

# Prioritization Update

---

AGRICULTURE WORKGROUP

OCTOBER 18, 2018

# The Charge of the Agriculture Workgroup

---

**Provide expertise and leadership on development and implementation of policies, programs, and research**

**Reduce pollutant loads delivered from agricultural lands and animal operations to upstream waters and the Chesapeake Bay**

Value: Improving water quality across our shared region while maintaining agriculture's viability and sustainability

Goal: Balance Science & Data Collection / Improved & Increased Implementation

# Workgroup Areas of Focus

---

## **Accounting and Reporting**

Ensuring that Best Management Practices are accurately reported to the Chesapeake Bay Program for credit towards water quality goals.

## **Implementation**

Making WIP Plans reality

## **Innovation**

Staying abreast of and evaluating new/innovative agricultural conservation practices that mitigate nutrient loss

## **Data & Modeling**

Ensuring that the agricultural sector is represented accurately

## **CBP Assignments**

Addressing tasks and projects assigned by the Partnership

# Accounting & Reporting

Item	Rationale	AgWG Lead(s)	Next Steps
NRCS BMP Crosswalks	Full-accounting of BMP implementation across watershed via stream-lined reporting	Mark Dubin, Barry Frantz	Reporting back to AgWG in Fall 2019
Non-cost shared BMP Identification	Accounting for ag BMPs implemented outside of agency funding channels and reporting structures		
Resource Improvement Checklists	Crediting practices that improve water quality, but do not meet NRCS Standards & Specifications	By jurisdictional request	Identification of additional practices & develop appropriate checklists
USDA Data vs State Data	Gaps / Double counting of practices		
Accounting for BMPs nearing max credit duration/ end of lifespan	Strategies to manage the verification of BMPs		Presentations by jurisdictions
Privacy concerns related to BMP reporting	1619 and other data sharing agreements among partners		Presentation by USDA & USGS

# Implementation

Item	Rationale	AgWG Lead(s)	Next Steps
Barriers	Overcoming roadblocks to implementation needed to improve water quality		Special topic: BMP implementation on leased land
Technical & Financial Resources	Approaches to address financial challenges to BMP implementation		Provide information on current finding sources and innovative programs
Co-Benefits	Recognition and promotion of co-benefits associated with conservation implementation		Presentations: Soil Health Water Re-Use Others?
Communication: Partner Efforts Across Watershed	Utilizing the Bay watershed-wide workgroup membership as a forum for idea exchange and collaboration.		
Communication: State/District/Private	Using the AgWG as information exchange forum among state, district, and private entities		

# Innovation

Item	Rationale	AgWG Lead(s)	Next Steps
Expert Panels	Identifying and quantifying the impact of effective ag BMPs on water quality	Various- in coordination with Loretta Collins & Jeremy Hanson	In-process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cropland Irrigation</li> <li>• Ag Ditch Management</li> <li>• Animal Mortality</li> </ul> Future: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursery Capture &amp; Reuse</li> </ul>
NRCS Interim Standards	New NRCS practices recently adopted		Invite NRCS to update AgWG
State Practices & Resource Improvements	Provide a forum to identify, discuss and evaluate non-NRCS conservation practices		
Current Research	New practices on the horizon		NRCS Conservation Innovations Grant Program Presentation Land Grant University

# Data & Modeling

Item	Rationale	AgWG Lead(s)	Next Steps
Artificial Drainage	Understanding water conveyance and ramification on water quality goals	Clint Gill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outreach to Public Drainage Associations</li> <li>Report back Q-2/3, 2019</li> </ul>
Animal Data	Ensuring accurate representation of animal sectors in the watershed model	Mark Dubin Dairy: Jeremy Daubert, Tim Sexton, Frank Scheider, Dave Graybill Poultry: Paul Bredwell Swine: ?	Dairy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>post-meeting brainstorm call with interested members</li> </ul> Poultry/swine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updates from leads, as appropriate</li> </ul>
Fertilizer Data	Improving county-level distribution on fertilizer sales data	Mark Dubin, Tim Sexton, Frank Schneider	Coordinate and plan stakeholder meeting for Q1, 2019
Nutrient Fertility Recommendations	Updating nutrient fertility recommendations based on new science and technology in the agronomic sector	Chris Brosch, Dave Graybill	Communicate with Land Grant Universities to gauge interest, needs, feasibility of updating nutrient recommendations

# CBP Assignments

Item	Rationale	AgWG Lead(s)	Next Steps
Soil P Data	Better representation of soil P in the Phase 6.0 Watershed Model per Management Board Sept 21, 2017 recommendations	Frank Coale, Mark Dubin	Report back to AgWG from Frank Coale regarding feedback from regional soil labs
Climate Change / BMP Resiliency	Ensuring that BMP effectiveness values are in sync with changing climate conditions	Chris Brosch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with CBP Climate Resiliency Workgroup</li> <li>AgWG re-visit topic in Jan-Feb 2019</li> </ul>
Emerging Contaminants		Chris Brosch	Forthcoming STAC workshop: Toxic Contaminants in Agricultural Settings

# October 2018 Meeting

## **Accounting & Reporting**

-----

## **Implementation**

Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Data Dashboard  
Soil Health Perspectives

## **Innovation**

Nutrient Application Recommendation Updates

## **Data & Modeling**

Nutrient Application Recommendation Updates  
Broiler Freezer Interim BMP

## **CBP Assignments**

-----

# Moving Forward

## **Standard Agenda Format**

Introduction

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

Standing Agenda Items (Balance Time)

- Accounting & Reporting
- Implementation
- Innovation
- Data & Modeling
- CBP Assignments

New Business

Review of Action Items & Decisions

Adjourn