

Stewardship Cohort Science Needs

Citizen Stewardship

Outcome: Increase the number and diversity of trained and mobilized citizen volunteers with the knowledge and skills needed to enhance the health of their local watersheds.

Science needs:

- Identify methods for advancing and incorporating social science into work
- Stewardship index data collection every 3-5 years
- Use results from stewardship index to model relations of human attitudes/behavior towards consumption, restoration and conservation

Public Access

Outcome: By 2025, add 300 new public access sites, with a strong emphasis on providing opportunities for boating, swimming and fishing, where feasible.

Science needs:

- Identify public access sites vulnerable to climate change impacts (e.g. sea level rise, flooding) and potential effects
- Evaluate the accessibility of public access sites to undeserved communities
- Develop methods for tracking engagement at public access sites

Diversity

Outcome: Identify stakeholder groups that are not currently represented in the leadership, decision making and implementation of conservation and restoration activities, and create meaningful opportunities and programs to recruit and engage them in the partnership's efforts.

Science needs:

- Integrate diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice (DEIJ) considerations across all science-based decisions in the CBP. An existing resource we have for this is the EJ Screen Chesapeake tool.
- Develop DEIJ tracking and/or targeting component for Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement goals and outcomes, where applicable.
- Identify how we will measure success toward meeting our outcome, beyond evaluating the diversity indicator that captures the demographic profile of people participating in CBP groups. To do this, we may consider identifying ways to track inclusion, equity, justice in addition to diversity. We may also consider how to assess broader participation of underrepresented groups in Chesapeake Bay restoration activities at large.

Review schedule

