



# Chesapeake Bay Program

---

## Chesapeake Executive Council

DECEMBER 8, 1998

DIRECTIVE NO 98-4

## Interstate Animal Waste Distribution and Use Technology

We the undersigned, adopt the Interstate Animal Waste Distribution and Use Technology Directive in support of the [nutrient reduction](#) goals of the [1987 Chesapeake Bay Agreement](#) and the opportunity that it provides for all states within the Chesapeake Bay watershed to reduce the potential for nutrient loadings from animal wastes. Competitive forces have led to structural changes in many animal industries resulting in more intensive farming operations. As states work in cooperation with the agricultural industry to implement strategies to better utilize animal wastes generated from these operations for beneficial uses, animal waste distribution across state boundaries may increase. In addition, technological advances are needed to develop sustainable systems to advance the re-utilization of nutrients contained in animal wastes.

Based on the need to ensure that animal wastes are properly utilized in a manner to protect against nutrient enrichment of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries while sustaining the economic viability of animal production enterprises in the region, we find that:

- Animal agriculture is important to rural economies and is significant in several areas within the Chesapeake Bay watershed;
- Proper nutrient management techniques and practices can prevent excess contribution of nutrients to receiving waters;
- Each state has programs that address the proper management of nutrients from land applied animal wastes;
- Areas of intensive animal agriculture have the potential to produce animal waste in quantities that exceed the capacity of local cropland to utilize the nutrients contained in the animal waste;
- States may develop market based, incentive based, or regulatory solutions which may stimulate distribution of animal wastes from areas of intensive animal production to other areas;
- A growing population is competing with the land base available to properly land apply animal waste; and

- The cooperation among both the signatory and non-signatory states in recognizing the need to implement strategies on interstate animal waste distribution has been commendable.

Therefore to further our commitments made in the 1987 Chesapeake Bay Agreement and to improve the management of animal wastes in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, we agree:

- The Chesapeake Bay Program's Implementation Committee will convene a task force to recommend appropriate procedures to be considered by the jurisdictions pertaining to the interstate distribution of animal wastes. The task force will consider issues including appropriate distribution practices, storage of animal wastes to allow for timely usage, proper allocation of costs for implementation, appropriate levels of cost-sharing and other incentives, environmentally sound utilization, development of a protocol for data sharing and monitoring of animal waste distributed across state boundaries, and mechanisms for interstate cooperation and coordination.
- The [Chesapeake Bay Program](#) should coordinate resources with appropriate state and federal research institutions and agencies, as well as the private sector, to encourage the development of new economically feasible and environmentally sound technologies which can result in alternative uses for animal waste throughout the watershed.
- That state programs which encourage or provide for the distribution of animal wastes for land application should be designed to ensure proper rates and timing of nutrient application are used, regardless of the final destination.
- The convened task force will also identify potential alternative uses for animal wastes such as for power generation, gaps in the current technology that are barriers to adoption, and determine any related research needs.
- The task force will include representation from industry, the farm community, environmental interests, utilities, and both signatory and non-signatory state and federal agencies in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The task force will complete its work to the Implementation Committee by October 1, 1999.

BY THIS DIRECTIVE, we reaffirm our commitments made in the Chesapeake Bay Agreement to restore and protect the ecological integrity, productivity and beneficial uses of the Chesapeake Bay. In recognition of our commitments, we the undersigned agree to further our efforts through this directive which is hereby incorporated into the overall Chesapeake Bay Program.

**December 8, 1998**

FOR THE STATE OF MARYLAND, *Parris N. Glendening, Governor*

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, *James M. Seif, Secretary of PA DEP*

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, *James S. Gilmore, III, Governor*

FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, *Marion Barry, Mayor*

FOR THE CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION, *Del. John F. Wood, Jr., Chairman*

FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, *Peter D. Robertson, Deputy Administrator of EPA*

---

[Return to top of this document](#)

For more information, contact the Chesapeake Bay Program Office, 410 Severn Avenue, Suite 109, Annapolis, MD 21403, Tel: (800) YOUR-BAY, Fax: (410) 267-5777.

Last modified 12/16/97.