

# PLANS: PLankton And Nutrient Studies for the Chesapeake Bay

## Informed Consent Form

**This form should only be signed and returned within three days if the student elects not to participate in the surveys.**

As part of your Environmental Science class, you will be participating in the **PLankton And Nutrient Studies for the Chesapeake Bay (PLANS)** program which is sponsored by Morgan State University Estuarine Research Center and the Society for Ocean Sciences and funded by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). In this program, you will be looking at nutrient and phytoplankton dynamics in the Chesapeake Bay. Through classroom, field and web-based activities, you will be examining the causes of phytoplankton blooms, monitoring plankton communities and water quality in the Chesapeake Bay, and obtaining a better understanding of the role you can play in helping to improve the water quality of the Bay.

Each student will be given a survey at the beginning and end of the program to gather information on the knowledge they have gained throughout their experience with the various **PLANS** activities.

Any individual information that is obtained in connection with this survey will remain confidential with the program staff. Data used in reporting requirements for this program will include only combined data to ensure that all participants remain anonymous.

You are not required to complete the surveys as part of your grade in your class.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. If you have any additional questions about the survey, please contact Claire Hudson at [hudson@societyoceansciences.org](mailto:hudson@societyoceansciences.org) or Stella Sellner at [stella.sellner@morgan.edu](mailto:stella.sellner@morgan.edu) and they will be happy to answer them.

**I will not be participating in the surveys for the PLANS program-**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent/legal guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## Photo Release

**This form should only be signed and returned within three days if the student elects not to be photographed during the PLANS program.**

**I do not grant to the Morgan State University Estuarine Research Center and the Society for Ocean Sciences and to their employees, agents and assigns the right to photograph me and use the photo and or other digital reproduction for publication processes, whether electronic, print, digital or electronic publishing via the Internet.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent/legal guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_