

# Feedback & Input for the Wastewater Treatment Workgroup

A Summary of WWTWG Member Interviews

December 1, 2020



**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
*Science. Restoration. Partnership.*

# Background (1 of 2): WWTWG Scope and Purpose

- SCOPE
  - “...to facilitate implementing regulatory approaches to wastewater treatment in the Bay watershed...”
- PURPOSE
  - Track and report wastewater data
  - Identify and evaluate new wastewater treatment technologies
  - Engage in peer-to-peer learning and provide a discussion forum
  - Leverage resources
  - Respond to Water Quality Goal Implementation Team

# Background (2 of 2): Interviews

- Ten interviews of WWTWG members (all 6 states, plus other members)
- August to November, 2020
- Discussion themes:
  - History
  - Involvement
  - Issues/interests/concerns



# Findings: Common Themes

- Varying backgrounds/tenure
- Limited personnel, time, and budgeting capacity
- Need for balance
  - Conversation vs. action
  - Level-of-effort vs. benefit
- What happens after 2025?
  - How will jurisdictions continue to hit required numbers?
- Has the WWTWG run its course?
- Technical and Planning topics (next pages)



# Suggested Technical and Planning Topics

- Biosolids
- Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs)
- Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs)
- Septic data accuracy/loads
- Post-discharge treatment
- Focus on smaller plants
- Discharge data accuracy
- Peracetic acid (for disinfection)
  
- Climate change impacts on POTWs (resilience/adaptation)
- Local waterbodies (Benefits/BMPs) (other Expert Panels/Committee)
- Strategies with co-benefits (Chemical Workgroup)
- Infrastructure funding strategies
- Customer affordability
- Regulatory timelines vs. planning horizons for municipal infrastructure
- Copper Biotic Ligand Model (BLM) standards
- County of Maui v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund case

# Other Topics

- Bay Program needs from WWTWG?
- Meeting frequency?