

QUARTERLY PROGRESS MEETING – November 2024
Chesapeake Bay Program



Toxic Contaminant Research

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Through the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, the Chesapeake Bay Program has committed to...

Goal: Toxic Contaminants

Research Outcome: Continually increase our understanding of the impacts of and mitigation options for toxic contaminants through research.



What is our Outlook and Recent Progress?



RECENT PROGRESS
INCREASE



OUTLOOK
ON COURSE

Workgroup implements an effective research agenda that brings relevant science findings to the workgroup, and increasingly provide leadership across the Partnership related to high priority, cross-cutting topics in the watershed.

Challenged by lack of a quantitative indicator related to this outcome and increasing and changing priorities with limited capacity.



Successes and Challenges

▪ Successes

- Quarterly PFAS meetings related to many science needs
- Inventorying of PFAS data in the watershed
 - Surface water data inclusion into Chesapeake data (sustainable effort)

▪ Challenges

- Large number of constituents, competing priorities at scale relevant to CBP interests
- Science needs related to “new” priorities including PFAS and 6PPD/Q while still addressing PCBs
- Capacity



On the Horizon

- PFAS in agricultural systems
- 6PPD/Q in Brook Trout (in stormwater)
- Implementation of the PCB TMDLs



**Based on what we
learned, we plan to ...**

- **LEVERAGE** and **COLLABORATE** to make progress on Partnership science priorities related to toxic contaminants
 - Continue PFAS Quarterlies on priority topics
 - Work across workgroups to advance relevant science needs (e.g., WWT, Ag, stream health)



Equitable and inclusive restoration ...

- In both urban and agricultural communities, the presence of toxic contaminants in the environment can disproportionately affect disadvantaged communities. (e.g., EC-SDC Grant program; fish consumption advisories)



Filling the Gap - 2025

- Efforts by the TCW will be *targeted and strategic* to provide **technical leadership** within the Partnership primarily related to **PFAS, 6PPDQ** (and other common science and research priorities *including PCBs*) both within and outside of the TCW.



Discussion