



# Delaware's Grant Assistance Program

*Lori Spagnolo*

University of Delaware  
*Institute for Public Administration*

***Grant Assistance Program  
(GAP)***

Troy Mix, Lori Spagnolo, Matt Harris, Chase Barnes

# Agenda

- **Why** GAP Exists
- **What** GAP is Designed to Accomplish
- **How** GAP Functions
- **Who** GAP Supports
- **When** GAP is Available

# Why GAP Exists

- Context
  - Past Funding in Delaware
- Demand
  - Recover DE Roundtables
- Opportunity
  - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
  - Inflation Reduction Act
- Support
  - DLLG / State of Delaware
- Context + Demand + Opportunity + Support = GAP



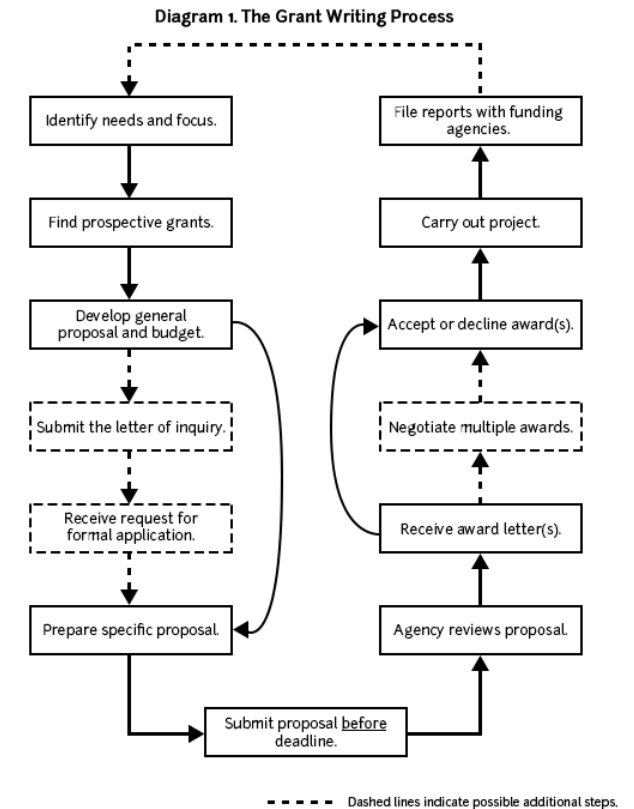
# What GAP is Designed to Do



- **FREE** Technical Grant Assistance
  - Grant Research, Writing, Reporting
  - Project Development, Prioritization, Implementation
- **FREE** Local Government Capacity Building
  - Curated Resources
  - Tailored Training

# How GAP Functions (Technical Assistance)

- Drop-In Hours
  - Monthly workshops
  - Topic Focused
- Direct Booking
  - Exclusive, targeted support to specific community
- Inquiry Support
  - Ad hoc inquiry response ([ipa-grants@udel.edu](mailto:ipa-grants@udel.edu))



# How GAP Functions (Capacity Building)

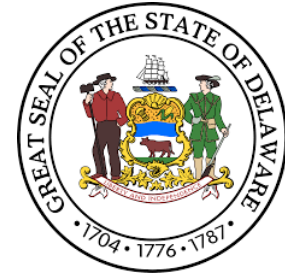
The screenshot shows the 'Grant Assistance Program' website. The header includes the title 'Grant Assistance Program' and the subtitle 'Available Funding Opportunities for Local Governments', along with the University of Delaware logo and 'BIDEN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY & ADMINISTRATION'. A 'Category' dropdown menu is visible. A text box explains that the portal provides an overview of new and existing funding opportunities for local governments in Delaware, with instructions to click on 'Category' to sort by theme and to click 'Learn More' to visit the agency webpage. Below this, three funding opportunity cards are displayed: 'Brownfields Projects', 'Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (Robert T Stafford Act Section 203(i))', and 'Business and Industry Loan Guarantee Program'. Each card includes details like category, application period, project size, grant match, and a description, followed by a 'Learn More' button. At the bottom, a footer note states: 'The Grant Assistance Program is a partnership between the University of Delaware's Institute for Public Administration and the State of Delaware.'

