



PUBLIC ACCESS SITE DEVELOPMENT

SRS 4TH CYCLE: 2024-2025 WORK PLAN

OUTCOME:

By 2025, add 300 new public access sites, with a strong emphasis on providing opportunities for boating, swimming and fishing, where feasible (2010 baseline year).

Long-term Target:

300 new public access sites by 2025

Two-year Target:

The Public Access Workgroup has set an internal target, called a milestone, of 20 new public access sites annually. This milestone is meant to be an aid in tracking periodic progress towards the long-term outcome of 300 new sites and is not meant to be a target itself.

MANAGEMENT APPROACH 1: Track progress towards the 300 new sites goal.				
Action #	Description of Step	Responsible Party or Parties	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
1.1	At the end of each calendar year, workgroup members will compile and submit data on public access sites in their jurisdiction that are: new, have closed, or were not included in a data call for any previous year.	All jurisdictions, state and federal partners in the Public Access workgroup.	Chesapeake Bay Watershed	2024-2025
1.2	On an annual basis, the workgroup will compile, review and submit a comprehensive list of public access site additions and deletions (if any) to the Chesapeake Bay Program. IMPORTANT NOTE: Department of Defense facilities are exempt from providing specific location data and their sites will not be identified on any map product, due to federal security practices.	All jurisdictions, state and federal partners in the Public Access workgroup.	Chesapeake Bay Watershed	2024-2025

How do we expect the action to fill the priority factor or gap? What do you expect to happen when the action is completed?	What are the goals or metrics you will use to determine the impact of your action?	How will we collect and assess the data that we want to monitor and how will we use the data?	How will we communicate the results?
There will be a net gain in # of public access sites.	Number of public access sites	Data will be collected on an annual basis and serve as an indicator of progress.	Results will be reflected on a map and dataset, with the exception of DOD sites.

MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2: Advocate for, and pursue, financial support for public access projects.

Action #	Description of Step	Responsible Party or Parties	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
2.1	Secure funding for public access projects by utilizing appropriate funding sources. Prioritize activities such as planning and development of new sites, enhancement and maintenance of existing sites, and dredging of small channels.	All jurisdictions, state and federal partners in the Public Access workgroup.	Chesapeake Bay Watershed	2024-2025
2.2	Support and advocate for state and federal programs and initiatives that are recognized as dedicated funding sources for public access projects. Encourage federal and state programs that fund access to explore options to maximize available funding.	All jurisdictions, state and federal partners in the Public Access workgroup.	Chesapeake Bay Watershed	2024-2025
How do we expect the action to fill the priority factor or gap? What do you expect to happen when the action is completed?				
What are the goals or metrics you will use to determine the impact of your action?				
How will we collect and assess the data that we want to monitor and how will we use the data?				
How will we communicate the results?				
There will be a net gain in # of public access sites.	Number of public access sites	Report outs from State partners regarding funding programs and initiatives.	Press releases are issued related to openings of new sites as they take place.	

MANAGEMENT APPROACH 3: Enhance public access for diverse populations and improve access for all communities. Incorporate DEIJ principles into public access projects with a focus on accessibility.

Action #	Description of Step	Responsible Party or Parties	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
3.1	Improve access to water-based resources and associated green space, with specific emphasis on underserved neighborhoods and communities.	All jurisdictions, state and federal partners in the Public Access Workgroup along with the Strategic Engagement Team as staff and funding allows.	Chesapeake Bay Watershed	2024-2025
3.2	Encourage information sharing and feedback from community representatives using trusted community groups/individuals (e.g. identify if any urban stewards have adopted a park and whether that steward is from the neighboring community).	All jurisdictions, state and federal partners in the Public Access Workgroup along with the Strategic Engagement Team as staff and funding allows.	Chesapeake Bay Watershed	2024-2025
3.3	Advocate for increased stewardship from all populations in the watershed with an emphasis on underrepresented communities and utilize information and recommendations from the Diversity and Stewardship Workgroups	Public Access Workgroup, Strategic Engagement Team, Stewardship workgroup, and the Diversity workgroup.	Chesapeake Bay Watershed	2024-2025
How do we expect the action to fill the priority factor or gap? What do you expect to happen when the action is completed?		What are the goals or metrics you will use to determine the impact of your action?	How will we collect and assess the data that we want to monitor and how will we use the data?	How will we communicate the results?
There will be a net gain in # of public access sites.		Number of public access sites	n/a	n/a

MANAGEMENT APPROACH 4: Incorporate new ideas and approaches to providing public access into traditional planning activities and practices.

Action #	Description of Step	Responsible Party or Parties	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline
4.1	Provide technical assistance and/or identification of funding to support site assessment, planning, project design, and compliance/permitting. Identify public access opportunities as part of plan updates, funding cycles, and resource management reviews.	All jurisdictions, state and federal partners in the Public Access workgroup contingent on staff availability, resources, and funding.	Chesapeake Bay Watershed	2024-2025

4.2	Encourage agencies at all levels to share and utilize information, data and recommendations from local and state plans and incorporate that data into larger planning efforts.	All jurisdictions, state and federal partners in the Public Access workgroup contingent on staff availability, resources, and funding.	Chesapeake Bay Watershed	2024-2025
4.3	Utilize new and emerging resources to inform and enhance accessibility, sustainable practices, changing use patterns, and climate resiliency.	All jurisdictions, state and federal partners in the Public Access workgroup contingent on staff availability, resources, and funding.	Chesapeake Bay Watershed	2024-2025
How do we expect the action to fill the priority factor or gap? What do you expect to happen when the action is completed?		What are the goals or metrics you will use to determine the impact of your action?	How will we collect and assess the data that we want to monitor and how will we use the data?	How will we communicate the results?
There will be a net gain in # of public access sites.		Number of public access sites	n/a	n/a