

AGENDA
 June 16, 2022
 10:00 AM-3:00 PM
 Agriculture Workgroup Conference Call

Conference Call Information

Zoom Link*: <https://umces-edu.zoom.us/j/94729390103>

Meeting ID: 947 2939 0103

Password: 338673

Dial In: 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Calendar Page:

https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/agriculture_workgroup_conference_call_june_2022

*To enter the webinar, please open the webinar link first. After opening the webinar, either elect to join via computer audio or via phone call. If you select phone, **please ensure you enter the participant ID.**

Workgroup Areas of Focus

Accounting & Reporting • Implementation • Innovation

Data & Modeling • CBP Assignments

- 10:00 **Welcome, introductions, roll-call, review meeting minutes** Workgroup Chair
- Roll-call of the governance body
 - Roll-call of the meeting participants- *Please enter name and affiliation under "Participants" or in "Chat" box*
 - Approval of [minutes](#) from the May AgWG call
 - New Chesapeake Program Director: [Kandis Boyd](#)
- 10:05 **A Local Government Guide to the Chesapeake Bay (20 min)** Laura Cattell Noll
- Laura Cattell Noll, coordinator of the Local Leadership Workgroup, will discuss *A Local Government Guide to the Chesapeake Bay*. See previous work [here](#). New modules are under construction related to agriculture with intended distribution in 2023.

Accounting & Reporting

- 10:25 **Rapid Review: Winter Crop (10 min)** Loretta Collins
- Loretta Collins, UMD- AgWG Coordinator, will review past discussions regarding a request to consider nutrient reduction crediting for winter forage crops as a beneficial alternative to winter fallow cropland.
- 10:35 **PA Commodity Cover Crop Tracking & Reporting (25 min)** Ted Tesler
- PA is seeking a means to collect and report annual commodity cover crop information for annual implementation progress scenarios and seeks feedback from AgWG members. Ted Tesler, PA

DEP*, returns to further discuss the method PA is considering to calculate commodity cover crop acres from its transect surveys, as present on the May AgWG call. Ted will present additional county-level data showing details of the calculation and its impact. PA will be seeking AgWG endorsement of this method at the July AgWG meeting.

11:00 **BREAK (5 min)**

CBP Assignments/Data & Modeling

11:05 **Moving Forward: Addressing Ag Inputs in Phase 7 (55 min)** Tom Butler
Tom Butler, EPA, will review an updated draft charge for the AgWG's role in Phase 7 Watershed Model development and based on AgWG feedback received after the May AgWG call. Tom is seeking approval of the Agricultural Modeling Team charge and call for nominations.

DECISION: The AgWG is asked to approve the proposed Phase 7 Agricultural Modeling Team charge and call for nominations.

12:00 **LUNCH (30 min)**

Innovation

12:30 **Water for Agriculture (30 min)** Kathy Brasier
Kathy Brasier, PSU/AgWG Vice Chair, will present an overview of the [Water for Agriculture project](#). The Water for Agriculture project brings together social and biophysical researchers and practitioners to work with communities in Nebraska, Pennsylvania, and Arizona to address the water and agriculture issues that matter most to them through effective stakeholder [engagement](#).

CBP Assignments/Data & Modeling

1:00 **Re-Evaluating Fertilizer Data Sources (60 min)** Tom Butler
Tom Butler, EPA, will review a history of discussions and decisions related to sourcing of fertilizer information for use in CAST and where we stand now. Open discussion time is allotted to record partner concerns and discuss possible opportunities for improvements in the future.

2:00 **Reducing Ag Nutrient Loads: A Comparative Approach (30 min)** Donald Boesch
Donald Boesch, Professor and President Emeritus at UMCES, will review an analysis of outcomes, obstacle and opportunities in reducing agricultural nutrient loads through a comparison of conditions associated with both the Baltic Sea and the Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts.

2:30 **Meeting Round-Up** Chair
Jeremy Daubert, AgWG chair, will circle back on any lingering discussion items from earlier in the meeting in preparation for the July 21 AgWG call.

