

Chesapeake Bay Program

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SCE Forum Participants,

Welcome to the Stream Cleaner Environmental Forum!

Since it began in 2005, thousands of students from Bay states and Washington D.C. have participated in the eForum and come up with a multitude of diverse and innovative solutions to the problems facing the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed. In the coming weeks, you will have the opportunity to continue this journey of discovery. By “wearing different hats,” you will become the developer, the waterman, or the policymaker to help you view the Chesapeake Bay from a variety of perspectives.

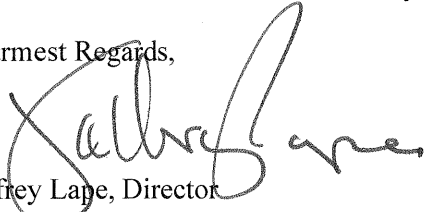
Nearly 17 million people live and work in the Chesapeake Bay watershed - each with their own feelings, experiences, and opinions about the Bay and its rivers and streams. You will discover that finding the best solutions is a balancing act: a struggle to please many different groups that have conflicting goals. The solutions to the Bay’s problems lie within a complex web of scientists, environmental managers, and stakeholders who each feel their view it the “right” one.

Your challenge is to find a way to make all these conflicting groups agree. You are the fresh minds who can sort through what policymakers and scientists have been struggling with for decades. This is your chance to find new and innovative solutions to answer the age-old question of how to clean up the Chesapeake Bay and halt the decades of pollution our waterways have endured.

On May 12, 2009, President Obama signed an Executive Order that recognizes the Chesapeake Bay as a national treasure and calls on the federal government to lead a renewed effort to restore and protect the nation’s largest estuary and its watershed. You are now part of that effort. With your knowledge and determination, we can find solutions to our habitat, wildlife, and water woes. The answers are inside each and every one of you. Through your participation in the Stream Cleaner Environmental Forum, you are contributing to the solutions. You are the Chesapeake Bay’s hope for the future, and this Forum is a sign of progress toward that future.

Thank you for your participation. We cannot wait to see the solutions you discover!

Warmest Regards,



Jeffrey Lape, Director
Chesapeake Bay Program

Visit the Chesapeake Bay Homepage on the World-Wide Web.
www.chesapeakebay.net
