

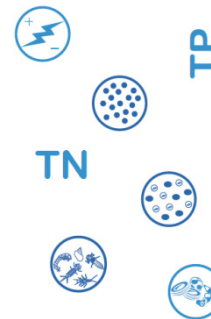
# MID-ATLANTIC TRIBUTARY ASSESSMENT COALITION

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Sampling and data analysis protocols  
for Mid-Atlantic tidal  
tributary indicators



Sampling and data analysis protocols  
for Mid-Atlantic non-tidal  
stream indicators



# MTAC FORMED IN 2010

- IAN produced report cards for individual watershed organizations, 2008-2010
- Created a voluntary group to produce a tidal protocol document in 2010
  - Objective – monitoring for report cards
  - Tidal (2011) and Non-tidal (2013)
  - Members
    - Any group that was doing tidal monitoring around the Bay
- Disbanded in 2014

# MTAC MEMBERS

- Sassafras River Association
- Chester River Association
- Nanticoke Watershed Alliance
- Coastal Bays Program
- Octararo Watershed Association
- Gunpowder Riverkeeper
- BlueWater Baltimore
- South River Federation
- West/Rhode Riverkeeper

# TIDAL PROTOCOL

- Same basic parameters that CBP partners measure in tidal areas
  - Salinity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll, water clarity, nutrients
  - Not all groups do all indicators
- Same basic field monitoring as CBP field procedures
  - Not all groups have boats or multi-probe sondes
- Minimum and preferred sampling frequency, time periods, methods
- Thresholds and report card calculations determined for all indicators

# NON-TIDAL PROTOCOL

- Basic parameters for producing a watershed report card
  - Not as similar to CBP objectives as tidal protocol
  - Streamflow, nutrients, conductivity, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, pH, water temperature, and others
- Basic field measurements similar to what watershed organizations were already doing, MD DNR's MBSS, and USGS
- Minimum and preferred sampling frequency, time periods, methods
- Thresholds and report card calculations determined for all indicators
  - Report card versus Vital Signs indicators
- No trends analysis

# PROTOCOLS AVAILABLE ONLINE

- Tidal protocol
  - [http://ian.umces.edu/pdfs/ian\\_report\\_313.pdf](http://ian.umces.edu/pdfs/ian_report_313.pdf)
- Nontidal protocol
  - [http://ian.umces.edu/pdfs/ian\\_report\\_407.pdf](http://ian.umces.edu/pdfs/ian_report_407.pdf)