

# Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative



Julie Vastine | Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring  
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# Presentation Overview

- Project partners
- Project context
- 6-year plan
- Partnership tools
  - Census
  - Framework
  - QAPPs
- Next steps



# Project Partners

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# Project Context

## Bay VolMon Overview

- Rich history of community collected data in the watershed using diverse models.



## Chesapeake Bay Program Needs

- 2013 funding challenges
- Adaptive management strategy looked to use data collected by the citizen science community to supplement Bay monitoring efforts.

# Goal

Integrate data of known quality collected by diverse monitoring partners to better understand the health of Bay watershed, which will help inform watershed management decisions and restoration efforts.

# 2015-2020 Timeline

2015

- Inventory monitoring groups and identify data gaps and needs
- Develop tiered framework for data integrations into CBP network

2016

- Develop protocols for monitoring methods and data reporting
- Develop user-friendly database and data entry tools
- Research and develop data-based indicators and metrics
- Develop training materials and conduct training targeted at priority areas

2017

- Develop online toolkit for monitoring groups
- Conduct training targeted to priority areas
- Provide training on data analysis, synthesis, and communication

2018 –  
2020

- Conduct training targeted to priority areas
- Provide training on data analysis, synthesis, and communication

# Partnership Tools

- Leverage each other's strengths
- Monitoring census
- Tiered framework
- QAPPs



# Chesapeake Monitoring Census

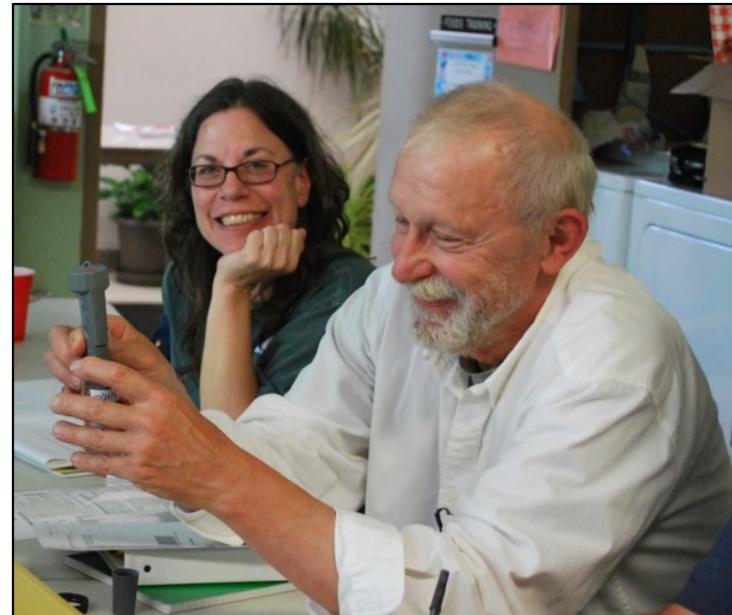
Watershed Inventory (600+ entities):

- General Information
- Monitoring Program Overview (Where? Why?)
- Monitoring Program Design (How?)
- Data Use and Storage
- Newsletter Sign-up
- Share on Social Media

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2671540/Chesapeake-Monitoring-Census>

# Framework Introduction

- First non-traditional data integration project at the federal level.
- Look to states for models of data integration (thank you Virginia, Missouri, Michigan, Alabama, and Indiana).



# Tiered Framework

<b>TIERS</b>	<b>Intended Data Use</b>
<b>TIER 1</b>	Education, Environmental Health Screening
<b>TIER 2</b>	Environmental Health Report Cards, Environmental Health Screening, Targeting of Management Actions
<b>TIER 3</b>	Regulatory Assessments of Water Quality Standards Attainment

Hidden Tier Zero – there are data requirements that must be met to be included in this project.

# Framework Principles

- Guidance document
- Data of known quality have use
- Data quality needs to match intended use
- Metadata, metadata, metadata

