

AgWG Scope and Purpose Prioritization 2018-2019

May 17, 2018



Agriculture Workgroup

Scope and Purpose

The charge of the Agriculture Workgroup is to provide expertise and leadership on **development and implementation of policies, programs**, and **research to reduce pollutant loads delivered from agricultural lands and animal operations** to upstream waters and the Chesapeake Bay.

The Workgroup reports to the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team. Functions include:

- Provide a forum for **discussion, exchange of information, and evaluation** between federal, state, and local agencies, conservation districts, universities, agri-business, and the corporate sector **on sustainable and/or cost-effective agricultural production systems that benefit water and air quality.**
- Provide **recommendations on the prioritization of federal and state technical and financial resources** on specific practices in priority watersheds.
- Provide technical expertise and leadership to **support the development and implementation of agricultural elements within the Chesapeake Bay TMDL, Watershed Implementation Plans, two-year milestones, and tracking and reporting mechanisms** that support an adaptive management approach towards Bay restoration.
- **Coordinate with WQGIT Watershed Technical Workgroup to identify, define, quantify, and incorporate pollutant reduction and conservation practices on agricultural lands and animal operations** into the Chesapeake Bay Program decision support system. **Provide data and support** for the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team and Technical and Support Services.

Implementation

Verification

Phase 6.0 Model Updates

Implementation

Barriers

Communication

Cross Sector Collaboration

Technical Assistance

WIP Development

Verification

Alternative Methods

Technical Assistance

Feasibility

Jurisdictional Approaches

Phase 6.0 Model
Updates

Crediting

Data Inputs

BMP Expert Panels

Innovations

Climate Change

Implementation

Barriers

Economic

- Cost-Share
- Dairy Sector Slump

Logistical

- Leased Land

Social

- Crisis Management
- Cultural Bridges

Lessons Learned

- Successes & Failures

Cross Sector Collaboration

Forestry

- Riparian Forest Buffers

Toxic Contaminants

- STAC Workshop

Wetland

- Wetland BMP Expert Panel

Trading & Offsets

BMP
Co-benefits

Climate
Resiliency

Opportunities

Maximizing Load Reductions
Strategic Implementation

Communication

Education & Outreach

Farmer/Operator
Input

Farmer/Operator
Buy-in

Resources

Technical
Assistance

- State Level
- Federal Level

Cooperative
Agreements

WIP Development

Verification

Jurisdictional Approaches

EPA vs AgWG
Role

Technical Assistance

Federal Funding

State Funding

Cooperative
Agreements

Feasibility

Programmatic Capacity

State Funding

Alternative Methods

Transect Survey

Remote Sensing

Producer/Farmer
Self-Survey

Phase 6.0 Model Updates

Data Inputs

Animal Production Numbers

- Broiler
- Turkey
- Swine
- Dairy

Manure and Litter Analysis

- County-level distribution data
- Improved nutrient concentration data
- Regional sampling procedures and data
- Regional manure/litter analysis data report

Soil Analysis

- Soil Phosphorus
 - Managment Boards Recomendations (Sept 21, 2017)
- County-level distribution data
- Regional sampling procedures and data
- Regional soil analysis data report

Fertilizer

- County-level distribution data

Remote Sensing

- Partnering with state transect surveys and CTIC program

BMP Expert Panels

In-progress

- Cropland Irrigation
- Ag Ditch Management

Establishment

- Animal Mortality Management (RFP)
- Nursery Capture and Reuse

Re-evaluate

- Pasture Management
- Conservation Planning
 - (Weiner-Simpson Report)

Crediting

Non Cost-Share BMPs

CAST

- BMP mapping
- Soil Conservation BMP

BMP Life-spans
vs
CBP Credit Cycles

Cost-Share (NRCS) BMPs

- Crediting cycle expirations

Innovations

Nutrient Application Recommendations

- Partnering with regional land grant universities

Precision Ag

- Tulane Grand Challenge (N reduction)

Soil Health

Discovery Farms (Midwest)

Pay-for-Performance (Winrock International)

Climate Change

Impacts on Ag

- Climate-Resilient Farming

Solutions from Ag

- Land Managment
- BMP co-benefits
- Carbon Sequestration

Example Tracking Method

Task Category	Task	Outcome	Stakeholder Leads	CBP Leads	Priority
Implementation					?
Verification					?
Phase 6.0 Model Updates	Animal Mortality Management Expert Panel Report	Partnership-Approved EP Recommendations Report & Associated BMPs	EP Chair	AgWG Coordinator; VT Project Coordinator	?
Phase 6.0 Model Updates	Improving Soil P data via partnerships with regional soil test labs	Regional county-level soil P data updated on a 2-year basis.		AgWG Technical Advisor	?
Innovations	Work with regional land grant universities				?
Climate Change					?