

# Welcome to the 2017 Environmental Literacy Forum

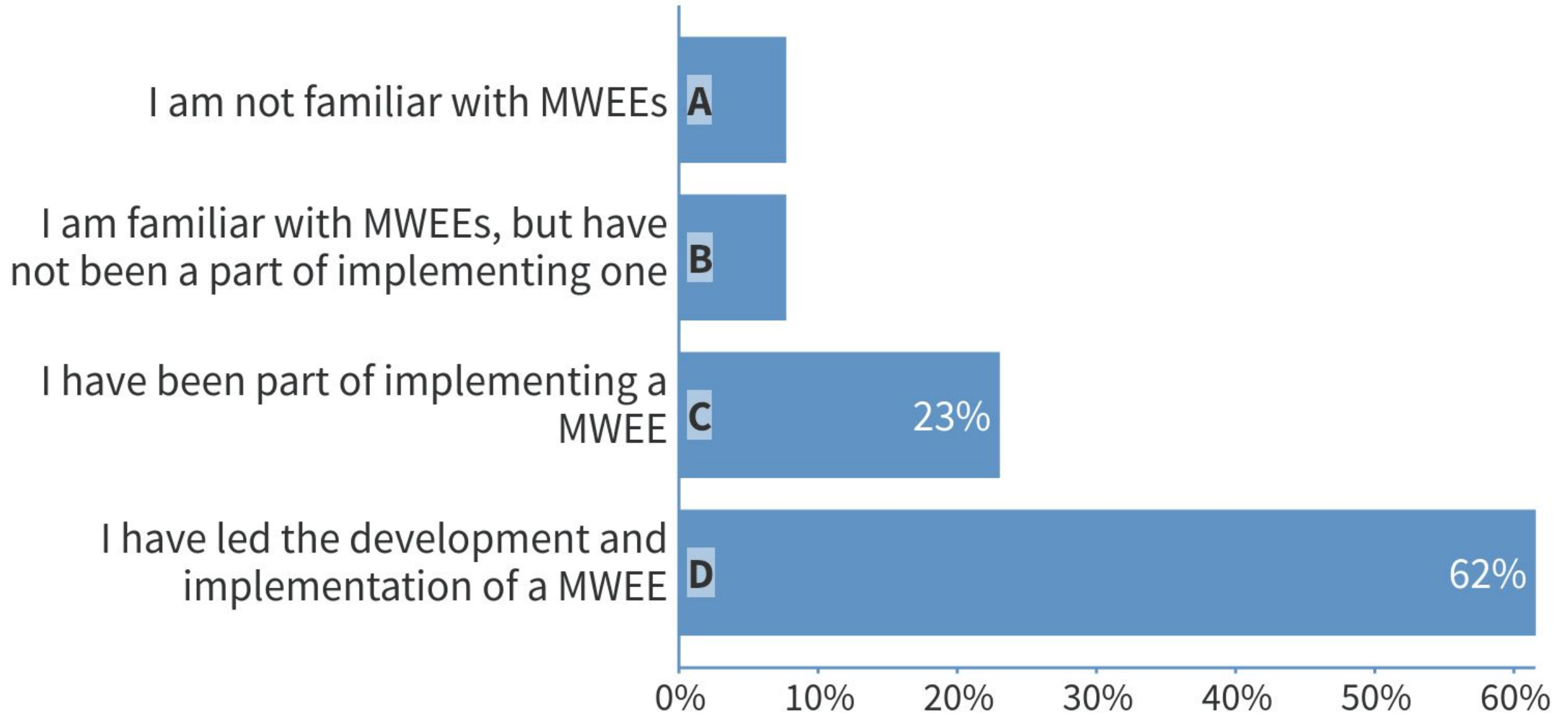
While you settle in, please set up Poll Everywhere

Text SHANNONSPRAG714 to 22333

--OR--

Navigate to [PollEv.com/ShannonSprag714](http://PollEv.com/ShannonSprag714)

