Work Plan					
Goal:	**Enable every student in the region to graduate with the knowledge and skills to act responsibly to protect and**				
Outcome:	**SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS**				
	Continually increase the number of schools in the region that reduce the impact of their buildings and grounds on				
Long Term Target: TBD	**2 year Target: TBD**				
Partner Contributions to 2 year target:					
Key Action** *Description of work/project. Define each major action step on its own row. Identify specific program that will be used to achieve action.*	**Performance Target(s)** *Identify incremental steps to achieve Key Action.*	**Participating Entity** *Identify responsible partner for each step.*	**Geographic Location**	**Timeline** *Identify completion date (month & year) for each step)*	**Factors Influencing and/or Gap** *Identify related factor or gap in Management Strategy*
Management Approach 1: Promote and strengthen "sustainable school" certification and recognition programs consistent with high-quality, objective, and agreed-upon criteria such as the U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School program.					
Key Action	**Performance Target(s)**	**Partner Responsible**	**Geographic Location**	**Timeline**	**Factors Influencing and/or Gap**
Promote WV Sustainable Schools using MWEE	Seek funding for systemic support of Chesapeake Bay MWEE that promotes WV Sustainable Schools and USDEd Green Ribbon Schools.	TMI, CI, and EL NGOs	WV Bay Counties	12/31/2017 (ongoing)	Dependent on NGO funding. Limited WVDEP Bay Program funding under Objective #12 "encourage the West Virginia's new Sustainable Schools program to focus on runoff reduction as their USDEd Green Ribbon 'long term sustainability' requirement."
Provide grants to support state-level sustainable schools capacity building efforts	Award grants; Oversee implementation	CBT	Regional	ongoing	
Create an incremental system for recognizing schools to assist them in moving towards Green Ribbon Schools certficiation	Develop the criteria for each area and identify agency/agencies to spearhead the working groups	OSSE, DOEE, DCEEC, DGS, DCPS, PCSB	DC	Jul-16	
Develop and adopt a framework based on the US Green Ribbon Schools pillars, including relevant federal and state regulations/guidance to inform the development of school system sustainability plans.	Proactively invite and engage a wider variety of experts in developing enhanced guidance on healthy schools practices; Conduct a policy audit of existing regulations that pertain to the environment and could be used to further support sustainable schools practices; Identify models of successful school system, state, and regional sustainability plans, share the information, and encourage replication.	MAEOE, MSDE, MD CIN	MD	Fall 2016 - 2017	
Create an incremental system for recognizing schools to assist them in moving towards Green Ribbon Schools certficiation	Develop the criteria for each area and identify agency/agencies to spearhead the working groups	OSSE, DOEE, DCEEC, DGS, DCPS, PCSB	DC	Jul-16	

Delaware Green Ribbon School Coordination. The DDOE science office will continue to coordinate the federal Green Ribbon Schools program in DE for borh individual and district awards programs. The DDOE has served as the state lead on this program since 2012 and has worked closely with DE Natural Resources and Environ. Control, DE Valley Green Building Council, Delaware Nature Society, Children in Nature in making the opportunity availlable to DE public and private edcuators. The Green Ribbon Schools program will be announced annually through a Secretary DDOE announcement and the applications will be due in January of each year.	1) Assemble team of partners 2) evaluate proposals 3) coordinate all logistics with USED 4) coordinate all communications with applicants and awardees. 5) Conduct a Green Ribbon Schools event	DDOE Science Specialist, DNREC, DVGBC, DNS, DE CIN	DE	1) Nov 2015 applications 2) Jan 2016 Deadlines 3) Nominees to USED by Feb 2016	
Determine needs and identify barriers to participation in sustainable school programs.	Conduct needs assessments through the Chesapeake Bay Program Environmental Literacy Tool.	PDE, CCSIU, CBP, NOAA, NWF's Eco-Schools	PA	Dec-17	
Identify and promote funding opportunities for sustainable school programs.	Increase number of DEP EE grant applications over 2014 levels.	PDE, DCNR, PGC, DEP, PFBC, EEAC, PAEE, DOH, Green & Healthy Schools Partnership	PA	Dec-17	
