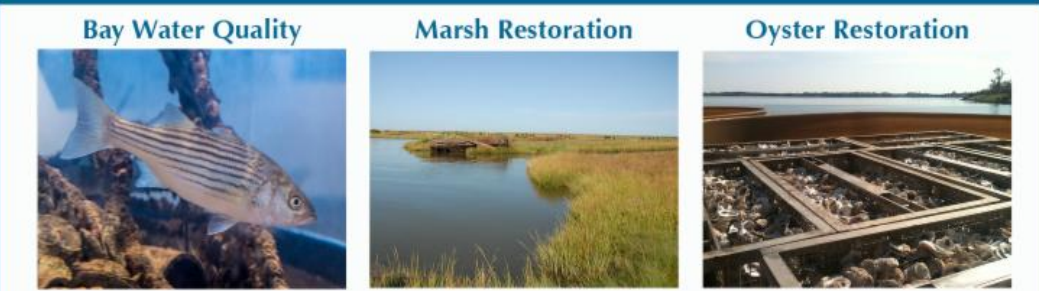


October 2019



**Bay Water Quality**      **Marsh Restoration**      **Oyster Restoration**

# Brief...but Interesting

Highlights from Horn Point Laboratory

**Art and science partner for Bay restoration •  
Award for diversity of students in STEM careers • Opening  
minds at HPL Open House • Protecting shorelines for the  
long haul • Time to talk about oysters • Next Generation  
Scientist •  
Upcoming events**



Researchers at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science's Horn Point Lab and the Maryland Institute College of Art are partnering on a project to create artificial oyster shells. More shells

are needed to restore oyster reefs across the Chesapeake Bay, they say. (David Harp)

## Can bacteria help restore the Chesapeake Bay's oysters?

Ryan Hoover teaches sculpture making at the Maryland Institute College of Art. So, why is he developing a product that could help oysters grow in the Chesapeake Bay?

Researchers at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science's Horn Point Lab and the Maryland Institute College of Art are partnering on a project to create artificial oyster shells. More shells are needed to restore oyster reefs across the Chesapeake Bay, they say.

"That's a fine question," he said, laughing.

The answer is that he prefers to make art that has a function. In this case, he's using new technology to build better artificial reefs for oysters — with an assist from nature itself.

[LEARN MORE](#)

---



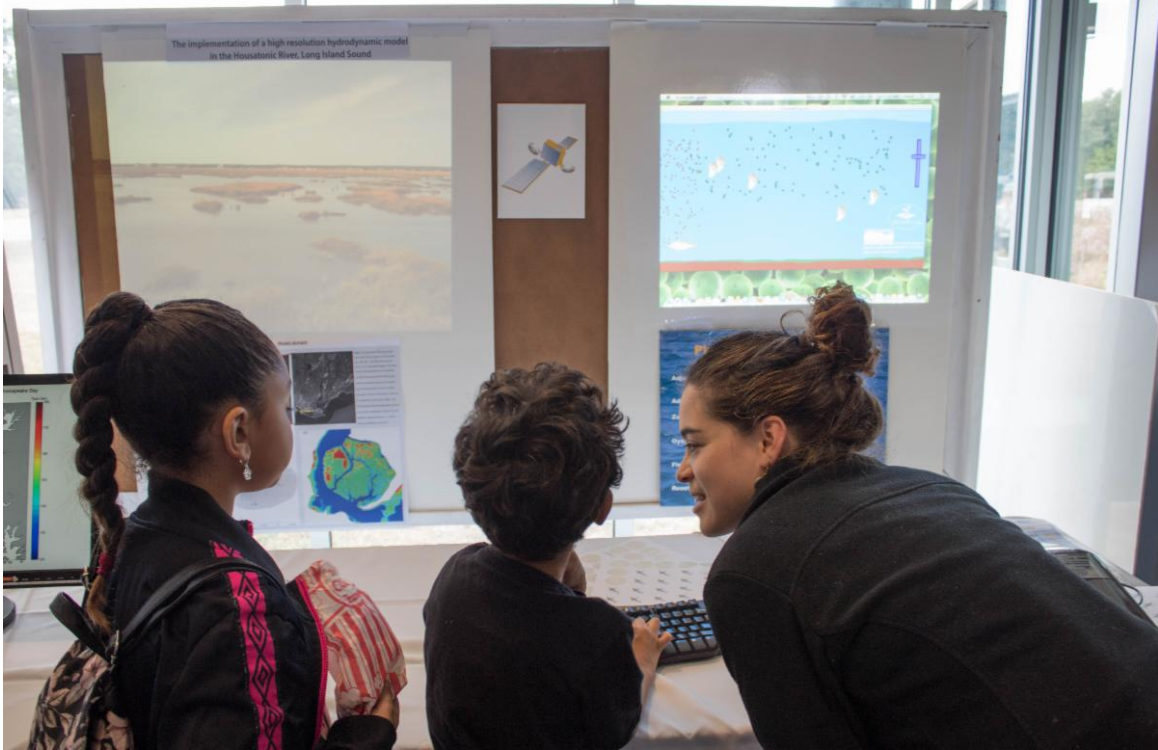
The new STEM effort builds on the success of the Centro TORTUGA program in Puerto Rico that expanded geoscience research opportunities for more than 50 Hispanic undergraduates in the last three years.

