



Chesapeake Bay Program

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN THE

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

AND THE

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## I. PURPOSE

This memorandum of understanding serves to enhance the coordination between the United States Postal Service's districts located in the states of Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. It formalizes the commitment from both parties to work together towards protecting the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed area. The Postal Service agrees to contribute its efforts in accordance with the Agreement of Federal Agencies on Ecosystem Management in the Chesapeake Bay which became effective on July 14, 1994.

## II. AUTHORITIES

The Postal Service Office of Environmental Management Policy will designate one person to act as the liaison to the Chesapeake Bay Program. This person will serve on the Federal Agencies Committee (FAC) and coordinate efforts toward achieving the Agreement's goals. Other Postal Service personnel will serve on work groups and subcommittees for the Bay Program where appropriate.

## III. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Postal Service and the Environmental Protection Agency will actively promote environmental stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay. Pursuant to this MOU the Postal Service will:

1. assist the EPA in areas of ecosystem protection that can be directly influenced by actions of the Postal Service, including minimizing pollutants entering the Bay watershed, utilizing best management practices in lawncare and BayScapes landscaping, and developing appropriate contingency plans at applicable facilities;
2. partner with other federal agencies to champion the concept of environmental stewardship to preserve and protect the natural resources of the Chesapeake Bay;

3. work with municipalities on improving coordination and involvement with Bay protection and restoration efforts at the state and local level as indicated in the *Local Government Partnership Initiative*;
4. assist the EPA with efforts to increase public awareness of the Chesapeake Bay Program and the Bay restoration at local Postal facilities; and
5. develop an action plan for setting goals and implementing these commitments. The first biennial action plan will be developed by September 12, 1997.

Pursuant to this agreement the Environmental Protection Agency will:

1. provide assistance from the Chesapeake Bay Program Communications Office for press and public outreach efforts;
2. coordinate technical assistance from other Bay Program participants; and
3. assist the Postal Service in developing and implementing a coordinated action plan. Postal Service and EPA representatives will meet periodically to monitor progress.

## IV. REQUIRED CLAUSES

Nothing in this MOU diminishes the independent authority or coordination responsibility of each agency in administration of its statutory obligations. It is intended to facilitate those authorities through the cooperative mechanisms of the Chesapeake Bay Program. Authorized representatives of the EPA or Postal Service may enter supplemental agreements within the scope of this Memorandum of Understanding.

## V. DURATION

This MOU becomes effective on the date of signature by both parties and continues until modified by mutual consent of both parties.

DATE: November 15, 1996

FOR THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



W. MICHAEL MCCABE, Region 3 Administrator

FOR THE U. S. POSTAL SERVICE



CHARLES E. BRAVO, Manager, Environmental Management Policy