

# Leading the Way



CHESAPEAKE BAY  
FOUNDATION

*Saving a National Treasure*





# The Bay Leads the Way

Through all the uncertainty of the past year—an ever-changing pandemic, a shifting political landscape, the accelerating threat of global climate change—the Bay was a constant reminder that we can take on big, complex problems when we work together. We face enormous challenges. But we have more reason than ever to feel recharged and ready to finish what we started: fully implementing the Chesapeake Clean Water Blueprint by 2025 for a restored Bay.

It's impossible to resist optimism when the U.S. Secretary of State gives a national address on climate change at CBF headquarters and singles out the world-leading green buildings and Bay restoration effort as a model of American innovation.

Or when new technology and partnerships accelerate the largest oyster restoration effort in the world, leading to entire tributaries of rebuilt reefs in Maryland and Virginia.

Or when students learning in cutting-edge facilities on the Bay use their knowledge to solve real-world problems, and communities plant trees to heal waterways and injustice.

Or when an unprecedented coalition—three states, the District of Columbia, watermen, farmers, and local governments—holds the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency accountable in court and demands full implementation of the science-based Blueprint by 2025.

More than anything, it's impossible to resist optimism when we know you, the driving force behind all his work, have not and will not give up on the Bay. That is tangible. That is certain. Thank you.

# A message from our PRESIDENT AND CHAIR

## **We need bold action to save the Chesapeake Bay.**

Nothing sends that message clearer than CBF's biennial *State of the Bay* report. This year's score showed the Bay is still a system dangerously out of balance. The road to restoration is steep, and the clock to the 2025 deadline is ticking.

The greatest challenge is pollution flowing down the Susquehanna River. Restoration won't succeed if the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency fails to enforce the Clean Water Act by requiring Pennsylvania to meet its commitments under the Chesapeake Clean Water Blueprint. CBF, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, D.C., Maryland's Anne Arundel County, The Maryland Watermen's Association, and Robert Whitescarver and Jeanne Hoffman sued EPA in 2020 to make sure it does its job. The case is pending.

The opportunities and benefits of saving the Bay far outweigh the costs. Working directly with farmers, we are finding solutions that benefit their bottom lines and reduce water pollution. Many of these solutions also build resilience to climate change. We're marshaling large-scale state and federal resources to expand these practices.

CBF's Making History Campaign goals are: add 10 billion oysters, plant 10 million trees, and rally 1 million voices demanding action for the Bay. Campaign highlights include an international oyster science symposium,

a partnership with NASA, and a major project to plant hundreds of acres of forested buffers in Pennsylvania.

There are many challenges ahead, but as this year has shown, your concerted efforts can keep the pressure on and carry Bay improvement forward. You are our hope. Together we will—no, *we must*—save the Bay.

Thank you.



*Elizabeth Oliver-Farrow*  
Elizabeth Oliver-Farrow  
Chair



*William C. Baker*  
William C. Baker  
President

## CONTENTS

Learning in Nature.....	2
Building Reefs and Bipartisan Bridges.....	4
Full Press on Upstream Pollution .....	6
Leaves for Life .....	8
2021 Highlights .....	10
Gifts .....	12
Financial Overview .....	25





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# Learning in Nature

**Imagine living in the city yet going to school in a sustainable classroom surrounded by forests, marshes, and the Bay—with the occasional harbor seal for a classmate. What would happen if students engaged with nature firsthand nearly every day?**

The new Macon and Joan Brock Classroom has an answer. The addition to CBF's Brock Environmental Center is home base for juniors and seniors in the Virginia Beach City Public Schools Environmental Studies Program, which completed its first year in 2021.

The classroom uses reclaimed materials, solar and wind power, composting toilets, recycled rainwater, and other innovations that meet the highest standards of sustainability. Its design literally removes walls between students and the world, immersing them in field studies of the surrounding natural area near the Lynnhaven River.

"It redefines where and how learning can happen," says Chris Freeman, Environmental Studies Program Coordinator at Virginia Beach City Public Schools.

Students apply their knowledge to real-world problems in the community. Rising senior Jordyn Lewis is one of the first two students named to serve on the Virginia Beach City Council's Green Ribbon Committee, tasked with improving water management and infrastructure.