## NSF award supports new effort to engage underrepresented island students in marine and environmental sciences

The [University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science](#) and [Maryland Sea Grant College](#) have been awarded a \$2.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to help grow the number and diversity of students who are interested in and eventually seek careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

[LEARN MORE](#)

---



## HPL Open House opens minds

"This is better than any birthday party I have ever been to!" "This is the best field trip ever!" These were some of the comments shared by children visiting HPL's Open House on Saturday, October 12. Under glorious fall skies, nearly 700 visitors explored HPL's campus. "Lots of great questions and smiling faces from an appreciative and enthusiastic public," said HPL Director Mike Roman. "Every year we reach more people, have returning fans, and teach new, exciting facts about the great work we do at Horn Point."

[LEARN MORE](#)



## Protecting Shorelines while creating habitat

What *can't* an oyster do? It builds communities for underwater life, filters its surrounding waters, and feeds many species - including humans! Now, scientists at Horn Point Laboratory in Cambridge are putting them to work to help fight shoreline erosion. "We want to prove that a living reef, one that is alive and growing, can keep pace over time with rising water levels," said scientist and Assistant Professor William Nardin.



## The time has come to talk about oysters

The lyrical cadence of Lewis Carroll's "The Walrus and The Carpenter" lulls us into the fantasy of a sandy beach world where all is well, and where oysters thrive alongside people and other sea life; until it becomes apparent that all is not well. HPL's Hatchery shares expertise with a documentary team on the challenges and benefits restoration of these bivalves will bring to the Chesapeake Bay.

### [READ MORE](#)

[Louise Schiavone](#) recently visited HPL's Hatchery as part of her research on the video documentary about marine life biodiversity in the Scottish Highlands, and the role of the oyster in raising the quality of the marine environment around the world.

---



## Next Generation Scientist: Hannah Morissette

Pursuing a doctorate in marine science is rigorous. Hannah Morrissette's career goal is to work in the field of marsh restoration and management addressing the impacts of sea level rise and salt intrusion. This week however, Hannah will spend five days completing her comprehensive exam, where students are assessed on their overall knowledge of their field of study. Every doctorate candidate must complete written and oral exams to begin the dissertation on their research focus. In an interview, learn more about Hannah and how her research will make a difference.

[LEARN MORE](#)

---

## Upcoming Events

---

Visit HPL at [STEM Maryland Festival](#)

Saturday, November 2

9am to 11am

Canary Row, 400 Block of Race Street, Cambridge

---

### Waterfowl Festival

Visit [Anna Windle](#), HPL graduate student, to explore drones and water quality. A hands-on experience for all!

Easton Middle School

Saturday, Nov. 9

2-4pm



## Other events connecting science with the environment

---

Maryland One Book Author Mona Hanna-Attisha

"What the Eyes Don't See"

Monday, November 4

7pm

Presented by County Libraries of the Eastern Shore  
Todd Performing Arts Center, Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, MD

---

## SUPPORT SCIENCE DONATE



With ongoing research programs spanning from the estuarine waters of the Chesapeake Bay to the open waters of the world's oceans, Horn Point Laboratory is a national leader in applying environmental research and discovery to solve society's most pressing environmental problems.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)



University of Maryland  
CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE  
HORN POINT LABORATORY