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Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative's

Chesapeake Data Explorer

What is the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative?

The CMC is a collaboration among non-profit and academic organizations within the Chesapeake watershed. The CMC mission is to provide technical, programmatic, and outreach support in order to integrate volunteer-based and non-traditional water quality and macroinvertebrate monitoring data into the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership.

What is the Chesapeake Data Explorer?

The **Chesapeake Data Explorer** (cmc.vims.edu) was developed as a centralized data repository to facilitate the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative's (CMC) data integration efforts. It is a web database where member organizations can upload and manage data, monitoring locations, and their monitoring volunteers.

How does it work?

Built to serve the needs of CMC member organizations and partners, the Data Explorer has a diverse range of capabilities including:

- Users can upload both water quality and benthic macroinvertebrate data and metadata
- Data and metadata uploads are guided by webforms or through bulk spreadsheet files
- Data can be viewed and explored through a map-based interface
- Data users can download data of known integrity with their metadata
- Data and metadata are shared more broadly through routine data transfers with the Chesapeake Bay Program's Chesapeake Environmental Data Repository (CEDR) and USEPA's Water Quality Exchange (WQX) database



Why was it developed?

Data contribution by this diverse network of sources will provide valuable information and add to a comprehensive understanding of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, the health of the bay, and the success of restoration efforts. CMC members can participate in free trainings and may be eligible for monitoring equipment loans. Additionally, the Data Explorer provides an easy way for monitoring groups to share data with various stakeholders and see other data collection locations throughout the watershed.