeing how urban development affected natural resources motivated graduate student Isabel Sánchez-Viruet to pursue her career in science.

She is now at UMCES' Chesapeake Biological Laboratory studying floating wetlands, artificial islands with aquatic plants. She is working to understand their potential to remove nitrogen from tidal waters and the possibility of utilizing them in highly urbanized areas where restoration of wetlands is not possible. **MORE** 



## Listen to whale calls captured off the coast of Maryland

Helen Bailey shares the sounds of humpback whales, right whales, and fin whales captured off the coast of Maryland. These sounds were gathered from a buoy, part of real-time detection system that was deployed about 30 miles from Ocean City. When whales are detected, mariners are alerted so they can slow down, reducing the chance of hitting a whale. LISTEN

## LECTURE: Manure happens: Human alteration of the

#### global nitrogen cycle

August 9, 11 a.m.

Professor Eric Davidson explores how humans have profoundly altered the global nitrogen cycle—even more than the carbon cycle—impacting climate change, air quality, pollution of coastal waters, fisheries, and global food security. Tune in via Zoom to the Jefferson Science Fellowship Distinguished Lecture Series as he details how the cascading effects



of a single element interact in ways that magnify their impacts. Davidson has spent the past year as a Jefferson Science Fellow at the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. **REGISTER** 

# Welcome UMCES' newest graduate students!

The next generation of environmental leaders come from diverse disciplines to begin their training in our nationally ranked program in Marine Estuarine and Environmental Sciences. **MORE** 



Photo by: Peter Field

#### **UMCES IN THE NEWS**

Electrical bacteria may help clean oil spills and curb methane emissions (Science News)

Oyster castles: Protecting nature with nature(WUSA9)

Chesapeake Bay crab population (Maryland Public Television's Direct Connection)

High temperatures a preview of Baltimore's future (Baltimore Banner)

Our Places | Connecting People and Nature (National Museum of Natural History)

Old breakwaters eyed as future realms for 'oyster castles' (Bay Journal)

To reduce harmful algal blooms and dead zones, the US needs a national strategy for regulating farm pollution (The Conversation)

Can we fix our ocean noise problem? (BBC)

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