**CAC Priorities 2016-2017**

**CAC Purpose and Functions from Bylaws Article I, Section 4:**

1. Advise the Executive Council.
2. Provide input of the CAC on aspects of the watershed restoration.
3. Endeavor to understand and consider all aspects and views of an issue or topic primarily using the venue of quarterly meetings and inviting interested/affected stakeholders to share their views in a nonbiased objective CAC meeting environment.
4. Share information, when appropriate and applicable, about the Chesapeake Bay watershed with those groups whom individual members may be affiliated.
5. Participate with and contribute to the work of the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) committees and subcommittees. (Additional tasks can be set before the CAC at the request of the Executive Council or at the suggestion of individual committee members.)
6. Inform elected officials and other decision makers external to the CBP to facilitate their ability to act effectively on behalf of the Bay watershed.

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| **CAC Subcommittee** | **Topic** | **CAC Approach** | **Member Lead** |
| Urban Stormwater and Land Use | *MS4 Permitting and Mapping:* concerns over local jurisdictions’ mapping of MS4 drainage areas that do not include all of the conveyances leading to “orphan” nutrients not attributable to any one MS4 | * Learn how MS4 maps are drawn in each state and compare them * Learn if growth is factored within the permits * Encourage EPA enforcement and inspections for map accuracy | Paul Bruder and Christy Everett |
| Urban Stormwater and Land Use | *Crediting Land Conservation* as a pollution prevention strategy for meeting the Bay TMDL | * Briefing on the CBC 2013 report and policy recommendations * Panel Discussion on the current efforts and thinking about this approach with the 2017 Midpoint Assessment and revisions to the Bay Model | Joe Maroon |
| **CAC Subcommittee** | **Topic** | **CAC Approach** | **Member Lead** |
| Urban Stormwater and Land Use | *Urban Tree Canopy Goal:* many planting programs are volunteer based, but many states do not have a system in place to capture and report all plantings; lack of funding for tree planting projects | * Learn about technical, financial and manpower needs of volunteer planting groups * Highlight volunteer needs and the need to capture and report plantings on a statewide level | Greg Evans |
| Urban Stormwater and Land Use | *Riparian Forest Buffer Goal:* Agreement signatories need both additional resources and programs to address landowner reluctance to establish and maintain buffers | * Get briefings from States on progress on buffers * Review barriers identifies by taskforce and discuss which one(s) CAC may be able to monitor for progress * Determine if CAC can play a role in advising on education and implementation programs for the ag landowner community | Greg Evans and Matt Ehrhart |
| Urban Stormwater and Land Use | Environmental Financing Symposium to explore private investments, trading and markets | * Participate in the Steering Committee and share findings | Joe Maroon |
| Water Quality, Agriculture and Fisheries | WQ: Verification | * Continue to follow-up on the BMP Verification Process, share and/or review the State Verification Plans by Jan 3, 2016. | Verna Harrison |
| Water Quality, Agriculture and Fisheries | WQ: Nutrient Management Plans | * Continue to follow the Phase 6 Model NMP Expert Panel | Verna Harrison |
| **CAC Subcommittee** | **Topic** | **CAC Approach** | **Member Lead** |
| Water Quality, Agriculture and Fisheries | Ag: Manure to Energy: | * Get briefing from Ernie Shae on his report and work with Ag leaders and engaging farmers | Matt Ehrhart |
| Water Quality, Agriculture and Fisheries | Ag: Forest Buffers | * Get briefings from States on progress on buffers * Review barriers identifies by taskforce and discuss which one(s) CAC may be able to monitor for progress * Determine if CAC can play a role in advising on education and implementation programs for the ag landowner community | Matt Ehrhart and Greg Evans |
| Water Quality, Agriculture and Fisheries | Ag: Enhancing USDA’s involvement | * Get a briefing on trends in reductions of federal funding for Ag conservation practices (Peter Marx); explore partnership with CBC; explore appetite for amending the Chesapeake Bay Executive Order | Matt Ehrhart |
| Water Quality, Agriculture and Fisheries | Fisheries: Oyster Expert Panel as it relates to oysters as BMPs and the Mid-Point Assessment | * Get background briefings and tour; recommend CBP open the Expert Panel recommendation for public review * May Meeting: Panel discussion and learn results of the Expert Panel. | Paula Jasinski |
| **CAC Subcommittee** | **Topic** | **CAC Approach** | **Member Lead** |
| Water Quality, Agriculture and Fisheries | Fisheries: Blue Catfish as an invasive species, food bank donations and toxics in sustenance fishing | * Learn about the agency roles and recent actions. * Briefings on programs for catch and donation to local food banks; EJ and toxics issues for sustenance fishing * How did PA deal with Asian Carp invasive species | Paula Jasinski |
| Water Quality, Agriculture and Fisheries | Fisheries: Blue Crabs | * Get an update from the Fisheries GIT on plans for developing in 2017 a Total Allowable Catch | Paula Jasinski |
| Stewardship | CBP reaching to the local level | * Track how the States/local governments spent the $5M from CBP last year * Local report cards * Local messaging * Local charrettes * River Basin Commission | Charlie Stek |
| Stewardship | Diversity: broadening the audience and engagement; and environmental career pipeline | * Follow and participate in the work of the CBP Diversity Action Team | Victor Ukpolo |
| Stewardship | Urban Farming; encourage urban farming as a way to engage urban communities, diversify the stewards, and explore urban land conservation | * Write a letter to the CBP Management encouraging them to include urban farming as a policy / Workplan item in the 2016 Workplans and consider it for FY 17 GIT funding | Victor Ukpolo |
| **CAC Subcommittee** | **Topic** | **CAC Approach** | **Member Lead** |
| Stewardship | Public Access to Waterways | * Follow the work of CBP Stewardship GIT and the Public Access Workplan | Charlie Stek |
| Stewardship | Reducing Trash |  | Julie Lawson |
| Stewardship | Environmental Literacy in schools | * Follow the work of CBP Stewardship GIT and the Env Lit Workplan | Charlie Stek |