



Chesapeake Bay Interpretive Buoy System

The Chesapeake Bay Interpretive Buoy System (CBIBS) is a series of buoys placed in the Chesapeake Bay by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). These buoys serve as an observing system for conditions in the Chesapeake Bay as well as trail guides along the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. The buoys collect and record a wide range of real time weather and environmental data every 15 minutes, everything from relative humidity to wave height to dissolved oxygen concentration. Buoys are being added and the new buoys have capabilities that the original buoys didn't have (for example the Goose's Reef buoy records data from the bottom of the Bay, whereas the older buoys record only surface data).

Historic information about the area near the buoy in John Smith's time is also accessible from the buoy as is geographical and seasonal information. Access all the buoys, graphing capabilities, and more through the [CBIBS website](#).

BayQuest and BayLab utilize a small portion of the real time data which are collected by seven of the CBIBS buoys:

CBIBS buoys in BayQuest/BayLab
Annapolis
Jamestown
Norfolk
Patapsco
Potomac
Stingray Point
Susquehanna

CBIBS buoy data displayed in BayQuest/BayLab
Water Temperature
Chlorophyll a (measures algae levels)
Turbidity
Salinity
Dissolved Oxygen

If a buoy is not operational at the time a Bayville interactive is being used, a set of data collected in April of 2010 from that location is displayed.