

2014 Chesapeake Bay Agriculture Networking Forum

At the Rocky Gap Resort and Conference Center

Cumberland, Maryland



NFWF



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Draft Agenda

Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund

Tuesday, November 18th

Breakfast On-Your-Own

Registration

9:30-10:00am

Welcome

10:00-10:15am

Jake Reilly, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Wendy Shields, Altria Group

Jon Hall, Maryland State Conservationist

Session 1: Rapid Fire! An Introduction to New Projects

10:15-11:45am

NFWF's 2013-14 Agriculture Grantees will Provide a Brief Summary of their Projects.

Moderator: Nick DiPasquale, Chesapeake Bay Program Director, US EPA

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	Enhancing Adoption of Dairy Manure Injection in Virginia
Lancaster Farmland Trust	Beyond Compliance; Continuous Improvement in the Pequea
Eastern Mennonite University	Changing Agricultural Impacts on Shenandoah Headwaters
Midshore Riverkeeper Conservancy	Choptank & Wye Watersheds Ag BMP Implementation & Testing (MD)
Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District	Comprehensive Conservation Riparian Buffer Approach in NY
Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Inc.	Healthy Streams Farm Stewardship Program
Pheasants Forever, Inc.	Chesapeake Bay Watershed Farm Bill Biologist Partnership
Trout Unlimited, Inc.	An Innovative Approach to Upper Potomac Conservation Actions
Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage, Inc.	Chester River Watershed Wetland Restoration Project
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University*	Collectively Improving Watershed Health and Nutrient Balance
The Nature Conservancy	Accelerating Wetland Restoration Across Four States
Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District	Nutrient & Sediment Reduction in Onondaga County
Eastern Shore Soil and Water Conservation District	Virginia Bay Act and On-Farm Water Quality Improvements
Blair County Conservation District	Juniata River Basin/Green Infrastructure Plan - Blair County
Mifflin County Conservation District	Outreach & Technical Assistance: Juniata River Basin Farmers
Clear Water Conservancy	Riparian Conservation Project (PA) V
The Trust for Tomorrow	Restoration in the Juniata - Wetlands & Streams
The Potomac Conservancy	Chesapeake Riparian Forest Buffer Initiative

Lunch (provided)

12:00-1:00pm

Dr. Deanna Osmond, NCSU Extension Leader and Principal Investigator: Lessons Learned from an assessment of 13 USDA CEAP studies targeting the impacts of conservation practices on water quality.

Session 2: Reaching the Hard to Reach

1:00-2:30

Meeting the challenge of greater inclusion of low-resource farmers in implementation.

Moderator: Jeff Semler, University of Maryland Extension

Session 3: Target BMP Opportunities for Grantees and Partners: The Inside Scoop

2:30-4:00pm

What practices have contributed to the greatest load reductions from the ag sector to date? Guidance from our State agencies that have responsibility for their respective WIPs will provide grantees and other conservation professionals on where they might focus their efforts looking towards 2017 and 2024.

Moderator: Kristen Saacke Blunk, Headwaters, LLC, Chesapeake Bay Program Ag Workgroup Co-Chair

Break

4:00-4:15pm

Session 4: Breakthroughs in Buffering and Filtering Runoff

4:15-5:45pm

Interagency coordination, increasing efficiencies, and lessons learned in pollution prevention and real-world implementation.

Moderator: Al Todd, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay (Tentative)

Break

5:45-6:30pm

****Conference attendees are invited to attend a private dinner hosted by Altria Group.****

Dinner (provided)

6:30-8:00pm

Amanda Bassow, NFWF

Welcome

Wendy Shields, Altria Group

Sponsor Remarks

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Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund

Wednesday, November 19th

Breakfast (provided)

7:00-8:00am

Field Trips

8:00-Noon

Field Trip #1: Intensive Grazing in Allegheny County

The Maryland Grazer's network takes us to a local project site to learn about the benefits of good grazing practice and the experiences of local grazers.

Field Trip #2: Reforestation and Buffer Management

Forest buffer sites on streambank restoration (trip under development)

Field Trip #3: Community Engagement in Agriculture and Frostburg Grows

The Frostburg Grows Project involves conversion of unused mined land to an innovative 5-acre greenhouse and shade house complex designed to train community members for high quality jobs while producing local food and tree seedlings.

Lunch (provided)

12:30-1:30pm

Conference organizers will facilitate a debrief from the morning field trips

Session 5: BMP Innovations (Tentative)

1:30-2:30pm

Partners will share recent BMP innovations and performance data in filtering and edge-of-field practices.

Moderator: John Rhoderick, Maryland Dept. of Agriculture, Chesapeake Bay Program Ag Workgroup Co-Chair

Session 6: Integrating compliance assistance into restoration

2:30-4:00pm

How do conservation practitioners fit in assisting farmers to meet regulatory requirements?

Moderator: Mathew Ehrhart, Stroud Water Resources

Break/Poster Session Set Up

4:00-5:00pm

Poster Session/Reception

5:00-6:30pm

Dinner (provided)

6:30-8:00pm

Special Presentation: Agriculture Across Watershed Boundaries

Speakers will share lessons from efforts to improve agricultural conservation for water quality in the Delaware River, western Lake Erie, and eastern Kentucky and applicability in the Chesapeake Bay region

Moderator: Jeff Corbin, Senior Advisor for the Chesapeake Bay and Anacostia River, US EPA

Thursday, November 20th

Breakfast (provided)

7:00-8:00am

Session 7: National Assessment of Targeting and the Bay Showcase Watersheds

8:30-10:00am

An examination of targeting and conservation delivery of Farm Bill programs nationally and in the Bay.

Moderator: Bill O'Donnell, Acting Chesapeake Bay Coordinator, NRCS.

Session 8: NFWF 2015 Funding Opportunities & Initiatives

10:00am-11:30pm

NFWF staff discuss new monitoring and reporting programs and future funding priorities.

Moderator: Jake Reilly, Director