



Press Release

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MEDIA ALERT: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative: New Year, New Website

(Annapolis, MD – January 14, 2019) – The Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative (CMC) is starting 2019 off fresh with a brand new [website](http://chesapeakemonitoringcoop.org) (chesapeakemonitoringcoop.org). This website provides a platform to share CMC services and resources that have been developed over the past three years and are freely available. The CMC brings together a diverse group of people who monitor water quality to provide a greater understanding of Chesapeake Bay watershed health. The new website helps promote collaboration among monitoring groups throughout the entire Chesapeake Bay region.

The CMC has developed quality assurance project plans, standard monitoring operating procedures, and an interactive database for both data collectors and data users. “These resources were produced as the foundation for the CMC and meant to be shared with our partners,” said Liz Chudoba, CMC Program Manager at the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay. “This website provides the platform to explain and use these resources.”

The CMC offers participating groups much more beyond the developed tools and resources. Partners work closely with monitoring groups to determine which parameters best fit water quality questions, to provide monitoring training workshops, to format their data for incorporation into a centralized data portal (the Chesapeake Data Explorer), and more.

The Chesapeake Data Explorer is the portal for all of the data collected by CMC monitoring efforts and connects those data with the Chesapeake Bay Program. “It is exciting to have a central location where volunteers, collaborators, and interested folks in stream monitoring can visit and learn about the fantastic resources CMC has to offer. From the database to training resources, the web site is the place to go,” said Julie Vastine, Director of Dickinson College’s Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring.

This website is important because it now brings all of the CMC communications together under one platform. “Communicating to our partners and stakeholders is important to the CMC project team,” said Caroline Donovan, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. “Having a user-friendly, content-rich website enables us to easily connect with CMC members across this large watershed.”

The CMC is not possible without the support from our partners across the watershed. “The website gives people the opportunity to become familiar with the CMC partners and supporters,

which includes scientists, volunteers, water resource managers, decision makers and other groups who work on making the Chesapeake Bay a healthier place to live, work, and play. We are happy to share these groups and our work with the public on this new site,” said Danielle Donkersloot, Clean Water Program Director for Izaak Walton League of America.

The CMC team is excited to share this new website with the Chesapeake Bay community, check it out today at chesapeakemonitoringcoop.org!

About the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Founded in 1971, the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, with headquarters in Annapolis, Maryland and offices in Richmond, Virginia, and Lancaster, Pennsylvania, works throughout the Bay watershed to lead, support and inspire local action and build partnerships with individuals, communities, governments, businesses and other groups to restore the Bay watershed and its forests, rivers and streams. For more information about the Alliance, visit: allianceforthebay.org

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