**At-A-Glance Guide to Organizations and Agencies Presenting to the**

**Citizens Advisory Committee May 2017**

**University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science**

<http://www.umces.edu/>

The University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science leads the way toward better management of Maryland’s natural resources and the protection and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. From a network of laboratories located across the state, our scientists provide sound advice to help state and national leaders manage the environment and prepare future scientists to meet the global challenges of the 21st century. With locations strategically placed between the mountains and sea, UMCES research laboratories provide scientists direct access to Maryland's diverse natural ecosystems. UMCES releases a Chesapeake Bay Report card every year; this year the Bay got a grade of a C.

**Chesapeake Bay Program Office**

<http://www.chesapeakebay.net>

The Chesapeake Bay Program is a unique regional partnership that has led and directed the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay since 1983. The Chesapeake Bay Program partners include the states of [Maryland](http://www.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx), [Pennsylvania](http://pa.gov/portal/server.pt/community/pa_gov/2966), [Delaware](http://www.chesapeakebay.net/%3Ca%20href=), [New York](http://www.ny.gov/), [West Virginia](http://www.wv.gov/Pages/default.aspx#home) and [Virginia](http://portal.virginia.gov/); the [District of Columbia](http://dc.gov/DC/); the [Chesapeake Bay Commission](http://www.chesbay.us/), a tri-state legislative body; the [Environmental Protection Agency](http://www.epa.gov/), representing the federal government; and participating citizen advisory groups. The leadership of the Chesapeake Bay Program is the Executive Council which includes the Governors of the partnership’s states, Mayor of DC, EPA Administrator and the Chair of the Chesapeake Bay Commission.

**Environmental Integrity Project**

<https://www.environmentalintegrity.org>

The Environmental Integrity Project is a nonpartisan, nonprofit watchdog organization that advocates for effective enforcement of environmental laws. Comprised of former EPA enforcement attorneys, public interest lawyers, analysts, investigators, and community organizers, EIP has three goals: 1) To illustrate through objective facts and figures how the failure to enforce or implement environmental laws increases pollution and harms public health; 2) To hold federal and state agencies, as well as individual corporations, accountable for failing to enforce or comply with environmental laws; and, 3) To help local communities obtain the protections of environmental laws.

**Choose Clean Water Coalition**

<http://choosecleanwater.org>

MISSION-To serve as a strong, united, effective advocate for restoring the thousands of streams and rivers flowing to the Chesapeake Bay by coordinating policy, message action and accountability for clean water at the federal, state and local levels.

Organizations in Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia create the community of the Choose Clean Water Coalition. More than 200 members strong, we are the committed advocate and one voice to restoring the Chesapeake Bay and its thousands of rivers and streams.

**Trout Unlimited**

<http://www.tu.org>  
Today TU is a national organization with more than 150,000 members organized into about 400 chapters from Maine to Montana to Alaska. This dedicated grassroots army is matched by a respected staff of lawyers, policy experts and scientists, who work out of more than 30 offices nationwide. These conservation professionals ensure that TU is at the forefront of fisheries restoration work at the local, state and national levels. The organization remains committed to applying "the very best information and thinking available" in its conservation work and has developed cutting-edge tools such as the Conservation Success Index (CSI), a sophisticated framework for assessing the health of coldwater fish species throughout their native range. Whether this range encompasses a few hundred miles or multiple states, the CSI helps the organization target its efforts toward those populations most in need of protection or restoration.

**Wason Center for Public Policy, Christopher Newport University**

<http://cnu.edu/cpp/>

The Wason Center for Public Policy was established in 2007 to provide unbiased and non-partisan scientific research both about important public policy issues facing Virginia and about citizens' views on those issues. Without such information, Virginia’s elected leaders face increasingly difficult decisions with little guidance and feedback from the citizens they represent. The premise of the Center's work is that dialogue between the public and policy makers on important policy issues facing the Commonwealth is fundamental to the development of good public policy.

**Virginia Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources**

<https://naturalresources.virginia.gov>

The Secretary of Natural Resources advises the Governor on natural resources issues and works to advance the Governor's top environmental priorities. The Secretary oversees six agencies that protect and restore the Commonwealth’s natural and historic resources. The Secretary's office and all of the natural resources agencies work together to uphold the provisions of Article XI of the Virginia Constitution:

To the end that the people have clean air, pure water, and the use and enjoyment for recreation of adequate public lands, waters, and other natural resources, it shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to conserve, develop, and utilize its natural resources, its public lands, and its historical sites and buildings.

Further, it shall be the Commonwealth's policy to protect its atmosphere, lands, and waters from pollution, impairment, or destruction, for the benefit, enjoyment, and general welfare of the people of the Commonwealth.