

## Member Updates

### Chesapeake Bay Program Creative Team (Communications and Web)

The Communications Office has been working on a presentation for the jurisdictions that gives an overview of the WIP outcome templates and shows examples of how BMPs can be used to meet water quality goals as well as other local priorities. This is a part of the project led by Nicki Kasi to add consideration of 12 additional Bay Program outcomes in WIP development.

Will has also begun working on a video that will show that signs of progress in the Chesapeake Bay. At the end of February, Rebecca Chillrud began as the new communications staffer.

The Web Team is working with the Habitat GIT's Wetland Workgroup on a new site to help landowners restore wetlands on their property. The team has come up with a name for the site, created a draft logo and done an initial design sprint to determine what the site might look like.

In February, we updated the Sustainable Schools and Environmental Literacy Preparedness indicators on [ChesapeakeProgress](#). We expect to update our Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences, Public Access Site Development, Oyster Outcome and Fish Passage indicators in March.

### Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee

#### Upcoming Events

STAC's March 2018 quarterly meeting will be held on March 13-14 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland. More information will be available on the [March meeting webpage](#). For any quarterly meeting inquiries, or to be added to STAC's interested parties email list, contact STAC Staff Elaine Hinrichs ([hinrichse@chesapeake.org](mailto:hinrichse@chesapeake.org)).

STAC is planning for two workshops this spring. Information regarding recent and upcoming workshops - including agendas, presentations, and reports (as available) can be found on the [workshop homepage](#).

1. Factors Influencing the Mainstem, Tidal, and Non-Tidal Fish Habitat Function in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed: Application to Restoration and Management Decision – **April 25-26, 2018**
2. Revising Coastal Land-Water Interactions: The 'Triplet' Connection – **May 23-24, 2018**

#### Recent and Upcoming Reports

STAC released four reports in the last month. All STAC activity reports can be found on the [STAC publication page](#) when available.

1. CBP Partnership's Climate Change Assessment Framework and Programmatic Integration and Response Efforts (*Review*)  
Accessible at: [http://www.chesapeake.org/pubs/386\\_Herrmann2018.pdf](http://www.chesapeake.org/pubs/386_Herrmann2018.pdf)
2. Chesapeake Bay Water Quality/Sediment Transport Model (WQSTM) (*Review*)  
Accessible at: [http://www.chesapeake.org/pubs/388\\_Brady2018.pdf](http://www.chesapeake.org/pubs/388_Brady2018.pdf)
3. Consideration of BMP Performance Uncertainty in Chesapeake Bay Program Implementation (*Workshop*)

Accessible at: [http://www.chesapeake.org/pubs/390\\_Stephenson2018.pdf](http://www.chesapeake.org/pubs/390_Stephenson2018.pdf)

4. Monitoring and Assessing Impacts of Changes in Weather Patterns and Extreme Events on BMP Siting and Design (*Workshop*)  
Accessible online after March 8, 2018

With these final two review reports, STAC completes its series of 8 independent peer reviews to help inform the Partnership's 2017 Mid-Point Assessment, and the CBP's evolving suite of modeling and management tools. A complete list of the review requests, links to relevant documentation/review materials, reports, and CBP responses (as available) can be found on the [review homepage](#) or contact STAC Coordinator Rachel Dixon at [dixonr@chesapeake.org](mailto:dixonr@chesapeake.org).

STAC is working to finalize the following eight workshop reports. Information regarding each workshop (including agendas and presentations) can be found on the [STAC workshop homepage](#) and the [STAC archived workshop homepage](#).

1. Chesapeake Bay Program Modeling in 2025 and Beyond: A Proactive Visioning Workshop (FY2017)
2. Integrating Recent Findings to Explain Water Quality Change: Support for the Midpoint Assessment and Beyond (FY2017)
3. Legacy Sediment, Riparian Corridors, and Total Maximum Daily Loads (FY2016)
4. An Analytical Framework for Aligning Chesapeake Bay Program Monitoring Efforts to Support Climate Change (FY2016)
5. Understanding and Explaining 30+ Years of Water Clarity Trends in the Bay's Tidal Waters (FY2016)
6. Linking Wetland Workplan Goals to Enhance Capacity, Increase Implementation (FY2015)
7. Assessing Uncertainty in the CBP Modeling System (FY2015)
8. Comparison of Shallow Water Models for Use in Supporting Chesapeake Bay Management Decision-making (FY2015)

