

October 20, 2022
10:00 AM-12:00 PM
Agriculture Workgroup Conference Call

Conference Call Information*

Zoom Link: <https://umces-edu.zoom.us/j/94729390103>

Meeting ID: 947 2939 0103

Passcode: 338673

Phone: +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Calendar Page: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/agriculture-workgroup-conference-call-october-2022>

*To enter the webinar, please open the webinar link first. After opening the webinar, either elect to join via computer audio or via phone call. If you select phone, **please ensure you enter the participant ID.**

**Common Acronyms can be found at the end of this agenda

Workgroup Areas of Focus

Accounting & Reporting • Implementation • Innovation

Data & Modeling • CBP Assignments

10:00 Welcome, introductions, roll-call, review meeting minutes

Workgroup Chair

- Roll-call of the governance body
- Roll-call of the meeting participants- *Please enter name and affiliation under "Participants" or in "Chat" box*
- Approval of [minutes](#) from the September AgWG call

Accounting & Reporting

10:05 PA Cover Crop Pilot Study (45 min)

A. Cook, M. Dubin, T. Tesler

Aaron Cook, PSU, Mark Dubin, UMD, and Ted Tesler, PA DEP return to the AgWG to further discuss the Cover Crop Enhancement Pilot Project. PA DEP has been working with PSU to match existing data from producer surveys and roadside transect surveys to enhance tracking and reporting of cover crop implementation in PA counties. The process and updated findings will be presented followed by discussion. Approval by consensus for the methods presented will be sought on the November 17 AgWG call.

CBP Assignments/Data & Modeling

10:50 Agricultural Data Inputs (10 min)

Tom Butler

Tom Butler, EPA, will review voting outcome from the for the Phase 7 Agricultural Modeling Team (AMT). Voting for 4 at-large slots occurred over e-mail by AgWG Governance members.

Implementation

11:00 Confronting Agricultural Nonpoint Source Challenges (30 min)

Kurt Stephenson

Kurt Stephenson, Virginia Tech, will discuss the recently published article, [Confronting our Agricultural Nonpoint Source Control Policy Problem](#). Abstract below:

Federal and state agricultural and environmental agencies have spent enormous sums since the 1990s to reduce nonpoint source (NPS) water pollution from agriculture. Yet, water quality problems are pervasive, and agriculture is a major cause. The lack of progress is often attributed to insufficient funding for pollution control practices relative to the scale of the problem. However, we attribute the lack of progress to shortcomings in agricultural NPS pollution control policy. We illustrate our argument after considering nearly four decades of federal, state, and local efforts to reduce agricultural NPS pollution to the Chesapeake Bay. Additional funding for current programs, absent fundamental program reform, is unlikely to produce reductions from agriculture needed to achieve desired water quality outcomes.

11:30 STAC Workshop Report-Out (20 min)

Loretta Collins

Loretta Collins, UMD, will provide a brief summary of proceedings and subsequent recommendations from a 2021 STAC Workshop: [Overcoming the Hurdle: Addressing Implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices \(BMPs\) Through a Social Science Lens](#). Feedback from AgWG members is encouraged.

11:50 New Business & Announcements (5 min)

- **Management Board/WQGIT joint meeting on CAST:**
 - Special session Oct 19th to discuss next steps for CAST
- **NRCS Ag BMP Crediting- NEIEN Appendix Proposal**
 - AgWG determination at future meeting on options presented in [September](#)
- **Animal Mortality Expert Panel Technical Appendix**
 - Most recent draft technical appendix available [here](#)- CBPO working through revisions based on feedback.
 - Contact Jeremy Hanson (hansonj@chesapeake.org) with questions/comments.
- **Other Announcements?** - send to Jackie Pickford (Pickford.Jacqueline@epa.gov) for inclusion in "Recap" email

11:55 Review of Action and Decision Items (5 min)

Jackie Pickford

12:00 Adjourn

Next Meeting:

Thursday, November 17: 10AM-12PM, Call-in Zoom

**Common Acronyms

AgWG- [Agriculture Workgroup](#)

AMT- [Agricultural Modeling Team](#) (Phase 7)

BMP- Best Management Practice

BMPVAHAT- [BMP Verification Ad Hoc Action Team](#)

CAST- [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#) (user interface for the CBP Watershed Model)

CBP- [Chesapeake Bay Program](#)

CBPO- Chesapeake Bay Program Office (houses EPA, federal partners, and various contractors and grantees working towards CBP goals)

CBW- Chesapeake Bay Watershed

CRC- [Chesapeake Research Consortium](#)

EPA- [United States] Environmental Protection Agency

NEIEN- National Environmental Information Exchange Network

NFWF- [National Fish and Wildlife Foundation](#)

PA DEP- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

PSC – [Principals' Advisory Committee](#) (CBP)

PSU- Penn State University

STAC- [Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee](#)

TMDL- Total Maximum Daily Load

WQGIT- [Water Quality Goal Implementation Team](#)

WTWG- [Watershed Technical Workgroup](#)

UMD- University of Maryland

USDA-ARS- United States Department of Agriculture-*Agricultural Research Service*

USDA-NASS- United States Department of Agriculture-*National Agricultural Statistics Service* USDA-NRCS- United States Department of Agriculture-*Natural Resources Conservation Service*