

# Tidal Trends Maps

Presentation to the  
Water Quality Goal Implementation Team  
March 9, 2015

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With input from:

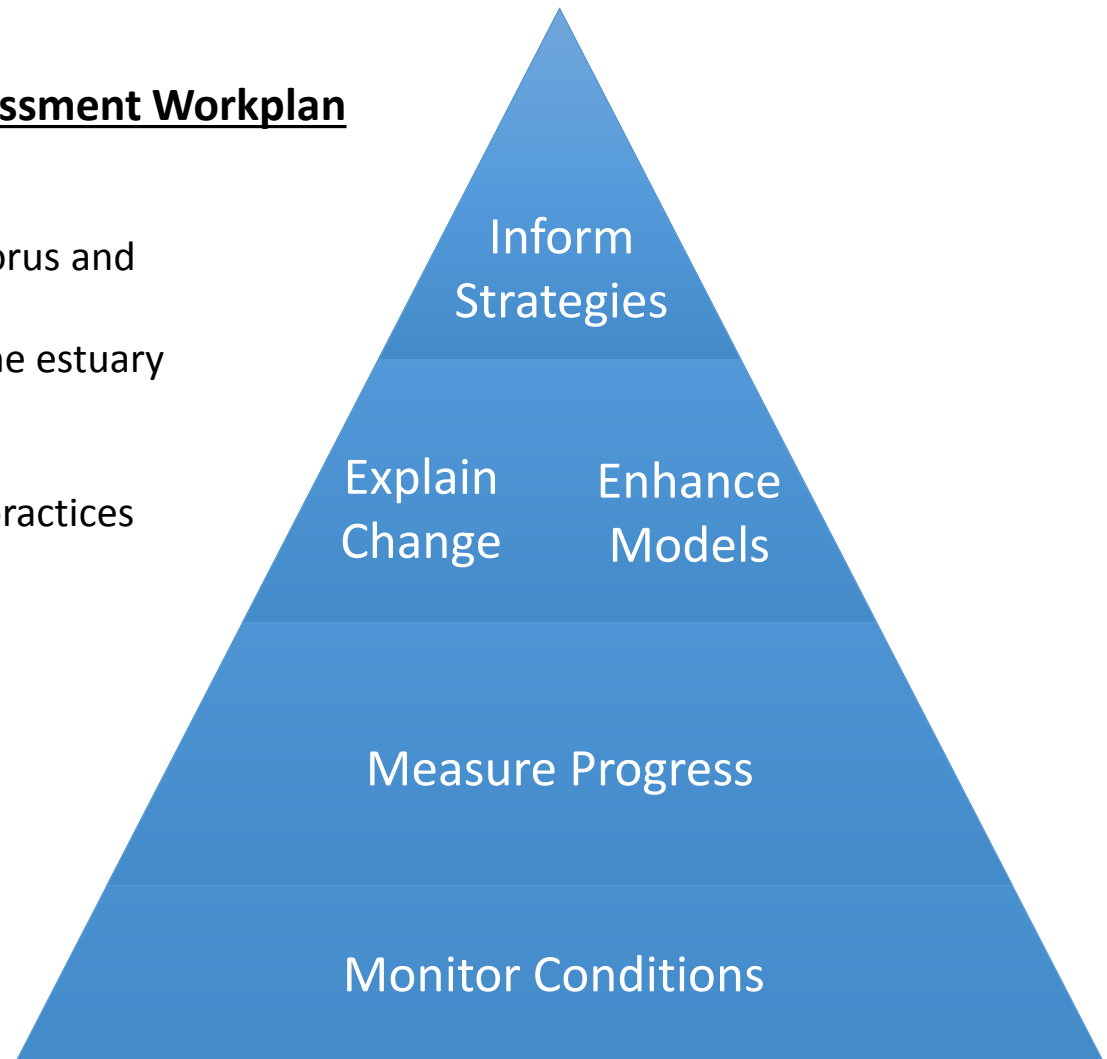
Mike Lane (VA trends), Renee Karrh (MD trends), Howard  
Weinberg (maps), Jeni Keisman, and team