### **Choose Clean Water Coalition**

Our conference registration and sponsorship forms are now open! More information is here: <https://www.choosecleanwater.org/choose-clean-water-conference/2018/5/22/9th-annual-choose-clean-water-conference>

The 9th Annual Choose Clean Water Conference will be held on Tuesday, May 22 - Wednesday, May 23 at the Lancaster Marriott in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Each year, the Coalition's Choose Clean Water Conference brings together a comprehensive and diverse group of more than 300 people from throughout the Chesapeake Bay region. The conference provides a 2-day forum for participants to learn about the most important and up-to-date Chesapeake restoration issues, network with fellow Chesapeake Bay supporters and activists, develop strategies to advance federal, regional and local restoration goals, and learn from successes.

### **Pennsylvania State Agencies**

- Efforts to promote the [Agricultural Plan Reimbursement Program](#) have succeeded in enlisting farmers in Pennsylvania's part of the watershed to register for reimbursement and agree to develop over 430 nutrient/manure/agricultural erosion and sediment control management plans. In addition to promotions at events, we got coverage in two central farming publications and did a boosted, targeted Facebook post that was shared by over 470 people.

- The first issue of our environmental education e-newsletter, *Teaching Green*, went out with items on the Chesapeake Bay Program's Meaningful Watershed Education Experiences Guide and NOAA's Chesapeake Bay B-WET funding program.
- We're partnering with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation on an April 24 event in Lancaster County to kick off their Keystone Ten Million Trees initiative. Dept. of Environmental Protection Secretary Patrick McDonnell, Dept. of Agriculture Secretary Russ Redding, and Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Secretary Cindy Dunn will participate in this tree-planting event.
- We're partnering with First Lady Frances Wolf's communications team and DCNR on an Earth Day event at the Governor's Residence that will include activities and information related to stormwater and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.
- DCNR held its successful [Riparian Forest Buffer Summit](#) Feb. 28 – Mar. 1 in State College, providing much technical and planning information, including a presentation by the Chesapeake Bay Program's Emily Trentacoste on the role buffers can play as Pennsylvania develops Phase 3 of its watershed plan.
- We're beginning to think about events and activities for Bay Awareness Week, June 3-10, including an event in a northern county highlighting a farm streambank fencing project funded through the DEP Chesapeake Bay Program.
- Our February 14 #SweetonStreams" social media campaign was popular, and helped to personalize some of the Phase 3 planning process.
- We're in planning stages on a video highlighting 4 or 5 municipal leaders in stormwater management – including one or two in our Chesapeake Bay Watershed counties, looking for new voices.
- The [Phase 3 Plan development](#) work groups are working on local engagement and communications strategy with plans to have it finalized by the steering committee on March 16.

#### **Delaware DNREC**

- Delaware Watersheds newsletter to be issued in March
- New Nonpoint Source Program Outreach Project: Water themed photo contest to begin this year to take the place of the annual rain barrel art contest
- Tree planting March 17 and 18 at Blackbird State Forest, enhancing the Chesapeake Bay with the Girl Scouts and Delaware Forestry.
- Interview with WDEL highlighting the tree planting and discussing the Chesapeake Bay watershed
- Updating diversity goals

#### **NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office**

The NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office has two Federal Funding Opportunities currently available:

- The Bay-Watershed Education and Training FY18 opportunity is accepting grant proposals through March 9 to support environmental literacy efforts; more details available at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=299665>
- NCBO's Fisheries Science Program invites proposals for research on how habitat affects summer flounder and black sea bass; opportunity open until April 26: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=300978>

No updates offered

- Sustainable Fisheries GIT
- Habitat GIT
- Water Quality GIT
- Maintain Healthy Watersheds GIT
- Stewardship GIT
- Enhancing Partnering, Leadership and Management GIT
- Diversity Workgroup
- Citizens Advisory Committee
- Local Government Advisory Committee
- Scientific, Technical Assessment and Reporting
- District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment DOEE
- Maryland Department of the Environment
- Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
- West Virginia Conservation Agency
- Environmental Protection Agency
- National Park Service
- U.S. Geological Survey
- University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
- Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
- Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- Chesapeake Conservancy
- National Aquarium
- Virginia Conservation Network
- Maryland Sea Grant