



The Ways of the Bay

Lyrics Sheet

It's Happening Today in Everybody's Bay

*Rivers rolling down to the sea,
that's usually where the bays will be
three sides land, one side open, to the fresh
water lake or the salt water ocean
From my yard and my street,
All the water runs to the Chesapeake!
From central New York, to Virginia Beach,
All the rivers roll to the Chesapeake!*

CHORUS

*Hey, hey, it happened today! It happened
today in the Chesapeake Bay!
Hey, hey it happened today! It happened
today in everybody's Bay!
from my yard, down the street
through the sewer, to the creek,
to the river, consider what water seeks
it flows to where the land is low
commanded by gravity to the Bay it flows
from the mountains melting snow and rain
from the farms and the city storm drains
from our actions and the life we've led
we're living and giving to our own watershed*

CHORUS

*So when Bodies of water open out to the sea
that's a bay like the Delaware and the Fundy
Like Mobile, Cape Cod and San Francisco
The Hudson and Galveston and the Prudhoe
There's Tampa, Narragansett and Green Bay
The Georgian, Coos and Monterey
Saginaw, Florida and Chincoteague.
Each one's a Bay and each one's unique*

The Estuary Song

*It's where the ocean feeds On what the river carries.
It's where the fresh and salt water mix
With the leaves, the mud, and the sticks.
It's a soup of life, and it's thick! Oh, it's the estuary!
Mud and dead things washing down the river
Settling at the bottom of the Bay
Decomposers eat those dead things
releasing their minerals every day.
Phytoplankton, little plants floating
Using those nutrients while soaking up the sun
Zooplankton are the little critters
That drift with the Phytos while eating some*

CHORUS

*Oyster beds and underwater grass
give food and shelter to many living things
there are clams and snails and little fish hiding
from the appetites the Big fish bring
Rock and Blue fish chase anchovies
great blue heron stalk the water's edge
eagle and the osprey fishing and flying
as the gulls circle overhead*

The Crab Step

*Around the world, there are crabs of
every size and type
with big claws to grab whatever's in sight
and when they grow out of their
old shell the new shell is soft,
they hide for a spell, get hard and take off*

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Lyrics Sheet

Cont. (The Crab Step)

Chorus

'cause they're doing the crab step,
on land or in the depths
moving sideways to get where they get
if danger appears they try to hide
but if they can't they face it
with their claws open wide
the back legs are paddles for swimming
through the depths and the dregs or on the
surface skimming
paddle forward, paddle back
paddle side to side, retreat or attack !
(don't worry, it's a cinch, just keep your feet
moving and you won't get pinched)
Go to the salt marsh and you will find
crabs all around
in the grassy brine and in the mud underground
and if they spot you with their extended eyes
then they'll start to move as you realize

Barnacles

CHORUS

Barnacles, barnacles, where are you ?
Stuck on stuff with my barnacle goo!
Barnacles, barnacles, where are you ?
on the rocks and the whales
and the big ships too !
Adrift in the ocean an egg floating free when I
hatch I'm almost too small to see
first I look like an insect,
then a shrimp, oh it's strange !
How much in my life my body will change!
Then I stick my head to whatever's found
with my barnacle goo I'll hold myself down
then I grow a shell which can open and close
and I'll grab food with my legs and my hairy toes !

Erosion

(water, ice and wind)

Water on the move, cutting it's groove
through sand and rock and clay
eight pounds a gallon, it's a moving challenge
It'll carry that dirt away.
Erosion . . . erosion . . . erosion!
Dirt, where no plants grow
Dirt, will wash away
Dirt, where plants grow
Dirt, will stay
Ice on the move, cutting it groove
through sand and rock and clay
Thaw and Freeze Expand and squeeze
It'll carry that dirt away.
Erosion . . . erosion . . . erosion!
Roots, hold the ground together
Roots, from seeds we drop
Roots, make the bays better
Roots, make erosion stop
Wind on the move, cutting it groove
through sand and rock and clay
breeze to gust it crumbles the crust
and carries that dirt away.

Green Slime

Nutrients, are the things all plants need
Nutrients, are the food on which all plants feed
Nutrients, like dirt and fertilizer,
dead bodies, and poop and pee
Nutrients, make all plants grow
from trees to algae

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Lyrics Sheet

Cont. (Green Slime)

Have you ever seen ? Green Slime in the water
Have you ever seen ? Really murky water
Have you ever seen ? Dead fish in the water
Have you ever seen ? Green Slime in the water
on the rocks floating free, people call it algae
Too many , nutrients like dirt
washing off the land when it rains
Too many , nutrients like
fertilizer flowing down the drain
Too many , nutrients like
sewage seeping out of control
Too many , nutrients and that's
what makes the algae grow
Have you ever seen Green Slime in the water ?
on the rocks, floating free, people call it algae
Have you ever seen ?
Yes, we've seen, Really murky water
you're standing in waist deep,
ah, can't see your own feet
Have you ever seen ?
Yes, we've seen, Dead fish in the water
floating all around, oh gross,
floating upside down
Have you ever seen ?
Yes, we've seen, Green Slime in the water
on the rocks, floating free, people call it algae
There's too much, algae growing in the water
and blocking out the sun
There's too much, algae
growing right on underwater vegetation
There's too much, algae it grows, it dies, it rots
There's too much, algae decomposing and
oxygen levels drop
Are you ready ? Yes ! Are you ready ? Yes !
Are you ready to clean to this algae mess ?
We're ready ! Yes ? we're ready ! Yes ?
We're ready to clean this algae mess !

That's Runoff, Man!

