

BALTIMORE HARBOR LISTED “IMPAIRED” FOR TRASH

On September 4, 2008 EPA Region III approved the listing of Baltimore Harbor as impaired for trash/debris/floatables on MDE's 2008 303d list. This is a significant accomplishment initiated by the Baltimore Harbor Watershed Association and the Baltimore Harbor Waterkeeper. The next stage will be the development and implementation of TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Loads) that will result in the reduction of trash entering the Baltimore Harbor.

We are the 3rd state in the nation to have 303d listing for trash impairment of a waterway - the other 2 are California and Hawaii. Also, we are the 2nd waterway in the state of Maryland to receive this designation.

The specific water body is the Patapsco River Mesohaline segment (tidal portion) and is defined as follows on their list:

'Listing only applies to the Middle Branch from the mouth (Ferry Bar Park to Harbor Hospital Center) extending westward and the Northwest Branch from the Hull Street Pier to Canton Waterfront Park.'