

Schedule

2011 Mid-Atlantic Environmental Literacy Summit

Strengthening Educational Partnerships towards a Sustainable Future



Wednesday, November 2

9:00-10:00am

REGISTRATION AND COFFEE HOUR

10:00-11:15am

SUMMIT WELCOME AND KEYNOTE

Welcome by **Peyton Robertson**, *Director*, NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office

Introduction and announcement of comment period for the PK-12 Literacy Strategy by **Dr. Kathryn Sullivan**, *Assistant Secretary for Environmental Observation and Prediction*, Department of Commerce, and *Deputy Administrator*, NOAA

Keynote Address by **Dr. Donald Boesch**, *President*, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
"The Integral Connection between Science and Environmental Education"

Remarks by **Nicholas DiPasquale**, *Director*, U.S. EPA Chesapeake Bay Program

Congressman John Sarbanes

Gregory Henschel, *Senior Policy Analyst*, U.S. Department of Education

Linda Rhoads, *Executive Director*, North American Association for Environmental Education

11:15-1:00pm

SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY: AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

The Next Generation Science Standards

This session will highlight the joint effort underway among Achieve, the National Science Teachers Association, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the National Research Council to create the foundations for all students to have a solid K-12 science education.

- **Stephen Pruitt**, Achieve
- **Heidi Schweingruber**, National Research Council

National Priorities for STEM Education

This panel will provide the opportunity for education leaders from NOAA, NASA, and the National Science Foundation to discuss their agency priorities related to the environment and education.

- **Louisa Koch**, NOAA Office of Education
- **James Stofan**, NASA Education
- **David Campbell**, NSF Directorate for Education and Human Resources
- Moderator: **Shannon Sprague**, NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office

1:00-2:00pm

LUNCH WITH KEYNOTE AND TABLE DISCUSSION

Welcome by **Allen Hance**, *Executive Director*, Chesapeake Bay Trust

Keynote Address by former Congressman **Wayne Gilchrest**

Table Discussion Topic: How can the federal government support science and environmental education in the states?

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2:00-4:30pm

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: INQUIRY BASED LEARNING ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

Note: A refreshment break is scheduled during this session.

Inspiring Students through Exposure to the Natural World

This panel will highlight exemplary school division wide programs that are engaging youth in outdoor learning as a regular part of their academic career.

- **Don Baugh**, Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- **Eric Rhoades**, Virginia Department of Education
- **Linda Peterson**, Fairfax County Public Schools
- **Brad Yohe**, Carroll County Public Schools
- Moderator: **Jamie Baxter**, Chesapeake Bay Trust

America's Great Outdoors

- **Maria Arnold**, U.S. Department of Interior

School Grounds and Operations as Environmental Teaching Tools

The panel will focus on the importance of using schools to provide authentic, place-based learning opportunities, allowing students to achieve environmental literacy grounded by their understanding of their immediate environment.

- **Andrea Falken**, U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools
- **Kevin Coyle**, National Wildlife Federation National Green Schools Network
- **David Lever**, Maryland School Construction Program
- **Michael Walsh**, Pennsylvania Department of Education
- Moderator: **Karen Mullin**, U.S. FWS Schoolyard Program

4:30-5:00pm

DISCUSSION AND NEXT STEPS FOR ACTION

Guiding Questions:

- What are the essential things that need to happen over the next 2 years to institutionalize environmental education in schools throughout the mid-Atlantic region?
- How can the federal government support science and environmental education in the states? (from lunch table discussions)

Moderator: **Ann Regn**, *Chair*, Education Workgroup, and *Director*, Virginia Office of Environmental Education

6:00-8:00pm

NETWORKING DINNER

The Chesapeake Bay Trust is happy to host Summit participants for dinner a informal networking. Participants are asked to share rides to the event. Carpools can be arranged at the registration desk and will depart from the lobby at 5:45pm.

Rock Bottom Brewery

7900 Norfolk Avenue

Bethesda, MD 20814

ABOUT THE MID-ATLANTIC EDUCATION WORKGROUP

First convened in 1998 under the Chesapeake Bay Program, the role of the mid-Atlantic Education Workgroup is to support efforts to ensure that elementary and secondary students in region graduate with the knowledge and skills to make informed environmental decisions. The Workgroup supports federal, state, and regional environmental literacy planning, including providing an ongoing forum to collaborate on the goals and objectives of the federal Executive Order and the Regional Roundtable.

November 2, 2011 • Chevy Chase, Maryland

Working Session

2011 Mid-Atlantic Environmental Literacy Summit

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Thursday, November 3

7:00-8:00am

Breakfast (*Cafeteria*)

8:00-8:30am

Review of Previous Day

Summit participants will reflect on the take away messages of the previous day.

Moderator: **Jamie Baxter**, Chesapeake Bay Trust

8:30-9:30am

Putting it All Together: The Strategy

Partners will provide an overview of the federal and affiliate goals, outcomes, and strategies in support of the draft Mid-Atlantic K-12 Environmental Literacy Strategy.

- **Shannon Sprague**, *Co-Chair*, Education Workgroup with NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office
- **Ann Regn**, *Co-Chair*, Education Workgroup with Virginia Office of Environmental Education

9:30-10:15am

Overview of the National Environmental Literacy Assessment and Framework for Assessing Environmental Literacy

Results of the National Environmental Literacy Assessment, a NOAA and EPA-funded grant, will be presented along with an overview of the preliminary results of the NSF-funded grant to NAAEE to create a new, comprehensive, research-based framework for assessing environmental literacy.

- **Dr. William McBeth**, University of Wisconsin Platteville

BREAK

10:30-12:30pm

Focus Groups:

Defining New Metrics to Track Success in Environmental Literacy

Building off of what we have learned from the assessment framework presentation, participants will discuss the relevance of the Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) indicator and create a plan and timeline for developing new indicator(s).

Moderators: Kevin Schabow (NOAA), Bronwen Rice (NOAA)

Enhancing Bay Backpack to Fully Support State Environmental Literacy Objectives

The Bay Backpack is heavily relied on in the Executive Order as a tool for connecting teachers and administrators with content, resources, and outdoor experience and professional development providers. The developers for Bay Backpack will be on hand to discuss proposed enhancements to the tool to better serve school division environmental literacy needs.

Moderators: Sarah Brzezinski (Chesapeake Bay Program), Michael Land (National Park Service)

Engaging and Sustaining Agency Support for Environmental Literacy Plans

Several jurisdictions in the watershed do not currently have the active engagement of key partners, including the departments of education, in developing a state environmental literacy plan. This session will focus on practical actions to better engage these agencies and organizations. Moderator: Frank Rodgers (West Virginia Environmental Education Association)

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12:30-1:00pm	Lunch
1:00-3:00pm	Review of Environmental Literacy Strategy Participants will break out by state delegations and federal agencies to review the Executive Order Environmental Literacy Strategy and provide comments on how the plan lines up with state priorities with a focus on gaps and opportunities.
3:00-4:00pm	Report Out and 2-Year Action Items for Education Workgroup

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