# Have you been part of implementing a MWEE?



Total Results: 13



Shannon Sprague, NOAA

# Purpose of the Forum

To establish a cadre of Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) Ambassadors who have the understanding and skills to **advocate for and support the development of state and local environmental literacy programming that includes MWEEs.**

# What is a MWEE?

- MWEEs are student-centered experiences that focus on investigations into local environmental issues that lead to informed action and civic engagement
- 4 essential elements (student centered)
  - Issue definition
  - Outdoor field experiences
  - Synthesis and conclusions
  - Action projects
- 4 supporting practices (teacher directed)
  - Active teacher support
  - Classroom integration
  - Local context
  - Sustained activity

# Who is in the room?

- **Chesapeake Bay Program Education Workgroup leadership:** Shannon Sprague (Chair), Tom Ackerman (Vice Chair), Kevin Schabow (Coordinator), Drew Pizzala (Staffer)
- **Forum Planning Team:** Tom Ackerman, Tara Baker, Donna Balado, Laura Collard, Amy Green, Bart Merrick, Drew Pizzala, Kevin Schabow, Elise Trelegan

# Who is in the room?

- Regional/national organizations, and state delegations from Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia, DC.
- Variety of types of organizations: local school districts, federal agencies, state agencies, non-profit organizations, and universities.



Kristin Saunders,  
University of Maryland Center for  
Environmental Science







# CHESAPEAKE WATERSHED AGREEMENT



# SIGNED IN 2014

10 goals

Fisheries, Habitats , Water Quality, Toxics,  
Healthy Watersheds,  
Stewardship, Public Access,  
Land Conservation, Climate and  
**Environmental Literacy**

