

## An Introduction to Chesapeake Bay Program Indicators

### CBP Indicators Information

#### What are Indicators?

One way the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) tracks progress in the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed is via **indicators**. There are two types of indicators:

- **Health Indicators**

Scientists evaluate health by monitoring living things, habitats, water quality and stressors. Health indicators are subdivided into three categories:

- Bay Health (e.g. water quality standards achievement; fish abundance)
- Watershed and River Health (e.g. biological integrity of streams; forest cover)
- Factors Impacting Bay and Watershed Health (e.g. pollutants; population)

- **Restoration and Protection Effort Indicators**

Managers track implementation actions and efforts to reduce pollution, restore habitats, manage fisheries, protect watersheds and foster stewardship.

#### Where can I find CBP Indicators?

CBP indicators can be found at the “Track Our Progress” section of the CBP website ([www.ChesapeakeBay.net](http://www.ChesapeakeBay.net)). Indicator web-pages generally feature the following content:

- Statement of status above a chart and/or map
- Links underneath the charts to a “Data” spreadsheet and the “Analysis and Methods” documentation
- Information about why the indicator is important and the goal or target (if one exists)
- Information about trends (if applicable) and additional information related to the indicator
- A contact; the source of the data; and links to related indicators (if applicable)

All CBP indicators featured on the Bay.net website are approved by the CBP Management Board (MB).

- CBP indicators are developed, approved, recommended to the MB, and maintained by the Goal Implementation Teams (GITs) and the Scientific and Technical Analysis and Reporting (STAR) Team.
- Guidance and support related to indicator development is provided by the STAR Team’s [Indicators Workgroup](#) (refer to the “Projects and Resources” tab on the workgroup’s webpage)
- The CBP [Communications Workgroup](#) works closely with the Indicators Workgroup on developing messaging related to indicators and provides guidance to GITs as they develop indicators for public reporting (refer to [Guidance for GITs as They Identify Assessment and Accountability Metrics for Public Reporting](#))

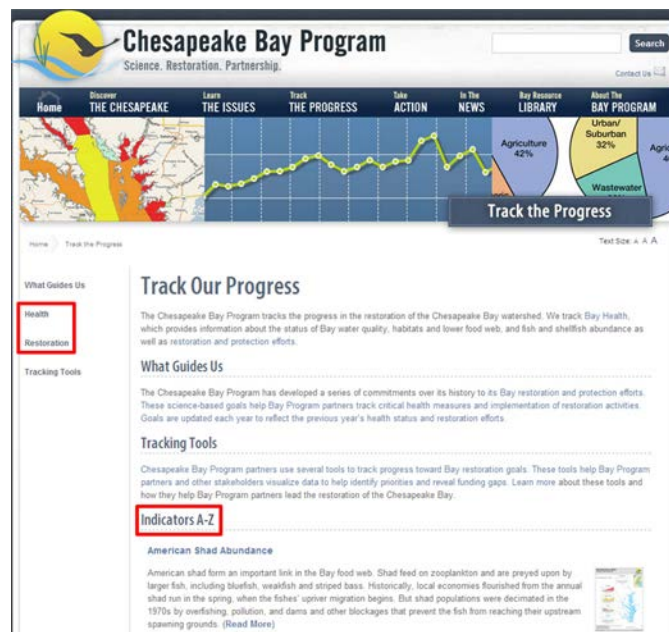
## An Introduction to Chesapeake Bay Program Indicators

To familiarize yourself with Indicators in advance of LGAC's upcoming meeting:

- Go to the Chesapeake Bay Program homepage ([www.ChesapeakeBay.net](http://www.ChesapeakeBay.net))
- There are two ways to access the CBP indicators from the homepage, via “Track the Progress” or “How is the Bay Doing?” (refer to screen shot, below)



- Click on the [Track the Progress](#) link
  - Individual indicators are linked to alphabetically in the “Indicators A-Z” section.
  - Links to categories of indicators (“Health” or “Restoration”) are provided on the left hand side of the page (refer to screen shot, below).
- Make note of any indicators that you find to be of particular interest.



## **An Introduction to Chesapeake Bay Program Indicators**

### **ChesapeakeStat Redesign and Redevelopment**

ChesapeakeStat is another tool used by the Bay Program to assess progress and enhance accountability and transparency.

The [ChesapeakeStat website](#) is being redesigned to serve as a vehicle for displaying and tracking progress toward the [new Bay Watershed Agreement](#) goals, outcomes, and ultimately, management strategies (and funding to support the strategies).

The ChesapeakeStat website redesign and redevelopment project will enable target audiences (Public Oversight groups, Internal Oversight groups, Federal Oversight groups) to understand and act upon the information; use the information to inform decisions and facilitate the implementation of adaptive management procedures; look to and rely upon ChesapeakeStat as the authoritative source of Chesapeake Bay performance information.

#### Timeframe for Redesign and Redevelopment:

- Research Phase: Completed (review current site and conduct usability testing)
- Discovery Phase: Completed (understand needs of partnership by interviewing targeted users and conducting focus groups)
- Strategy Development: March, 2014
- Redesign: April-May, 2014
- Redevelopment: Summer, 2014
- Launch Redesigned Site: Fall, 2014