



Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week

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Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week is a time to celebrate the cultures, history and natural beauty of the nation's largest estuary.

Plans for 2024

- Theme: Unsung Heroes of the Chesapeake Bay.
 - Each day, we will share stories about elements of the Bay which are often overlooked.
- Emphasis on local watersheds within the greater Chesapeake Bay watershed.
 - Involve call to actions.

Proclamation Template

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay is the largest and most productive estuary in the United States, with its watershed spanning six states and the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay watershed, covering 64,000 square miles, is an extraordinary and vital natural resource, with some of the nation's most productive farm and forest lands; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay is fed by 50 major tributaries, including the Susquehanna, Potomac, Rappahannock, York, and James Rivers, and stretches 200 miles from Havre de Grace, Maryland, to Norfolk, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay watershed is home to more than 18 million people, many of whom rely upon the watershed's natural resources for their livelihood and recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, an important source of food for the **STATE** and the east coast of the United States, the Chesapeake Bay produces more than 500 million pounds of seafood harvest each year; and

WHEREAS, the more than 83,000 farms in the Chesapeake Bay watershed contribute more than \$10 billion to the regional economy and provide food for millions of Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay's tributaries in **STATE** are an important source of drinking water, which is essential for public health and economic growth and a vital resource for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the rich history, pivotal economic importance, and astounding beauty of the Chesapeake Bay watershed never cease to amaze residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, the **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** is in the **NAME OF WATERSHED**, which is important to the character and quality of life of the community and ultimately the health of the Chesapeake Bay; and

WHEREAS, the **TRUSTED SOURCE** has recognized the importance of Chesapeake Bay Week Awareness Week and has encouraged its members to do the same;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **NAME**, **TITLE** of **LOCAL GOVERNMENT**, do hereby proclaim June 1-10, 2024 as

CHESAPEAKE BAY AWARENESS WEEK

in the **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and urge all citizens to recognize the importance of this observance and to participate in events, activities, and educational programs designed to increase awareness of the importance of the Chesapeake Bay watershed in our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** to be affixed this **DATE**.

Name **DATE**

[Link to Proclamation Template](#)

What do we provide?

- The Chesapeake Bay Program will publish a press release and blog post.
- Sample proclamation templates.
- Social media toolkit.
- Flickr gallery for relevant images.
- Events calendar - let us know about your events!
- Support!
 - Let us know if you have questions.

Website, social media toolkit, events

Celebrate Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week

Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week is an annual event that celebrates the culture, history and natural beauty of the nation's largest estuary.



Join us from June 3 to 11, 2023 for Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week! Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week is a time to celebrate the cultures, history and natural beauty of the nation's largest estuary. During the week, there are a wide variety of online and in-person events, volunteer opportunities and social media conversations for everyone to take part in to celebrate the Chesapeake Bay.

History and Purpose

In 2016, the [Chesapeake Bay Commission](#) worked with their legislative partners to formally designate nine days each June as Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week. This timing was chosen to correspond with two long-running Bay events—Clean the Bay Day in Virginia and the Patuxent River Wade-In in Maryland. Each year, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia pass official proclamations in honor of Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week. Several local county and city governments have followed suit over the years, marking their own observance of the Bay. Organizations and business are encouraged to hold events, activities and volunteer opportunities during this time to celebrate the uniqueness of the Chesapeake Bay. The Chesapeake Bay Program is honored to help coordinate and play a role in this annual event.

During Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week, organizations host recreational, educational and volunteer events across the entire watershed. If you'd like to add an event to the calendar below, please fill out this [event submission form](#).

Participating Organizations

Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week is coordinated each year by the Chesapeake Bay Program. Members of the 2023 planning committee include:

[Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay](#)

[Chesapeake Conservancy](#)

[Chesapeake Research Consortium](#)

[Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments](#)

[Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection](#)

Contact

If you have any questions regarding Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week, please contact us at bayweek@allianceforthebay.org.

Events

Saturday, June 3, 2023

[View all >](#)

Saturday, June 3, 2023

Free Fishing Days in Virginia

Make plans to take advantage of Free Fishing Days! Invite a family member or friend to get out and wet a line without having to purchase a fishing license.

[View event details >](#)

VIRGINIA

Free Fishing Days in Maryland

Participate in Maryland's Free Fishing Days to fish without a license.

[View event details >](#)

VIRGINIA

Clean the Bay Day

Join people from around Virginia to clean up trash in along the Chesapeake Bay.

[View event details >](#)

VIRGINIA

Bay Discovery Fishing Trip

Spend the morning aboard the Marguerite in search of whatever is biting! Our experienced crew will provide all the knowledge and equipment necessary—just bring your enthusiasm!

[View event details >](#)

ANNAPOLIS, MD

Introduction to Kayak Fishing

Learn from Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission about basic paddling skills and kayak fishing equipment.

[View event details >](#)

HOLTWOOD, PA

Learn more:

<https://www.chesapeakebay.net/action/chesapeake-bay-awareness-week>



Chesapeake Bay **AWARENESS WEEK**

JUNE 1-9, 2024