

# GRADUATE STUDIES WITH BES

## Community Update

www.beslter.org

Baltimore Ecosystem Study: BES

### WHY?

- Graduate study with the **Baltimore Ecosystem Study** long-term ecological research (BES-LTER) project is an exciting opportunity to work on an extensive collaborative project focused on urban ecology. The BES-LTER program consists of over seventy Co-Principal Investigators and Collaborators.
- Graduate study with the BES provides unique opportunities to interact with social and biogeophysical scientists, researchers, and community organizations.
- The BES-LTER is one of only two urban long-term ecological research sites, funded by the National Science Foundation.

### HOW?

- Contact BES researchers directly if you are interested in graduate study within the BES. Visit the BES website at [www.beslter.org](http://www.beslter.org) to learn which researchers' interests are most in line with yours.
- Graduate students working on the BES attend many different universities. Researchers have affiliations with numerous universities. Visit the BES website for a complete listing of affiliated Universities.



## What is the Baltimore Ecosystem Study?

The Baltimore Ecosystem Study Long-Term Ecological Research project seeks to understand a major urban region as an ecological system.

The project focuses on a five county metropolitan region in which watersheds can be used as the stage on which to understand the reciprocal interactions of the social, biophysical, and built environments. Using watershed function as a synthetic indicator and target for model development, the project seeks to answer three questions:

- What are the fluxes of energy and matter in the Baltimore metropolitan ecosystem, and how do they change over the long term?
- How does the spatial structure of ecological, physical, infrastructural, and socio-economic factors in the metropolis affect ecological processes?
- How can urban residents develop and use an understanding of the metropolis as an ecological system to improve the quality of their environment and their daily lives?



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