

Chesapeake Bay Mid-Point Assessment Agricultural Modeling Workshop

Sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership's

Agriculture Workgroup

Spring, 2013

Premise

The Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) partnership's Agriculture Workgroup (AgWG) has identified critical agricultural recommendations to address in preparation of the Mid-Point Assessment (MPA) of the EPA Chesapeake Bay TMDL and jurisdictional Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) in 2017/2018. In preparation of the MPA, the CBP partnership is preparing to develop a new Phase 6 version of the CBP modeling suite. Several of the agricultural MPA priorities include improving the current agricultural modeling baseline data, BMP implementation input data, modeling assumptions and data processing presently incorporated in the CBP Version 5.3.2 modeling suite. The opportunity to identify and incorporate existing or new agricultural data, or processing methods can best be accomplished through a focused and interactive review of the available data sources, the current CBP Version 5.3.2 modeling suite, and specifically the Scenario Builder computer tool.

MPA Agricultural Modeling Workshop

The Agriculture Workgroup has been identified as the lead Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) sector workgroup for addressing the following two high priority Chesapeake Bay Program Mid-Point Assessment action items:

1. Agricultural Modeling Baseline/Input Data and Assumptions
2. Agricultural Model Data Processing

As a first step towards identifying potential opportunities and prioritizing supporting activities within the partnership to address and implement these action items, the AgWG is proposing to sponsor a two-day agricultural modeling workshop in the early spring of 2013. The current premise is to focus on livestock production and the management of organic nutrients on the first day of the workshop, and agronomic production and the management of inorganic nutrients on the second day. This will allow participants to attend the sessions of most interest without requiring participation for the entire workshop.

The facilitated and interactive modeling workshop will include focused discussion on the most critical elements of Chesapeake Bay Program agricultural modeling and representation. Key workshop presenters and participants will include representatives from academic institutions, USDA agencies, state agricultural and environmental agencies, USDA and EPA modelers, conservation districts, agricultural associations, and agri-business. The proposed schedule for the workshop is for the late March to early April time period of 2013 at a location to be determined.

Workshop Planning Committee

The AgWG is currently seeking representatives to serve on the workshop planning committee to ensure the venue addresses the expectations of the diverse agricultural and modeling communities. Please contact Mark Dubin, Agriculture Workgroup Coordinator at the address below should you be interested in participating on the planning committee, attending the workshop, or have any questions related to the workshop. Thanks!

Mark P. Dubin

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