identify and promote Green Ribbon Schools Program	Present or exhibit at annual PSTA or PAEE conferences	PDE, DEP, DCNR, PAEE, EEAC, Green & Healthy Schools Partnership	PA	Dec-17	
Conduct Green Ribbon Schools Event	Coordinate annual statewide event.	DEP, DCNR, Green & Healthy Schools Partnership, PDE	PA	Dec-17	
Promote Eco-Schools USA as statewide framework for sustainable schools.	Communicate program information through Penn Link, Science Matters, SAS and other email distribution lists with schools contacts	PDE, DEP, Green & Healthy Schools Partnership, PAEE, NWF	PA	Dec-17	

Support Virginia's existing Green Schools programs. Meets management approaches SS1, SS2, SS3, SS4, ELP4, and ELP5. (VIEW Agencies)	**USED Green Ribbon Schools and Environmental Literacy Challenge for Systematic Sustainability (ELCSS)** 1) Staff will continue to participate in evaluating Green Schools applications (All VIEW agencies). 2) VDEQ maintains a robust Web site with information and resources pertaining to pollution prevention, environmental management systems, and green building information and will continue to provide information pertinent to schools on its Web site. 3) Update *Guidelines for School Facilities in Virginia's Public Schools* to encouarge incorporating sustainable building practices. 4) Request Virginia Board of Education recognize the schools identified as Green Schools through these programs annually in April.	Virginia Interagency Education Workgroup (VIEW) and Stakeholders VDOE with help from stakeholders	VA	Annual awards	
Virginia Naturally School Recognition Program The program statewide encourages schools to become better environmental stewards and learners by awarding schools that meet a rigorous set of performance factors.The overarching objective of the program is to recognize those exemplary efforts undertaken by Virginia schools to increase the environmental awareness and stewardship of its students. Evaluative criteria include performance factors in the following areas: administrrative support; staff development; curricuklar integration; resource conservation; meaningful field experiences; equipmant and library resources; instructional setting and outdoor classrooms; and community partnerships.	Plans are to increase the number of schools being recognized by 5% each year over the next 3 years based on the current budget for this program.	VDGIF	VA	ongoing	

Schoolyard habitat improvement 1) **Schoolyard Habitat Program** provides professional development to in-service teachers to schools that wish to develop wildlife habitats on their school grounds. Workshops include information on native plants as well as activities that teachers can conduct with their students. Certification is available for schools that complete their habitats. 2) **Native plant information**. DEQ coordinates a network of state and private organizations that promote planting native plants to restore habitats and protect water quality.	1) **Schoolyard Habitat Program** provides in-service training to schools that wish to develop wildlife habitats on their school grounds. Workshops include information on native plants as well as activities that teachers can conduct with their students. Certification is available for schools that complete their habitats. 2) **Native plant Information**. DEQ coordinates a network of state and private organizations that promote planting native plants to restore habitats and protect water quality.	VDGIF	VA	ongoing	
Virginia Green Ribbon School (GRS) Coordination: The VDOE science office will continue to coordinate the federal Green Ribbon Schools program in Virginia for both individual school and division awards programs. The science office has served as the state lead on this program since 2012 and has worked closely with architects, environmental professionals, and state agency personnel in making the opportunity available to Virginia's public and private educators. The Green Ribbon Schools program will be announced annually through a Superintendent's Memorandum and GRS applications will be due in January of each year.(VDOE)	1) Post Superintendents Memo announcing program cycle; 2) assemble team of partners including architects, health and environmental professionals, and state agency personnel; 3) evalaute proposals; 4) coordinate all logistics with USED, 5) coordinate all communications with applicants and awardees.	VDOE Science Director and staff	VA	1) Post application by September 15 each year 2) Nominees to USED by February	Other agency priorities and staff availability may impact completion timelines.