# Using Monitoring Data To Measure Progress and Explain Change

## Elements of STAR Mid-Point Assessment Workplan

1. Measure progress
  - Trends of nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment in the watershed.
  - Trends of water quality in the estuary
2. Explain water-quality changes
  - Response to management practices
3. Enhance CBP models
4. Inform management strategies
  - WIPs
  - Water-quality benefits



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- First step:  
Understand and explore existing trend results generated by MDDNR and VADEQ
- This presentation:  
Show these existing trends to start the conversation about tidal monitoring data trends
- Next: More details about new methods and explanations

# Seasonal-Kendall- Based Trends

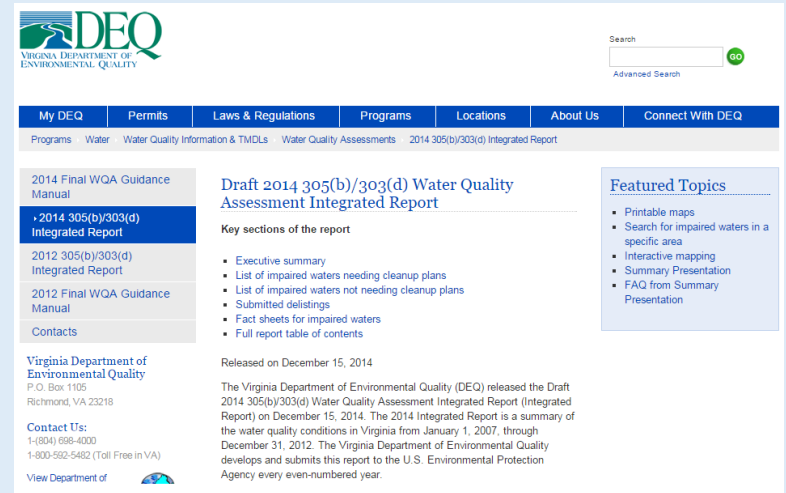
Computed by the states since the '90s:

- Maryland DNR
  - EOTB website and Tributary Water Quality and Habitat Assessments
  - Presentations to managers, politicians; press releases; assess habitat conditions for fisheries decisions and habitat characterizations; track progress in nutrient reduction strategies
- Virginia DEQ
  - Reports: Statewide 2014 Water Quality Assessment Report, Tributaries and Mainstem Trends report
  - Used in scientific studies

Teams involved in analyses/methods at the states:  
 MDDNR and consultant: Renee Karrh, Mark Trice, Elgin Perry; VADEQ and Old Dominion: Mike Lane, Raghavendra Kurada, Arjun Poddar, and Monika Arora; Pls: Drs. Daniel Dauer, John Donat, Harold Marshall, Todd Egerton;  
 Reviewers: Suzanne Doughten and Anthony Rodi