- Online Funding Opportunities Portal
- Curated Resource List
- Vetted 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Vendor List
- Local Government Training



# Who GAP Supports

- Direct Support
  - Delaware Local Governments
  - Focus: small, less resourced communities
- Indirect Support
  - Organizations who partner with or support Local Governments
    - Non-profits, engineering firms, state agencies
- Partnerships
  - State Agencies
  - University of Delaware
  - Nongovernmental (NGO) / Nonprofits (NP)





## Metrics to Date

- **11 Applications Submitted**
- **Totaling 12.2 M**
- **1 Project Award - \$295K Technical Assistance: Design of a bike/ped pathway to connect Milford and Slaughter Beach**



# The GAP Team

- Troy Mix, Policy Scientist
  - Regional Planning / Economic Development
- Lori Spagnolo, Policy Scientist
  - Environmental Remediation / Program Management
- Matt Harris, Associate Policy Scientist
  - City / Transportation Planning
- Chase Barnes, Assistant Policy Scientist
  - State / Local Government Policy

# Contact Us

- **Google:** “UDEL IPA GRANTS”
- **Website:** <https://www.bidenschool.udel.edu/ipa/serving-delaware/grant-assistance>
- **Email:** [ipa-grants@udel.edu](mailto:ipa-grants@udel.edu)



# Environmental Finance Center

*Michelle Kokolis*

# University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center

## Technical Assistance for Water Infrastructure

Michelle Kokolis  
Program Manager  
9 May 2023

# UMD EFC's Project Team

UMD EFC has retained its status as a Regional Multi-Environmental Media EFC and is also serving as a Category 2 Regional Water Infrastructure EFC with Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding.

The Cat. 2 project team includes the following:

- The Water Center, University of Pennsylvania
- Moonshot Missions
- Quantified Ventures
- UMD Center for Community Engagement, EJ, and Health
- SERCAP
- RCAP
- WV Community Action Partnership



ENVIRONMENTAL  
FINANCE CENTER

# Overarching Goals

- Provide direct TA to communities
  - Direct interactions with water utilities and communities
  - Services will be informed by the technical, managerial, and financial constraints of the recipient
  - The TA landscape is complex. Our goal is to coordinate so we are value added and fill gaps; not to duplicate efforts
- Support communities to take steps toward accessing water infrastructure funding
  - ID a path to apply for, access, and/or implement SRF funding
- Coordinate and collaborate to support effective delivery of TA
  - If we aren't the right fit, connect communities with whoever is





# Services Provided

- Planning & Assessment
  - Community engagement
  - Plan development & coordination
  - Studies & assessments
  - Asset management
- Project Development
  - Preliminary engineering reports
  - Lead service line inventories
  - Project design
  - Environmental reviews



# Services Provided

- Partnerships & Engagement
  - Ongoing engagement & outreach
  - Decision maker & board education
  - Water system partnerships
  - Capacity building & training
- Funding & Financing
  - Rates & revenue analyses
  - Financial planning
  - Identification of funding options
  - Application support
- Program Management
  - Bid support
  - Change order review
  - Project inspection
  - Domestic preference & Davis-Bacon assistance

# Eligible Communities

- Goal of working with 40-60 communities each year
  - Maximize the number of underserved communities that successfully apply for BIL funds through SRFs
  - 10 “deep dives” and 30-50 “light touch”
  - 40% Justice40 communities
  - Open to working with higher capacity communities that are readily able to access SRF funds
- Multiple pathways for communities to access TA



# For more Information...

We are working on developing an intake form, website, and a TA specific email address but they aren't functional yet. In the meantime, interested jurisdictions should contact the appropriate regional lead:

PA: Ellen Kohler, [ejkohler@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:ejkohler@sas.upenn.edu)

DC, MD, & VA: Michelle Kokolis, [mkokolis@umd.edu](mailto:mkokolis@umd.edu)

WV: Stephanie Dalke, [spdalke@umd.edu](mailto:spdalke@umd.edu)





