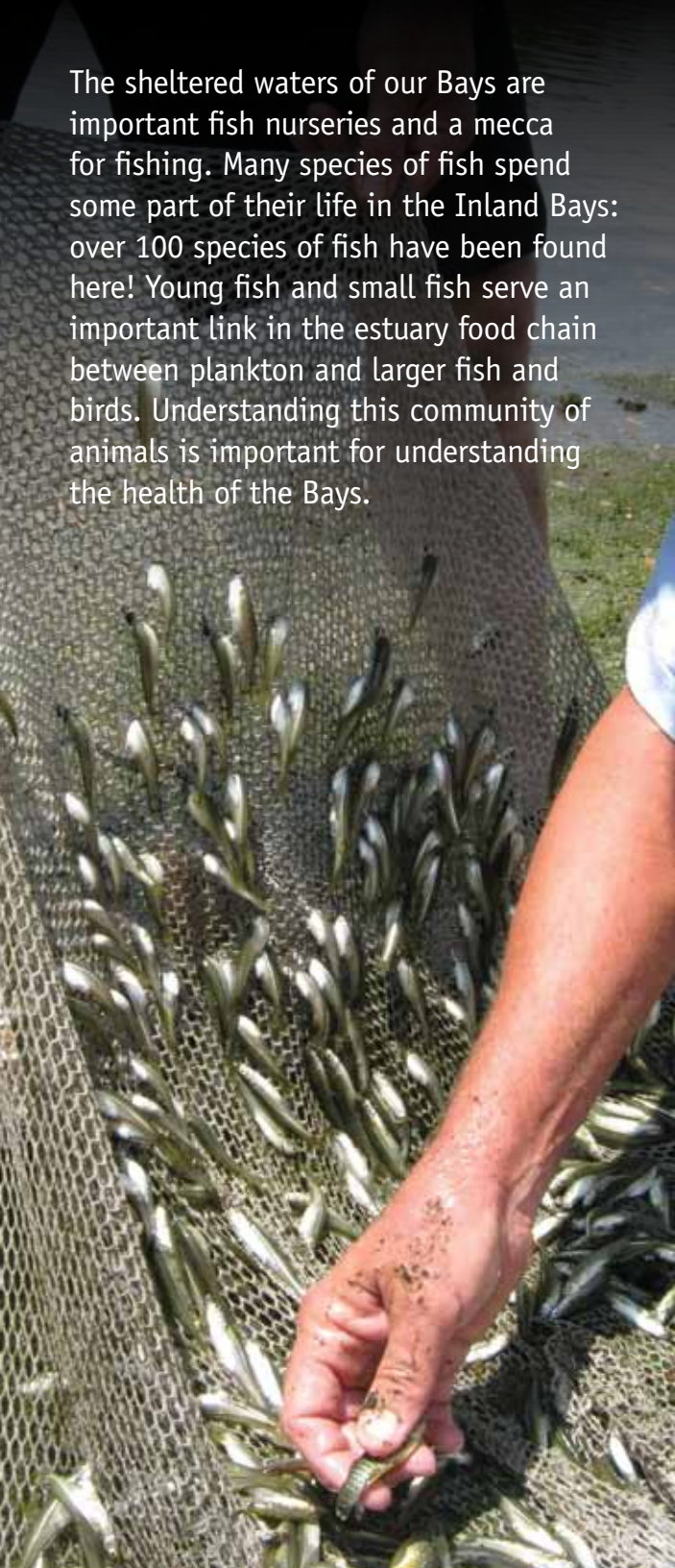
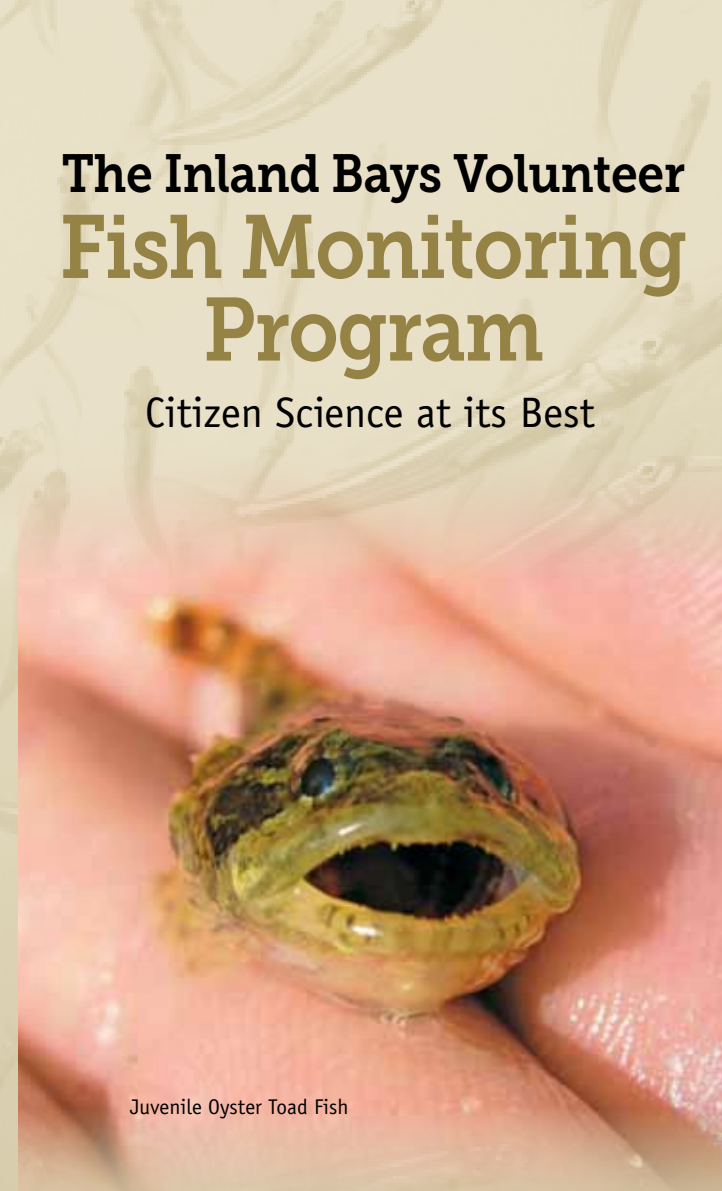


