



HARRY R. HUGHES CENTER FOR
AGRO-ECOLOGY, INC.



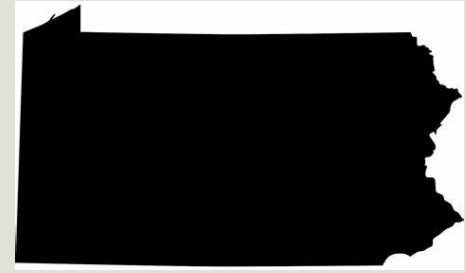
Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Activity 1 Team

Outreach/Public Comment Update

December 3, 2020

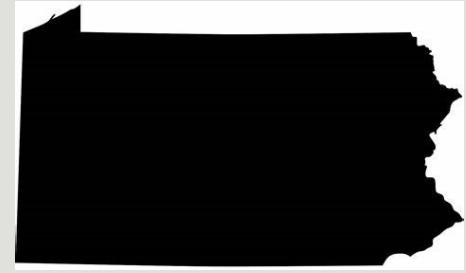
Pennsylvania Targeted Stakeholder Engagement Workshops



Format:

- Invitations/registration handled by Chesapeake Conservancy & Center for Watershed Protection
- Webinar-format meetings hosted by Chesapeake Conservancy & Center for Watershed Protection
- 90 minutes long utilizing Zoom platform
- Carly Dean/Ruth Hocker reviews background and facilitates
- Carly Dean/Bryan Seipp reviews CWIP development and answers technical questions
- Use both “chat” and verbal comments to answer questions or get formal and informal comments

Pennsylvania Targeted Stakeholder Engagement Workshops



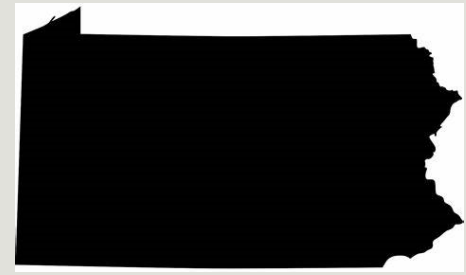
Workshops held so far:

- November 13 for PA DEP Agriculture Advisory Board & Nutrient Management Advisory Board
- November 19 focusing on Bedford County
- November 20 focusing on York County

Pending workshops

- December 7 focusing on Centre & Cumberland Counties
- December 9 focusing on Lebanon County
- December 10 focusing on Franklin & Adams Counties
- December 14 general workshop
- TBD 2nd PA-wide Ag-focused workshop
- TBD focusing on Lancaster County (rescheduled)

Top Pennsylvania Comments/Issues so far



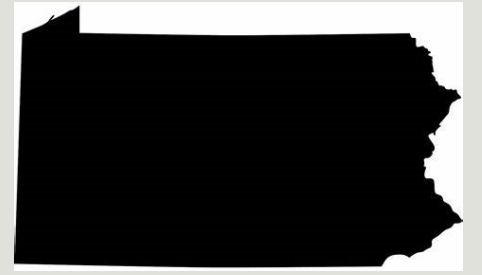
Concerns about adopting the CWIP without the financing strategy in place & how pay-for-performance translates to the farmer. Stakeholders skeptical that CWIP will be able to find new funding for implementation & capacity.

Could dredging provide an opportunity to reduce load reductions?

Stakeholders would like to see more involvement from Exelon Corp.

Draft needs more flexibility on BMPs & geographies (BMP types, opportunities, effectiveness vary across geographies)

Need more clarity about the relationship between CWIP & PA Phase 3 WIP:
Concerns about assigning new/additional loads to Counties, when they are already maxed out on BMP implementation goals toward PA Phase 3 WIP; Will CWIP reductions compete with Phase 3 WIP reductions?



Attend future workshops?

Interested in sitting in on one of the upcoming Pennsylvania workshops?

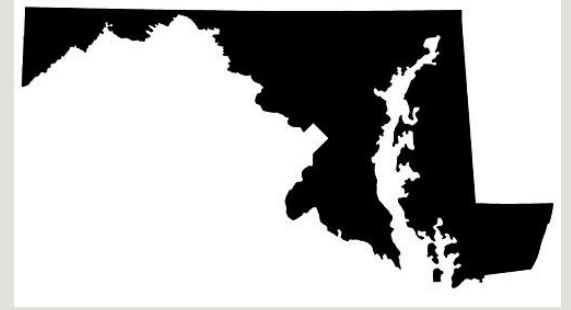
Upcoming workshop dates

- December 14 general workshop
- TBD PA-wide Ag-focused workshop

Email Carly Dean from Chesapeake Conservancy for registration information:

cdean@chesapeakeconservancy.org

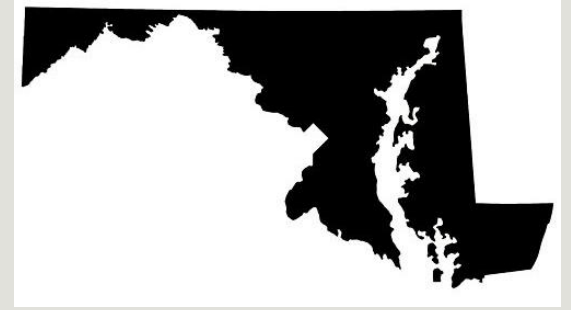
Maryland Targeted Stakeholder Engagement Workshops



Format:

- Invitations/registration handled by Harry R Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology
- Webinar-format meetings hosted by Center for Watershed Protection
- 90 minutes long utilizing Zoom platform
- Matt Rowe offers introductory remarks from a Steering Committee perspective
- Kelsey Brooks/Eric Buehl reviews background and facilitates
- Bryan Seipp reviews CWIP development and answers technical questions
- Use both “chat” and verbal comments to answer questions or get formal and informal comments

Maryland Targeted Stakeholder Engagement Workshops



Workshops held so far:

- November 18 focusing on Cecil County
- November 20 focusing on Harford County
- December 1 focusing on Baltimore County

Pending workshops

- December 8 open for those unable to attend previous workshops
- January 13 general workshop

Top Maryland Comments/Issues so far



Concern about lack of local capacity to take on extra responsibility

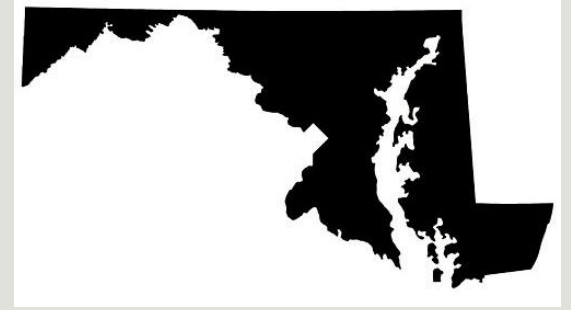
Need to adjust BMP selection (ie unusual choices for urban practices)

Potential conflicts within Phase II MS-4 communities

How will CWIP implement Nutrient Management in Maryland?

Questions regarding tracking/reporting implementation and how it will be separated from WIP III

Attend future workshops?



Interested in sitting in on one of the upcoming Maryland workshops?

Pending workshop dates

- December 8
- January 13

Email Nancy Nunn with the Harry R Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology and she will send you the registration information:

nnunn@umd.edu

New York Stakeholder Engagement Workshops



Format:

- Invitation list developed with the NYS DEC and the Upper Susquehanna Coalition
- Webinar-format meetings hosted by Center for Watershed Protection
- 90 minutes long utilizing Zoom platform
- Lauren Townley offered introductory remarks from a Steering Committee perspective
- Deb Caraco, Bryan Seipp and Carly Dean host
- Use both “chat” and verbal comments to answer questions or get formal and informal comments

New York Targeted Stakeholder Engagement Workshops



Workshops held so far:

- November 30 Targeted Stakeholders from CWIP Geography.

Pending workshops

- One general workshop in January (date TBD)

Top New York Comments/Issues so far



Concern about the geography being too limiting, since those specific areas have been a focus in the past

Interest in simplifying the tracking and accounting system so that Conservation Districts would report BMPs to only one system rather than having a separate system for the Conowingo WIP versus the Chesapeake Bay WIP, and potentially simply adding target reductions to New York's existing WIP.

Reporting is currently completed at the county scale in New York and there were some concerns about how to track BMPs to ensure they are within the Conowingo geography.

Questions about the origins of the target loads associated with the Conowingo Infill, including how the modeling was conducted.

Attend future workshops?



Interested in sitting in on New York's Statewide Workshop?

Email Deb Caraco with the Center for Watershed Protection and she will send you the registration information and details:

dsc@cwpp.org

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CONOWINGO WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (WIP)



Chesapeake Bay Watershed



Photo by Will Parson
Chesapeake Bay Program

Why Do We Need To Reduce Pollution In The Chesapeake Bay?

The Chesapeake Bay is in poor health due to pollution from a variety of sources, including stormwater runoff, air emissions, wastewater, agriculture, development and more. For many years, pollution that flowed into the streams and rivers of the Chesapeake Bay was not managed to meet water quality standards. At the same time, the population in the 64,000-square mile watershed increased significantly – rising 43% between 1980 and 2017, from 12.7 million people to 18.2 million people. All of this has harmed water quality in the watershed.

In 2010, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (Bay TMDL), which set nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment reduction goals so that all practices would be in place by 2025 to meet the Bay's water quality standards. Sediment can smother aquatic life and pollutants such as nitrogen and phosphorus cause algae to grow in local waterways and the Chesapeake Bay that rob the waters of oxygen when they begin to die off and decompose. To meet these goals, the seven jurisdictions (Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia) that drain to the Chesapeake Bay developed Watershed Implementation Plans to help guide their Chesapeake Bay clean-up efforts. The entire 27,500-square mile Susquehanna River – the largest single source of freshwater to the Chesapeake Bay – drains to the Conowingo Reservoir.

The Conowingo Dam and reservoir were built in 1928 and are owned and operated by Exelon Corporation. The Conowingo Dam and other dams in the Lower Susquehanna have historically trapped and stored sediment. A 2015 study by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Maryland Department of the Environment concluded the reservoir has reached approximately 92% capacity, no longer trapping sediment and associated nutrients. In December 2017, the Chesapeake Bay Program agreed to a separate Conowingo Planning Target and to collectively develop a separate Conowingo WIP. All Chesapeake Bay Program Principals' Staff Committee (PSC) jurisdictional members agreed to pool resources and to identify a process to fund and



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Since 1983, the Chesapeake Bay Program has led and directed the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. Bay Program partners include federal and state agencies, local governments, non-profit organizations and academic institutions. Staff members work at offices in Annapolis, Maryland, and at partner organizations throughout the watershed.

Other Outreach

Conowingo WIP Fact Sheet

Pre-recorded Informational Webinar

November 24th watershed wide web Webinar-format meetings

Personalized Email Outreach to Key Partners and Stakeholders