



Photo by Allison Turner

MD18 Assateague Island National Seashore

Site information provided by Cathy Wazniak

Assateague Island stretches for 37 miles along the Atlantic coasts of Maryland and Virginia and is part of a vast chain of barrier islands extending from Maine to Texas. Barrier islands like Assateague are highly dynamic places, as currents and storms work to continuously reshape the land form and the bay environment behind. These events can break through dunes, spilling sand in fanlike deposits or even carving inlets, such as the one that has separated Assateague and Ocean City since 1933.

Despite its relatively small size and often harsh conditions, a surprising array of habitats can be found along with a wide variety of animals (including birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates). While Assateague's wild horses are perhaps the island's best-known inhabitants, other large mammals also roam the park grazing and browsing on low-lying vegetation. These mammals include white-tailed deer and the non-native sika deer, a diminutive species of Asian elk introduced to Assateague during the 1920's. Shorebirds by the tens of thousands depend upon the island's protected foraging and resting areas during their twice-yearly transcontinental migrations.

Related link: www.dnr.state.md.us/coastalbays/



Photo by Brian Sturgis

NTN sampling began on September 5, 2000, and is sponsored by the MD Department of Natural Resources and operated by Assateague Island National Seashore. Cathy Wazniak (pictured at left) is the site supervisor, Eric Sherry (pictured at left) has operated the site since 2004. The Maryland Coastal Bay National Estuary Program recommended the establishment of an atmospheric deposition monitoring station in the watershed to better estimate local deposition of nutrients. Current estimates suggest atmospheric deposition makes up 32% of the nitrogen loads to the bays.

*Assateague Island National Seashore website:
<http://www.nps.gov/asis/>*



Photo courtesy of Assateague Island NS



Photo by Advanced Technology Systems, Inc.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday							
January 2007 <small>S M T W T F S</small> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<h1>February 2007</h1>				March 2007 <small>S M T W T F S</small> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31								
Field Operations Training Course If you are interested in attending this year's course (to be held on June 5-7, 2007, in Champaign, IL), contact Pam Bedient at (217) 244-0868 or pbedient@sws.uiuc.edu.		ISWS had some very unusual snow rollers that occurred 2/12/03. They are formed when high winds occur with just the right snow conditions. 	1	032/333	2	033/332	3	034/331					
4	035/330	5	036/329	6	Week 6	7	038/327	8	039/326	9	040/325	10	041/324
		<i>Reminder:</i> Change dry side bucket and clean foam lid seal. <small>CO97 1984 TX03 1984 WA19 1984</small>										<small>GA99 1994</small>	
11	042/323	12	043/322	13	Week 7	14	045/320	15	046/319	16	047/318	17	048/317
		Lincoln's Birthday CAL closed <small>PR20 1985</small>		Valentine's Day <small>MI99 1983</small>									
18	049/316	19	050/315	20	Week 8	21	052/313	22	053/312	23	054/311	24	055/310
Chinese New Year		President's Day CAL closed								<small>AZ98 1999</small>			
25	056/309	26	057/308	27	Week 9	28	059/306	The precipitation in your sample bucket should be completely melted before you attempt to decant the sample. Simply let the sample sit overnight in a warm corner of your lab and do the decanting the next day.					
				<small>IL11 1979</small>									