



## 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement and Management Strategies

On June 16, 2014, the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Partners signed a new *Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement*. It is the most inclusive, collaborative, and goal-oriented agreement for any watershed in the nation. Signatories include representatives from the entire Chesapeake watershed, bringing for the first time the Bay's headwater states (DE, NY and WV) to full partnership in the Bay Program.

The new Agreement reflects improvements in our scientific knowledge, changes in laws, regulations and policies over the past decade and evolutions that have taken place within the Partnership, including the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and jurisdiction's Watershed Implementation Plans.

The new Agreement identifies the Partnership's collective commitments for restoring and protecting the watershed through 10 goals and 29 outcomes (see opposite page for all).

- **Goals** articulate the high level aspects of the partners' vision; while
- **Outcomes** express specific, time-bound, measureable targets that directly contribute to achieving each goal.

These goals and outcomes are clearer and better-defined than in previous CBP agreements and allow for greater flexibility through the adoption of an adaptive management decision-making process—one based on the application of scientific process and continual analysis of monitoring data. The Agreement not only addresses our continuing water quality and land use challenges, it also confronts critical emerging issues—environmental literacy, toxic contaminants and climate change. And, it builds upon the strength of our diverse citizenry with the support of local governments, calling to action the nearly 18 million people that call our watershed home.

### Management Strategies

Following the adoption of the new Agreement, CBP's Goal Implementation Teams will spend one year developing "Management Strategies." These strategies will articulate the overarching and specific actions necessary to achieve the goals and outcomes by 2025.

- A **Management Strategy** is a single document that summarizes the Partnership's management process and the collective thinking of the Partnership for each outcome or related group of outcomes. A two-year workplan will be included in each strategy and will succinctly summarize the specific commitments, actions and resources each self-identified signatory and stakeholder will do individually and collectively to reach the two-year target for that outcome.

The Management Strategies will explain both how we will accomplish the outcomes and as well as how we will monitor, assess and report progress. The adoption of these strategies may vary by signatory partner and the implementation will take place in two-year periods. Public input is essential to management strategy development and evaluation. Each strategy will include a period for public review and comment before it is adopted.

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For more information about the Agreement and development of Management Strategies:  
[www.chesapeakebay.net/chesapeakebaywatershedagreement](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/chesapeakebaywatershedagreement)

## 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement Goals and Outcomes

### Sustainable Fisheries Goal



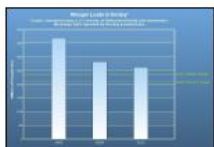
- *Blue Crab Abundance Outcome*
- *Blue Crab Management Outcome*
- *Oyster Outcome*
- *Forage Fish Outcome*
- *Fish Habitat Outcome*

### Vital Habitats Goal



- *Wetlands Outcome*
  - *Black Duck*
- *Stream Health Outcome*
  - *Brook Trout*
- *Fish Passage Outcome*
- *Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Outcome*
- *Forest Buffer Outcome*
- *Tree Canopy Outcome*

### Water Quality Goal



- *2017 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIP) Outcome*
- *2025 WIP Outcome*
- *Water Quality Standards Attainment and Monitoring Outcome*



### Toxic Contaminants Goal

- *Toxic Contaminants Research Outcome*
- *Toxic Contaminants Policy and Prevention Outcome*

### Healthy Watersheds Goal



- *Healthy Waters Outcome*

### Stewardship Goal



- *Citizen Stewardship Outcome*
- *Local Leadership Outcome*
- *Diversity Outcome*

### Land Conservation Goal



- *Protected Lands Outcome*
- *Land Use Methods and Metrics Development Outcome*
- *Land Use Options Evaluation Outcome*

### Public Access Goal



- *Public Access Site Development Outcome*

### Environmental Literacy Goal



- *Student Outcome*
- *Sustainable Schools Outcome*
- *Environmental Literacy Planning Outcome*

### Climate Resiliency Goal



- *Monitoring and Assessment Outcome*
- *Adaptation Outcome*