<http://mddnr.chesapeakebay.net/eyesonthebay/statustrends.cfm>

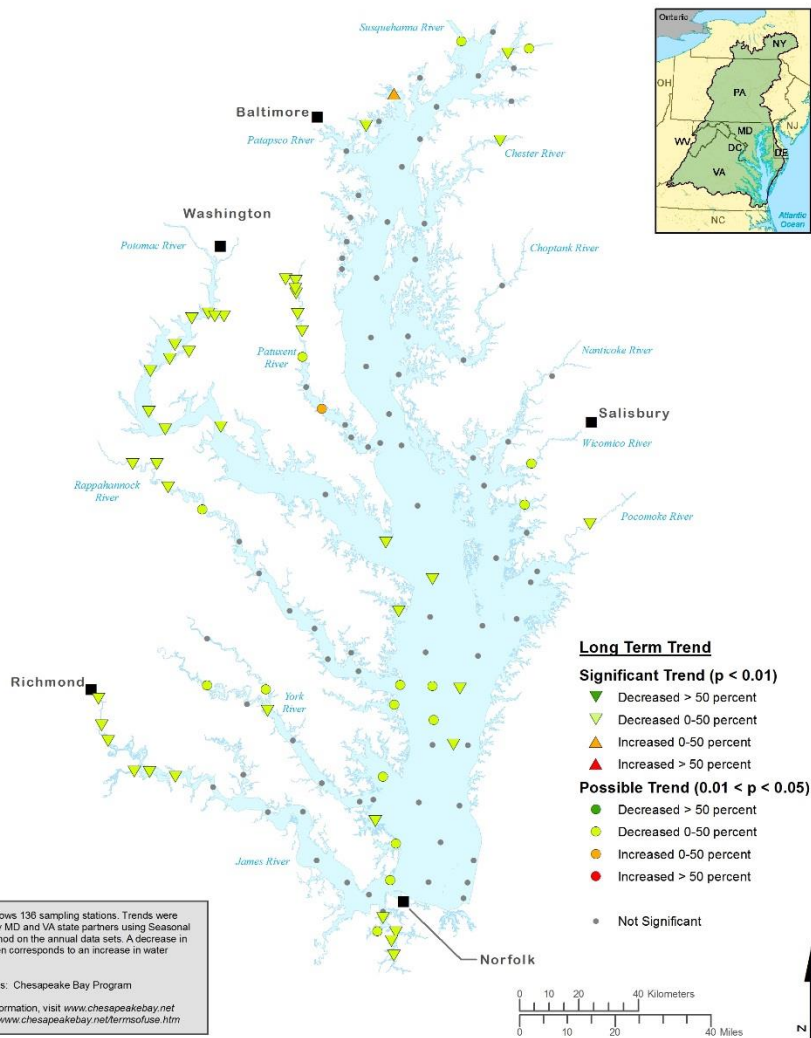


[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/WaterQualityAssessments/2014305\(b\)303\(d\)IntegratedReport.aspx](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/WaterQualityAssessments/2014305(b)303(d)IntegratedReport.aspx)

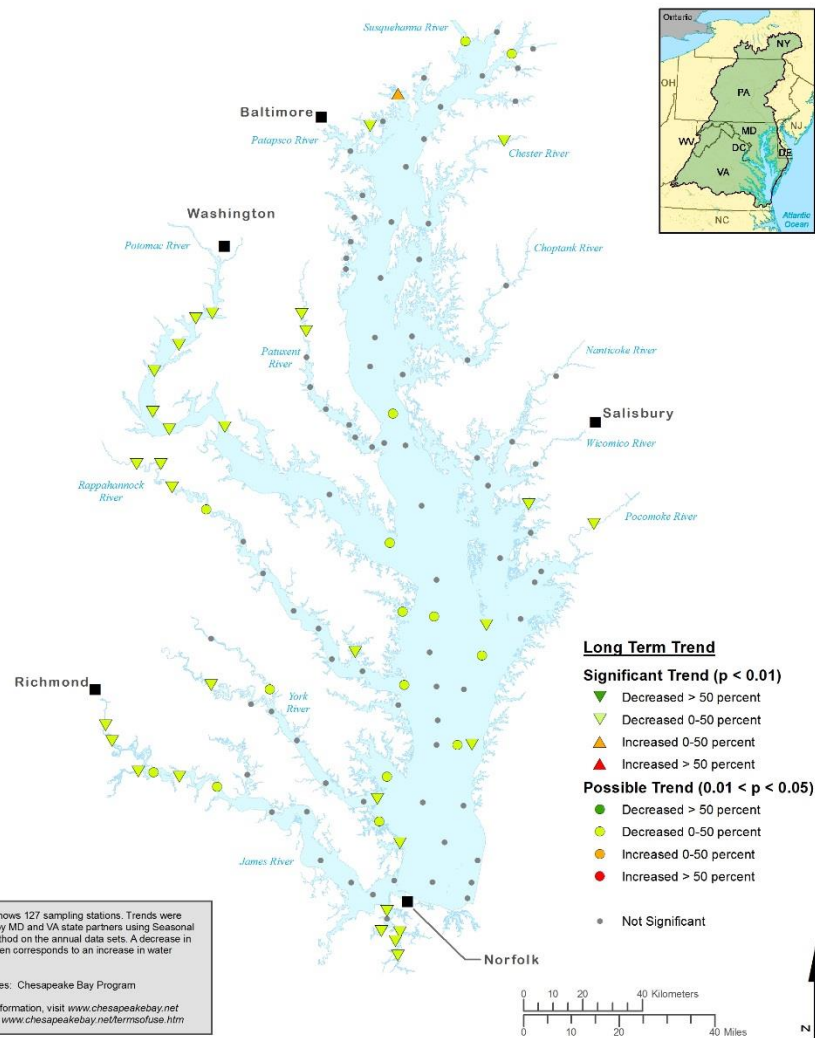
# Combined VA and MD Seasonal Kendall Maps