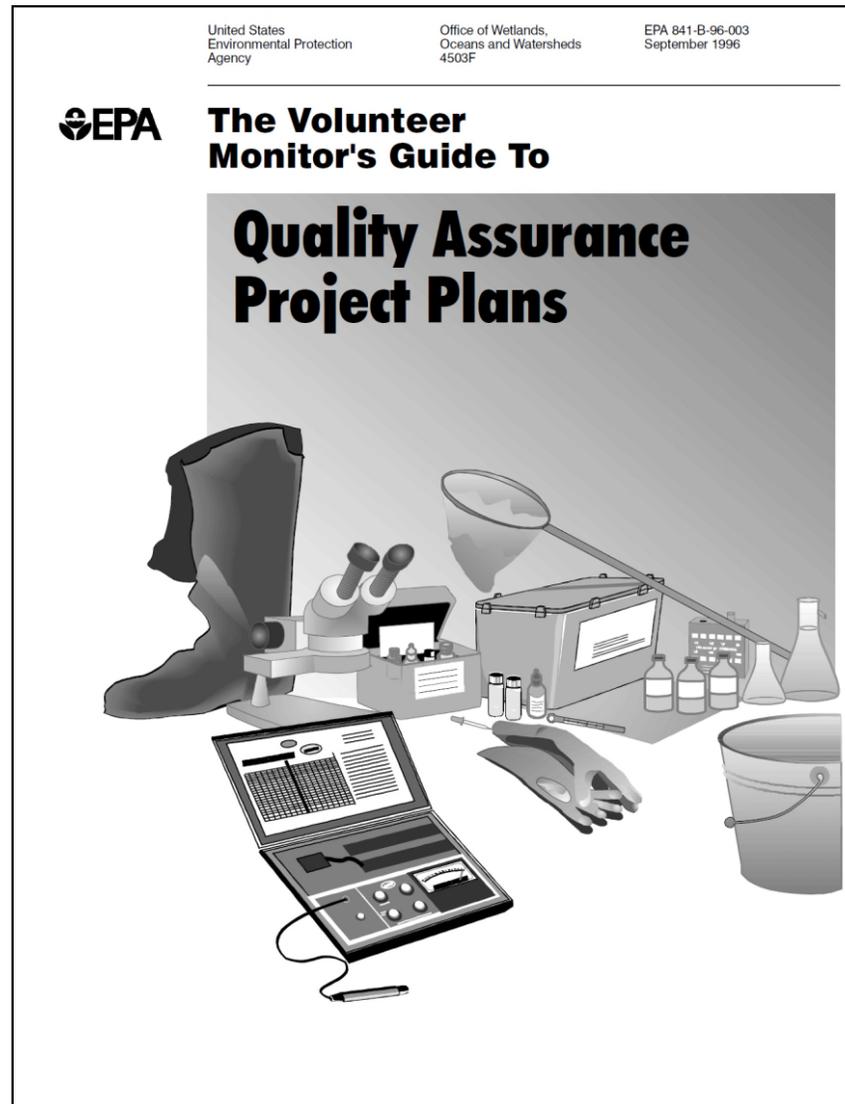


# Tier 1 & 2: Types of data collected

- Water quality/chemistry
- Biological – macroinvertebrates and submerged aquatic vegetation
- Physical – habitat and stream bank assessments

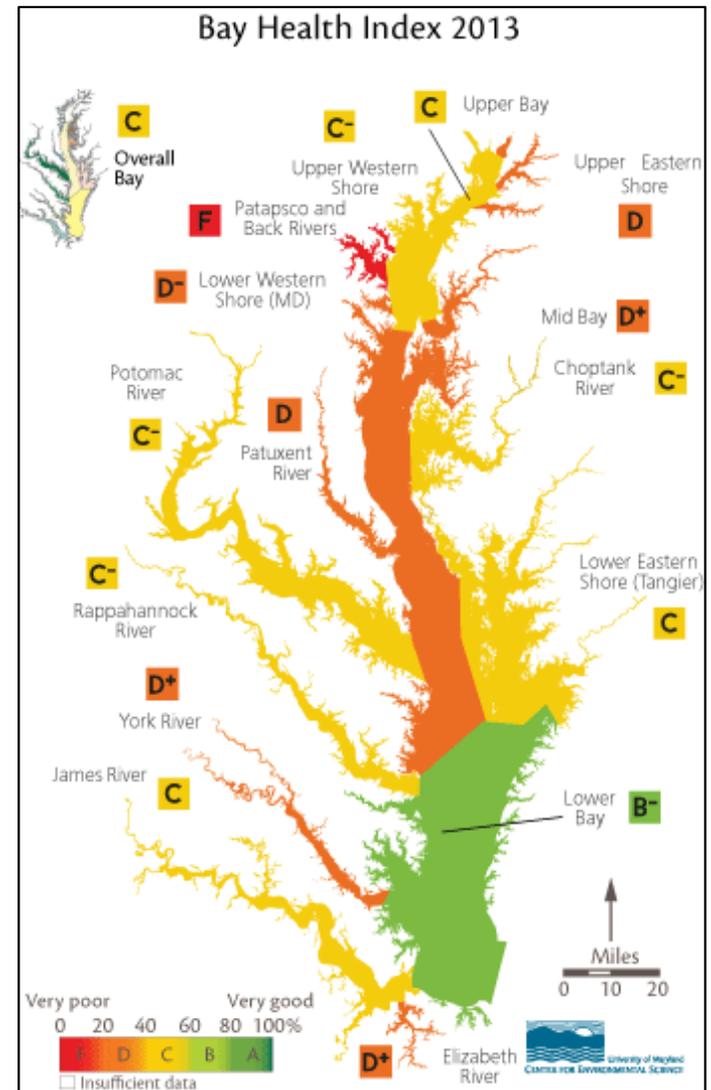


# Tools – EPA VolMon QAPP



# Tier 1&2 QAPPs

- Tidal
- Non-tidal
- Macroinvertebrates



[http://ian.umces.edu/ecocheck/images/2013\\_bhi\\_map.png](http://ian.umces.edu/ecocheck/images/2013_bhi_map.png)

# Next Steps

- Comparability testing
- Comprehensive methods manual
- QAPP approval
- New trainings!



# Contact Information



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