# Maryland's Local Government TA Program

*Deputy Secretary Marc Nicole*

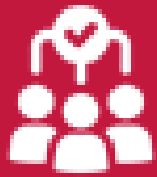
# Overview on Maryland's Municipal Technical Assistance Program

Chesapeake Bay Program Local Leadership Workgroup Meeting

May 9th, 2023



# MTAP Support Services Provided To Date



## Question Submission Portal

Provided responses to **450** questions submitted



## Office Hours

Held **80** Office Hours sessions with **270** participants



## Newsletter

Distributed **5** issues of newsletters to **320** recipients



## Webinars

Conducted **9** webinars with **720** attendees



## Reporting

Supported all **145 NEUs** during ARPA April '22 & '23 reporting periods



# MTAP's expansion to include IIJA assistance

- Joint-presentation held with the Governor's Subcabinet on Infrastructure during MML's Fall 2022 Conference
- Intro to IIJA webinar held on March 2023 that covered:
  - Overview on IIJA and Applying Lessons Learned from ARPA
  - Case Study on IIJA grant application submitted by three Maryland municipalities for the *Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program*
- Upcoming workshop on IIJA and ARPA to be hosted at MML's Summer 2023 Conference

# New and existing services available through MTAP

## Expanded MTAP Technical Assistance Services

- **Increased reach** - support extended to small and mid-sized municipalities
- **Updated website** – visit [MTAP's website](#) for links to Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs), Federal guidance, and support resources from federal agencies and third-party organizations
- **Question submission portal** – submit a question about IIJA, a specific IIJA program, or ARPA CLFRF and receive a written response
- **Office hours** – join to connect with the MTAP team or colleagues from other municipalities
- **Newsletter** – sign up for MTAP's newsletter for the latest on ARPA CLFRF and IIJA

## Upcoming MTAP Services

- **Project intake form** – submit details about a priority or project and the MTAP team will help you identify and understand potential grant programs for funding
- **NOFO Assistance** – obtain information or best practices on priority NOFOs and access assistance provided by MTAP team to support planning or submission
- **Supplemental tools and templates** – receive critical tools and templates that can help you identify, secure, and manage federal funds

*For more information or questions, please contact  
[arpa.neutap@maryland.gov](mailto:arpa.neutap@maryland.gov)*



# National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

*Liz Feinburg*

# NFWF Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund Technical Assistance Funding Opportunities:



Small Watershed Grants (SWG) (EPA/ Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund)

New 2022 ➔ Chesapeake WILD Grants (USFWS/ Watershed Investments for Landscape Defense)

Planning & Technical Assistance (PTA) Grant Awards up to \$75,000

## SWG PTA Grants –

**Focus:** Enhance local capacity through assessment, planning, design, & technical assistance-oriented activities consistent with SWG program priorities

### Priorities:

- Water Quality Improvement (TMDL- Sediment & Nutrients)
- Restoration & Protection of Key Species & Habitats
- Foster Engaged & Diverse Citizen & Stakeholder presence that builds upon and sustains Natural Resource Improvements

## Chesapeake WILD PTA Grants -

**Focus:** Enhance the capacity of local governments & regional partners to implement future on-the-ground actions consistent with C-WILD Program priorities to **conserve, Steward**, and Enhance fish and wildlife habitats and **related conservation values**

### Pillars:

1. Fish and Wildlife Habitats
2. Climate Change
3. Community Partnership
4. Public Access
5. Water Quality

**Eligible Applicants:** Local, Municipal State govt, Non-profits, Community-based org's, Tribal govt & org's, educational institutions (K-12 & higher learning)

# Type of Support funded through NFWF SWG and C-WILD PTA Grants:

- Site assessment, design and permitting for future stormwater retrofit and restoration project implementation
- Watershed planning and assessment that supports future project implementation
- Ag conservation project planning, development and design that supports practice implementation
- Capacity-building initiatives (i.e. field positions providing TA necessary to achieve restoration/conservation/ and management goals)
- Initiatives to scale up/ accelerate restoration & conservation outcomes through enhanced collaboration, partnerships & education