*"When students experience the Bay firsthand, they understand it on the deepest level."*



**Joan Brock**  
CBF Trustee and  
long-time supporter

"I want to do urban planning, particularly looking at waterways and flooding issues," Lewis says. "I'm really excited to get a seat at the table and have my voice heard and hopefully make a difference."

The Brock Classroom partnership represents the vanguard of CBF's vision for environmental education across the watershed.

"When students experience the Bay firsthand, they understand it on the deepest level," says Joan Brock, whose generous donation funded the Brock Classroom. "That leads to solutions that benefit us all."

At the same time, we're using technology to help make this type of learning a reality for students in all kinds of classrooms. In 2021, CBF educators created a whole new program—Online Watershed Learning—to support teachers and schools dealing with hybrid and remote learning during the pandemic. The curriculum reached more than 45,000 learners, including English as a Second Language classes in Baltimore City and the Franklin Military Academy in Richmond, Virginia.



**CBF is grateful for the  
generous support of:**

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The Landmark Foundation

Anonymous

Jennifer Stanley

Brian & Patricia Maddox

Simon & Nancy  
Sidamon-Eristoff



# Building Reefs and Bipartisan Bridges

**When CBF's oyster restoration vessel *Patricia Campbell* motored into the Little Choptank River off Maryland's Eastern Shore, Captain Karl Willey says it felt like traveling back in time more than 100 years.**

"Nothing but treelined shorelines and watermen working the bottom for crabs," he says.

A massive oyster restoration project in the river, one of the largest in the world, reached completion last year. The project included nearly two billion baby oysters placed on roughly 358 acres of restored reefs, an area larger than the National Mall in Washington, D.C. CBF alone seeded 64.1 million spat-on-shell, or juvenile oysters—the largest amount we've ever placed in a single sanctuary to date.

Jim Ridgell, a dedicated CBF volunteer for more than a decade, says the work gives him a way to help the Bay.

"It's about giving back to something you love," he says.

The Little Choptank is part of efforts in Maryland and Virginia to meet the 2014 Chesapeake Watershed Agreement goal of restoring oyster reefs in 10 Bay tributaries by 2025. The goal is even closer to reality after Congress' House Appropriations Committee approved a budget explicitly dedicating funds to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for large-scale oyster restoration next year. The committee also went on

*"It's about giving back to something you love."*



**Jim Ridgell**  
CBF volunteer

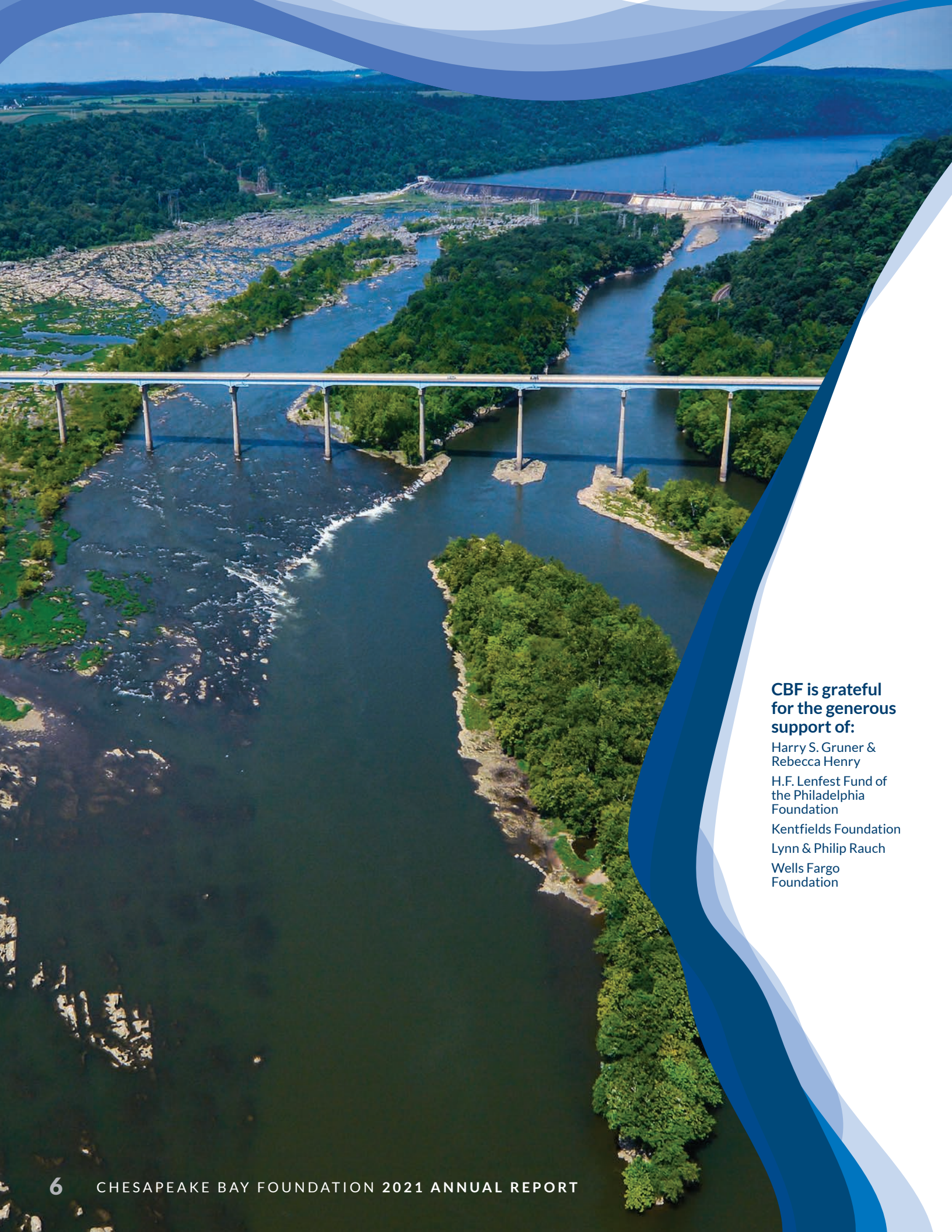
record supporting the Corps' Chesapeake Bay Oyster Recovery Program, which provides critical federal funding for restoration projects.

