

Agriculture Workgroup (AgWG)
Meeting Agenda
February 16, 2023
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
[Meeting Materials](#)

Conference Call Information*

Zoom Link: <https://umces-edu.zoom.us/j/86998611539>

Meeting ID: 869 9861 1539

Passcode: 9780

Phone: +1 305 224 1968 US

Calendar Page: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/agriculture-workgroup-meeting-february-2023>

*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** – Jeremy Daubert, AgWG Chair.

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

CBP Assignments/Data & Modeling

10:05 **Agricultural Data Inputs (5 min)** - Tom Butler, EPA.

Tom will provide an update on the Phase 7 Agricultural Modeling Team (AMT) and their [February](#) meeting.

10:10 **AgWG At-Large Membership Nominations: Confirmation of At-Large Members (15 min)** - Tom Butler, EPA.

Tom will review the results of the online ranking poll and get consensus approval of new at-large members for the 2023-2025 term.

Decision requested: The AgWG will be asked to confirm the new at-large members for the 2023-2025 term.

Accounting & Reporting

10:25 **BMP Expert Panel Process (20 min)** – Tom Butler, EPA.

At the January AgWG meeting, there were questions raised from the group about the potential to form an expert panel and/or expert panel exploratory group (EPEG). Tom will review what an expert panel is, the process to establish one, and the time commitments and expectations required of the AgWG before, during, and after the panel.

10:45 **Crediting NRCS Soil & Water Conservation Plan Practices Expert Panel (30 min)** – Jeff Sweeney, EPA.

Jeff will present on the merits of forming an EPEG to discuss updating crediting to certain agricultural BMPs. Some of these were referenced at the January AgWG meeting as being NRCS [Soil and Water Conservation Plans](#).

Action Requested: The AgWG will be asked to provide suggestions for membership of an Expert Panel Exploratory Group (EPEG) to review crediting estimates for the Soil and Water Conservation Plan BMP and determine if updates need to be made through an Expert Panel.

Innovation

11:15 **Maryland Agriculture Climate Vulnerability Assessment (35 min)** – Terry Nuwer, and Josh Bollinger, UMD.

Terry will discuss a preparatory study which has been completed by the University of Maryland. This study is the first step in a series which will create a full assessment to address and mitigate the impact of climate change on Agriculture in Maryland.

11:50 **New Business & Announcements (5 min)**

- **Conservation Drainage Network Annual Meeting**
 - The conservation Drainage network is holding an annual meeting to discuss Advancing Implementation, please see that document linked [here](#) for more information.
- **Cover crop BMP verification hybrid method**
 - Present AgWG approved [cover crop survey hybrid method](#) to WTWG for update to verification protocols (date pending).
- **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund**
 - Small Watershed Grants (SWG) Program, delivered in partnership with EPA and the CBP partnership, NFWF is soliciting proposals for projects within the Chesapeake Bay watershed that promote voluntary, community-based efforts to protect and restore the diverse and vital habitats of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers and streams.
 - Chesapeake Watershed Investments for Landscape Defense Grants (WILD) Program, delivered in partnership with FWS, NFWF is soliciting proposals for projects that conserve, steward, and enhance fish and wildlife habitats and related conservation values in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
 - Soliciting proposals until **Thursday, April 20, 2023**.
 - NFWF is holding an **informational webinar** for prospective applicants on **Friday, March 3, 2023**. Interested applicants must register in advance [here](#) in order to participate. NFWF will also record and post the webinar to the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund [webpage](#) shortly after its conclusion.

- **Other Announcements?** - send to Jackie Pickford (Pickford.Jacqueline@epa.gov) for inclusion in "Recap" email.

11:55 **Review of Action and Decision Items (10 min)**

12:00 **Adjourn**

Next Meeting:

Thursday, March 16th: 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](#)

DPF – Dairy Precision Feeding

EPA- [United States] Environmental Protection Agency

EPEG – Expert Panel Exploratory Group

FWS – [United States] Fish and Wildlife Service

MUN – Milk Urea Nitrogen

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](#)

SWG – Small Watershed Grants Program

TMDL- Total Maximum Daily Load

WILD - Chesapeake Watershed Investments for Landscape Defense Grants Program

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*