

Recognizing our History, Planning for Our Future: *30 Years of Bay Restoration & the Chesapeake Bay Program (1983-2013)*



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Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

1983-1993 – Laying Foundations for the Future

Putting policies and plans in place to support future restoration/conservation

Examples:

- *MD Critical Areas & VA Bay Preservation Act aimed at better growth management,*
- *Sweeping amendments to Clean Water Act*
- *Rockfish moratorium*
- *Phosphate ban*



1983-1993 for CBP



1983 First Agreement signed / CBP “born”

- The start of one of the first collaborative efforts to restore a single, distinctive estuary
- Established CBP **operational** goals
- Today, there's world-wide recognition for our rich history of science, restoration and policy

1987 Second Agreement signed

- CBP partners established **specific** restoration/conservation goals
- For first time, set quantifiable goal for nutrient pollution reduction
- Partners efforts were trackable, accountable for the first time

1992 Amendments to the agreement

- Moved the water quality restoration upstream, calling for tributary strategies to be developed by individual jurisdictions.

1993-2003: Momentum - Innovation, Management, Engagement, Education

**Technological innovations,
New ways to manage nutrient runoff;
Non-profits engage citizens**

Examples:

- Bay-friendly landscaping programs begins
- States implement nutrient management plans
- Funding opportunities created:
Growing Greener program (PA); Ches. Stewardship Fund
- Nutrient removal technology for wastewater treatment plants estab.
- National Park Service creates Gateways & Watertrails network
- NOAA / local partners establish environmental education programs



1993-2003 for CBP

2000 Third Agreement (*Chesapeake2000*) signed by MD, VA, PA, DC, EPA, CBC

Chesapeake2000 was ambitious. Deadline for most goals was 2010.

Through an MOU in 2003, the Bay's "headwater states" – Delaware, New York and West Virginia – join the partnership to work on water quality issues.

- This agreement established more than 100 goals to:
 - Reduce pollution,
 - Restore habitat,
 - Promote sound land use, and
 - Engage the public.

2003-2013: Expanding – Maturity, Federal Involvement, Perspective

Strengthening restoration efforts;
Increasing federal regulatory actions;
Growing perspective of what job will really take.

Examples:

- *Large-scale volunteer restorations expand*
- *MD flush fee created*
- *VA achieves goal to protect open space*
- *Launch of “Sustainable DC” 20-yr plan*
- *PA establishes tax credit for farmers*
- *DE approves new CAFO regulations*
- *WV replaces 4 wastewater treatment plants with one more efficient system*
- *NY passes law banning phosphorus in fertilizer and dish detergent*



2003-2013 for CBP

2003-2010 – Partners continue to work toward C2K goals.

2009-10 – Federal Executive Order & Chesapeake Bay TMDL

- Introduced regulatory framework with long term goals

2011 – CBP Partners decide a new Agreement needed

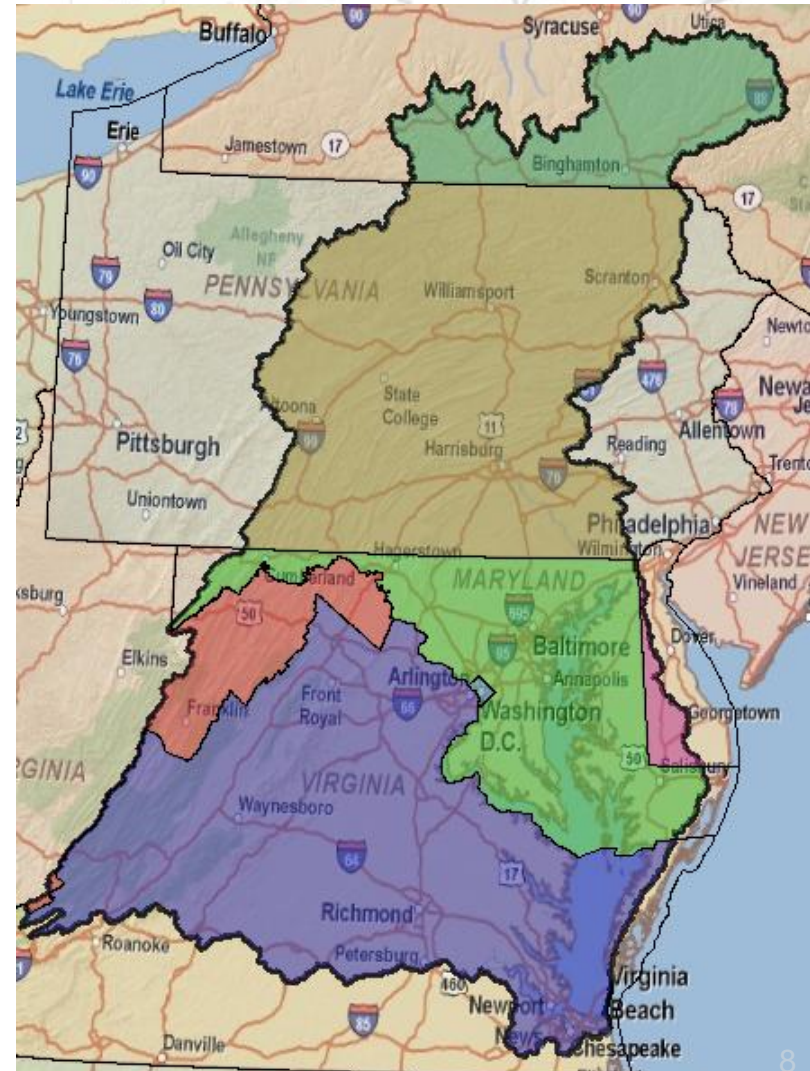
**2012 to present – CBP Partners drafting new
Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement that:**

