AAC | Agricultural Advisory Committee

Chesapeake Bay Program's (CBP)
Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC)
Quarterly Meeting | Virtual
November 4, 2026
CBP Webpage | Link to join

Wednesday, November 4th

10:00 am **Call to Order & Welcome –** *Bill Fink (AAC Chair, CVFF)*
Opening remarks, roll call, and approval of draft August 2026 Meeting Minutes.
Quick Mentimeter poll for committee input on new AAC logo!

Materials: Draft AAC August 2026 Meeting Minutes

10:10 am **Public Comment –** *Bill Fink (AAC Chair, CVFF)*

10:15 am **Member Announcements (All) –** *AAC Membership*
AAC members are invited to share updates from their jurisdictions, including recent news and upcoming events, conferences, workshops, or other items of interest to the committee.

Materials: Current AAC Membership List

10:30 am **Goal Team and Partnership Updates –** *Bill Fink (AAC Chair, CVFF)*
Briefing on CBP Goal Team (GT) meetings from AAC non-voting representatives and report outs on recently convened and upcoming relevant partnership meetings.

- Clean Water: Amanda Barber
- Healthy Landscapes: Amanda Cather
- Engaged Communities: Barb Glenn
- THFW: Marty Young

Materials: CBP Organizational Chart

10:50 am **AAC Subcommittee Updates: Technical and Communications**
Review of June-October business related to the Technical and Communications subcommittees.

Materials: AAC Toolkit; Technical Subcommittee Summary Document; Communications Subcommittee Summary Document

11:20 am **AAC Governance and Committee Support –** *Meg Cole (AAC Coordinator)*
Update on ongoing discussions about AAC governance and committee support, including opportunities to strengthen coordination, member engagement, and the committee's work between quarterly meetings.

11:45 am **STAC/AAC 2027 Soil Health Workshop**
– *Meg Cole (AAC Coordinator), Chris Brosch (New Castle Conservation District)*
Planning is underway for a joint STAC/AAC workshop on soil health, anticipated for late summer 2027. Soil health is a priority for both committees because of its connections to water quality and farm vitality. Chris Brosch, the STAC workshop chair, is seeking an AAC co-chair.

Materials: B25 Novel Outcome Review Soil Health 2-pager; Workshop webpage

12:00 pm **Lunch**

12:40 pm **2026 AAC Letter to the Executive Council**
– *Bill Fink (AAC Chair, CVFF), Meg Cole (AAC Coordinator)*
The Executive Council meeting is scheduled for December 8th in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. Advisory Committee Chairs are invited to a private meeting from 10:00 to 11:45am to share their committees' high-level priorities and discuss opportunities for coordination across the committees. The public meeting will follow from 12:00 to 1:00pm; AAC members may listen in virtually.

Materials: 2026 Executive Council Briefing Page; 2025 Advisory Committee Backgrounder; 2025 AAC Letter to the Executive Council; 2025 Response from the PSC to the AAC

1:20 pm **Executive Order 14414: Context and Agricultural Perspectives**
Eric Hughes (EPA-CBPO) will provide a brief overview of Executive Order 14414, "Advancing Regenerative Agriculture and Strengthening American Farm Resilience," to set the context for the discussion

Andy Bater (Pennsylvania Farm Bureau) will then discuss the Farm Bureau's initial response to the Executive Order and share his perspective on recent regenerative agriculture research at Penn State and plans for a new regenerative agriculture farm. Andy farmed in Centre County, growing switchgrass for strawberry mulch and Penn State biofuel research, and serves as a District 6 director on the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau State Board.

1:55 pm **Wrap-Up and Next Steps –** *Bill Fink (AAC Chair, CVFF)*
The next AAC meeting is proposed to be in-person and take place on **February 23rd, 2027,** ahead of Groundwork, Mid-Atlantic Soil Health Conference, on February 24-25th in Harrisburg, PA.

2:00 pm **Adjourn**