



**Chesapeake Bay Program
Watershed Technical Workgroup (WTWG)
Meeting Agenda**

Thursday, August 7th, 2025

10:00 AM to 12:00PM

[Meeting Materials](#)

Meeting Link: [Click to join the Teams Meeting](#)

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Agenda

10:00 Introductions and Announcements – Auston Smith, EPA (5 min.)

- *Please put your name and affiliation in the chat box for attendance purposes. Thank you!*
- **Decision Requested:** Approval of [June Meeting Minutes](#)
- EPA Membership Update
- 2025 QAPP Update Email
- Land Use Submissions Ongoing
- Other announcements?

10:05 Approval of Agroforestry EPEG Technical Appendix – Eric Hughes, EPA, and Katie Brownson, USFS (15 min.)

At the June WTWG meeting, the group heard an update on the Agroforestry Expert Panel Establishment Group (EPEG) evaluation of the NRCS CPS Alleycropping 311 and Silvopasture 381 for CBP BMP status. This month, Katie Brownson, USFS, and Eric Hughes, EPA, will walk the group through the final recommendations and Technical Appendix put forward by the EPEG and will request WTWG approval of the Technical Appendix.

Decision Requested: Approval of the Agroforestry EPEG Technical Appendix

10:20 Construction – Peter Claggett, USGS (45 min.)

The WTWG last heard from Peter Claggett, USGS, in March 2025 to discuss methods for updating construction acres for Phase 7. Peter will return to the WTWG this month to provide an overview of the data received, as well as walk the group through the decisional items related to construction acres for Phase 7.

Decisions Requested: The WTWG will be asked to vote on the following decisions related to construction acres in Phase 7:

- a. **Mapping Construction:** All patches of barren land uses (except “bare shore” and “extractive barren”) that became at least 20% developed within 3-5 years represent “Regulated Construction”. Scaled NLCD annual change in development will be used to map historic construction and the CBLCM will be used to estimate future construction.
- b. **Reconciling Mapped and Reported Construction:** Construction acres reported at the county scale will be allocated to LRSEGs by the relative amount of a county’s mapped construction and new development within each LRSEG.
 - i. If reported construction exceeds mapped construction in an LRSEG, remaining reported construction acres will be subtracted from the developed sector (proportionally by developed class).
 - ii. If reported construction is less than mapped construction, remaining mapped construction will be reclassified as “compacted pervious” (loading like “mixed open” in Phase 6).

11:05 **Approval of Proposed Methodology for Buffer Upland Credit in Phase 7-** Bill Keeling, VADEQ (10 min.)

Over the last few months, Bill Keeling, VA DEQ, has been presenting on a proposed change to the methodology for buffer upland credit in Phase 7 at the AgWG and WTWG. The proposal is to distribute upland benefit from non-exclusion buffers proportionally to the load sources it is applied to and to stop providing upland credit to non-exclusion buffers from pasture. Given that the AgWG did not have substantial concerns with the proposed change, Bill will return to the WTWG and request formal approval of the change to the methodology.

Decision Requested: The WTWG will be asked to approve the proposed change to the methodology for buffer upland credit in Phase 7.

11:15 **Cover Crop Excess Model Process Update—** Jess Rigelman, J7 Consulting/CBPO (30 min.)

Following requests from partners to evaluate excess on cover crops and possible redistribution, Jess Rigelman, J7 Consulting/CBPO, will present on a proposed methodology for handling cover crop excess in Phase 7.

11:45 **Review of the Draft 2025 NEIEN Appendix –** Jess Rigelman, J7 Consulting/CBPO (10 min.)

Jess Rigelman, J7 Consulting/CBPO, will review the draft 2025 NEIEN Appendix with the group. Time will be made for partners to ask any questions and provide feedback. Final feedback will be solicited by email, prior to August 25, 2025. Feedback is due by August 25th, to allow for one week to finalize this product internally and integrate it into CAST.

11:55 Recap of Actions and Decisions (5 min.)

12:00 Adjourn

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 4th, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Acronym List

AgWG: Agriculture Workgroup
CBPO: Chesapeake Bay Program Office
EPA: Environmental Protection Agency
EPG: Expert Panel Establishment Group
NEIEN: National Environmental Information Exchange Network
QAPP: Quality Assurance Project Plan
USFS: United States Forest Service
USGS: United States Geological Survey
VADEQ: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
WTWG: Watershed Technical Workgroup
WQGIT: Water Quality Goal Implementation Team