Environmental Literacy
Creating a Sustainable World
The Queen Anne’s County Public Schools Environmental Literacy Plan is a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary environmental education program infused with our current curricular offerings and aligned with the Maryland Environmental Literacy Standards.

Queen Anne’s County is a unique county located in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Most communities are a short distance from a waterway leading to the Chesapeake Bay.

Our Environmental Literacy Plan serves as a guide to prepare students to use 21st Century skills and knowledge in order to tackle the difficult environmental issues faced by Queen Anne’s County, MD and the surrounding Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

Making a Better Future for Queen Anne’s County and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
Environmental Literacy Matrix

**Every Student** will learn outdoors **Every Year**
- School-based outdoor learning (PreK – 12) in our Educational Habitats
- QACPS outdoor program experiences at partner site (K – 12)

**Every Teacher** will be trained to implement and support Environmental Literacy
- School staff introductions to Environmental Literacy
- Grade-level professional development
- Specialized training in field investigations at a partner site

**Every Curricular Area** will integrate and align Environmental Literacy
- Local environmental issues investigation
- Alignment with MD Environmental Literacy Standards, Content Standards, MD College and Career-Ready Standards, and Next Generation Science Standards
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Investigative Issue</th>
<th>Outdoor Learning Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PreK</td>
<td>Development in Progress</td>
<td>Schoolyard Habitat</td>
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</table>
| K     | The Necessities of Life  
What changes will we need to make to our schoolyard to better support the butterflies? | Schoolyard Habitat                                              |
| 1     | Where does all the rain go?  
Which materials best filter and clean storm water runoff--BEFORE it gets the river? | Schoolyard Habitat                                              |
| 2     | What's Up With Bees?  
Is our schoolyard garden planted with types of plants that attract a variety of pollinators? How can we help provide habitat for lots of different types of pollinators? | Schoolyard Habitat Community                                    |
| 3     | What's the Function?  
What types of adaptations do our local, native wetland plants and animals have to make them best suited for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Ecosystem? | Schoolyard Habitat                                              |
| 4     | Change Over Time  
How have human civilizations changed the Chesapeake Bay Watershed? | Schoolyard  
Sultana Education Foundation  
Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center |
| 5     | Forestry for the Bay? (TWIG)  
What is the connection between trees and clean water? Does deforestation affect water clarity and quality? | Schoolyard  
Adkins Arboretum                                                |
| 6     | Where do we build and what is the impact?  
Safest location for a new home in a coastal community. | Schoolyard Habitat  
NorthBay Adventure Camp                                           |
| 7     | Got Invasives?  
What are the effects of invasive species on an ecosystem? | Schoolyard Habitat Community                                    |
| 8     | Plastics and our Environment  
What are the environmental impacts of producing, using, and disposing of materials? | Schoolyard Habitat Community  
Future Planning                                                      |
## High School Environmental Literacy Overview

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Investigative Issue</th>
<th>Outdoor Learning Location</th>
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| Biology  | **The Amazing Oyster**  
Declining Water Quality since Industrial Revolution  
How have human behaviors impacted the oyster populations of the Chesapeake Bay? | Horn Point Laboratory  
Midshore Riverkeepers |
| Chemistry| Chemistry of the Bay.  
(Development in Progress)                                                               | -                                   |
| Physics  | Development in Progress                                                              | -                                   |
Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Dr. Andrea M. Kane, QACPS Superintendent of Schools and Mr. Greg Pilewski, Deputy Superintendent for their vision of Environmental Literacy and outdoor learning.

Additionally, we would like to express our appreciation to the following groups for their support of Environmental Literacy in preparing students with the knowledge, skills, and motivation to make and act upon responsible environmental decisions as individuals and members of their communities:

QACPS Environmental Literacy Committee Members
Adkins Arboretum
Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center
Environmental Concern
Midshore Riverkeepers
Washington College

The Maryland State Board of Education
Maryland State Department of Education

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