Bipartisan support for the Bay, which makes these gains possible, remains strong in no small part thanks to the efforts of CBF's federal office and our advocates and members across the watershed. In another huge win, Congress unanimously passed legislation that reauthorized the Chesapeake Bay Program for the first time in 15 years and increased its authorized funding level incrementally over the next five years to \$92 million in 2025. The Bay Program is the "glue" that holds the federal-state restoration partnership together.

The crew of CBF's Maryland oyster restoration vessel, the *Patricia Campbell*, prepares to transport spat-on-shell, or juvenile oysters, to sanctuary reefs where they will filter water and provide habitat for many critters.

A.J. METCALF/CBF STAFF





**CBF is grateful  
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Harry S. Gruner &  
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H.F. Lenfest Fund of  
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Foundation

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Foundation



Holtwell Dam, just north of the Norman Wood Bridge, is one of several dams along the Pennsylvania section of the Susquehanna River, which provides around half the Bay's fresh water and pollution.

JOHN PAVONCELLO

# Full Press on Upstream Pollution

**With less than five years remaining until the Chesapeake Clean Water Blueprint's 2025 deadline, one thing is essential for success: stemming upstream pollution flowing from Pennsylvania down the Susquehanna River, which provides roughly half the Bay's fresh water and pollution.**

But in 2020, Pennsylvania was far behind its commitment to reduce pollution from agriculture, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency failed to ensure the Commonwealth had a sufficient plan to meet the requirements on time.

CBF knew that without an adequate plan, and without enforcement of the Blueprint, the entire restoration effort would be in jeopardy. By September, we convened an unprecedented coalition to challenge EPA in court and ensure such a plan would be delivered and implemented. Three states—Delaware, Maryland, Virginia—and the District of Columbia filed a lawsuit concurrently with a lawsuit filed by CBF and our partners, including the Maryland Watermen's Association, Anne Arundel County in Maryland, and Virginia livestock farmers Robert Whitescarver and Jeanne Hoffman.

"We will not let the Chesapeake Bay die on our watch," said Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh during the joint press conference.

*"The benefits and values of trees and forests are more critical than ever."*



**Cindy Dunn**  
Pennsylvania  
Department of  
Conservation and  
Natural Resources  
Secretary

The lawsuits have since been combined, and CBF is leading the ongoing litigation. At the same time, we're working to get Pennsylvania the resources it needs. We joined with the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and bipartisan lawmakers in supporting state legislation that, for the first time, would provide farmers a dedicated cost-share program for implementing conservation practices that reduce pollution. And we secured nearly \$2 million to work with local partners in the Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership to plant hundreds of acres of forested stream buffers in targeted Pennsylvania counties where pollution reductions are most effective.

