

(Revised) Attachment A

CBP Verification Committee's Revised Draft BMP Verification Principles

Revised: May 18, 2012

PRINCIPLE 1: Practices, treatments, and technologies reported for credit through the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership must be:

- properly designed, installed, and maintained to ensure that they are achieving the expected nutrient and sediment reductions reviewed and approved to by the partnership;
- consistent with or functionally equivalent¹ to established practice definitions and/or standards;
- not double counted; and
- no longer functional or removed from the landscape.

In support of tracking, verifying and reporting practices not consistent with, nor fully or partially functionally equivalent to, established practice definitions and/or standards, partners and stakeholders can seek partnership review and approval through the established partnership BMP review protocol.

PRINCIPLE 2: Verification of practices needs to provide assurance of effective implementation by being scientifically rigorous and defensible in this era of TMDL accountability, based on professionally established and accepted sampling, inspection, and certification protocols regardless of funding source (cost share versus non-cost share), source sector (agriculture, urban, etc.), and jurisdiction (state, local) while allowing for adaptability and ability to prioritize efforts for verifying and accounting for non-cost shared practices.

PRINCIPLE 3: Need to establish an inventory of current year practice implementation from which periodic confirmations will be performed to account for changes through time.

PRINCIPLE 4: Need to strive for the right balance between the requirement for verification and the need to focus limited staff and funding on continued program implementation.

[OR]

PRINCIPLE 4: Need to recognize and address the need for sufficient staff and funding in order to accomplish both verification and continued program implementation.

PRINCIPLE 5: Verification of practices needs to incorporate transparency in both the processes of verifying and the underlying data in order to ensure public confidence in the actual occurrence of practice implementation and pollution reduction.

¹ The CBP's BMP Verification Committee intends to provide a clear definition of 'functional equivalent' in next version of the draft BMP verification principles.