- Analyses not new, but combining the state trends together has not been done recently
- Useful for seeing the big-picture and identifying local differences
- Currently using them to identify areas to target for detailed explaining trends analyses
- Learned about the Seasonal Kendall approach and improvements that could be made → *inform new technique (Generalized Additive Models, GAMs)*
- Map details:
  - Time-period: 1999-2013
  - Annual data
  - Parameters: TN, TP, Chlorophyll-*a*, Secchi Disk Depth

## Long-Term Trends for Surface Total Nitrogen in the Chesapeake Bay: 1999-2013

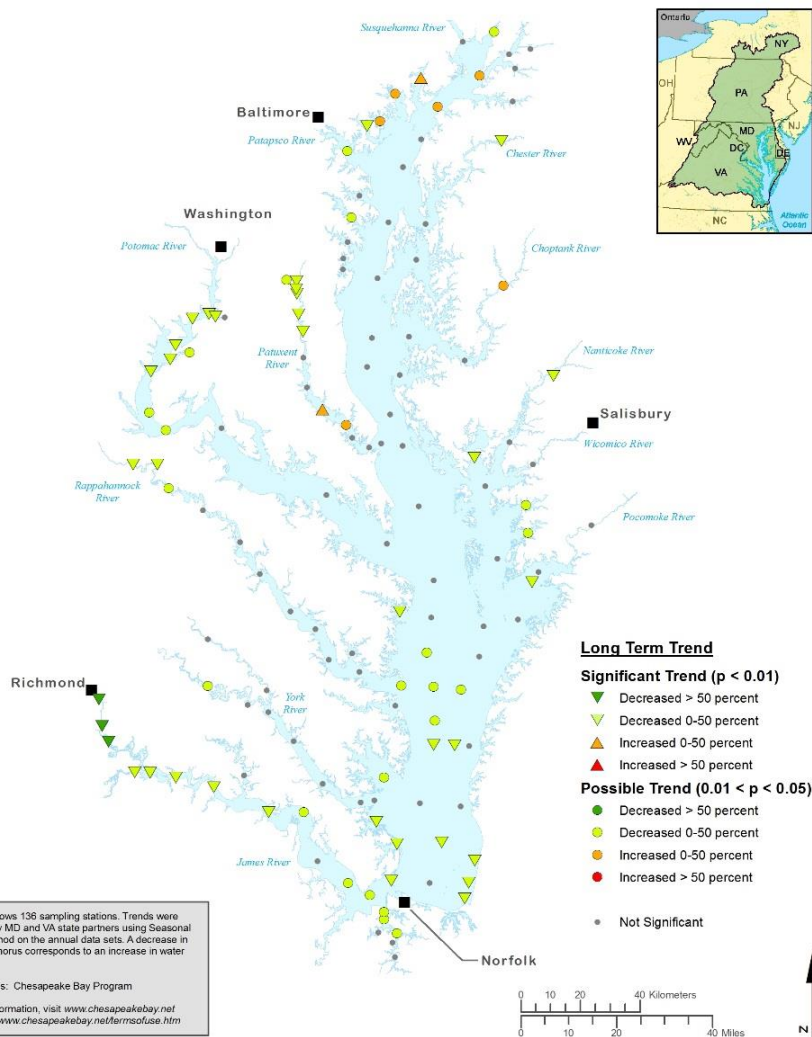


## Long-Term Trends for Bottom Total Nitrogen in the Chesapeake Bay: 1999-2013



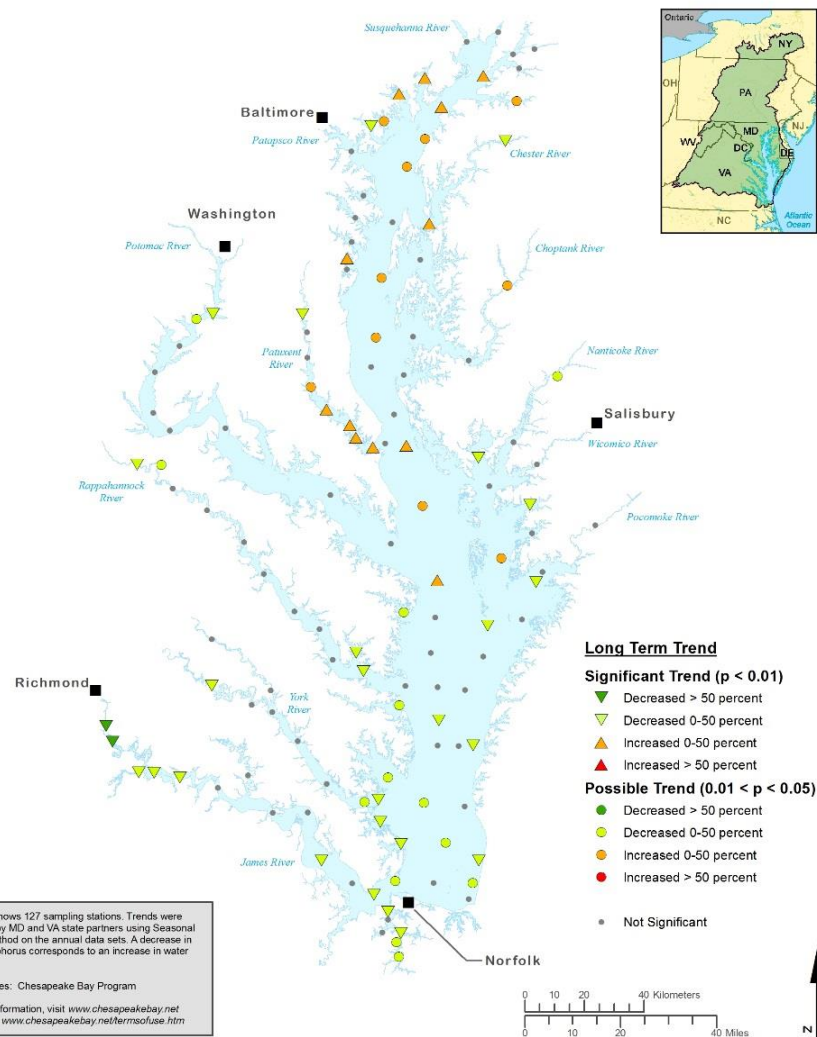


## Long-Term Trends for Surface Total Phosphorus in the Chesapeake Bay: 1999-2013



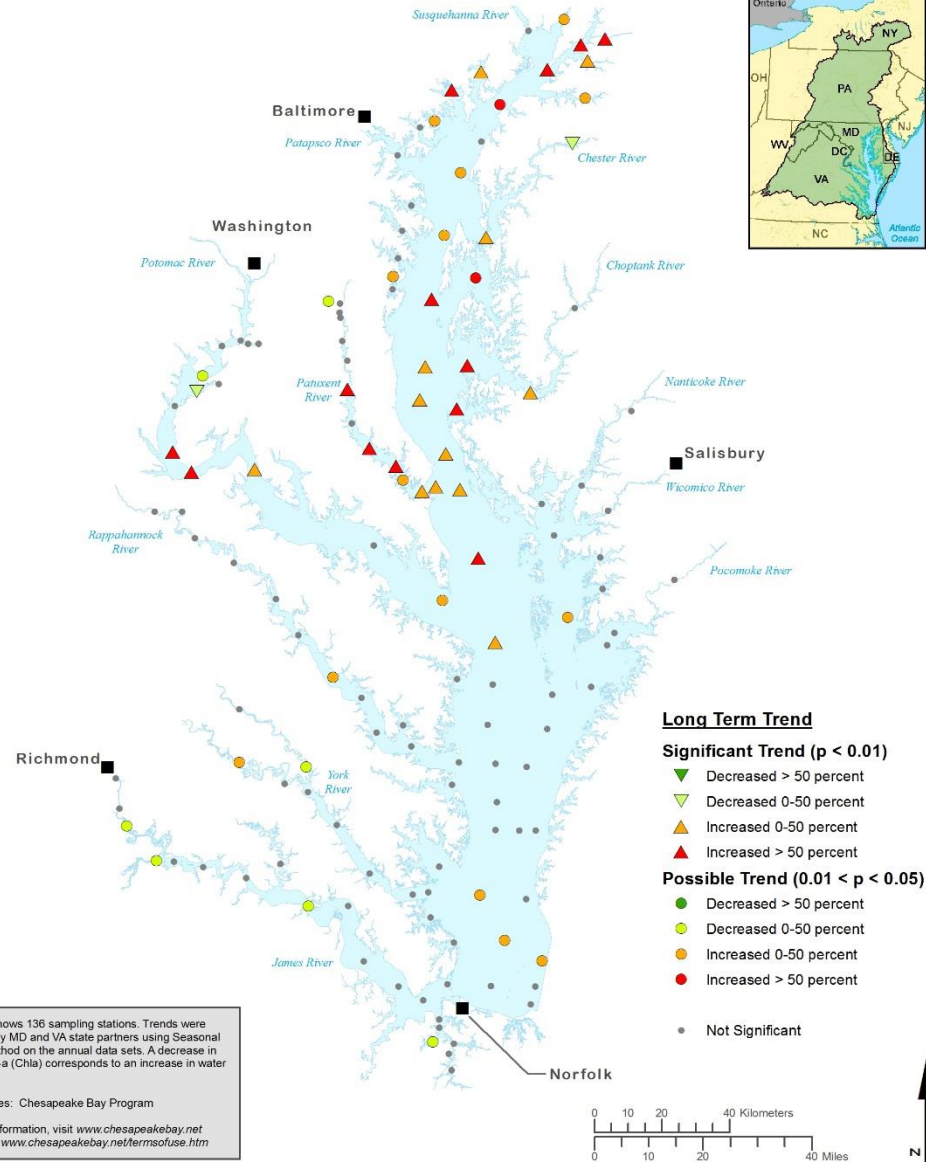
Created by HW, 02/23/15

## Long-Term Trends for Bottom Total Phosphorus in the Chesapeake Bay: 1999-2013



Created by HW, 02/23/15

# Long-Term Trends for Surface Chlorophyll-a in the Chesapeake Bay: 1999-2013



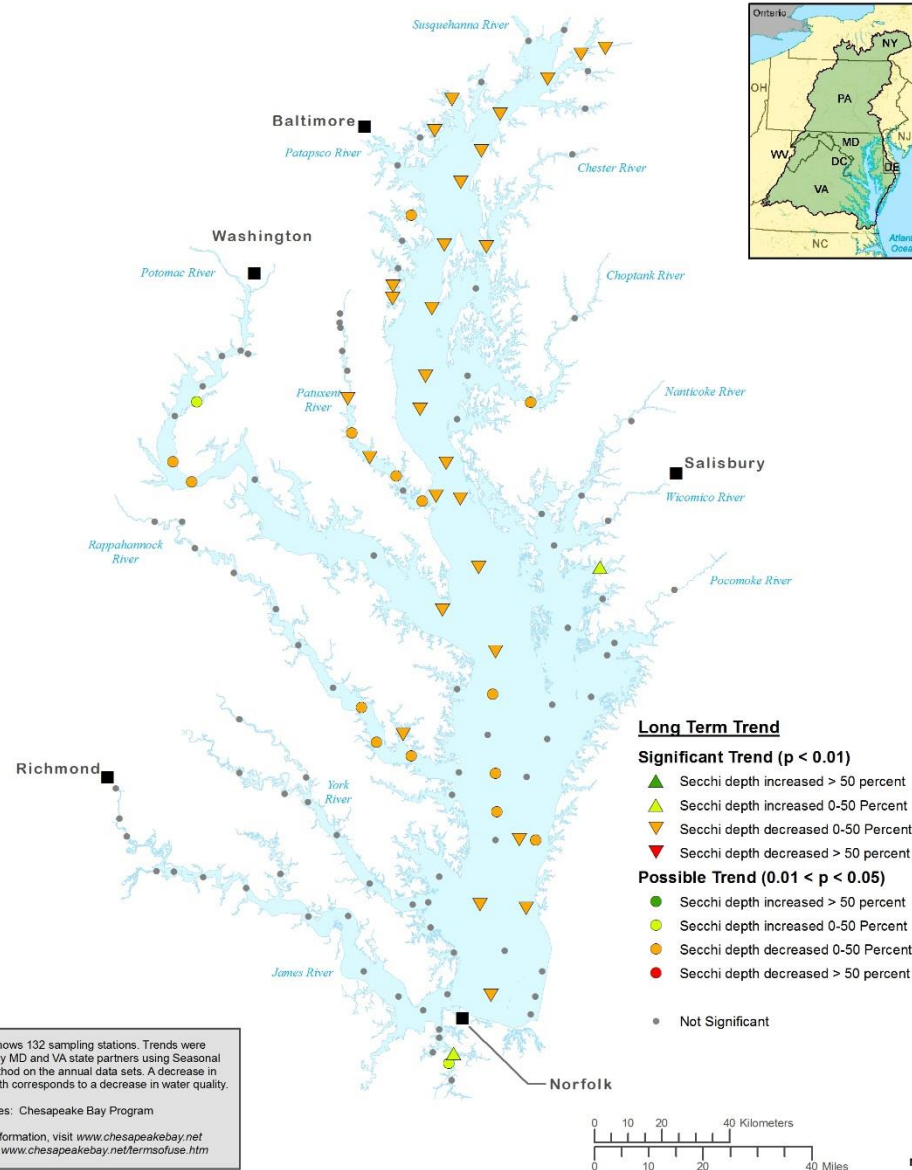
This map shows 136 sampling stations. Trends were computed by MD and VA state partners using Seasonal Kendall method on the annual data sets. A decrease in Chlorophyll-a (Chla) corresponds to an increase in water quality.

Data Sources: Chesapeake Bay Program

For more information, visit [www.chesapeakebay.net](http://www.chesapeakebay.net)  
Disclaimer: [www.chesapeakebay.net/termsofuse.htm](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/termsofuse.htm)



# Long-Term Trends for Secchi Disk Depth in the Chesapeake Bay: 1999-2013



# Tidal Trends: Next/on-going efforts

## 1. Measure Progress

*Actively developing a new trend approach (GAMs)*

- Captures nonlinear patterns and relationships
- Can be used to test hypotheses of factors affecting trends

## 2. Explain water-quality changes

*Actively performing and identifying analyses to evaluate trends*

- Examine patterns observed in maps with links to watershed loads, estuarine processes, and climatic forces
- Link observed trends to patterns in water quality criteria attainment
- Engaging research community and partners in explanations