

# Welcome!

## **Crisfield Natural Spaces Discussions** *How do the People of Crisfield feel about their Natural Spaces and Coastal Environment?*

Please Sign In and complete the two Sticker Dot Activities

**Sticker Activity 1**  
**What Neighborhoods  
are Represented Here  
Today?**

**Sticker Activity 2**  
**Where are Crisfield's  
Most Important Natural  
or Outdoor Places?**

# Why are we here today?

EPA is working with the town of Crisfield to explore potential ‘nature-based’ strategies, such as marsh restoration, sand dunes, living shorelines, artificial reefs, and living breakwaters that Crisfield could consider to address storm resilience or other community goals.

**Today’s Purpose:** Learn how residents of Crisfield and the surrounding area use and feel about Crisfield’s natural coastal spaces.

[www.epa.gov/water-research/coastal-community-resilience-research](http://www.epa.gov/water-research/coastal-community-resilience-research)



# Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Overview (10 minutes)
- Ice-Breaker: Where are Crisfield's Top Outdoor Places? (10 min)
- Small Group Discussions: Who Cares About Coastal Natural Spaces? (25 min)
- Small Groups Report Out (15 minutes)
- Activity: What about Coastal Spaces Matters to People? (10 min)
- Activity Report Out (15 min)
- Small Group Discussions: How do Coastal Changes Affect People? (20 min)
- Small Groups Report Out (10)
- Wrap-up and Next Steps (5 min)

# Meeting Overview

- Responses will not be attributed to individuals in the summary report
- Your answers can represent your knowledge of other people in the community and/or your own personal preferences (both are ok!)
- Please be respectful of each other's time and opinions
- Our notetakers will do their best to capture your thoughts
- Some ideas may need to go to a 'parking lot' for now

# Ice-Breaker

- Where are some of Crisfield's most important natural or outdoor places and why?





# Small Group Discussion

## Who Uses or Cares About Coastal Natural Spaces?

- Who uses, cares about, depends on, benefits from, or is affected by Crisfield's coastal spaces, and why?
- What economic, cultural, social, or health impacts do coastal habitats have on people of Crisfield?
- What are some challenges people face to using coastal natural spaces?



# Small Groups Report Out

## Who Uses or Cares About Coastal Natural Spaces?

What did you identify as ways people use, care about, depend on, benefit from, or are affected by Crisfield's coastal spaces?

Goal: Make a list of kinds of people who use or care about Crisfield's coastal habitats

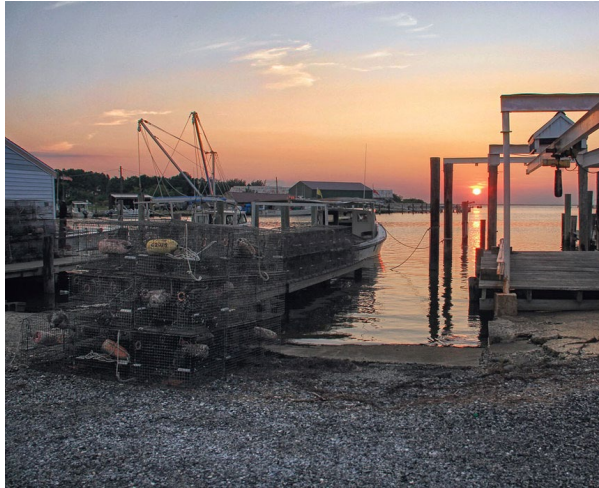


# Who Uses or Cares About Coastal Natural Spaces?

**Farmers/Agriculture**



**Aquaculture/  
Commercial Harvest**



**Industry/Businesses**



**Residents/Landowners  
City/County Services**



**Transportation**



**Recreation/Tourists  
Living off the Land**



**Artists/Events/Spiritual**



**Students/Educators  
Future Generations**







## **Who Uses or Cares About Coastal Natural Spaces? cont.**

What are the Top 5 (or so) categories of people who use or care about Crisfield's coastal habitats?

# What is it about Coastal Spaces that Matters to People?

**Clean Air, Shade, Sun**



**Soil & Substrate**



**Water**



**Animals**



**Plants**



**Natural Materials**



**Scenic Views/  
Ecosystem Health**



**Storm/Flood Protection  
Erosion Protection**





## Activity:

# What is it about Coastal Spaces that Matters to People?

On Post-it Notes write....

- What are some characteristics of coastal spaces that matter most to each group of people?
  - What is it that they need or want to see there?
  - What shouldn't be there?
  - What are the ideal conditions?







# **Activity Report Out**

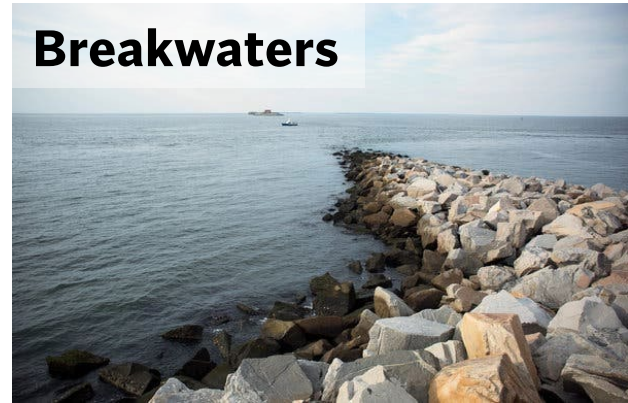
## **What is it about Coastal Spaces that Matters to People?**

What did you identify as some characteristics of coastal spaces that matter most to each category of people?

# Group Discussion

## How do Changes in Natural Coastal Spaces Affect People?

- How have past coastal habitat changes benefitted or adversely affected different people?
- How might different people like to see coastal spaces change in the future and why?





# Wrap-Up

Information learned will help us focus our research on what matters to Crisfield

- Can ‘Nature-Based Strategies’ help protect Crisfield from storm events?
- What might be the co-benefits of these strategies to the people of Crisfield?



**Seagrass Restoration**



**Dunes Restoration**



**Oyster/Artificial Reefs**



**Living Shorelines**





## Next Steps

*Thank you!*

- Report on what we learned
- Interest in progress updates and future discussions like this?

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If you have additional thoughts, let us know (yee.susan@epa.gov)



Coming Fall 2024  
Series of Public Sessions (May, June)