



# Backgrounder

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## **Chesapeake Bay Program - Advisory Committees**

### **Citizens Advisory Committee**

- *Chair: John Dawes, Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds*

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) is charged with responsibility for representing residents and stakeholders of the Chesapeake Bay watershed in the restoration effort and advising the CBP Partnership on all aspects of Chesapeake Bay restoration. In this role, they have been strong, vocal advocates for increased transparency and accountability, citizen engagement and education, and independent evaluation of the restoration work of the Partnership. Members communicate with their constituencies to increase understanding of the Agreement and programs to restore and protect the Bay.

CAC's membership is broad-based with representatives from agricultural and homebuilding industries, business, conservation, environmental foundations, law, and civic groups. Since 1984, this group has provided a non-governmental perspective on the Bay cleanup effort and on how Bay Program policies and programs affect citizens who live and work in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

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### **Local Government Advisory Committee**

- *Chair: The Honorable Sheila S. Noll, Supervisor, York County, VA*

The Chesapeake Bay Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC) was created by the Chesapeake Bay Executive Council through the 1987 Chesapeake Bay Agreement. The purpose of the LGAC is to advise the Executive Council on how to effectively implement projects and engage the support of local governments to achieve the goals of the Bay Agreement.

LGAC's mission is to share the views and insights of local elected officials with state and federal decision-makers and to enhance the flow of information among local governments about the health and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

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### **Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee**

- *Chair: Kirk Havens, Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences (VIMS)*
- *Vice Chair (presenting): Lisa Wainger, Research Professor (Environmental Economics), University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES)*

Since its creation in December 1984, the Chesapeake Bay Program's (CBP) Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) has worked to enhance scientific communication and outreach throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed and beyond. STAC provides independent scientific and technical advice in various ways, including (1) technical reports and position papers, (2) discussion groups, (3) assistance in organizing merit reviews of CBP programs and projects, (4) technical workshops, and (5) interaction between STAC members and the CBP. STAC serves as a liaison between the region's scientific community and the CBP. Through professional and academic contacts and organizational networks of its members, STAC ensures close cooperation among and between the various research institutions and management agencies represented in the Bay watershed.