

ENERWA – Looking Back at 2025

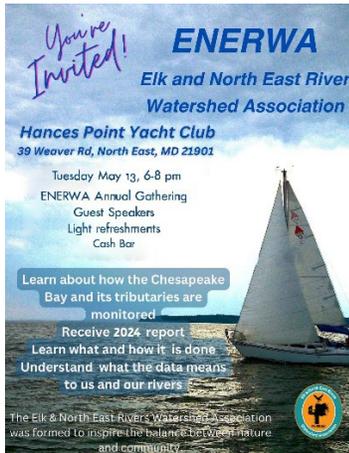
- **April 5th, 2025: Project Clean Stream**

Thirteen volunteers offered their time and work on a cold and damp Saturday morning to clear two sites of trash and debris in North East. Five volunteers worked in the rear of the North East Elementary School in and around a small unnamed stream. Another eight volunteers worked around Stony Run and the North East River as well as around the intersection of Route 7 and North East Isles Drive. A total of 560 pounds of trash and debris was recovered and disposed of properly at the landfill to prevent it from washing into the rivers and Bay.



- **May 13th, 2025: ENERWA Annual Meeting**

Approximately 35 members came together for our Annual Meeting at the Hance's Point Yacht Club. Together we celebrated the publication of the 2024 Water Quality Report Card for the North East and Elk Rivers and listened to an excellent presentation by Eric Buehl, Maryland Sea Grant Extension Watershed Restoration Specialist.



- **Spring & Summer 2025: North East and Elk Rivers Water Quality Report Card 2024**

ENERWA published our 6th annual Water Quality report card for 2024! Supported by county and municipal funding, VLT grant and member donations, we worked with local small business Fritz Printing to have 15,000 printed in preparation for direct mailing. Over 8,000 report cards were mailed to the North East River watershed and 5,000 to the Elk River watershed. Total cost was \$7,745.

Coordinated by George Kaplan and Ron Hartman, twelve citizen-scientists provided over 200 volunteer hours to collect samples monthly at 10 sites on the North East and 9 sites on the Elk River. Our sampling season is from April to November, resulting in over 150 samples. Parameters include field testing for air & water temperature, pH, conductivity, dissolved oxygen and water clarity (turbidity). Samples are sent to the lab to measure Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus.

North East River Watershed

Upstream Sites

Site	Conductivity	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Clarity	Site Grade
CEC	C-	A+	A-	F	C+
PED	B	A+	A	D-	B
STR	C- ↑	A =	A =	A- =	B+ ↑
HSP	D =	D ↓	A ↑	A+ ↑	B- ↑
GIL	D- ↓	F ↓	B ↑	A ↑	C =
CAL	D- =	F =	B+ ↑	A ↑	C ↑
WAR	D+ ↓	D ↓	B+ ↑	A+ =	B- =
DRM*	D =	D ↓	B- ↑	A+ ↑	C =
All sites	D+ ↑	C ↑	A- ↑	B ↓	C+ =

Tidal Sites

Site	Oxygen	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Clarity	Site Grade
CTN	A+ =	B+ =	A- ↓	D- =	B =
HYC	A+ =	B+ ↓	A =	D =	B =
NEP	A+ =	B =	A ↑	D ↓	B =
All sites	A+ =	B ↓	A =	D =	B =

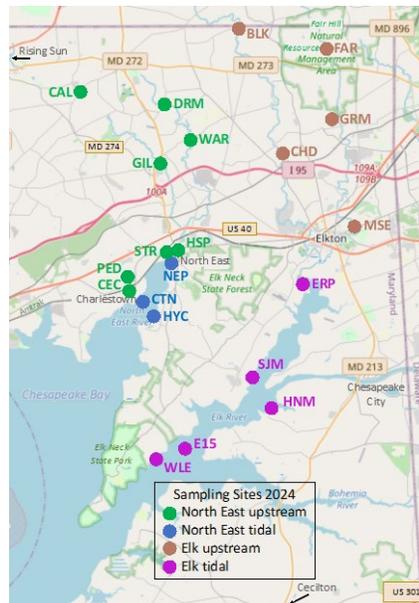
Elk River Watershed

Upstream Sites

Site	Conductivity	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Clarity	Site Grade
MSE	D ↓	F =	A =	A =	C ↓
CHD	D =	F =	A- ↓	A+ =	C ↓
GRM	C ↑	A- ↓	A- ↓	A- ↓	B ↓
FAR	D ↑	F =	B- ↓	A- =	C- ↓
BLK	D =	F =	B+ ↓	A- =	C =
All sites	D =	D- ↓	B+ ↓	A =	C ↓

Tidal Sites

Site	Oxygen	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Clarity	Site Grade
WLE	A+ =	A- ↓	A+ ↑	C ↑	A- ↑
E15	A+ =	B+ ↓	A+ ↑	C ↑	B+ ↑
HNM	A+ =	B- =	A =	D =	B =
SJM	A+ =	B =	A =	F =	B =
ERP	A ↓	D- ↓	C+ ↑	F =	C =
All sites	A+ =	B- ↓	A- ↑	D ↑	B ↑



- **June 14th, 2025: Cecil County Wade-In**

ENERWA attended the 16th Annual Wade-in with an exhibit table staffed by 3 board members. Throughout the very well-attended event we had numerous conversations with the public and handed out approximately 50 copies of the 2024 Water Quality Report Card. In addition, ENERWA enjoyed participating in the Junior Environmental Steward passport program and provided education and stamps to approximately 30 young citizens.



16th Annual Cecil County Wade-In
Veteran's Park, Charlestown, MD
June 14th 10am - 2pm

"Fun Today for Cleaner Water Tomorrow"



Summer & Fall 2025 – Town of North East Outfall Inspections

For the second year in a row, the Elk and North East Rivers Watershed Association volunteers conducted 8 dry weather outfall inspection screenings in the late summer/early fall of 2025. These inspections were conducted as part of the Town of North East Illicit Discharge and Detection and Elimination (IDDE) program. These inspections are required as part of the Town's MS4 permit and also help the Town locate potential unwanted discharges into our local waterways. These potential types of discharges could be caused by a broken underground sewer line, a leaking water main, or even an illegally hooked up sump pump discharging into a storm drain. All the inspections are conducted following the Town of North East IDDE Program Standard Operating Procedure protocols.



- **September 13th, 2025: Water Samplers Appreciation Picnic**

ENERWA Board of Directors invited all the volunteers who collected water samples on the North East and Elk Rivers in 2025 to join us for a picnic on a beautiful Saturday morning. At the Pembry Pavilion on the Elk River, approximately 20 samplers and board members gathered for the traditional summer cookout fare. It was a wonderful opportunity to say a hearty THANK YOU to all who donate their time to gather the data to create the annual Water Quality Report Card!

