

# ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHTS

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

**SCIENCE IN THE TIME OF COVID-19:** While UMCES researchers have largely limited their research to what can be done while respecting social distancing and State guidelines, they are still able to produce important and accomplished research as seen in these highlights.



## [UMCES researchers examine healthy urban waterfronts around the world](#)

Urban waterfronts, including harbors and ports, are a defining feature of coastal cities and serve as gateways to the rest of the world. These urban waterfronts are particularly vulnerable to intensified coastal development and to storms and flooding, leading to increased risk to people and coastal resources. Associate Research Professor Judy O'Neil co-edited a special issue of *Regional Studies of Marine Science* by the World Harbours Project, which featured several papers by University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science researchers on harbors around the globe, from Chesapeake Bay to Guanabara Bay adjacent to Rio de Janeiro. [MORE](#)



### **Fishing pressure results in faster Atlantic menhaden growth**

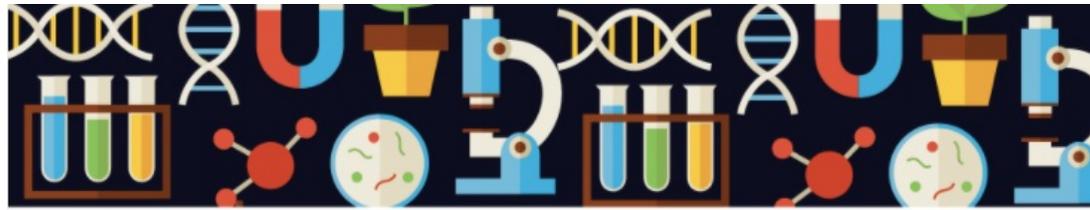
New research suggests that large-scale environmental factors influence the size of one of the ocean's most abundant forage species, menhaden. Scientists from Louisiana State University, NOAA, the University of Southern Mississippi and the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science evaluated large-scale ecosystem dynamics influencing growth of menhaden in the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean. [MORE](#)



### **Disappearing Alaskan sea ice is significant for Arctic marine ecosystem**

A new study shows that plant materials originating in Arctic sea ice are significantly incorporated into marine food webs that are used for subsistence in local communities of the greater Bering Strait region. The study traced

persistent biological compounds that are uniquely generated by microscopic plants in sea ice and found that the compounds are present throughout the base of the food web. The research has the potential to demonstrate the importance of sea ice ecosystems as a source of food in Arctic waters in Alaska and beyond. [MORE](#)



## IMET Virtual Open House

May 2 - May 16



### IMET Virtual Open House

The Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology has launched a Virtual Open House where online visitors can learn about coral reefs, the ecosystem of Baltimore Harbor, how to design a science experiment, and much more--all without leaving home! Find everything on the Open House website, where you can filter for activities appropriate for elementary, middle, or high school students. Through May 16, submit completed activities for a chance to win a prize.

[EXPLORE](#)



## A decade after the Deepwater Horizon explosion, offshore drilling is still unsafe

On the ten-year anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon oil rig explosion, Donald Boesch, a member of the oil spill commission appointed by President Obama, talks about the current state of regulations regarding offshore drilling. He comments on the recommendations made by the commission and deregulation by the Trump administration. The full article is available to read at The Conversation US. Read the full article [HERE](#).

### WATCH

#### UMCES IN THE NEWS

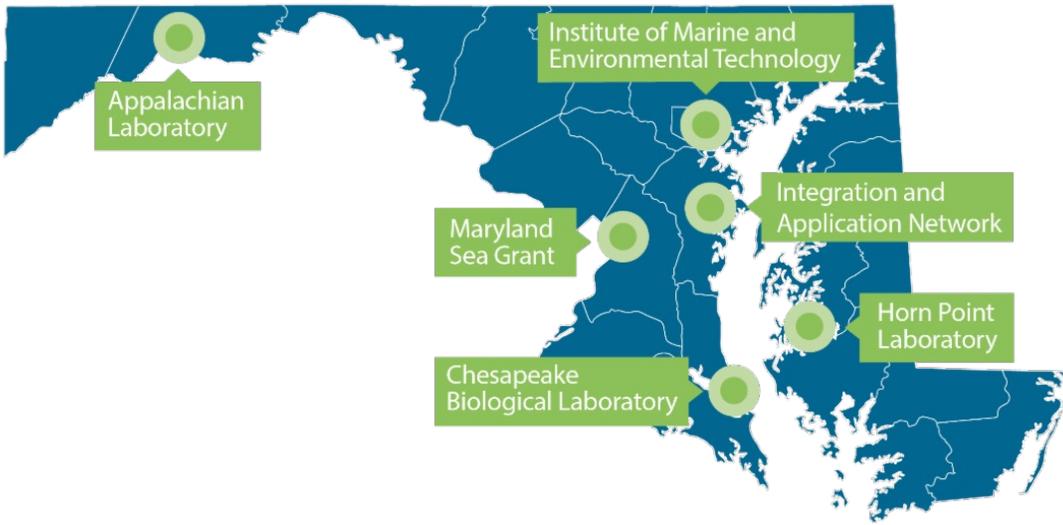
Weather and climate patterns around the world are already shifting because of human-caused climate change. (National Geographic)

Ten Years After Deepwater Horizon, U.S. Is Still Vulnerable to Catastrophic Spills (New York Times)

Smooth Sailing - Getting Proactive On The Big Biofouling Problem (Shipping Tribune)

On Earth Day's 50th anniversary, Chesapeake Bay's health is improving (Star Democrat)

Coronavirus stalls some Chesapeake oyster restoration projects (Southern Maryland Chronicle)



## SUPPORT SCIENCE

Your tax-deductible gift will help us continue to foster amore healthy and prosperous environment through unbiased scientific research and the education of the next generation of science leaders. **GIVE**



University of Maryland  
**CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

Appalachian Laboratory - Chesapeake Biological Laboratory  
Horn Point Laboratory - Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology  
Integration and Application Network - Maryland Sea Grant

*AN INSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND*

SUBSCRIBE TO NEWSLETTER

