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Reporting and Verification of Forestry BMPs

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Verification Process and Schedule 2026

-July

-August

-September

-October

-November

-December

**NEIEN APPENDIX
ADJUSTMENTS**

LAND USE SUBMISSIONS

These 3 items are the major focus during the verification meetings; however, they depend on the understanding and completion of the above two steps.

QAPP UPDATES

WASTEWATER SUBMISSIONS

BMP SUBMISSIONS

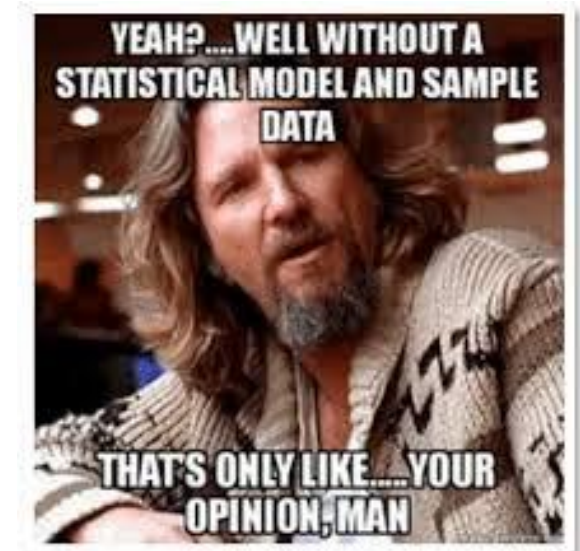
**VERIFICATION
MEETINGS!**



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Summary of Verification Review

- The annual verification review of Best Management Practice (BMP) data submitted by the seven Bay watershed jurisdictions for model progress is an assessment of the quality of reported information and follows CBP partnership protocols and procedures described in the 2014 [*Strengthening Verification of Best Management Practices Implemented in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed: A Basinwide Framework*](#), and [*Appendix V: Protocols for Verification of Annual BMP Data Submissions*](#).
- These meetings are the final effort each year to make a better model! Initial meetings will be held week of Dec 8-12!





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Chesapeake Bay Watershed Forestry BMPs

Sector	BMP Name	BMP Type	Pre-BMP land use	Post-BMP land use	Credit Duration
Agriculture	Forest Buffers	Land Use Change + Upland Efficiency	Crop	Forest	15 years
Agriculture	Forest Buffers on Fenced Pasture Corridor	Land Use Change + Upland Efficiency	Pasture	Forest	15 years
Agriculture	Tree Planting	Land Use Change	Ag Open Space, Crop or Pasture	Forest	15 years
Agriculture	Agroforestry	Efficiency	Crop or Pasture	Crop or Pasture	10 years
Developed	Urban Forest Buffers	Land Use Change + Upland Efficiency	Turf	Forest	15 years
Developed	Urban Tree Planting	Land Use Change	Turf, Compacted Pervious, Impervious	Tree Canopy over Turf Grass	15 years
Developed	Urban Forest Planting	Land Use Change	Turf, Compacted Pervious	Forest	15 years
Natural	Forest Harvesting	Efficiency	Harvested Forest*	Harvested Forest	3 years

*Harvested Forest Land Use should also be reported to CBP as part of annual reporting if possible. Otherwise a default rate will be assigned



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Potential reporting and verification issues to address:

- Improving accuracy of reported data (minimizing revisions in future progress years)
- Increasing verification of forest buffer BMPs
- Integrating new agroforestry BMPs into progress reporting
- Ensuring harvested forest land use acres are reported (where possible)
- Other issues?



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Forest Buffer Credit Expiration

Land Use Change BMP	2024 Cumulative Expired Acres	2025 Cumulative Expired Acres
Forest Buffer	81,257	82,935
Forest Buffer- Streamside with Exclusion Fencing	3,364	2,505
Total	84,621	85,440
New acres expired		819



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New Agroforestry BMPs

- CBP approved Silvopasture and Alley Cropping as new water quality BMPs in 2025
- The Chesapeake Agroforestry Network developed an Implementation Summary document that is available for states to use (or tailor and then use) to facilitate reporting of these new practices for water quality credit.
- If there is a history of this practice being implemented before 2025/2026, please work to upload these historical revisions/additions alongside the current year's reporting.



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What additional support is needed to improve reporting and verification of watershed forestry BMPs?

- Regular reminders from CBPO on reporting deadlines
- A more detailed explanation of the progress reporting and verification process
- Targeted state-by-state meetings with state water quality leads
- Opportunities to review watershed forestry BMP data submitted to CAST prior to finalization
- Other needs or ideas?



Thank you!

Any questions?

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