

National Estuarine Research Reserves

BENEFIT EVERYONE



PROTECT PLACES

CREATE EXPERIENCES

ENERGIZE ECONOMIES

1.3+ million acres of public land & waters

2.78+ million visitors, educators, & students 2014–2017

\$500M in federal investment

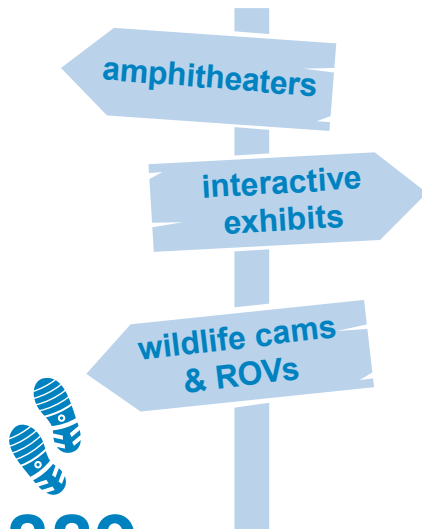
>4.5k MILES of waterfront on beaches, dunes, & bays

26 VISITOR CENTERS

+\$100M locally leveraged 2014–2017

337 SPECIES of plants, birds, fish, & other wildlife that are rare, endangered, or of concern

+ precious cultural resources



889 MILES of hiking & paddle trails

820 ACCESS POINTS including ramps, docks, & piers

60k JOBS SUSTAINED 2014–2017

95% OF RESERVES support commercial & recreational fishing

360,417 volunteer hours

\$9.16M+ 2015–2017

Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Maryland



2018

PROTECT PLACES

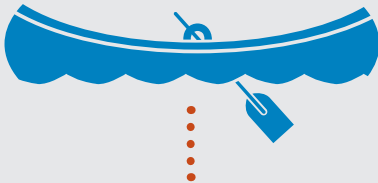


- **6,324** acres of land & water
- **8** wildlife species designated as rare, threatened, or endangered
- “Important Bird Area” designation from the National Audubon Society
- **30+** miles of waterfront



CREATE EXPERIENCES

- **74,618** visitors, educators, & students
- **44** miles of hiking & paddle trails
- **8** ramps, docks, & piers



ENERGIZE ECONOMIES

- **28,414** volunteer hours = **\$721,715** in 2018.



One Reserve, Many Ways to Love the Chesapeake

Maryland's Chesapeake Bay Reserve has something to offer anyone who enjoys being outside on the coast. The **Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary** is home to the McCann Wetlands Center, where visitors can enjoy guided nature and outdoor education programs and other activities. **Patuxent River Park** offers camping, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, fishing, hunting, boating, archaeology, and nature study. At **Otter Point Creek's Anita C. Leight Estuary Center**, visitors can enjoy canoeing and kayaking, pontoon boating, crafts, hiking, animal encounters, outdoor summer camps, and year-round citizen science opportunities.

Together, the Reserve's three components offer some of the best access to water recreation, fishing, and paddlesport in the Maryland, with more than 30 miles of waterfront, eight boat ramps, docks, and piers. Monie Bay Water Trails is the Reserve's newest trail network and gives paddlers a unique window onto the wildlife, plants, and maritime history of Monie Bay.

Nature Play for Young Explorers

Play is the most fundamental kind of learning. Children who spend more unstructured time in nature build strength, gain self-confidence, and learn to better manage risks and focus their attention. Resources to support outdoor environmental learning are of interest to many Maryland schools. To help address this need, the Chesapeake Bay Reserve and the Otter Point Creek Alliance teamed up with the Chesapeake Conservation Corps.

The result? A nature discovery area where Hartford County kids can have fun and be inspired by the estuary in their backyard. Designed for children to follow their own interests, the area is a place to jump and balance, engineer a fort, make music, paddle a land-locked canoe, or even whip up a meal in the nature kitchen. Since the site opened in June 2019, hundreds of children and families have enjoyed this way to discover nature on the bay.



The Chesapeake Bay Reserve, Maryland, is one of 29 sites in the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. Each site is a state/federal partnership that combines research, monitoring, and education to advance the understanding and management of estuarine environments.