Chesapeake Bay Program Indicators featured @ www.ChesapeakeBay.net

Bay Health: Scientists evaluate the Chesapeake Bay's health by monitoring important habitats, fish and shellfish and water quality measures. These indicators are useful tools to gauge overall health of the Bay and the animals that live in it.

Habitats and Lower Food Web

- Bay Grasses
  - Underwater Bay Grass Abundance (Upper, Middle and Lower Bay Zones)
  - Underwater Bay Grass Density
- Bottom Habitat
- Tidal Wetlands

Fish and Shellfish Abundance

- Blue Crabs
- Oysters
- Striped Bass
- American Shad
- Atlantic Menhaden

Water Quality

- Achievement of Chesapeake Bay Water Quality Standards
- Chemical Contaminants

Watershed and River Health: CBP uses the most current monitoring data to assess forest and stream health.

Forests

- Forest Cover

Health of Freshwater Streams

- Health of Freshwater Streams in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Flow-adjusted Pollution Trends

- Nitrogen in Rivers Entering Chesapeake Bay: Long-term Flow-adjusted Concentration Trends
  - Nitrogen Short-Term Flow Adjusted Concentration Trends Measured in Watershed Streams and Rivers
  - Nitrogen Yields Measured in Watershed Streams and Rivers
- Phosphorus in Rivers Entering Chesapeake Bay: Long-term Flow-adjusted Concentration Trends
  - Phosphorus Short-Term Flow Adjusted Concentration Trends Measured in Watershed Streams and Rivers
  - Phosphorus Yields Measured in Watershed Streams and Rivers
- Sediment in Rivers Entering Chesapeake Bay: Long-term Flow-adjusted Concentration Trends
  - Sediment Short-Term Flow Adjusted Concentration Trends Measured in Watershed Streams and Rivers
  - Sediment Yields Measured in Watershed Streams and Rivers

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Factors Impacting Bay and Watershed Health: CBP uses the most current monitoring data to track major factors influencing the health of the Bay and its watershed.

Pollutants

- Nitrogen
- Phosphorus
- Sediment

Land Use

- Population Growth
- Forest Cover

Natural Factors

- River Flow

Restoration and Protection Efforts: The most current monitoring and tracking data gathered by CBP partners and computer simulations are used to assess partners' efforts to restore the health of the Bay and its watershed.

Reducing Pollution

- Reducing Nitrogen Pollution
  - Wastewater
- Reducing Phosphorus Pollution
  - Wastewater
- Reducing Sediment Pollution
  - Wastewater

Restoring Habitats

- Planting Bay Grasses
- Restoring Wetlands
- Reopening Fish Passage
- Restoring Oyster Reefs

Managing Fisheries

- Blue Crab Fishery Management

Protecting Watersheds

- Planting Forest Buffers
- Developing Watershed Management Plans
- Protected Land

Fostering Stewardship

- Public Access
- Education and Interpretation (Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences)