



U.S. National Ice Center



Weekly Ice Forecast for Chesapeake and Delaware Bays

Week of: 01/13/2025
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Current Ice Conditions:

Land fast ice present in sheltered inlets in the Upper Chesapeake north of Baltimore and around the Susquehanna River mouth. Ice coverage between 5 and 9 tenths within sheltered areas surrounding Baltimore, shallow areas along the Delmarva Peninsula, northeastern Delaware Bay, and sheltered coastal areas of the Potomac River especially toward Washington D.C. Light ice cover between 2 and 4 tenths is present in the C&D Canal, the Delaware River, and other sheltered bays along the Upper Chesapeake, Delmarva, and Potomac River coasts.

Ice Forecast:

Ice remains in sheltered areas despite warmer high temperatures this weekend. Nighttime lows remained in the 20's across the region, limiting ice erosion.

High temperatures are forecast to remain around freezing with nighttime lows in the lower 20's or upper 10's on Tuesday and Wednesday. This will mark the return of conditions conducive for ice development, especially in regions primed for ice formation.

High temperatures are forecast to rise to the mid to upper 30's on Thursday, the mid 40's on Friday, and the upper 40's to around 50 on Sunday, with lows climbing above freezing. This will support erosion of existing ice and prevent further ice formation; full melt may not occur in areas currently with high concentrations, but significant ice loss is likely.

Delaware Bay:

9 tenths ice coverage along the coast in northeastern Delaware Bay, with 2 tenths ice coverage in parts of the Delaware River and along parts of the shore. Further ice formation possible in the first half of the week. Open water conditions expected by end of week.

Upper Chesapeake Bay:

Up to 10 tenths ice coverage in sheltered bays primarily north of Baltimore. Up to 9 tenths ice coverage in sheltered areas primarily north of the Bay Bridge and the northern Potomac River; diurnal ice formation is expected to persist through mid-week; significant ice development or extent is not expected. Ice will begin to melt late week; areas of high concentration will melt the slowest and remnant ice coverage may remain.

Lower Chesapeake Bay:

Open water; ice free by end of week.