"The benefits and values of trees and forests are more critical than ever as our commonwealth faces increasing financial, social, and environmental challenges," said Cindy Adams Dunn, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Secretary.





**CBF is grateful for the generous support of:**

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Bleakhorn Foundation

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# Leaves for Life

**When Amy Wentz learned that life expectancies in her Southside Richmond community were much lower than other areas of Virginia's capital city, the need for change hit home. She co-founded Southside ReLeaf, a community organization committed to building a healthy, equitable, and sustainable environment in South Richmond.**

Part of the solution? Planting trees. In the fall of 2020, CBF, Southside ReLeaf, and local partners began work on the new Greening Southside Richmond Project, which is planting hundreds of trees in neighborhoods that suffer from extreme heat. And it has big benefits for the Bay, too.

“The trees we’re planting will capture and store and then slowly release rainwater back into the environment, so that’s going to reduce stormwater runoff,” says Ann Jurczyk, CBF’s Virginia Director of Outreach and Advocacy. “But it’s also going to reduce flooding and provide shade that will help reduce the heat island impact in Southside Richmond.”

Richmond, like many cities, is increasingly vulnerable to dangerous heat due to climate change. But not all residents are affected equally. The hottest neighborhoods today, with fewer trees and open spaces, are the same neighborhoods once redlined under racially discriminatory home lending practices in the mid-1900s.

*“People in the neighborhoods are wanting to get involved and they’re wanting to be part of this effort.”*



**Amy Wentz**  
Co-Founder,  
Southside ReLeaf

CBF used the Richmond Office of Sustainability’s Climate Equity Index map to identify Southside census tracts where green space is most needed to reduce heat and improve the health of residents, and led efforts to secure a \$227,467 federal grant that will be boosted by more than \$80,000 in matching funds from local supporters. Southside ReLeaf will work extensively with people living in the area to ensure projects meet community needs.

“People in the neighborhoods are wanting to get involved, and they’re wanting to be a part of this effort,” says Wentz. “We are super excited to work with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and all of our other partners on this and more projects.”

Community members help plant trees in Southside Richmond in an effort to reduce pollution, the heat island impact, and flooding.

KENNY FLETCHER/CBF STAFF



**BRINGING TOGETHER** the best minds in oyster restoration and completing major reef restoration projects.

**PROTECTING** the Bay from climate change and pollution by securing national legislative and regulatory wins.

**CONVERTING** hundreds of acres of farmland to more Bay-friendly agricultural practices.

With less than five years left to fully implement the Chesapeake Clean Water Blueprint, your support this year spurred the innovation, collaboration, and progress we need at all levels to make clean water a reality in every corner of the watershed.



## Education

A record number of people accessed our education programs, with **more than 45,000 students, teachers, and adults** experiencing the wonders of the Bay through live Online Watershed Learning (OWL) classes.

We nurtured critical leaders and champions for Bay education: **250 teachers** participated in Chesapeake Classrooms, receiving training in outdoor education curriculum while also learning tips on how to provide engaging online lessons, and **over 100 students** from across the watershed participated in our Student Leadership program, drafting a Chesapeake Clean Water Bill of Rights and leading projects in their communities aimed at saving the Bay.





## Litigation

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit vacated the Trump EPA's 2021 Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) rule—a **major win CBF helped secure** that will fight climate change and provide cleaner air and water in the Bay watershed, which receives a third of its nitrogen pollution from the air.

CBF continues to build on environmental justice precedents we secured in Virginia and has been working with local residents and partners to **oppose the permit for a compressor station** for the Mountain Valley Pipeline in Pittsylvania County.

Alongside other environmental groups, CBF **filed a notice of intent to sue** Valley Proteins for routinely exceeding pollution limits at its plant on Maryland's Eastern Shore.



## Advocacy

We partnered with the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and over 40 businesses and conservation organizations to propose a **State Agricultural Conservation Cost-Share Program** to provide farmers with funding support needed to keep soil on their land, reduce pollution, and protect long-term viability of their farms.

After years of advocacy by CBF and partners and the development of the appropriate science, the Atlantic

States Marine Fisheries Commission **cut the coastwide menhaden harvest by 10 percent**, helping move toward an ecosystem approach to fisheries management that takes the needs of other species, like striped bass, into account.