# NFWF Field Liaison Team

## Supports Applicants and Partners ...

<b>Kristen Saacke Blunk</b>	Headwaters LLC	kristen@headwaters-llc.org
<b>Kristen Hughes Evans</b>	Sustainable Chesapeake	kristen@susches.org
<b>Liz Feinberg</b>	CalVan Environmental	liz.feinberg63@gmail.com
<b>Dave Hirschman</b>	Hirschman Water & Environment, LLC	dave@hirschmanwater.com
<b>Katie Ombalski</b>	Woods and Waters Consulting, LLC	katie@woodswaters.com

- Explore project needs and opportunities for alignment with grants
- Enhance project alignment with program priorities
- Transfer insights/lessons learned to maximize project outcomes
- Explore/identify opportunities to leverage grant funding
- Facilitate partner connections





# PA's Center for Local Government Services

*Tree Layton Zuzzio*



# VA's Planning District Commissions

*Jake Kline*



# **Virginia's Planning District Commissions**

## **Technical Assistance for Water Infrastructure**

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Jake Kline

Chesapeake Bay Outreach Coordinator

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

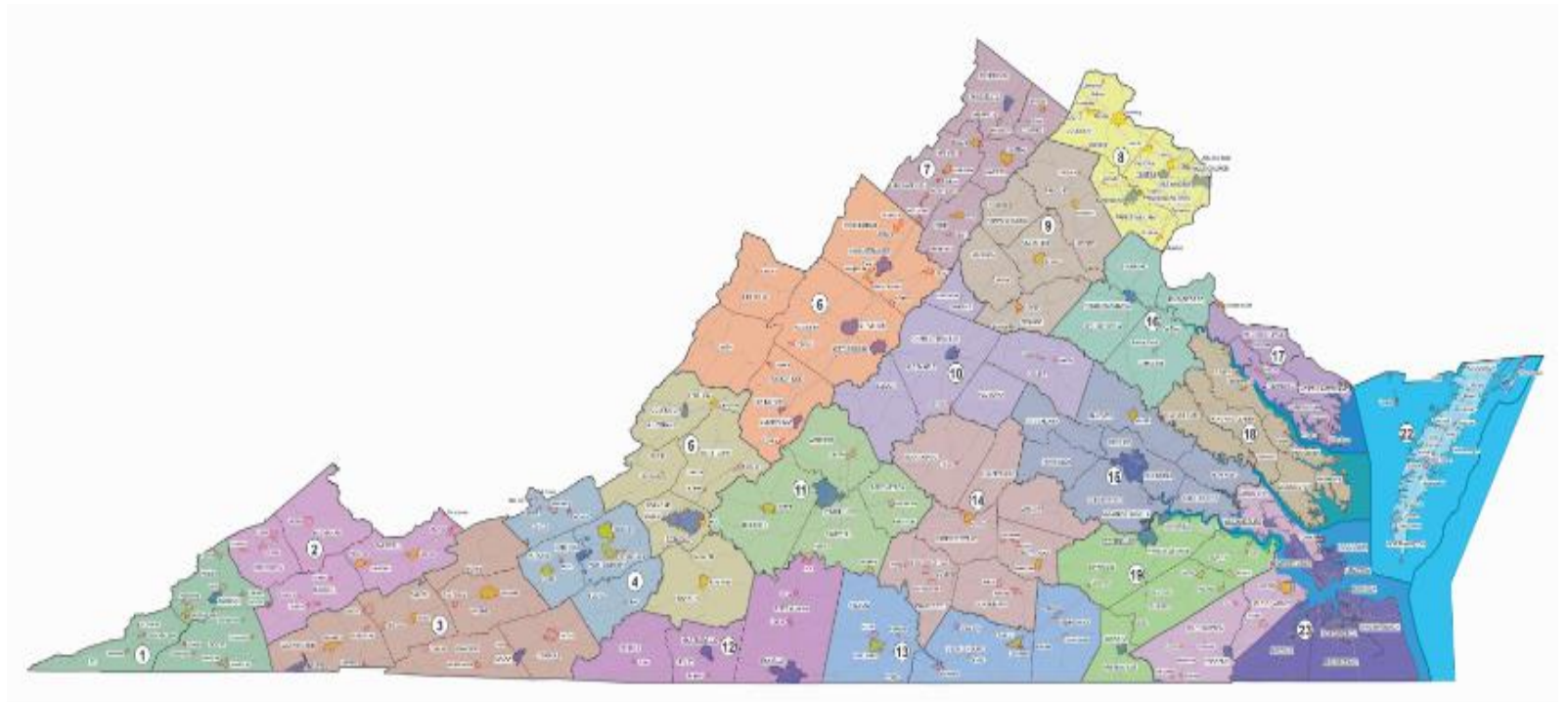
May 9, 2023

# Planning District Commissions

- PDCs great asset to state and local governments
- Serve as regional collaborators of local governments
  - Intermediary between state and localities
- Source of technical assistance to local governments:
  - Help with grant applications
  - Disseminate funding opportunities
  - Facilitate discussions and bring regional perspective
