

# People as Part of the Ecosystem

## Community Update

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Baltimore Ecosystem Study: BES

### WHY ?

- *Time*: does the importance of social and ecological drivers change over time? If yes, how and why?
- *Space*: are the relationships between social and ecological drivers affected by spatial adjacency, boundaries, connectivity, and configuration?
- *Feedback*: Can the information be used to provide people with perspective on where their neighborhood has been and is going, particularly in relation to other neighborhoods?

### HOW ?

- Household telephone survey, neighborhood field observation survey, photo-narratives, remotely-sensed data, Census data, records from local and state agencies, and supplemental marketing data...
- Investigating links between science and decision making to provide insight to the decision makers of Baltimore.



## What does Social Ecology mean for you?

We are learning about how the people of Baltimore, their economy, culture, and population, have changed the ecology of the region. At the same time, we are understanding better too how the ecology of Baltimore has shaped Baltimore's economy, culture, and population. We take a long-term perspective to understand how some changes occur slowly and some quickly. And we take a "spatial" perspective to understand how "location" matters.

Residents in Baltimore might find our results meaningful for both formal and informal education, and to provide perspective on where their neighborhood has been and where it's going, particularly in relation to other neighborhoods.

Decision makers will find the data and understanding(s) from our research useful in a couple of ways. First, our data can supplement existing information for decision making, by providing unique, long term social data about the region which would not be available otherwise. Second, our results can provide insights about the resources decision makers are trying to manage, particularly how the processes affecting resource management might be complex because of issues of scale, time, and space.



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