Work collaboratively with Bay Program partners to identify legislative, budgetary and policy needs to advance the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement. We will, in turn, pursue action within our member state General Assemblies and the United States Congress. (Per CBC Resolution #14-1)	Work with GIT to consider policy changes or legislative actions identified by the GIT.	CBC	PA, MD, VA		Political climate and budgets
Management Approach 2: Broaden stakeholder engagement to include focus on health, including health and nutrition, indoor air quality, chemicals, pest management					
Key Action	**Performance Target(s)**	**Partner Responsible**	**Geographic Location**	**Timeline**	**Factors Influencing and/or Gap**
Presentation to Healthy Youth and Schools Commission to inform them of sustainable schools goals	Complete presentation.	OSSE, DCEEC	DC	Apr-15	

Increase emphasis on healthy lifestyles portion of DE Children in Nature Coalition Mission.	1) Add third cochair from health organizations, 2(develop partner projects (such as opening Nemours Gardens to child patients and their families and school and community groups for exercise, healing, fun and learning)that focus on healthy lifestyles thru exercise, gardens for nutrition, and mental health and healing in natural settings, 3) increase collaboration with DE Coalition for Healthy Eating and Active Living (DE HEAL), city and county parks, and community groups interested in healthy lifestyles. 4) Provide information on tools and resources, training oppourtunities, and other assistance to schools and community groups for implementing healthy practices. 5) Set up a team to work on local use agreements to open up school grounds and other fenced off and restricted open spaces.	DE CIN, Nemours, **DPH, DGI**, ,DNS, DE HEAL, and other partners with a mission including encouraging healthy lifestyles.	DE	Dec-16	
Engage school district experts, stakeholders, and state/federal agencies to provide suggestions for tools , resources, training opportunities, and other assistance to schools for implementing sustainable/healthy schools. **(VDOE)**	VDOE will arrange a web meeting to garner input current VDOE Green Ribbon Schools webpage to determine strengths and opportunities for improvement with stakeholders. VA sustainable schools webpage with links to resources for sustainable Healthy buildings, links on Green Ribbon Schools site for VA	VBCPS, FCPS, EPA, VDOE, VDEQ, VDGIF	VA	Aug-16	
Develop a Sustainable Schools email distribution list consisting of targeted school division personnel in areas such as food and nutrition services, instructional services, and building and facility servcies.	VDOE will coordinate the development of an email distrition list that would allow for information to be disseminated to personnel within school divisisons to encourage a broader knowledge of sustainable/healthy school infomration and practices.	VDOE Science Director and staff	VA	Dec-16	
Partner on stakeholder group to advance sustainable school initiatives; provide resources and support for schools; and recognize and celebrate schools for sustainability initiatives	Provide technical assistance and resources to schools to fund and implement sustainable school initiatives by an increase in DEP EE grant applications over 2014 levels.	DEP, DCNR, PDE, DOH, USGBC, Green & Healthy School Partnership, PAEE, EEAC	PA	Dec-17	
Increase and strengthen school-based policies around nutrition and physical activity by providing technical assistance, best practices and templates for strong policy language in local school wellness policies (LSWP)	Post the LSWP template on PDE website; calculate the number of schools that revise LSWP.	DOH, PDE	PA	Dec-17	

Partner on stakeholder group to advance sustainable school initiatives; provide resources and support for schools; and recognize and celebrate schools for sustainability initiatives	Provide technical assistance and resources to schools to fund and implement sustainable school initiatives by an increase in DEP EE grant applications over 2014 levels.	DEP, DCNR, PDE, DOH, USGBC, Green & Healthy School Partnership, PAEE, EEAC	PA	Dec-17	
Conduct a policy audit of existing regulations that pertain to healthy school environments to include in sustainable schools framework for school systems	Identify all regulations for school health, IPM, Indoor Air Quality, Green Cleaning, etc., and the agency responsible for guidance and compliance. Use the information to identify and determine how to address gaps/ needs, promote healthy practices, and share ideas among school systems.	MAEOE, EPA, MDE, partners through MD CIN and State entities.	MD	Dec 2016	
Management Approach 3: Promote, develop, and/or disseminate needs assessments, training, technical resources, and promotional materials for "sustainable school"					
Key Action	**Performance Target(s)**	**Partner Responsible**	**Geographic Location**	**Timeline**	**Factors Influencing and/or Gap**
Promote and support WV Sustainable Schools	Report on voluntary participation in WV Sustainable Schools and USDEd Green Ribbon Schools.	TMI, CI, and EL NGOs	WV Bay Counties	Dec-17	Dependent on NGO funding.
