

laws in 1914 (Chapter 247, Acts of 1914). It is supported by federal, State and county funds.

As the statewide, out-of-the classroom component of the University of Maryland System, the Service is based in every county and in Baltimore City. Locally, Extension Service agents work to improve agricultural profitability, promote economic stability, develop human capital, foster marine and aquaculture industries, and expand urban benefits of agricultural technology. Faculty are supported by State program specialists at the University of Maryland College Park, the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, the Center for Environmental and Estuarine Studies, and four off-campus centers.

CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND ESTUARINE STUDIES

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The University of Maryland Center for Environmental and Estuarine Studies was established by the Board of Regents in 1970. The Center, in cooperation with the University campuses, conducts studies of environmental problems important to Maryland. The program includes research in fields that have environmental significance; direct service to State agencies and to the public; technical education; and, in collaboration with the campuses, instruction at the graduate level through the university-wide Marine-Estuarine-Environmental Sciences Program.

At present, research programs of the Center include studies of the Chesapeake Bay and the coastal waters of the mid-Atlantic region; forests, fish, and wildlife of the land areas of the State; environmental toxicology; and investigations for

basic comprehension of the Maryland environment. Educational emphasis includes estuarine ecology, resource analysis, the process of public decision making in matters that affect environmental quality, and environmental education in cooperation with other public agencies and groups.

The Center has administrative offices and facilities at the Horn Point Environmental Laboratories on a 721-acre site by the Choptank River near Cambridge. This property was originally given to the City of Cambridge by the late Francis P. Du Pont. In 1971, it was conveyed by Cambridge to the State for use by the University.

In addition to the Horn Point laboratories, the Center consists of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory at Solomons Island on the Patuxent River, and the Appalachian Environmental Laboratory on the Frostburg State University campus. Specialized facilities include research vessels, controlled growth facilities at the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, hatcheries at Horn Point for shellfish and finfish propagation, and comprehensive analytical facilities for terrestrial, estuarine, and marine environmental sciences.

MARYLAND BIOTECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

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The General Assembly in 1985 established the Maryland Biotechnology Institute (MBI) at the University of Maryland to carry out basic research in biotechnology. Administered by the University of Maryland System Administration, the Institute provides a core of expertise and state-of-the-art facilities dedicated to scientific and economic development in biotechnology.

The Institute consists of four centers and one program:

- Agricultural Biotechnology Center (College Park)
- Center for Advanced Research in Biotechnology (Shady Grove Life Sciences Center, Montgomery County)
- Center of Marine Biotechnology (Baltimore)
- Medical Biotechnology Center (Baltimore)
- Program for Public Issues in Biotechnology (Catonsville)

In research and academic activities, each of these units works closely with governmental agencies and with the State's growing biotechnology business community.