

# Agriculture Workgroup (AgWG)

September 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>

## DRAFT Meeting Agenda

**Western Maryland Research & Education Center - Extension**  
**18330 Keedysville Road**  
**Keedysville, MD 21756**

Conference line: 866-299-3188 Code: 2675715#

Webinar link: <https://epa.connectsolutions.com/agwg/>

Meeting materials: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/calendar/event/22592/>

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### September 16<sup>th</sup> 10:00AM-4:30PM

- 10:00 **Welcome, introductions, review meeting minutes** Workgroup Co- Chairs  
The Agriculture Workgroup Co-Chairs will introduce the draft minutes from the August 24<sup>th</sup> conference call.
- 10:10 **Agriculture Workgroup Governance** Workgroup Co-Chairs  
The Chesapeake Bay Program partnership recently adopted a new governance protocol for the program's Goal Implementation Teams and associated workgroups to implement. The workgroup chairs will describe the new governance and put forth a proposal for establishing a new governance structure for the workgroup.
- 11:00 **Agriculture Modeling Subcommittee Recommendations** Curt Dell/Matt Johnston  
The Agriculture Modeling Subcommittee has been finalizing a series of Phase 6.0 modeling tool recommendations in preparation for review by the workgroup. AMS Chair Curt Dell and Matt Johnston with the CBPO Modeling Team will provide an overview on the Phase 6.0 modeling tool development, including a process timeline. They will then present the AMS Phase 6.0 recommendations for workgroup review and approval. The recommendations will be presented to the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team on September 28, 2015 for meeting the October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for the beta version of Phase 6.0 development.
- 12:00 **Break for lunch**
- 1:00 **Agriculture Modeling Subcommittee Cont.** Curt Dell/Matt Johnston  
AMS recommendation presentation and workgroup review continued.
- 2:00 **Manure Injection Phase 6 Panel** Curt Dell  
The new Phase 6.0 Manure Injection and Incorporation BMP Expert Panel has held its public stakeholder meeting and has started the process of developing a full recommendation report,

scheduled for partnership review in early 2016. Panel Chair Curt Dell with USDA-ARS will provide a preliminary report on the activities of the panel and how the panel's charge is proposed to be addressed.

- 2:30 **Animal Waste Management Systems Phase 6 Panel** Shawn Hawkins/Jeremy Hanson  
The new Phase 6.0 Animal Waste Storage System BMP Expert Panel being coordinated with the technical assistance of Virginia Tech, is now prepared to present its suggested panel membership for partnership review and comments. Panel Chair Shawn Hawkins with the University of Tennessee and VT Coordinator Jeremy Hanson will discuss the objectives of the panel and its recommended membership.
- 3:00 **Manure Treatment Technology Panel** Doug Hamilton/Jeremy Hanson  
The Manure Treatment Technology BMP Expert Panel being coordinated with the technical assistance of Virginia Tech, is currently preparing its draft panel recommendation report for presentation to the workgroup for partnership review. Panel Chair Doug Hamilton with Oklahoma State University and VT Coordinator Jeremy Hanson, will discuss the status and structure of the panel's developing report, and the timeline for when the partnership will be receiving the recommendations.
- 3:30 **Nutrient Management Phase 6 Panel** Frank Coale  
The new Phase 6.0 Nutrient Management BMP Expert Panel has held its public stakeholder meeting and has started the process of developing a full recommendation report, scheduled for partnership review in early 2016. Panel Chair Frank Coale with the University of Maryland will provide a preliminary report on the activities of the panel and how the panel's charge is proposed to be addressed.
- 4:15 **Swine Phytase Data** Steve Taglang  
Pennsylvania has included Swine Phytase as a proposed BMP as part of their Watershed Implementation Plans, and are interested to move forward in a swine data collection and analysis project to develop a future recommendation for the partnership. Steve Taglang with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection will request the support of the workgroup in the proposed project, and to determine if any other jurisdictions are interested in contributing to the Pennsylvania led effort.
- 4:30 **Adjourn**

September 17<sup>th</sup> 8:30AM-3:00PM

- 8:30 **Delaware and Pennsylvania Pilot Cover Crop Transects** Marcia Fox/Susan Richards  
The established crop residue transect programs in Delaware and Pennsylvania for tracking and reporting county scale cropland tillage management implemented a new cover crop pilot project in late 2014. Marcia Fox with DNREC and Susan Richards with the Capital Area RC&D Council representing both programs will present the findings of their respective pilot cover crop programs, the methodology used in conducting the surveys, and how the information is being proposed to track and report annual cover crop implementation for the two

jurisdictions. Delaware and Pennsylvania are requesting workgroup review of the methodology for approval for future progress reporting to the Chesapeake Bay Program.