Identify and recommend policies and existing funding sources to establish outdoor classrooms.	Follow up on the presentation at the Interagency Committee on School Construction (IAC) mtg that recommended that new construction requires an outdoor classroom. Determine recommendations to support outdoor classrooms outside of new construction.	MSDE, MD CIN	MD	Fall 2017	
Publish the *Maryland School Grounds for Learning* website to increase the development, installation, and maintenance of nature-based outdoor learning areas on school grounds, and to facilitate integrating use of these areas into the curriculum.		MAEOE	MD	ongoing phases	
Promote sustainable schools through materials and conversation in DE	1) Assemble website information and links on resources for sustainable schools 2) Best Management Practices from DE Valley Green Building Council, EPA, NOAA, Green Schools, MAEOE, etc and make available to DE school districts and schools.	DE CIN	DE	Jul-05	
Update Playground and Outdoor Learning Publication (with PE, facilities, outdoor learning, science). (VDOE)	1) Convene a group of experts to review current publication and identify current best practices. 2) Identify writing teams to update publication. 3) Post on the VDOE Green Schools Website and disseminate through Superintendent's meorandum, webinar, and conference presentations.	VIEW and Stakeholders	VA	Spring 2017	Other agency priorities and staff availability may impact completion timelines.

Conservation, Environment, Resource-Use, and Sustainability Survey (CERUS): VDOE will develop a voluntary school division self assessment of nationally recognized innovative practices on school site energy, water, and materials conservation; environmental education; and overall environmental impact. (VDOE)	The CERUS survey, developed by the VDOE staff will be embedded into the school Environmental Literacy Challenge for Systematic Sustainability (ELCSS) initiated by Executive Order 42. The school divisions that apply for the Environmental Literacy Challenge for Systematic Sustainability (ELCSS) (a) create smaller negative environmental footprints for school sites and facilities, (b) enhance healthier conditions for students and school staff, and (c) improve student achievement through stronger science/environmental education instructional programs. 3) The ELCSS will also provide the names of top-performing schools as measured by the CERUS criteria.	VDOE Science Director and staff	VA	Winter/Spring semester 2016	Other agency priorities and staff availability may impact completion timelines.
Identification of statewide Centers for Environmental Education Excellence for School Field Trips and other Educational Opportunities. Meets management approaches S2, SS4, ELP4, and ELP5. (VDCR)	By the end of October 2015, identify the first set of centers. Annually thereafter identify additional centers statewide based on establish performance criteria for Centers for Environmental Education Excellence.	VDCR	VA	By December 31, 2015, DCR will provide this information across all Agency information bases.	
Determine needs and identify barriers to participation in professional development.	Conduct needs assessments through the Chesapeake Bay Program Environmental Literacy Tool.	PDE, CCSIU, CBP, NOAA, Green & Healthy Schools Partnership	PA	Dec-17	
Promote high quality PD for implementation of E&E Standards and Science, Technology and Engineering Standards along with appropriate standards within Chapter 4.	Communicate professional development opportunities through SAS, Science Matters.	PDE, DEP, PAEE, PSTA	PA	Ongoing	
Provide workshops, trainings and assistance to teachers, school administrators and building managers to implement sustainable schools.	Increase the number of schools and school districts using Energy Star Portfolio Manager and submitting Green Ribbon School applications over 2014 levels.	PDE, DEP, EEAC, DCNR	PA	Dec-17	
Strengthen partnerships between providers of programs and school districts.	Increase the number of providers of programs working with LEAs over 2014 levels.	PDE, DCNR, PGC, DEP, PFBC, EEAC, PAEE	PA	ongoing	
Use and share data from the 2015 CBP "ELIT" tool to facilitate development of collaborative approaches to further developing and implementing school sustainability programs.	Establish baseline and distribute information from the survey to LEAs. Distribute the information to providers of services in developing/promoting programs.	PDE, CSIU, EEAC	PA	Jun-16	
Management Approach 4: Identify and promote the use of best management practices at school sites related to watershed and habitat restoration, stormwater					

Key Action	Performance Target(s)	Partner Responsible	Geographic Location	Timeline	Factors Influencing and/or Gap
Encourage all MD schools to become MD Green Schools and support involvement in US ED Green Ribbon Schools.	Drive implementation of green practices by building interest and awareness, and increasing buy-in statewide at the State level, among LEA superintendents (local level) and principals (school level. Develop and promote clear, shared, parallel elements among existing programs.	MSDE, MAEOE, NWF, FWS	MD	Dec-16	Culture change needed among administration, facilities, instructional staff.