CBF's Federal Office **fought regulatory rollbacks** throughout 2020 and presented a transition document to the Biden administration urging restoration of critical regulatory programs, including automobile fuel economy and emissions standards, Waters of the United States, and the National Environmental Policy Act.



## Restoration

With our partners, we neared complete oyster restoration of the Tred Avon River, with **150 acres of restored reefs**. This will be the third completed project in Maryland with a goal of restoring two more rivers by 2025.

CBF began a three-year project to restore **200 acres of streamside forest** along the Upper James River watershed, which will prevent nearly 200,000 pounds of sediment from entering the river each year.

Through the Mountains-to-Bay Grazing Alliance, we helped farmers in Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania build healthy soils. To date, the alliance has installed **54.4 acres of forested buffers**, converted **803.4 acres of pastureland to rotational grazing**, constructed **16,896 linear feet of stream fencing** to reduce livestock waste entering the water, and prevented 5.8 million pounds of sediment, 38,000 pounds of nitrogen, and 6,000 pounds of phosphorus from reaching the Bay.

The inaugural Chesapeake Oyster Science Symposium, organized by CBF, connected **over 450 national and international academics, young scientists, restoration experts, and aquaculture professionals** to highlight emerging science and innovative approaches to oyster restoration.



# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

## FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2021—UNAUDITED

CBF's management practices ensure that operating and capital campaign funds raised in the current year as well as campaign funds pledged in previous years are effectively put to use to support programs to save the Bay.

### Support and Revenue

Membership Contributions.....	\$5,895,654
Grants & Gifts.....	17,006,714
Education Contracts & Tuition.....	160,275
Investment Income.....	3,568,203
Donated Goods & Services.....	219,102
Other.....	879,439
Revenue for Current Year.....	\$27,729,387

### Expenses

Program Services.....	\$23,360,226
Environmental Education	6,075,737
Environmental Protection & Restoration	14,381,167
Strategic Communications	2,903,322
Support Services.....	6,064,957
General & Administrative	2,376,640
Fundraising	3,688,317
Total Expenses.....	\$29,425,183
Change in Net Assets Before Capital Additions.....	(\$1,695,796)*
Capital Additions.....	\$12,596,018
Change in Net Assets.....	\$10,900,222
Net Assets, Beginning of year.....	\$119,955,895
Net Assets, End of year.....	\$130,856,117

A copy of the audited financial statement & IRS Form 990 is available at [cbf.org](http://cbf.org) or by calling 888-SAVEBAY.

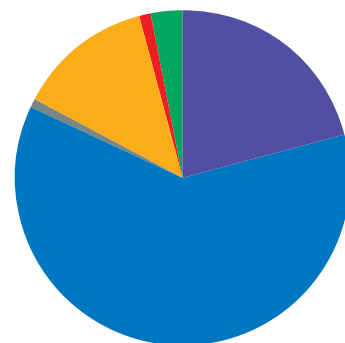
\*((\$1,930,155) is related to Making History Campaign and future expenditures.



GuideStar Exchange Platinum  
Participation Level

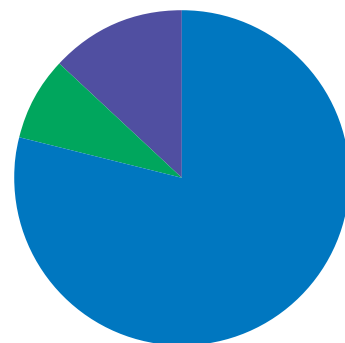


America's Best Charities  
Seal of Excellence



### REVENUE

21%	Membership Contributions
61%	Grants & Gifts
1%	Education Contracts & Tuition
13%	Investment Income
1%	Donated Goods & Services
3%	Other



### EXPENSES

79%	Program Services
8%	General & Administrative
13%	Fundraising



## CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

*Saving a National Treasure*

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410-543-1999

Claggett Farm and CSA  
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Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Maryland Oyster  
Restoration Center  
4800 Atwell Road  
Shady Side, MD 20764

### Pennsylvania

1426 North Third Street  
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Harrisburg, PA 17102  
717-234-5550

### Virginia

1108 East Main Street  
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Richmond, VA 23219  
804-780-1392

Brock Environmental Center  
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757-622-1964

Virginia Oyster  
Restoration Center  
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OUR MISSION: Save the Bay™ and keep it saved, as defined by reaching a 70 on CBF's Health Index.