- *Aims for all actions in place by 2025 to result in a clean, fishable, swimmable Bay*
- *Focuses on entire watershed, not just Bay, recognizing importance of cleaning up habitats, waterways that support the whole ecosystem*
- *Offers the most streamlined Agreement since 1983*
- *Recognizes local governments as a critical link*

CBP in the Future: A New Watershed-Wide Agreement

The Next Generation Agreement:

- Renews commitments & sets new goals
- Provides opportunity for full participation by the headwater states
- Updates science, governance and management techniques – ie: climate change, adaptive management
- Improves coordination, integration & collaboration among the partners
- Brings together the EO and TMDL with the Partnership agreement and governance structures



How did we get here?

The Chesapeake Executive Council and the federal agency leads agreed to a 3-year, 4 stage discussion and process

2011 - Stage 1: Use CBP's science, restoration experts (Goal Implementation Teams) to Set Direction

2012 - Stage 2: Develop Negotiation Protocols

2013 - Stage 3: Negotiate New Agreement

2014 - Stage 4: Implement New Agreement (2014-2025)



How is it structured?

ALL goals, outcomes and strategies derived from the CBP Goal Teams –
issue experts & stakeholders from across the jurisdictions / watershed.



*CBP's Executive Council (EC)
to "agree" on overarching
GOALS & initial **OUTCOMES**
for the partnership
(This is the content of the new Watershed agreement)*

*CBP's Principals' Staff Committee (PSC)
to track **OUTCOMES**,
ensuring they are measurable &
achievable; adapting as needed*

*CBP's Management Board (MB) to
manage and track the **STRATEGIES**,
adapting them as necessary over time
for success*

Resource managers and decision makers will be guided by the strategies while retaining some flexibility to implement the practices that make the most sense for their region.

What will it do?



Clarity

- Clearer goals and more well defined outcomes than previous agreements



Flexibility


- Use of adaptive management to adjust to changing conditions and circumstances



Transparency & Accountability

- Partners set priorities & commit resources through management strategies

Public Involvement

- 
- July-Aug. – 30 Day public comment period on initial draft
 - TODAY - Executive Council meeting – advisory committee recommendations; EC discussion
 - Dec. 20 – Comments from CBP partners due
 - **Late Jan. / early Feb. – Second public comment period begins**
 - **March – 45 day public comment period closes**
 - March/April – public comments incorporated
 - April – CBP partners approve final edits
 - Late May/June – EC meeting; final Agreement to be signed

Public Comments

Summary of comments to date and CBP rational for decisions will be available at:

[www.chesapeakebay.net/chesapeakewatershed agreement](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/chesapeakewatershed_agreement)

- Public is encouraged to review the summary and to see comments received during first comment period (July-August 2013).
- CBP's rationale for subsequent decisions will be posted when next Draft of Agreement is issued in late January/early February.

