

Port Isabel 2009

HOSTED BY:
THE CHESAPEAKE BAY
FOUNDATION

Allegany High School

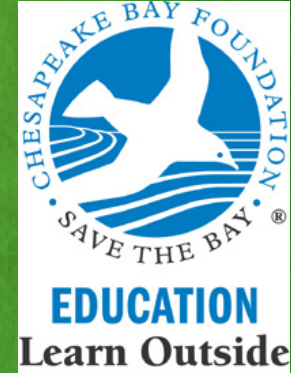
Ecology Club

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation maintains an educational facility built on Port Isobel.



Port Isobel Education Facility

- Port Isobel is an island owned by CBF and is used strictly for educating youth about the Chesapeake Bay.



Education Center and Cafeteria

24 Seniors Took Part in the Fun.





First on the Agenda...

Canoeing!!

With three people
to a boat, we
canoeed through the
marsh as directed
by the CBF
instructors.





We baited crab pots
with menhaden, the
commercial fish of the
bay



We released the Crab Pots in Hope of a Tasty Meal Soon to Come!



Education on the Water



Finding our location on the map



Our Boat Captain Loni. He was brought up a waterman so he knows the bay well. Loni has recently started operating his boat for the CBF to Educate people about the bay. He has a commercial boating license.

Commercial Crabbers

- A commercial crab potter is allowed to fish
 - three hundred pots per person
 - up to nine hundred pots per boat
- Crab potting is hard work
 - Pots have to be cleaned and repaired constantly
- Limitations
 - The season spans from April to late November
 - The size limit is five inches

Commercial Fishermen

- Strictly Regulated
 - Gill nets
 - Regulations include: amount, mesh size, hours it can be fished, how it can be fished
 - Drift nets
 - Regulates the amount of fish you can take in one day
- There are different seasons for different fish
 - Once the quota is met for the amount of fish caught, the DNR shuts down the season for that fish.

Education on the Water

- Scraping involves dragging a net on the bottom of the bay to bring organisms up from the bottom.
- Some watermen make a career of this
- It is the way the more expensive, soft shell crabs are harvested in the spring months.



Searching for Brackish Water Macro Invertebrates



Searching for Soft Shell Crabs



DNR Fisheries Biologists

- Regulate and monitor the fish and crab populations
- They survey how many crabs and fish are in a population
- Based on their research they set laws on how many of a certain fish or crab fishermen are allowed to harvest
- This protects the species from being depleted
- By doing this, the wealth of the local watermen is limited

Tangier Island



- A neighbor island to Port Isobel.
- Population of about 600
- A different, simpler way of life
- Small community
- No cars on the island
- Most people are brought up watermen, a struggling career.

Tangier Island



The Mayor of Tangier



The main street of Tangier

- **Tangier has:**
 - One grocery store
 - One church
 - One K-12 School

Marsh Mucking

- A great way to learn about the marsh and its important functions while having fun and playing in the mud.



Environmental Educators

- The Chesapeake Bay Foundation employs environmental educators.
- These educators instruct students about the bay and its surrounding environment.
- They also teach students how to conserve and protect the factors that will impact the bay from our hometown.
- CBF Requires these educators to have a college degree in some kind in the field of Environmental Science

Environmental Educators



Krispen



Allison

These Educators Lead the activities and lessons for the trip.

Marsh Mucking



Marsh Mucking



Before



After

Harvesting Crab Pots



The Maryland Blue Crab



New regulations limiting the harvesting of the blue crab have been put into place to help restore their dwindling population.

A Harsh Reality



Preceding our arrival a dead dolphin had washed up on the beach.

Summing up the Trip



The Ride Home



- On the boat ride home, a lady on the island rode with us to the mainland.
- She was a researcher with Hornpoint Laboratory of University of Maryland.

Thank You!!