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Environmental science
C.B.F research paper

In 1964 a group of businessmen, sailors, waterfowl hunters and fishermen had lunch with Rogers C.B. Morton who was the congressman from the Maryland lower eastern shore. All of these men and women saw problems rising in the Chesapeake. They wanted to create a program that worked along with government that would educate and take action on the problems on the Chesapeake bay.

In 1970 the Chesapeake Bay Foundation was founded and created. At that time it was small it had a membership of 2000 and a staff of three. At the time they created two programs to be run by the CBF. The programs included Education and resource protection. On the Education side of it they wanted to focus on wetland education and on wetland preservation. This was the big start of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation is very unique because its focus as quoted from the Foundation's website is: "Serving as a watchdog, we fight for effective, science-based solutions to the pollution degrading the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers and streams. Our motto, "Save the Bay," is a regional rallying cry for pollution reduction throughout the Chesapeake's six-state, 64,000-square-mile watershed, which is home to more than 17 million people and 3,000 species of plants and animals." (*cbf.org*) The CBF is devoting its effort, time and money to protecting the species and wildlife of the Chesapeake by educating young and old students. They create projects and recruit young and old volunteers who are eager to help protect their treasure.

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation is now located in several different locations and is continuing to grow. These locations include Annapolis, MD; their headquarters, Easton, MD, Harrisburg, PA, Richmond, MD, Hampton Roads, VA and Washington, D.C. The CBF also has multiple student and visitor education centers. These include Philip Merrill Environmental Center, Brock Environmental Center, Clagett Farm and CSA, Sherwood Center, Fox Island Center, Karen Noonan Memorial Education center, Port Isabel Island Education Center and

Smith Island Education Center. The growth of education and operation centers is still growing. 1000s of students come through the education centers every year from all over the east coast.

The main focus of education is the main environmental impacts on the Chesapeake bay. Which are agriculture, air pollution, chemical contamination, climate change, dead zones, fisheries, habitat loss, land use, natural gas, polluted runoff and septic and sewage systems. Every day these problems get worse but with the CBF it always gets maintained and watched and will be acted on.

The Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers, are broadly recognized as a national treasure, and will be highly productive and in good health by established water quality. The result will be clear water, free of impacts from toxic contaminants, and with healthy oxygen levels. Natural filters on both the land and in the water will provide to the entire Chesapeake Bay system and serve as valuable habitat for both terrestrial and aquatic life.

The average citizen does not understand the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and does not understand their cause. This is being changed by the foundation and hopefully will make every citizen understand what factors lead to the problems in the Chesapeake and how it affects them.

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation will always continue creating projects, educating and preserving our national treasure; the Chesapeake Bay.