

AGENDA
 May 19, 2022
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
 Agriculture Workgroup Conference Call

Conference Call Information

Zoom Link*: <https://umces-edu.zoom.us/j/94729390103>

Meeting ID: 947 2939 0103

Password: 338673

Dial In: 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Participant ID: available through Zoom link

Calendar Page:

https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/agriculture_workgroup_conference_call_may_2022

*To enter the webinar, please open the webinar link first. After opening the webinar, either elect to join via computer audio or via phone call. If you select phone, **please ensure you enter the participant ID.**

Workgroup Areas of Focus

Accounting & Reporting • Implementation • Innovation

Data & Modeling • CBP Assignments

10:00 **Welcome, introductions, roll-call, review meeting minutes** Workgroup Chair

- Roll-call of the governance body
- Roll-call of the meeting participants- *Please enter name and affiliation under "Participants" or in "Chat" box*
- Approval of minutes from the April AgWG call

Accounting & Reporting

10:05 **Rapid Review: CBP decisions related to Cover Crops (5min)** Loretta Collins
 Loretta Collins, UMD-AgWG Coordinator, will provide a quick review of cover crops definition, CBP-approved transect survey methods and CBP-approved verification requirements.

10:10 **PA Commodity Cover Crop Tracking & Reporting (25 min)** Ted Tesler
 PA is seeking a means to collect and report annual commodity cover crop information for annual implementation progress scenarios and seeks feedback from AgWG members. Ted Tesler, PA DEP*, will present on the method PA is considering to calculate commodity cover crop acres from its transect surveys. This will include explanation of the transect method, sources of data used, and the rationale for the calculation process. PA will be seeking AgWG endorsement of this method at a future date.

10:35 **Proposed Changes to NEIEN Appendix (25 min)** Leon Tillman

Leon Tillman, NRCS, returns to the AgWG following a February discussion with answers to posed questions regarding a proposal to change the current NEIEN* appendix to accommodate a broader array of NRCS practices that can be reported by jurisdictions for annual BMP implementation progress.

Decision: The AgWG is asked to endorse proposed changes to the Phase 6 NEIEN appendix for select NRCS practices identified as mapping to Soil and Water Conservation Plans in the Phase 5 NEIEN appendix. These BMPs would shift from “draft” to “release” status. Final approval of changes in the NEIEN appendix occur in the Watershed Technical Workgroup.

11:00 **BREAK (5 min)**

CBP Assignments/Data & Modeling

11:05 **Moving Forward: Addressing Ag Inputs in Phase 7 (45 min)** Tom Butler
Tom Butler, EPA, will review a draft charge for the AgWG’s role in Phase 7 Watershed Model development and will seek AgWG feedback in preparation for a larger discussion and tentative approval of the charge on the June 16 AgWG meeting.

11:50 **New Business & Announcements (5 min)**

- **2022 Chesapeake Community Research Symposium – June 6th- 8th**
 - Will highlight the progress that has been made toward restoring the Chesapeake Bay and enhancing coastal community resilience, as well as address future challenges to maintaining this progress in the face of our changing human and natural environment.
 - Location: Crown Plaza Hotel, Annapolis, MD. Hybrid event (virtual and in-person options).
 - More info [here](#).
- USDA announced additional [\\$22.5 million in conservation assistance for Bay region](#).
- **Animal Mortality Expert Panel Technical Appendix**
 - Most recent draft technical appendix available [here](#)- CBPO working through revisions based on feedback. Date for next WTWG discussion TBD.
 - Contact Jeremy Hanson (hansonj@chesapeake.org) with questions/comments.
- **Other Announcements?** - send to Jackie Pickford (Pickford.Jacqueline@epa.gov) for inclusion in “Recap” email

11:55 **Review of Action and Decision Items (5 min)**

12:00 **Adjourn**

Next Meeting:

Thursday, June 16 **[EXTENDED]: 10AM-3PM**, Call-in Zoom

*Common Abbreviations

AgWG- [Agriculture Workgroup](#)

BMP- Best Management Practice

BMPVAHAT- [BMP Verification Ad Hoc Action Team](#)

CAST- [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#) (user interface for the CBP Watershed Model)

CBP- [Chesapeake Bay Program](#)

CBW-Chesapeake Bay Watershed

CRC- [Chesapeake Research Consortium](#)

EPA- Environmental Protection Agency

NEIEN- National Environmental Information Exchange Network

NFWF- [National Fish and Wildlife Foundation](#)

PA DEP- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

WQGIT- [Water Quality Goal Implementation Team](#)

WTWG- [Watershed Technical Workgroup](#)

USDA-ARS- United States Department of Agriculture-*Agricultural Research Service*

USDA-NASS- United States Department of Agriculture-*National Agricultural Statistics Service* USDA-NRCS- United States Department of Agriculture-*Natural Resources Conservation Service*

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