  - Provide “on-the-ground” insight to local issues
  - Can serve as grantee or assist with project management/reporting
  - Assist with local ordinance updates, regulatory compliance

# Planning District Commissions

- Each locality is part of a PDC
- 21 total, 15 in Bay watershed
- Contact your PDC for region-specific opportunities





# Envision the Choptank

*Amanda Pollack*



# Envision the Choptank: Technical Assistance Circuit Rider for the Working with Local Governments Workgroup

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## AGENDA

- Envision Overview and Funding
- Participating Jurisdictions
- Circuit Rider Scope of Work



ENVISION<sup>THE</sup>CHOPTANK  
COMMON AGENDA



# Envision the Choptank Overview and Funding

- ❖ A collaborative partnership and a network of organizations initiated in 2015 to achieve common goals

## Steering Committee:

Chesapeake Bay Foundation	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Caroline County Planning and Zoning	Oyster Recovery Partnership
Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control	Pickering Creek Audubon Center
Eastern Shore Land Conservancy	ShoreRivers
Maryland Department of Natural Resources	Talbot Soil Conservation District
Maryland Department of the Environment	The Nature Conservancy
Mt. Pleasant Heritage Preservation	University of Maryland Agriculture Extension
	University of Maryland Sea Grant Extension

## Goals

- Conserve Natural Resources
- Restore Habitat and Clean Water
- Engage Communities
- Strengthen and Expand the Partnership