The sheltered waters of our Bays are important fish nurseries and a mecca for fishing. Many species of fish spend some part of their life in the Inland Bays: over 100 species of fish have been found here! Young fish and small fish serve an important link in the estuary food chain between plankton and larger fish and birds. Understanding this community of animals is important for understanding the health of the Bays.



The Inland Bays Volunteer Fish Monitoring Program

Citizen Science at its Best



Juvenile Oyster Toad Fish



Delaware Center for the Inland Bays

Delaware Center for the Inland Bays
39375 Inlet Road
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

302-226-8105
www.inlandbays.org

The Inland Bays Fish Monitoring Program is an all volunteer effort to study the inshore fish populations of the Inland Bays at 17 locations around the Bays and their tributaries.

Sampling Fish is Fun

The study is conducted by volunteer teams of 3 to 5 people using seine nets. These 30 foot long nets are pulled parallel to the near shore for 100 feet before being hauled inland. The fish caught in the net are identified, counted, measured and then returned to the water. With so many beautiful and unusual fish species in the Bays you never know what you will find!



Juvenile Menhaden

What we Learn from Fish

Fish, just like people, respond to their environment. The types and numbers of fish found at a location in the Bay can indicate the quality of the environment. Any changes in the fish community over time will be used along with other environmental indicators to tell if the health of the Bays is improving or not.

All Volunteer All the Time

The study is conducted by volunteers with the Center for the Inland Bays. Ron Kernehan, the volunteer study coordinator, is a professional fish biologist and Lewes resident. Studying fish is a great way to experience and learn about the environment of the Bays.

To volunteer for the program or receive additional information check www.inlandbays.org or send an email to seiningisfun@hotmail.com



Juvenile Winter Flounder



Adult Sheepshead Minnow

The Center for the Inland Bays

The Center for the Inland Bays is a non-profit organization formed in 1994 to promote the wise use and enhancement of the Inland Bays Watershed through habitat protection & restoration, science and research, education and outreach, and public policy. The Center for the Inland Bays relies on the support of its members!

To become a friend of the Inland Bays or learn more about our organization visit us at www.inlandbays.org.

