

Chesapeake Bay Program
Watershed Technical Workgroup (WTWG)
Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 4th, 2024
10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

[Meeting Materials](#)

Summary of Actions and Decisions

Action: WTWG Members should review the [December Minutes](#) and reach out to Sushanth Gupta, CRC (Gupta.sushanth@epa.gov) with concerns.

Action: If jurisdictions have questions on 2023 Progress or QAPPs they should reach out to Auston Smith, EPA (smith.auston@epa.gov).

Decision: The WTWG approved the Coagulant-Enhanced Treatment Technical Appendix. A breakdown of votes is below.

Meeting Minutes

10:00 **Introductions and Announcements** – Cassie Davis, NYSDEC (20 min).

- *Please put your name and affiliation in the chat box for attendance purposes. Thank you!*
- **Decision requested:** Approval of December Meeting Minutes.
 - Pushed to February

Action: WTWG Members should review the [December Minutes](#) and reach out to Sushanth Gupta, CRC (Gupta.sushanth@epa.gov) with concerns.

- 2023 Progress Schedule – Auston Smith, EPA
 - Auston provided an update on the 2023 Progress Schedule. The team is planning to finish initial meetings with Jurisdictions by January 8th, at which point there will be about a month for addressing any questions on 2023 Progress and QAPPs.

Action: If jurisdictions have questions on 2023 Progress or QAPPs they should reach out to Auston Smith, EPA (smith.auston@epa.gov).

- WQGIT Updates – Sushanth Gupta, CRC
 - Sushanth provided the WTWG with reminders on the upcoming WQGIT [Submersion Series Webinar](#) on January 31st and the [Phase 7 Office Hours](#) on February 5th. Links to both are available on the [PowerPoint](#) on the [January WTWG Meeting Calendar Page](#).

10:20 **Coagulant-Enhanced Treatment Technical Appendix** – David Wood, Chesapeake Stormwater Network (35 min)

The WTWG was asked to vote on approving the Coagulant-Enhanced Treatment Technical Appendix.

Decision requested: The WTWG will be asked to vote on approving the Coagulant-Enhanced Treatment Technical Appendix.

Decision: The WTWG approved the Coagulant-Enhanced Treatment Technical Appendix. A breakdown of votes is below.

Jurisdiction	Vote
DC	Endorse
DE	Endorse
EPA	Endorse
MD	Endorse
NY	Endorse
PA	Stand Aside
VA	Stand Aside
WV	Endorse
Ashley Kelly (At-Large)	Stand Aside
Josh Glace (At-Large)	Stand Aside
Matt Kofroth (At-Large)	Stand Aside
Norm Goulet (At-Large)	Endorse

Discussion:

Tyler Trostle: We had a question about RI practices that need to be reported in acres and not just in feet, and how we can go about getting a change in the [NEIEN] Appendix to adapt this. Specifically, RI practices being exclusion fence with forest buffer or grass buffer, exclusionary fence from narrow forest buffer, buffer on watercourse RI, forest nutrient exclusionary on watercourse narrow RI, as well as buffer on watercourse RI and grass nutrient exclusionary upland watercourse narrow RI.

Olivia Devereux: Those are all BMPs that are in the NEIEN Appendix and can be reported in units of feet or length or width, they are not (according to the current appendix) allowed to be reported in acres although in CAST they are converted to acres. It might be easier for PA to report the actual acres since that's what ends up in CAST anyway. The NEIEN Appendix is locked down in the end of August, so let me clarify that Tyler is proposing a change for the 2024 progress year. We could go ahead and start to make edits to the appendix for the next progress year and add those BMPs in with the allowable unit of acres.

Tyler Trostle: Correct.

Olivia Devereux: I think Tyler is proposing that and asking for agreement to make that change for 2024, not affecting this progress year.

Tyler Trostle: Correct.

Alicia Ritzenthaler: Just to confirm, we'd still be able to report in feet if we wished?

Olivia Devereux: Yes, it doesn't take anything it just adds another option. We currently have some states that report BMPs in units called 'AC' for acres and others that report using 'Acre' and it's the same BMP just with Unit Accepted as 'AC' or 'Acre'. Each state has their own tracking system with their own preferred units and in this case it's in there as feet and Tyler

wants to report with acres which matches how PA is tracking it and doesn't remove anything already in the appendix.

Cassie Davis: If that's something that needs to move through WTWG for approval we can have it be on our next agenda item.

Alana Hartman: We actually had a problem this year with entries for length and width for buffers causing a weird issue (load increases) in CAST, so we had to re enter them as acres. If anybody else had a bunch of buffers entered as length and width you might want to check your results and make sure they are as expected.

Jessica Rigelman: I've noted Tyler's request as well as a few others that Bill Keeling has made for next year's NEIEN Appendix. I will continue to gather them and present them as normal in July for the new appendix approval for August 2024. I don't know if it needs to be at our next meeting because I'll have them all consolidated into one set of requests before the next progress.

Olivia Devereux: If anyone is going to have heartburn about it and would anticipate not approving it I would ask that they speak up before August so that Tyler can do appropriate planning for reporting in advance. I don't anticipate anybody would have a problem but who knows.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 1st, 2024, from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Participants

Alana Hartman, WV DEP
Alicia Ritzenthaler, DC DOEE
Arianna Johns, VA DEQ
Ashley Kelly, DoD
Auston Smith, EPA
Bill Keeling, VA DEQ
Caitlin Bolton, MWCOG
Cassie Davis, NYSDEC
Chris Brosch, DDA
Clint Gill, DDA
Dave Montali, Tetra Tech WV
David Wood, CSN
Doug Austin
Dylan Burgevin, MDE
Emily Dekar, USC
Eric Hughes, EPA
Eugenia Hart, Tetra Tech
Fernando Pasquel, Arcadis
George Doumit, DE DNREC
Gregorio Sandi, MDE
Helen Golimowski, Devereux Consulting

Holly Walker, DE DNREC
Jeff Herr, Brown and Caldwell
Jeff Sweeney, EPA
Jeremy Hanson, CRC
Jessica Rigelman, J7 Consulting
Joshua Glace, Larson Design Group
Kevin McLean, VA DEQ
Lori Brown, DNREC
Mark Dubin, UMD
Matthew Kofroth, LCCD
Nicole Christ, MDE
Normand Goulet, NVRC
Olivia Devereux, Devereux Consulting
Priyanka Mohandoss, Brown and Caldwell
Ruth Cassilly, UMD
Samuel Canfield, WVDEP
Sarah Lane, MD DNR
Scott Heidel, PA DEP
Sushanth Gupta, CRC
Tom Butler, EPA
Tyler Trostle, PA DEP

Acronym List

[DC] DOEE: DC Department of Energy and Environment
[DE] DNREC: Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
BMP: Best Management Practice
CAST: Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (user interface for the CBP Watershed Model)
CBP: Chesapeake Bay Program
CRC: Chesapeake Research Consortium
DDA: Delaware Department of Agriculture
DoD: [US] Department of Defense
DEP: [PA] or [WV] Department of Environmental Protection
[VA] DEQ: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
[MD] DNR: Maryland Department of Natural Resources
EPA: [U.S.] Environmental Protection Agency
LCCD: Lancaster County Conservation District
MDE: Maryland Department of the Environment
MWCOG: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
NEIEN: National Environmental Information Exchange Network
NVRG: Northern Virginia Regional Commission
NYSDEC: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
QAPP: Quality Assurance Project Plan
RI: Resource Improvement
TA: Technical Appendix
UMD: University of Maryland
USC: Upper Susquehanna Coalition
WTWG: Watershed Technical Workgroup