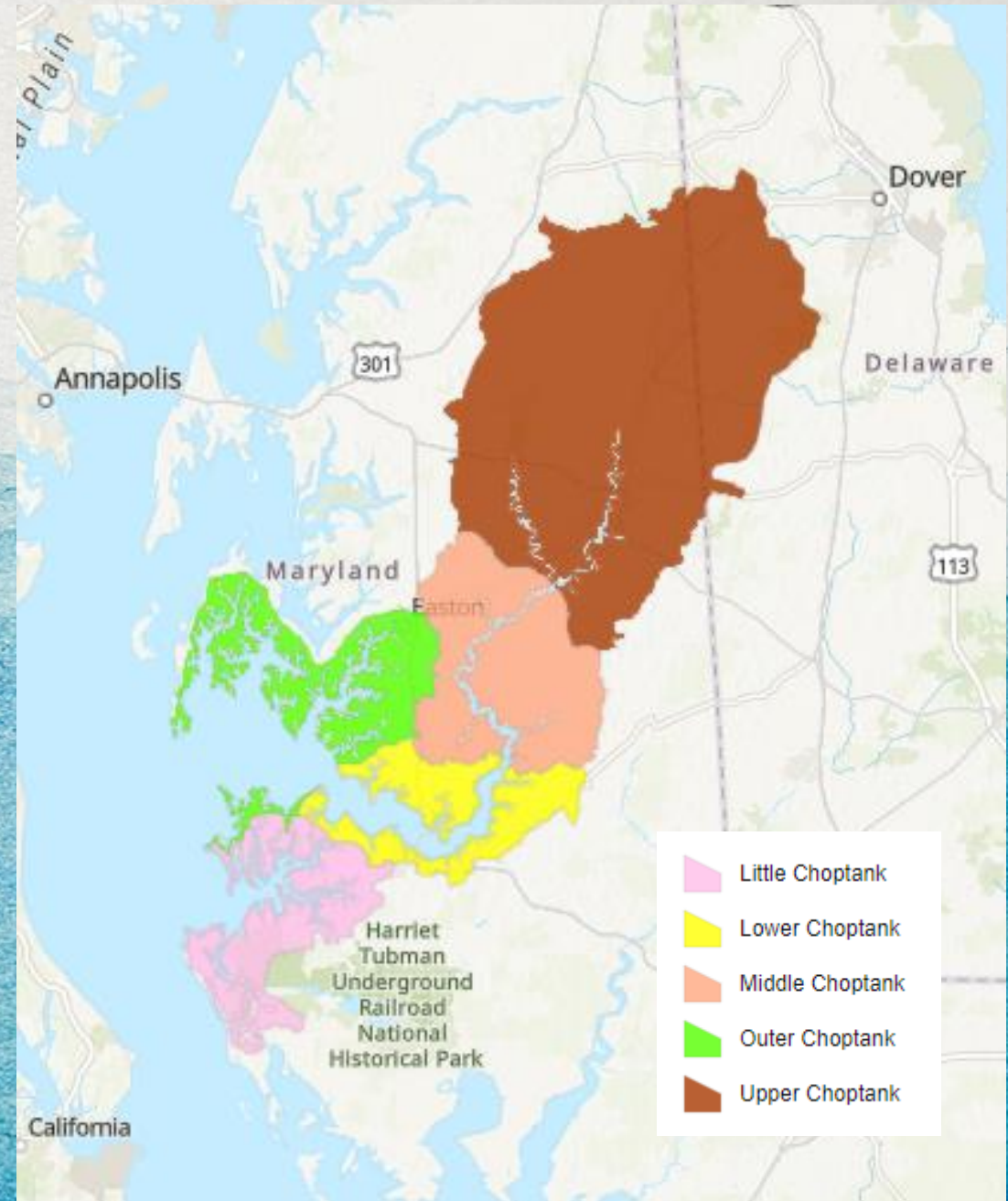


- ❖ Regional Capacity Building Initiative Grant
  - Envision entered into a 5-year capacity building program, which includes training and technical assistance to build a sustainable partnership
  - Eligible for additional years of funding by providing collaborative scopes of work
- ❖ Applied for Maryland 319 Grant to support FTE Circuit Rider for 5-years





