



Permanent Protections from Offshore Drilling Benefit Maryland's Economy & Help Fight Climate Change

[Oceana.org/JobsandDollars](https://oceana.org/jobsanddollars)

MARYLAND HAS
3,190 MILES
OF COASTLINE

WITH A CLEAN COAST ECONOMY
THAT SUPPORTS AROUND

104,000
AMERICAN JOBS

AND

\$7.0 BILLION
in gross domestic product

THROUGH ACTIVITIES LIKE



TOURISM



RECREATION



FISHING

which are threatened by offshore drilling

Off Maryland's coast, the economically
recoverable oil and gas resources
would only **meet demand** for roughly

8 DAYS OF OIL
AND
7 DAYS OF GAS

Marylanders Need a Clean Coast

Healthy ocean resources define the way of life for communities along the Maryland seaboard, which is directly tied to clean shores and bountiful marine life. Fresh-caught seafood is a staple on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, known for the blue crab. Visitors can stroll beautiful Atlantic-facing beaches with bustling boardwalks and popular crab shacks, kayak along calm bay shores, search for fossils beneath beach cliffs, and explore the protected seashore of Assateague Island with wild ponies.

Coastal towns, like Ocean City, and the major port cities of Annapolis and Baltimore attract millions of visitors and generate billions of dollars each year. The waters of the Chesapeake Bay, a vibrant estuarine environment, create habitat for growing blue crabs and oysters and support critical nursery grounds for seabirds and fish like shad, striped bass, and bluefish. A healthy bay also fosters productive commercial fishing in the Atlantic, driving the coastal economy with large catches of blue crab, clams, perch, striped bass, sea trout, and flounder.

What's at Risk?

Offshore drilling threatens coastal businesses and economies that depend on a clean and healthy ocean. We can fight the climate crisis and safeguard our coastal economy by advancing clean energy and permanently protecting our coasts from offshore drilling.

A Bad Deal for Maryland

A catastrophic oil spill, like the 1969 Santa Barbara blowout or the 2010 BP *Deepwater Horizon* disaster, would pose a great risk to Maryland's coastal economies that depend on a healthy ocean. When toxic oil is spilled, it poisons marine wildlife, causes beach closures, and disrupts lucrative fishing areas. Permanently protecting Maryland's coast from offshore drilling will safeguard its coastal economies from the next oil disaster.

Offshore drilling for oil and gas is dirty and dangerous and threatens Maryland's fishing, tourism, and recreation industries, which depend on a healthy ocean and provide consistent revenue year after year when sustainably managed. Oil and gas are finite resources; when the oil runs out, so do the jobs.

Protecting Maryland's Coast from Offshore Drilling Helps Combat the Climate Crisis

The climate disaster is already wreaking havoc across the United States and here in Maryland. As a result of increasingly intense and extreme weather, dangerous storm surges push farther inland, expanding their deadly and costly impact. Sea levels are rising and destructive flooding is becoming more frequent and severe. Increased flooding and saltwater intrusion stress coastal wildlife and threaten critical infrastructure, including roads and drinking water supplies.

PERMANENTLY PROTECTING

all federal waters from offshore
drilling can prevent **more than**

19 BILLION
TONS of greenhouse
gas emissions



EQUIVALENT TO

taking every car in the nation off the road for



15 YEARS

Protecting our coast from new oil
development can prevent over

\$720 BILLION
IN DAMAGES TO



PEOPLE



PROPERTY



ENVIRONMENT

THIS WOULD BE LIKE

losing the **entire economy** of a
major city, like **Washington, D.C.**,
Boston, or **Atlanta**, for a year

**Our ocean
can be a
major part
of the clean
energy
solution.**

**RESPONSIBLY SITED
OFFSHORE WIND**

has the potential to generate
MORE ELECTRICITY
than our nation currently demands



Learn More:

We must permanently protect
Maryland's coast from the threat
of offshore drilling.

For sources and methodology, please visit:
oceana.org/jobsanddollars

#ProtectOurCoast

 **OCEANA**