31 outcomes





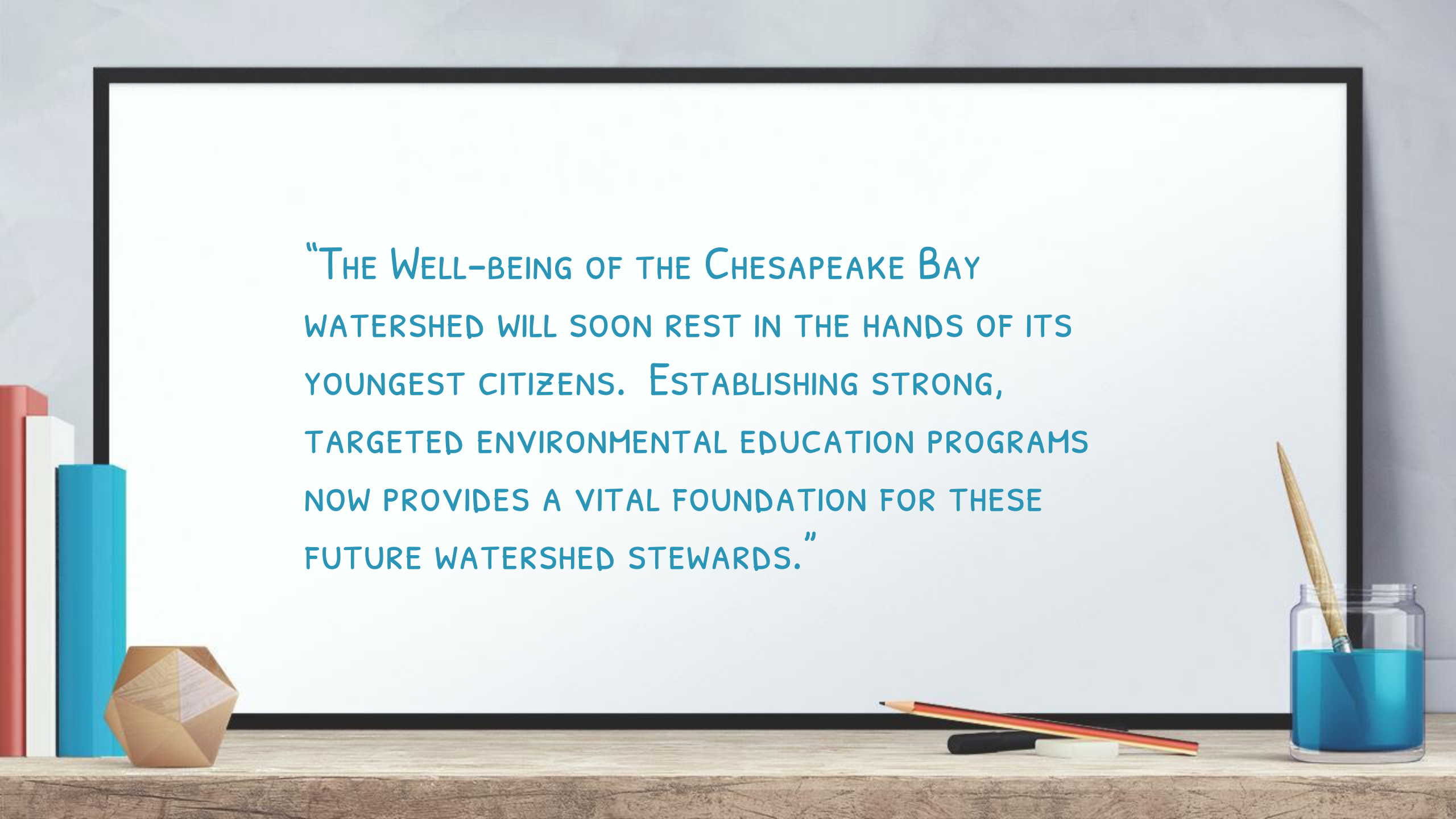


Perry McAuliffe  
Governor  
Commonwealth of Virginia

Jack Markell  
Governor  
State of Delaware

Tom Corbett  
Governor  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Vincent C. Gray  
Mayor  
Washington, D.C.



"THE WELL-BEING OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY  
WATERSHED WILL SOON REST IN THE HANDS OF ITS  
YOUNGEST CITIZENS. ESTABLISHING STRONG,  
TARGETED ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS  
NOW PROVIDES A VITAL FOUNDATION FOR THESE  
FUTURE WATERSHED STEWARDS."





ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY GOAL: ENABLE  
EVERY STUDENT IN THE REGION TO GRADUATE  
WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO ACT  
RESPONSIBLY TO PROTECT AND RESTORE THEIR  
LOCAL WATERSHED









# STUDENT OUTCOME

Continually increase students' age-appropriate understanding of the watershed through participation in teacher-supported, meaningful watershed educational experiences and rigorous, inquiry-based instruction, with a target of at least one meaningful watershed educational experience in elementary, middle and high school depending on available resources.





## SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS OUTCOME

Continually increase the number of schools in the region that reduce the impact of their buildings and grounds on their local watershed, environment and human health through best practices, including student-led protection and restoration projects.