From the clouds I drop, I hit the roof, kerplop.
I go out of the spout and I never stop.
I spray and I spurt, I grab a little dirt
and when I meet the street it gets even worse
Onto the road I drain I pass on oily stain
Then I go with the flow down the passing lane
I spurt and I spray, nothing gets in my way
I might make it on down to the Bay today
CHORUS
Water with the power to erode
Water carrying a heavy load
Water running off the land, That's Runoff, Man!
Water running when it rains
Water running toward the drains
Water running off the land, That's Runoff, Man!
All life is fed on things that are dead
decomposition is nutrition in the watershed
But by accident, our development
increases the release of the nutrients
So the water's force
takes that stuff from it's source
and it moves down the groove of the waters course
Into the bay it flows, it makes the algae grow
and that chokes the critter folks living down below
water carries a nutritious load
that will make the algae growth explode
Water running out across the land,
that's runoff man!

Crab Jubilee

Crab Jubilee! Crab Jubilee! Crabs look so happy,
so fancy and free!
So graceful, so tasteful, so glad to be part of a
wonderful Crab Jubilee!

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Lyrics Sheet

Cont. (Crab Jubilee)

Now the crabs come a dancin'
out onto the land!
They merrily waltz right into your pan!
It's a joyous occasion, something to see
The crabs celebrating the Crab Jubilee!

CHORUS

Crab Jubilee! Crab Jubilee!
Sounds like death and dyin' to me!
The oxygen's used, decomposing algae.
So we can flee or die,
and that's your Crab Jubilee!
My buddies the oysters
cement themselves down.
They're not built for moving around.
So like all the critters that cannot swim far,
when the oxygen drops,
they die right where they are.
So when the crabs leave the water,
you know somethin's wrong !?
We'd much rather stay down where we belong.
So when life underwater can't be sustained.....
Then we sadly depart as we sing this refrain

CHORUS

Water contains dissolved oxygen
down here we breathe
through our gills as we swim
down in the mud under the bay
bacteria decompose things every day
then the oxygen drops, OH NO !
most of life stops, OH NO !
anoxia, OH NO where did the oxygen all go ?
Crab jubilee! Crab Jubilee,
it sounds like death and dying to me
it isn't a party, there's no cause for glee ,
it's sad to be part of a crab jubilee, yes, I hope
there's no more crab jubilee

These Trees

Everyday people say what difference can I make,
what deeds can I do, what action can I take?
Well now is the time for you and me to find
a spot, dig a hole and plant a young tree.

CHORUS

These trees releasing sweet oxygen,
these trees the monkeys and the birds are living in.
These trees limbs stretching up towards the sky,
oh, these trees absorbing all the carbon dioxide.
Big trees, green leaves, deep roots in the ground
the branches grow up, as the bark grows around.
And the flowers turn into fruit
which falls to the ground,
the seeds sprout and take root.
Tree grows, sap flows, young tree grows big and old
Tree grows, sap flows, young tree grows big and old
Everyday people say what difference can I make,
what deeds can I do, what action can I take?
Well now is the time for you and me to find
a spot, dig a hole and plant a young tree.

CHORUS

So plant your tree that you prefer
the deciduous or the conifer.
Dig a hole deep, keep the roots straight,
put that tree in the ground, water it and wait.
Water and wait, water and wait,
water and wait, water and wait.
And as that tree grows give it care,
so it will thrive and grow when you're not there
yes as that tree grows tall and strong you can watch it
grow all your life long
yes as that tree grows tall and strong you can watch it
grow all your life long



The Ways of the Bay

Lyrics Sheet

Save on Fuel

*We have to save our fuel every day
because our fuel's exhaust lands in the bay..*

*AHHH come on.....the kid cried,
Maaaaacan I have a ride
Admit it kids, you sly connivers
you treat your parents like your private drivers
you can walk, or ride a bike,
take a bus or a subway if you like
but you go out the door, head to the street
jump in the car get the front seat
you've been begging, now your being taken
not far, in your car to your destination
gas in the tank, sucked into the engine,
sparkplug fires and the crankshaft's spinning
pistons push and the valves open,
you're going down the road and your tailpipes
smoking.....*

*exhaust, into the air exhaust,
what you make to get there
exhaust, up and down it goes exhaust, in the
bay making algae grow
We have to save our fuel every day
because our fuel's exhaust lands in the bay..*

*Late at night, it feels so right
to flip the switch, incandescent light
But there's an energy-saving new design
it's the longer-lasting fluorescent kind
Your hair dryer's blowing, dishwasher going
our electrical demands just keep on growing
Radio, TV, Nintendo
You leave them all on when you go
It's crazy, lazy, an energy loss
You can cut the cost, just shut it off!*

Cont. (Save on Fuel)

*In your walls your house is wired
with electrical power, coal fire
we burn the coal the generator spins
the lights turn on but what's in the wind
exhaust, right in your face exhaust,
from electrical waste
exhaust, up and down it goes exhaust,
in the bay making algae grow
We have to save on fuel every day
because our fuel's exhaust lands in the bay.*

Along the Bay

*Along the Bay where the cord grass grows
sea life breeds and birds feed on those
it's the pull of the moon and the sun each day
tides roll in and roll away*

*Daybreak at low tide and the mud flats glisten
a young crab moves and the sea gulls miss him.
Oysters are buried and the clapper rails listen
by the tidal ebb and flow*

*The big fish come in with the high tide
swim by the grass in search of small fry
insects and snails move up the green stems
when the tide's out they move down again*

*Moon light at high tide and the grass undulates
with the force of each wave as it dissipates.
It's the rhythm and the roll of the water and it's
weight by the tidal ebb and flow*