



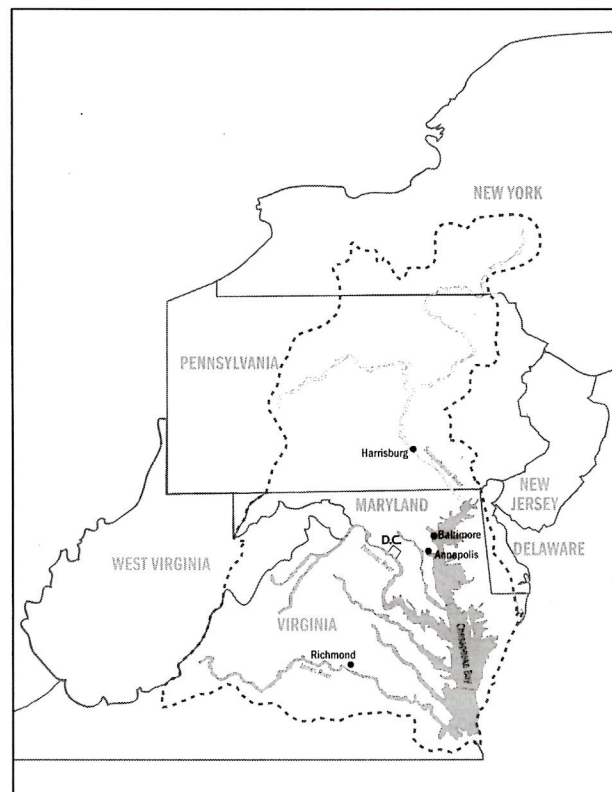
Longwood University & The Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Provided by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Welcome to Longwood University! This campus is located in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

What's a Watershed?

A watershed is the land that drains into a body of water. The Chesapeake Bay watershed extends over 64,000 square miles. It covers parts of Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, New York, Delaware, and the District of Columbia.



The Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Problems Facing the Bay

The Chesapeake Bay is in trouble. Excess nitrogen and phosphorus, created by air pollution, sewage treatment plants, and runoff from agriculture and urban and suburban development have caused persistent low water quality and extensive habitat loss. Important Bay species such as the blue crab and oyster have declined, as have the traditional watermen's lifestyles surrounding them. In its 2008 State of the Bay Report, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) gave the Bay's health a score of 28 out of 100. In January 2009, CBF spearheaded a coalition of environmental, sportsmen's, and watermen's groups in The Biggest Fight For Clean Water This Nation Has Ever Seen, bringing suit against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for its failure to maintain a fishable, swimmable Chesapeake Bay.

What Can I Do?

As a resident of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, your actions have a direct effect on the health of the Chesapeake Bay. Here are 10 ideas for making your time at college Bay-friendly.

1. **Conserve water** – By conserving water, you reduce the strain on sewage treatment plants, which means they can clean water more effectively before releasing it into the watershed.
2. **Use green cleaning products** – Many cleaning products contain toxic chemicals, which end up in the Bay. Clean alternatives can be made out of common materials like baking soda and lemon juice.
3. **Conserve energy** – Reducing the amount of electricity drawn from local power plants in turn reduces their contribution to air pollution and global warming (which both harm the Bay).
4. **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle** – These practices reduce the amount of space needed for landfills, which can contaminate nearby bodies of water as their contents break down. They also reduce our consumption of natural resources and increase available space for natural habitat.
5. **Walk, bike, carpool, or take public transportation to school** – This reduces vehicle exhaust, which contributes more than one-third of all airborne nitrogen pollution entering the Bay.
6. **Encourage your school to implement Bay-friendly landscaping** – Effective landscaping can filter runoff, reduce the need for nitrogen-based fertilizers and toxic chemicals, and support native ecosystems.
7. **Advocate for Bay-friendly dining** – Encourage your school's dining facilities to support farms employing practices that minimize runoff and use of fertilizers or chemicals.
8. **Get involved with service projects** – There are many hands-on opportunities for student groups to improve the health of the Bay. Organize a stream clean-up, build an on-campus rain garden, or plant a riparian buffer zone at a nearby stream. Organize an activity in your own community, or check out cbf.org and look at our event calendar to get involved.
9. **Take political action** – Laws and regulations at all levels of government can benefit or harm the Bay. Sign up for CBF's Action Network at cbf.org to stay up to date on legislative issues affecting the Bay and ways to influence their outcome.
10. **Bring the Bay into the classroom** – Environmental studies and environmental science classes can engage in hands-on learning through projects such as raising underwater grasses, oyster gardening, and water quality monitoring. To learn how your class can get involved, contact the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

Find more information about ways to help the Bay at cbf.org. Action kits for organizing campus events and a t-shirt design contest for college students will be posted online soon!



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION
Saving a National Treasure