

**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
**Toxic Contaminants Workgroup**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Time:** 1:00 – 3:00 PM

**Location:** Conference Call (remote only)

**Calendar Page:** [November Meeting Materials](#)



**Actions and Decisions:** *There were no actions and decisions at this meeting.*

Agenda Item and Desired Outcome	Time	Background Docs, Notes, and <b>Action Items</b>
<p><b>1. Introductions and Announcements</b> –Greg Allen, EPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TCW Co-Chair position open</li> <li>• *New USGS publication by Tokranov and others: <a href="#">Predictions of groundwater PFAS occurrence at drinking water supply depths in the United States   Science</a>; and associated geonarrative <a href="#">PFAS in US Groundwater Interactive Dashboard</a></li> </ul>	1:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TCW Co-Chair Position <a href="#">Description</a></li> <li>• 18th Annual Pesticides and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Conference – PFAS and Pesticides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesday November 19<sup>th</sup> 3:30-5:15pm</li> <li>• Tuesday December 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am-12:15pm</li> <li>• Register <a href="#">HERE</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Upcoming PSU-extension led webinar on land applied biosolids <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 2pm</li> <li>• Register <a href="#">Here</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Greg Allen, EPA provided updates and announcements including an overview of the agenda and a call for nominations for a new TCW Co-Chair in addition to mentioning the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Pesticides and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Conference.</li> <li>• Emily Majcher, USGS covered a new USGS <a href="#">publication</a> relating to PFAS in groundwater which included much of the watershed, a webinar on land applied biosolids, and a preview of the January PFAS Quarterly on PFAS in Agriculture.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Emerging Issues Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Characterizing spatial and temporal patterns of conductivity in freshwater tributaries within the Chesapeake Bay watershed</i> - Rosemary Fanelli, USGS</li> <li>• <i>Update from the Plastic Pollution Action Team: Microplastics projects and next steps</i> – Kelly Somers, EPA</li> </ul>	1:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fanelli <a href="#">Presentation</a></li> <li>• Somers <a href="#">Presentation</a></li> <li>• Rosemary Fanelli, USGS presented on Spatial and Temporal Patterns of Conductivity within the CBW. Rosemary covered background on conductivity, freshwater salinization syndrome, stakeholder needs, and ongoing projects by USGS. She then went into detail regarding monitoring efforts within the CBW, status and trends, and takeaways, including that</li> </ul>

		<p>conductivity is increasing the fastest in urban areas and during the winter and spring. Finally, she covered modeling efforts around predicting contributors to conductivity increases, such as land use change and impervious cover. Rosemary took questions on the different statistical methods used, where WRTDS accounts for flow and Mann-Kendall doesn't, the most effective BMPs for changing these trends, including brine vs granular salt applications and climate change causing less need to apply deicers, and a question on biochar interactions with salinity, which is unknown at this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kelly Somers, EPA covered updates from the Plastic Pollution Action Team (PPAT). These included information on the formation of the PPAT, its work on the plastics ERA, Microplastic strategy, Framework for Monitoring Plastic Pollution in the Chesapeake Bay (new!), recommendations, current projects of the PPAT, and feedback. Kelly took questions regarding plastic toxicity to aquatic species, tandem sampling for plastic with other contaminants, and source trackdown including macroplastics.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. QPM Follow Up and Discussion of Beyond 2025 – TCW Leadership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TCW Leadership will provide an overview of the Clean Water Cohort QPM Meeting on Nov. 7, in addition to updates on the Beyond 2025 Process.</li> </ul>	2:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Materials will be posted to the calendar page when available</li> <li>• Emily Majcher, USGS and Greg Allen, EPA went over updates from TCW leadership's presentation to the Management Board on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Greg covered policy and prevention including the outlook and progress, management actions, and next steps. Greg mentioned the reception of this goal and how it needs to be advocated for going forward. Emily covered the research outcome, and focused on priorities such as 6PPD-Q, working with the wastewater treatment workgroup, PFAS in agricultural systems, and PCB work.</li> </ul>
<b>Wrap Up and Adjourn</b>	2:55	<b>Next meeting: <a href="#">January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 [PFAS Quarterly]</a></b>