2:45 **New Business & Announcements (5 min)**

- **Water Quality GIT Letter to the Management Board Regarding CAST-21**
 - https://www.chesapeakebay.net/channel_files/41983/wqgit_cast21_letter_to_mb_20220526.pdf

- **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA): Opportunities to Invest in Water Infrastructure using State Revolving Funds: July 12**
 - **Tuesday July 12 from 9:30am-12:30pm**
 - Join the [National Association of Counties](#) and the [National League of Cities](#), Tuesday, July 12, 2022 at 9:30 am to learn more about the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act as a means to support water infrastructure. Through the sharing of jurisdiction-specific plans and local initiatives using this resource, this 2-hour webinar will address your questions about the IIJA and how it can support local projects that address your long standing water infrastructure needs.
 - [Register here](#)
- **Water Quality GIT: July 27**
 - Transitioning to a new workplan for the next version of CAST
- **Ag Progress Days (PA): August 9-11**
 - More Info [here](#)
- **Better Targeting CBP Resources to Achieve Multiple Outcomes**
 - <https://gis.chesapeakebay.net/targeting/>
- **2022 Ag Census:** If you have never received a census and are new to NASS surveys, [sign up to be counted](#) today. You do not need to sign up if you already receive NASS surveys. **Key Dates:**
 - June 30, 2022 – sign up ends
 - November 2022 – ag census mails out and data collection begins
 - February 6, 2023 – response deadline
 - 2024 (TBD) – data release

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Even small plots of land - whether rural or urban - growing fruit, vegetables or some food animals count if \$1,000 or more of such products were raised and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the Census year. The Census of Agriculture, taken only once every five years, looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures. For America's farmers and ranchers, the Census of Agriculture is their voice, their future, and their opportunity. - <https://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus/>
- **Animal Mortality Expert Panel Technical Appendix**
 - Most recent draft technical appendix available [here](#)- CBPO working through revisions based on feedback. Date for next WTWG discussion TBD.
 - Contact Jeremy Hanson (hansonj@chesapeake.org) with questions/comments.
- **Confronting our Agricultural Nonpoint Source Control Policy Problem** – tentative presentation at August AgWG meeting
 - Article here: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/1752-1688.13010>
- **ASA, CSSA & SSSA International Annual Meeting: Nov 6-9**
 - Baltimore, Maryland
 - More information here: <https://www.acsmeetings.org/>
 - July 12 – Abstract submission deadline
 - Oct 3 - Early registration deadline
 - October 14 – Standard registration deadline
- **Other Announcements?** - send to Jackie Pickford (Pickford.Jacqueline@epa.gov) for inclusion in "Recap" email

2:55 **Review of Action and Decision Items (5 min)**

3:00 **Adjourn**

Next Meeting:

Thursday, July 21: 10AM-12PM, Call-in Zoom

*Common Abbreviations

AgWG- [Agriculture Workgroup](#)

BMP- Best Management Practice

BMPVAHAT- [BMP Verification Ad Hoc Action Team](#)

CAST- [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#) (user interface for the CBP Watershed Model)

CBP- [Chesapeake Bay Program](#)

CBPO- Chesapeake Bay Program Office (houses EPA and myriad contractors and grantees working towards CBP goals)

CBW- Chesapeake Bay Watershed

CRC- [Chesapeake Research Consortium](#)

EPA- [United States] Environmental Protection Agency

NEIEN- National Environmental Information Exchange Network

NFWF- [National Fish and Wildlife Foundation](#)

PA DEP- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

PSU – Pennsylvania State University

STAC- Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee

WQGIT- [Water Quality Goal Implementation Team](#)

WTWG- [Watershed Technical Workgroup](#)

UMCES- University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

UMD- University of Maryland

USDA-ARS- United States Department of Agriculture-*Agricultural Research Service*

USDA-NASS- United States Department of Agriculture-*National Agricultural Statistics Service* USDA-NRCS- United States Department of Agriculture-*Natural Resources Conservation Service*