- 9:30 **Cover Crops Phase 6 Panel** Ken Staver  
The new Phase 6.0 Cover Crops BMP Expert Panel has held its public stakeholder meeting and has started the process of developing a full recommendation report, scheduled for partnership review in early 2016. Panel Chair Ken Staver with the University of Maryland will provide a preliminary report on the activities of the panel and how the panel's charge is proposed to be addressed.
- 10:00 **Conservation Tillage Phase 6 Panel** Wade Thomason  
The new Phase 6.0 Conservation Tillage BMP Expert Panel has held its public stakeholder meeting and has started the process of developing a full recommendation report, scheduled for partnership review in early 2016. Panel Chair Wade Thomason with Virginia Tech will provide a preliminary report on the activities of the panel and how the panel's charge is proposed to be addressed.
- 10:30 **Poultry Data Update** Mark Dubin/Christian Richter  
The recommendation report of the Poultry Litter Subcommittee identified the urgent need to enhance the currently available poultry production and litter data being utilized by the Chesapeake Bay Program's modeling tools. A regional effort was consequently launched between the partnership and the poultry industry to explore new opportunities to develop new publically available data on an annual basis. Mark Dubin with the University of Maryland and Christian Richter with the US Poultry and Egg Association will provide an update on the progress that is being accomplished to realize this joint goal for the Phase 6.0 modeling tools.
- 11:00 **Region 3 EPA Animal Agriculture Program Evaluation Report** Kelly Shenk/Mark Zolandz  
Kelly Shenk and Mark Zolandz with the EPA Region III Water Protection Division will provide a summary of topline findings from EPA's Animal Agriculture Program Assessments conducted in Maryland, Delaware, and West Virginia (assessments for NY, PA, and VA were released in March) and discuss the utility of the Bay state assessments to the Agriculture Workgroup.
- 11:30 **Phase 6 Land Use Loading Rates** Gopal Bhatt/Tom Jordan/Gene Yagow/Jack Meisinger  
In response to the preliminary findings of an AMS scientific review of the Tetra Tech recommendation report providing suggested land use loading rates and citations for the Phase 6.0 modeling tools, a scientific review committee was established through Virginia Tech. CBPO Modeling Team member Gopal Bhat will provide a short introduction to how the Phase 6.0 modeling tools will represent land use loading values. Committee Chair Tom Jordan with SERC, Project Principle Investigator Gene Yagow with Virginia Tech, and Jack Meisinger with USDA-ARS will present the committee's findings regarding Phase 6.0 agricultural land use target loading rates for nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment for the workgroup's review and approval.
- 12:30 **Break for lunch**
- 1:00 **BMP Verification Update: Panel Feedback and Next Steps** Rich Batiuk  
Rich Batiuk, CBP BMP Verification Committee Chair, will present a summary of the Partnership's independent BMP Verification Review Panel's feedback on the states' draft agriculture verification program plans and walk through the upcoming BMP verification schedule of events and actions.

- 1:30 **Phase 5.3.2 Nutrient Management Report** Workgroup Co-Chairs  
The workgroup reviewed the final draft of the Phase 5.3.2 Nutrient Management BMP Expert Panel recommendation report during the August monthly workgroup conference call. Since a consensus opinion could not be reached on a specific element of the full report, the Workgroup Chairs elevated the workgroup's opinions to the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team for consideration. The WQGIT took up the discussion during their team meeting on September 14, and decided to withhold a decision on the panel recommendations. The WQGIT instead requested that the workgroup move forward with establishing an ad hoc to evaluate how the jurisdictions may represent their existing nutrient management program in future progress reporting. The Workgroup Chairs will discuss the next steps for the panel report, and the establishment of an ad hoc subcommittee for providing its findings to the WQGIT in October.
- 2:15 **Phase 5.3.2 Nutrient Management Panel** Workgroup Co-Chairs  
The workgroup co-chairs will highlight the accomplishments of the Phase 5.3.2 Nutrient Management Panel, and request a motion from the floor to formally decommission the panel as meeting their charge.
- 2:30 **Phase 6.0 Panel Memberships** Mark Dubin/Lindsey Gordon  
Mark Dubin and Lindsey Gordon will discuss the current proposed membership for the Phase 6.0 Agriculture Stillwater and Cropland Irrigation Panels.
- 2:45 **Review Meeting Recommendations and Action Items** Lindsey Gordon
- 3:00 **Adjourn**