# Choptank Watershed

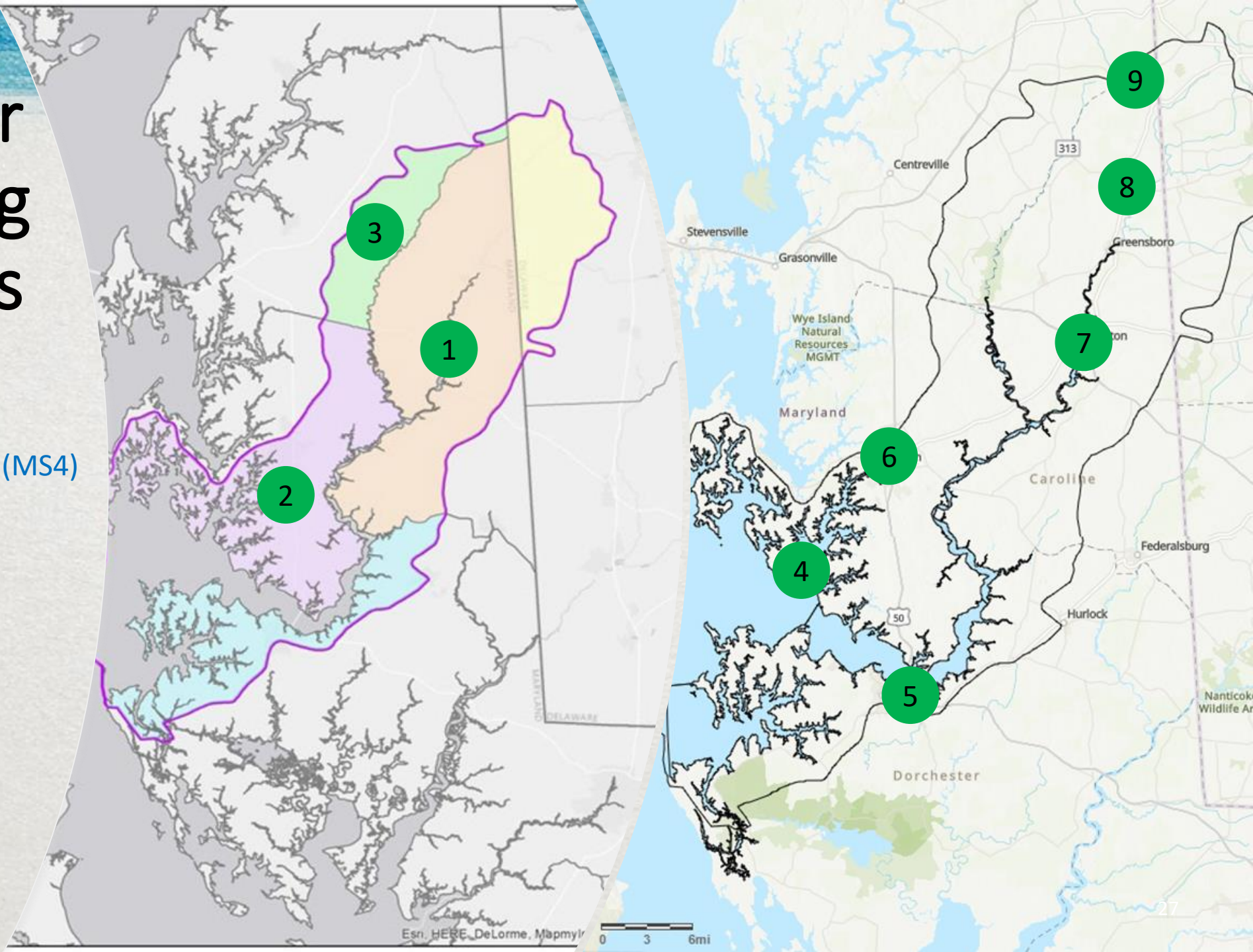




# Circuit Rider Participating Jurisdictions

1. Caroline County
2. Talbot County
3. Queen Anne's County (MS4)
4. Town of Oxford
5. City of Cambridge
6. Town of Easton (MS4)
7. Town of Denton
8. Town of Goldsboro
9. Town of Templeville

ENVISION<sub>THE</sub>CHOPTANK





# Technical Assistance Circuit Rider Scope of Work

## TASK 1: Identify and assess potential projects

- Meet with each jurisdiction
- Review and prioritize previous studies
- Evaluate project ideas
- Set goals and priorities

## TASK 2: Carry out prep work

- Site visits
- Meet with property owners and stakeholders
- Desktop and fieldwork to assess project feasibility

## TASK 3: Fundraise for project design and implementation

- Distribute monthly funding opportunities handout
- Prepare funding applications
- Grant application debriefs

## TASK 4: Supply project and grant management

- Administer grants, write progress reports
- Write RFP's, review bids
- Work with consultants and contractors

## TASK 5: Enhance project implementation efficiency

- Evaluate regional project opportunities
- Share lessons learned and project ideas with participating jurisdictions

## TASK 6: Engage with workgroups

- Envision Steering Committee
- Local Governments
- Disenfranchised Communities
- Advancing Large Scale Restoration

### New Goals for 2023 Work Plan:

1. Presentations to Elected Officials
2. Assistance with Comprehensive Plan updates
3. Cataloging BMPs – tracking maintenance and inspections



# Questions?



**Amanda Pollack, P.E.**

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<https://www.envisionthechoptank.org/>