New Watershed Agreement in Summary

- Forward looking agreement to address emerging challenges
- Clearer goals and outcomes
- Incorporates latest science and ecosystem management techniques
- Better integration and coordination between CBP and EO goals for the Bay
- Greater flexibility and improved accountability

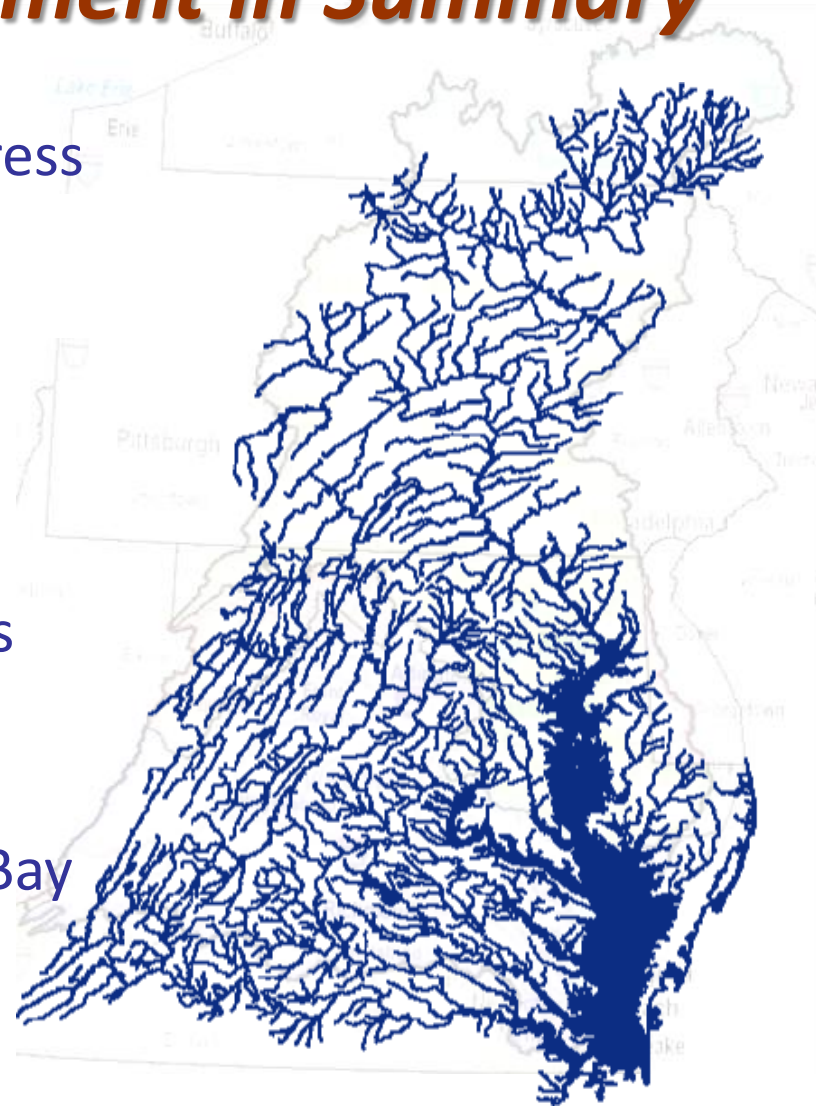
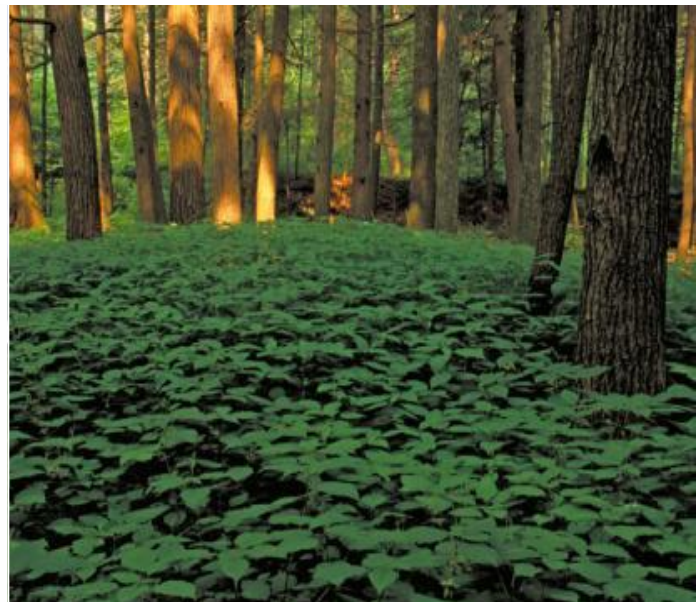


Image courtesy Choose Clean Water Coalition



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