Academic • Success

# COMPOSTING

1. Start
2. When you can't see fruit
3. When you can't see cardboard
4. When you can't see

bacteria

worms

ants

Caterpillars

beetles

grubs

snails

Slugs

N

nitrogen

grasses

vegetables

GRADE 3  
COMPOSTING BIN





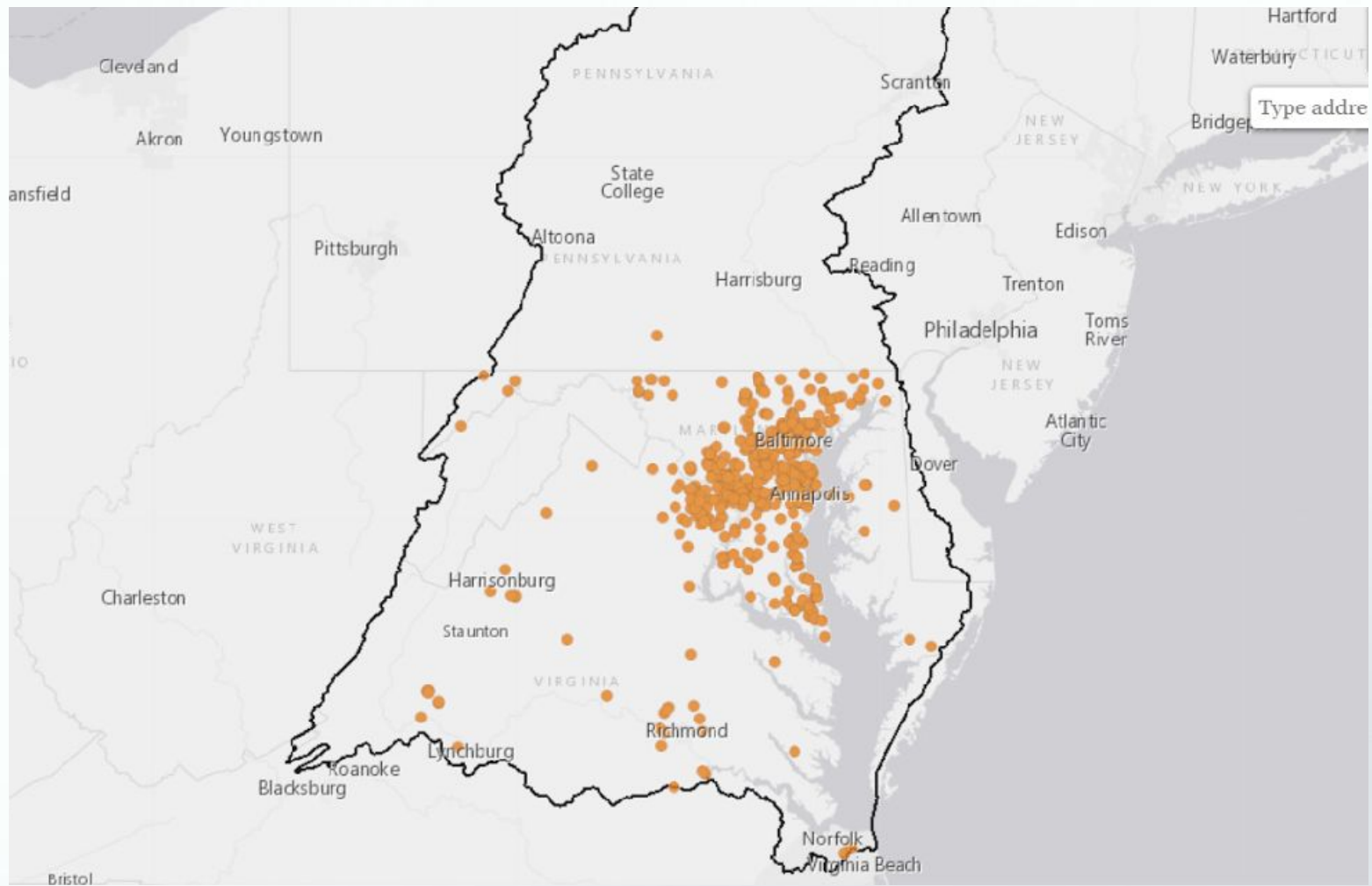


# LITERACY PLANNING OUTCOME

Each participating Bay jurisdiction should develop a comprehensive and systemic approach to environmental literacy for all students in the region that includes policies, practices, and voluntary metrics that support the environmental literacy Goals and Outcomes of this Agreement.







# POISED TO INTEGRATE SOCIAL SCIENCE INTO OUR COLLECTIVE WORK

How do we design for maximum  
impact?





# THE MWEE IS THE INTEGRATOR

Challenge you to connect these disciplines – show how public access, diversity, community stewardship and environmental literacy can collaborate









AS AMBASSADORS

YOU are the spark that will light the fire

# THANKS!

Email me at [ksaunders@umces.edu](mailto:ksaunders@umces.edu)





Kevin Schabow, NOAA  
Chesapeake Bay Office



# Student Perspectives

Caroline Fleetwood and Maria Cardenas - North Hagerstown HS



# Tom Ackerman Chesapeake Bay Foundation

[http://prezi.com/bvjywr-s1zo5/?utm\\_campaign=share&utm\\_medium=copy&rc=ex0share](http://prezi.com/bvjywr-s1zo5/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy&rc=ex0share)