Work with the Environmental Finance Center and the US EPA to encourage and support the establishment of sustainability plans in all school systems.	Encourage and provide assistance and resource information to all school systems statewide, including for staff training, improved communication, integration into instruction, etc. Use the MD School Grounds for Learning program as a key resource. Assure outreach to and inclusion of schools in high need / underserved areas.	MAEOE, MSDE, DNR, MDE, EPA	MD	2017-2018	
Engage a wider variety of subject matter experts in helping schools plan and implement sustainable schools practices. Connect with new partners, MD Green Leaders and others to contribute expertise and guidance in areas not yet represented on advisory group to address additional recommended practices.		MAEOE, MD CIN	MD	Dec-16	
Convene group of University partners to see how they can assist schools in forwarding sustainability efforts	Organize a meeting to determine best ways to strengthen university connections.	OSSE, DOEE, DCEEC	DC	Dec-16	
Design a training program to provide environmental sustainability tours of their school buildings	Train students from at least five schools.	OSSE, DOEE, DCEEC, DCPS, DGS	DC	Dec-16	
Identify, catalog and share existing best management practices in DE	1) identify existing habitats and Green Ribbon Schools 2) upgrade maintenance practices and resources 3)develop measures of success in terms of both function and utilization in education.	DE CIN, DDOE, DNREC, DNS, **USFWS**, CIB, **HFHK, DGVBC**	DE	Dec-17	
Identify and use best management practices to make school buildings and grounds more sustainable and eligible for sustainable school certification based upon needs assessments, training, technical resources and stakeholder involvement.	Increase the number of schools and school districts using Energy Star Portfolio Manager and submitting Green Ribbon School applications over 2014 levels.	PDE, DEP, DCNR, DOH, PAEE, EEAC, PA Green & Healthy Schools Partnership	PA	Dec-17	
Use best management practices to manage school buildings and grounds as models of sustainability to enhance students' ability to learn.	Increase the number of schools and school districts using Energy Star Portfolio Manager and submitting Green Ribbon School applications over 2014 levels.	DEP, DCNR, PA Green & Healthy Schools Partnership, EEAC, PAEE, DOH	PA	Dec-17	

Incorporate environment and ecology lessons, school buildings and school/community gardens throughout the curriculum as teaching tool.	Increase number of DEP EE grant applications over 2014 levels.	DEP, DCNR, PA Green & Healthy Schools Partnership, EEAC, PAEE, DOH	PA	Dec-17	
Provide environmental learning opportunities in outdoor recreation through partnerships with parks and recreation agencies and providers.	School attendance numbers at state parks will increase over 2015 levels.	DCNR, PDE, EEAC	PA	Dec-17	
Identify and promote funding opportunities for sustainable school best management practices.	Increase number of DEP EE grant applications over 2014 levels.	PDE, DCNR, PGC, DEP, PFBC, EEAC, PAEE, DOH	PA	Dec-17	
*****Note: As a member of the Chesapeake Executive Council and a signatory to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, the Chesapeake Bay Commission (CBC) functions as the legislative arm of the Chesapeake***					