Developing the Future Workforce

CBNERR-VA has a history of promoting the development of applicable skills and attributes among individuals who will be the backbone of the future workforce. Through education programming, nearly 50 volunteers per year have the ability to interact with student and general public audiences to hone their communication skills. CBNERR-VA is also a large supporter of students in higher education, providing seasonal internships for undergraduate and graduate students as well as through the Virginia Scientists and Educators Alliance program, which trains graduate students in lesson plan development and challenges them to create a lesson plan based on their research that can then be used in classrooms to enrich K-12 science education!

Inspiring Sustainable Communities

CBNERR-VA has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to increasing the awareness of our mission by connecting with members of our local communities. The Discovery Lab program provides monthly family-friendly outreach events, allowing educators to stimulate the curiosity and awe of local citizens by focusing on a variety of marine science topics. The summer camp program has reached over 1,000 children in ten years, providing field and lab-intensive investigations into marine and estuarine ecosystems while creating a safe and fun environment for nurturing scientific literacy and promoting a sense of stewardship and altruism in future generations.

From the Field to the Classroom

CBNERR-VA has the unique and exceptional benefit of being located at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), one of the nation’s largest marine research and education centers. The cutting-edge science being done at CBNERR-VA and VIMS has regularly been used in the development of the Reserve’s educational curriculum and programs, most notably in the sea level rise-focused Climate Education for a Changing Bay program, which used data collected through surface elevation table (SET) work and water quality stations to educate local Earth Science students about the challenges facing their communities in the future.
National Estuarine Research Reserve Education

Change on the Ground in 2017

Connects
People to Estuaries

1 million+ ACRES of natural classrooms & living laboratories with
28 INTERPRETIVE CENTERS

RESEARCH RESERVES

ALASKA  PUERTO RICO  HAWAII

650,340 VISITORS learn about estuaries through Research Reserve outreach & education

Aloha to our Hawai’i Reserve, designated in 2017!

Prepares
the Next Generation

87,899 STUDENTS take learning out of the abstract & into the outdoors

3,079 TEACHERS are trained in the estuary & supported in the classroom

ESTUARY SCIENCE  LOCAL DATA  LAB WORK  FIELD INVESTIGATION

SKILLS BUILT

✓ Observation  ✓ Asking research questions  ✓ Problem solving  ✓ Data driven decision making

Improves
the Environment

12,849 CITIZENS are trained & inspired to protect their coasts & estuaries

28 RESEARCH RESERVE EDUCATORS

VOLUNTEER ACTIONS

✓ Protect wildlife  ✓ Monitor water quality  ✓ Plant native species  ✓ Clean up the coasts

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cos.naa.gov/estuaries