Maryland Sea Grant (MDSG) is a federal-state partnership program of the University System of Maryland that works to:

- Promote a sustainable coastal economy.
- Support science education, from K-12 to graduate fellows.
- Fund and apply scientific research to protect and restore the Chesapeake and Maryland Coastal Bays and enhance the state’s marine resources.
- Communicate scientific research and findings to help leaders and communities solve our state’s major environmental challenges.

COVID-19 Response

MDSG has continued to work hard for our constituents during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have modified our programming to adapt to a virtual environment. Some examples include: enhancing online resources for teachers and students, assisting The Nature Conservancy and The Pew Charitable Trusts to buy surplus oysters from local farmers, and initiating the first virtual Watershed Stewards Academy.

Community Resilience

MDSG has a long history of providing resources and assistance to our coastal communities. During 2020, our Extension agents and staff engaged hundreds of constituents in shovel-ready projects, resilience planning, and education events to restore habitats and prepare communities for a changing climate.

Economic Impacts

MDSG’s programming leverages federal dollars for larger state and regional economic impacts. We are working closely with the seafood and aquaculture industries to support businesses and advance new technologies. One growing initiative is expanding the salmon recirculating aquaculture industry and another is supporting a new experimental oyster hatchery in Maryland.

- 405 Participants engaged in MDSG climate informal education programs
- 8 Extension specialists working to help our coastal communities
- 21 Number of communities that adopted and/or implemented sustainable economic and environmental development practices and policies as a result of MDSG activities
- $2.6 M in economic impacts from our programmatic efforts
- $10 M grant to advance the salmon recirculating aquaculture industry
- $270,000 in low-interest loans and grants obtained by Maryland oyster farmers to build and grow their businesses
- $523,000 estimated value of K-12 teachers’ time participating in MDSG-created program development

All data from 2020 unless otherwise noted.
Maryland Sea Grant is a federal-state partnership program that is part of the University System of Maryland. Our offices are located in College Park, Maryland, and are administered by the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. Our Sea Grant Extension faculty are administered by the University of Maryland, College Park and located in offices around the state. The National Sea Grant Program is a network of 34 university-based programs in coastal and Great Lakes states as well as Puerto Rico and Guam.

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