

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
between  
THE EXTENSION SERVICE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
and  
THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish the framework for a continuing working relationship between the Extension Service (ES), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on matters concerning the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP). This MOU further reflects the mutual desire for a coordinated effort towards the development of educational programs for the protection and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay environment within the respective authorities of both parties.

II. Background and Authorities

The ES engages in cooperative agricultural extension work to aid in diffusing among people of the United States useful and practical information on subjects relating to agriculture, uses of solar energy with respect to agriculture, home economics, and rural energy pursuant to the Smith-Lever Act, as amended (7 USC 341-349); Title XIV of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 (7 USC 3101-3316), as amended by the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (7 USC 3101-3330), as amended by the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 USC 3101-4710); Title V of the Rural Development Act of 1972, as amended by Title XIV, Section 1444 of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (7 USC 2661-2669), Section 1440 of the Food Security Act of 1985 and Section 2 of the Rural Crisis Recovery Program Act of 1987.

ES serves as the educational arm of the USDA and is responsible for carrying out educational programs in cooperation with the State Cooperative Extension Services located in both the 1862 and 1890 Land-Grant Colleges, including Tuskegee University. These Cooperative Extension Services develop educational programs to provide information and technical assistance to the general public. One such endeavor that has been identified by the Extension System as a national priority initiative is the need for public educational programs on water quality. The critical issues to be addressed include:

- (1) the importance of high-quality water to life, well-being and agricultural production
- (2) the need to use water resources wisely
- (3) the impacts of agricultural and other chemicals on water quality
- (4) methods of conserving water supplies, and

- (5) the development of appropriate policies to assure adequate supplies of quality water.

Hence, many of the needs of the Chesapeake Bay Program will be an on-going part of Extension's programming dealing with the water quality initiative.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has the statutory authority under the Clean Water Act to protect and restore the Nation's water resources. As such, it is the lead Federal Agency in coordinating the efforts to identify causes of pollutant problems in the Chesapeake Bay and to coordinate restoration activities. The Chesapeake Bay Program under EPA Region III is the focal point for these EPA activities.

Nothing in this MOU alters the statutory authorities and responsibilities of either of the participating bodies of the ES-USDA or of the EPA. It is intended to facilitate those authorities and responsibilities through the cooperative efforts of the two agencies.

### III. Responsibilities

#### A. Pursuant to this MOU, ES will:

- (1) Assign appropriate staff to assist EPA in the cooperative efforts necessary to conduct the Chesapeake Bay Program.
- (2) Cooperate with EPA in identifying educational needs in the Chesapeake Bay Program area.
- (3) Consider the identified educational needs and where feasible and practical, encourage the State Cooperative Extension Service's (CES's) to integrate those needs into its regular water quality programs.
- (4) Cooperate with EPA in the design and development of educational programs and/or materials considered to be unique to the Chesapeake Bay Program.
- (5) Provide feedback and pertinent information from the Cooperative Extension System that would assist in evaluating the effectiveness of educational programs targeted toward the Chesapeake Bay Program needs.
- (6) Encourage the CES's to participate in the dissemination of public information related to the improvement of water quality in the Chesapeake Bay area.

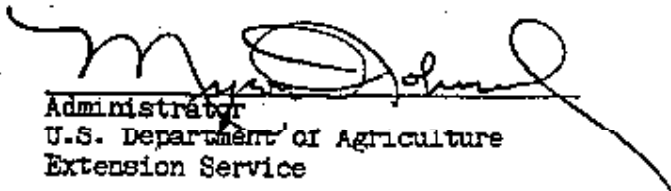
#### B. Pursuant to this MOU, EPA will:

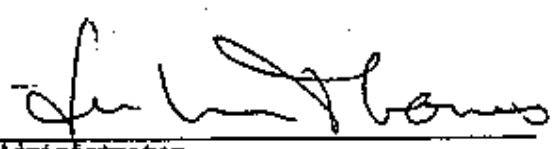
- (1) Assign appropriate staff to assist ES with matters concerning the Chesapeake Bay Program.

- (2) Cooperate with ES in identifying educational needs in the Chesapeake Bay Program area.
- (3) Cooperate with ES in the design and development of educational programs and/or materials considered to be unique to the Chesapeake Bay Program area.
- (4) Provide ES with appropriate materials relating to the Chesapeake Bay Program to assist in their understanding of the program and for distribution to the States.

#### IV. Mutual Agreement

- A. ES and EPA will cooperate in the development and transfer of information that will help States to better understand the educational efforts for the protection and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay environment.
- B. This MOU defines in general terms the basis on which the agencies will cooperate in activities of mutual interest in order to coordinate efforts and eliminate duplication and waste.
- C. This MOU does not constitute a financial obligation to serve as a basis for expenditure.
- D. If an activity or project is identified that will require an advance or reimbursement of funds between the agencies, a separate agreement shall be developed in writing in accordance with normal government financial procedures, and will be the subject of an interagency agreement which shall be effected in writing by representatives of both parties to the agreement.
- E. This MOU becomes effective upon the date of the final signature and shall continue for the duration of the Chesapeake Bay Program. It may be amended at any time upon the mutual agreement of the parties and it may be cancelled by either party giving a 30-day advance, written notice to the other party.

  
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Administrator  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Extension Service

  
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Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Nov. 11, 1977  
DATE

Dec. 21, 1978  
DATE