

U.S.D.A. - Soil Conservation Service  
Conservation Operations Articles  
Chesapeake Bay Program

Preamble

Effective October 1, 1988, the operations responsibility for all Soil Conservation Service Chesapeake Bay protection and restoration activities will be assigned to the State Conservationists. A board of directors will be established and initially shall consist of the State Conservationists of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Other states in the Bay area may be added as appropriate. Articles will cover and govern major activities of the signatories as affixed on the last page of this document, individually or collectively. The Deputy Chief for programs will provide staff leadership and coordination to those broader responsibilities of national liaison with EPA and other federal agencies.

Article I: State Conservationists

Each State Conservationist will be responsible for all Chesapeake Bay Program activities in his or her assigned jurisdiction. This includes program, technical and administrative matters requiring coordination with SCS National Headquarters, National Technical Center, and other states. A staff person will be assigned to be the principal contact for SCS Chesapeake Bay Program activities.

Article II: Memorandum of Understanding SCS/EPA

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes policies, administrative procedures, and provides for a cooperative working relationship between the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Soil Conservation Service (SCS), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in support of common goals, interests, and statutory requirements as they relate to the Chesapeake Bay. It supplements the Memorandum of Understanding between USDA and EPA, dated October 3, 1984, and is a rewrite and expansion of the MOU between SCS and EPA concerning the Chesapeake Bay, dated November 21, 1984. These are superseded by a supplement that was signed on April 27, 1988.

Article III: Board of Directors

The board of directors shall consist initially of Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia SCS State Conservationists and the Maryland State Conservationist will serve as chairperson. The board of directors will:

- establish policies and procedures for Chesapeake Bay Program coordination
- maintain a position to coordinate SCS Bay activities (See Article IV)
- provide consultation and guidance on the utilization and supervision of the position
- designate representatives to serve on appropriate committees
- maintain relations with EPA Chesapeake Bay office at Annapolis
- coordinate the review of all bay wide program activities

Article IV: Coordinator

A senior level full time SCS staff position will be maintained to provide appropriate coordination and liaison. (See exhibit number 1 for a complete description of the position.)

Article V: Board of Director Meetings

The board will hold a regular meeting quarterly. Special meetings can be called at any time.

Article VI: Funding Coordinator Position

A budget will be developed each fiscal year to adequately fund the coordinator position and related expenses, including secretarial support. The cost will be financed equally by those states receiving funds for acceleration of Chesapeake Bay Program activities.

Article VII: National Office Responsibility

The Director of the Land Treatment Program Division will assign a staff person to carry out the functions for the Deputy Chief for programs as identified in the preamble.

Allocation of resources to accelerate SCS Chesapeake Bay Program activities will be in cooperation with accelerated BAY programs of the state governments. Currently, resources are allocated to the State Conservationists in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia for acceleration of Chesapeake Bay Program activities.

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Maryland State Conservationist

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Concurrence:  
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