



Chesapeake Bay Program

Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Maintain Healthy Watersheds GIT Meeting

September 8th, 2025 | 11:00am - 1:00pm

[Meeting Materials](#)

[Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 242 200 659 088 8 **Passcode:** FC9GR6m8

Conference Line: +1 469-208-1525 **Phone ID:** 199 019 950#

This meeting will be recorded for internal use to ensure the meeting note accuracy.

11:00 (5 min)	Welcome and Announcements – Jeff Lerner (HWGIT Chair, EPA) <ul style="list-style-type: none">For roll call purposes, please enter your name & affiliation in the chat box.Staffer update: With Marilyn's departure from the Bay Program to start her masters, Daniel Koval (kovald@chesapeake.org) will be supporting the HWGIT in the interim period until the new HWGIT staffer is hired.
11:05 (15 min)	Where are “Healthy Watersheds” in the Revised Agreement? – Peter Claggett (HWGIT Coordinator, USGS) <p>If you haven't been able to keep up with the rapidly changing developments in the Beyond 2025 process over the past year, you might be wondering: What happened to the “Healthy Watersheds Goal” in the revised agreement? In this presentation, we'll provide a recap of how the Healthy Watersheds Goal was reclassified and integrated into other related outcomes. While the process is still ongoing, the proposed Healthy Landscapes Goal is expected to replace HWGIT and transition into a new group focused on related outcomes:</p> <p>Outcomes underneath the proposed Healthy Landscapes Goal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Land Use Decision SupportProtected Lands (Watershed Health Target)Healthy Forests and TreesAdapting to Changing Environmental Conditions <p>Outcomes connected with the proposed Healthy Landscapes Goal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Stream HealthLocal LeadershipPublic AccessWetlands

11:20 (40 min)	<p>Review & Discuss the Feedback Received from the Public Comment Period – <i>Jeff Lerner (HWGIT Chair, EPA), Debbie Herr Cornwell (HWGIT Vice Chair, MDP), and Peter Claggett (HWGIT Coordinator, USGS)</i></p> <p>This discussion will begin with a summary of the public feedback received for outcomes underneath the proposed Healthy Landscapes Goal during the public comment period which ran from July 1st - September 1st for the draft revised Watershed Agreement. Feedback from this discussion will help the HWGIT leadership prepare for the September 11th MB meeting and MB retreat on September 30th-October 2nd.</p>
12:20 (40 min)	<p>Beyond 2025: Discussion on the Future of the HWGIT & Proposed Healthy Landscapes Goal – <i>Jeff Lerner (HWGIT Chair, EPA), Debbie Herr Cornwell (HWGIT Vice Chair, MDP), Peter Claggett (HWGIT Coordinator, USGS)</i></p> <p>As the partnership approaches the final steps of the Beyond 2025 process, it's timely to discuss the future of the Healthy Watersheds Goal Implementation Team (HWGIT). Under the revised agreement, the HWGIT is currently expected to sunset and transition into the draft Healthy Landscapes Goal.</p> <p>During this discussion, we will seek input from the HWGIT to help inform this transition, guided by questions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Role: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What should be the role of the new Healthy Landscapes Goal? How can it build upon or evolve from the work of the HWGIT? ○ What role can we play in bridging together the outcomes currently drafted underneath this goal (Land Use Decision Support, Healthy Trees and Forests, Changing Environmental Conditions, and Protected Lands)? ● Membership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How might the membership change with this transition? Are current members interested in leaving or staying involved? ○ What new groups or individuals should we encourage to join? ● Future Topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What projects or initiatives would you like to see this new group pursue? ○ Are there emerging challenges or opportunities members would like to explore under this new framework?
1:00	<p>Adjourn</p> <p><i>Next HWGIT Meeting:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● During this meeting, we'll gather feedback from HWGIT on whether to reschedule or cancel the October meeting (currently the meeting time falls on October 14th which is a holiday). ● Please note, the workgroups associated with the proposed Healthy Landscapes Goal are discussing the possibility of scheduling a joint

	meeting in December. <i>Please be on the lookout for more information about this meeting once details are finalized.</i>
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