

# Agriculture Workgroup (AgWG)

## Meeting Agenda

December 12, 2013

9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Log Lodge Main Conference Room

USDA Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

302 Log Lodge Road

Beltsville, Maryland 20705

Dial-in Number: 866-299-3188 code: 267.5715

Virtual Meeting Room: <https://epa.connectsolutions.com/agwg/>

Calendar Page: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/S=0/calendar/event/19190/>

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**09:30**                      **Welcome and Introductions**                      **Coale**

**09:35**                      **AgWG Meeting Minutes**                      **Coale**  
Frank Coale, Agriculture Workgroup Chair, will introduce the draft minutes from the November 7, 2013 workgroup meeting held at the USDA BARC Log Lodge for review and approval.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

**09:40**                      **Agriculture Workgroup Nomination**                      **Coale**  
After over four years of serving as the chair of the Agriculture Workgroup, Frank will announce his decision to step down as chair in early 2014 once a new chair has been selected. Nominations for a new workgroup chair will be accepted through COB January 9, 2014 in preparation for selecting a new chair during the workgroup's February monthly meeting. Nominations should be sent to Emma Giese.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

**09:50**                      **USDA CEAP Report Release**                      **Coale/Dubin**  
Frank and Mark Dubin, Agriculture Workgroup Coordinator, will discuss plans to schedule a formal presentation from USDA on the latest Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) report. USDA's second CEAP report for the Chesapeake Bay was released on December 5, 2013. The study looks at the land use, crop history, production, agronomic, and conservation practices of farms in the watershed from 2009 to 2011. The study information was collected by USDA-NASS through producer interview, and was subsequently utilized in the project's modeling tools to estimate the effects on local rivers and streams.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

**10:05**                      **Expert Review Panel Reports Update**                      **Dubin**

Mark Dubin, Agriculture Workgroup Coordinator, will provide an update of the development of the three agricultural BMP expert review panel reports approved by the partnership earlier this year. Tetra Tech is currently assisting the Cover Crop, Conservation Tillage, and the Nutrient Management panels in formatting and editing of the panel reports in preparation for final publishing.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation

- 10:15                    Agricultural Management Plans Subgroup Update                    Dubin**  
Mark will provide an update on the activity of the subgroup in developing a verification protocol recommendation for agricultural management plans.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Agriculture Workgroup Participation

- 10:30                    Manure Treatment Technology Subgroup Update                    Evans**  
Kristen Hughes Evans, Subgroup representative, will provide an update on the activities of the subgroup in developing a plan of work for a future BMP expert review panel. Kristen will review the findings of a recent workgroup survey, and how the subgroup is utilizing the results to guide the development of a draft work plan.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation

- 10:50                    Agricultural Functional Equivalent Recommendation Report                    York**  
Dana York, representing the Maryland Department of Agriculture, will provide an update on the draft recommendation report to define and implement a tracking and reporting protocol for agricultural functional equivalent (FE) BMPs. The draft report represents the culmination of several years of work by Dana and other collaborators to address the original Chesapeake Bay Executive Order USDA goal for enabling the partnership to track and report non-cost shared agricultural BMPs to the Chesapeake Bay Program models for credit.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation

- 11:00                    Ag Functional Equivalent Technical Review Panel                    Coale/Dubin**  
Frank and Mark will propose for workgroup concurrence the formation of a technical review panel for the review of the Agricultural Functional Equivalent recommendations proposed by the Maryland Department of Agriculture. The proposed membership of the panel is based on nominations received from the workgroup members following the decision during the November meeting to form the panel.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

- 11:15                    BMP Verification Review Panel's Recommendations                    York**

Dana York, BMP Verification Review Panel Chair, will provide a presentation on the panel's findings and recommendations from a recent comprehensive review of the partnership's approach to developing verification guidance for the tracking and reporting of BMPs to the Chesapeake Bay Program models. The workgroup will consider the recommendations for possible incorporation in the development of an agricultural verification proposal to the partnership in 2014.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

**12:00            Lunch**

**01:00            Poultry Litter Subcommittee Report Update            Glancey**  
Jim Glancey, Chair of the Poultry Litter Subcommittee, will provide an update on the subcommittee's development of a draft recommendation report on model data inputs for representing commercial poultry production in the CBP models. The three areas of recommendation include poultry litter nutrient concentration values, litter mass volume generation, and annual bird populations for the Bay watershed. The subcommittee report is expected to be available to imitate the partnership review process at the January meeting.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation

**01:15            PLS Data and the CBP Modeling Tools            Johnston**  
Matt Johnston will briefly explain the key parameters that the PLS plans to provide the Partnership, and describe possible ways the data could be incorporated into the modeling tools.

**1:25            VADCR's New Ag BMP Tracking Program - World View Sexton/Martin**  
Tim Sexton with VADCR will introduce Stephanie Martin also with VADCR, to provide the first of two presentations on Virginia's new programs for tracking agricultural BMPs. Stephanie will discuss the new agricultural BMP tracking software program that has been developed in a collaboration between World View and VADCR to meet new reporting and quality control requirements.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation

**02:15            VADCR's New Ag BMP Tracking Program - NutMan 4            Sexton/Stone**  
Tim will introduce Nick Stone with Virginia Tech to provide the second of two presentations on Virginia's new programs for tracking agricultural BMPs, specifically the latest nutrient management planning software - NutMan 4. The NutMan software has been developed jointly by Virginia Tech and Virginia DCR over the past several years. The current version integrates a central database with a geospatial mapping component through web services. The goal of the new software is to meet new reporting and quality control requirements, including assurance that planned acreages are not double-counted.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation

**03:20                      Review of AgWG Recommendations                      Giese**  
Emma Giese, CRC Staffer, will review the draft notes from the meeting for comment.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

**03:30                      Adjourn**

**Meeting Materials:**

All materials from today's meeting will be posted on the event page:

<http://www.chesapeakebay.net/S=0/calendar/event/19190>

**Agenda Schedule:**

The meeting agenda is reflective known information at the time of publication and may be subject to change due to other circumstances. Additional agenda items may be added if time is available.