



Agriculture Workgroup Meeting Agenda

July 16, 2026
10:00AM-12:00PM

Meeting Link: [Join the meeting via Microsoft Teams](#)
Meeting ID: 224 286 695 273 56 | **Passcode:** Yr6DU2PK
Call: +1 202-991-0477,,525278615# US | **Conference ID:** 525 278 615#

[Visit the meeting webpage for meeting materials and additional information.](#)

This meeting may be recorded for internal use only to assure the accuracy of meeting notes. To turn on closed captioning, click on the three ellipses (More actions), then click on “Turn on live captions” (preview). To request accommodations, please contact Caroline Kleis (Kleis.Caroline@epa.gov).

- All meeting attendees' cameras and microphones will be muted at the start of the meeting.
- To request access to the microphone and camera, all meeting participants will be required to use the raised hand feature on Teams. Once access has been granted by the meeting organizer, you will then be allowed to unmute your mic and turn on your camera. Unless instructed otherwise, once a participant has microphone or camera access, they will have this permission for the remainder of the meeting.
- Access to chat will be provided as well. Should it be necessary, the Q&A feature on Teams will be utilized to field participant questions.

Purpose: To discuss the new partnership decision-making process as outlined in the Chesapeake Bay Program Governance and Management Framework, seek a decision on approval of the Phase 7 E3 Scenario assumptions for agricultural BMPs, and determine a path forward for AgWG membership under the new partnership structure.

Agenda

I. Welcome, Roll Call, Review Meeting Minutes

10:00-10:10 AM

Caitlin will open the meeting and request participants share their name and affiliation using the meeting “Chat” function. Caitlin will then ask workgroup members to approve the [June AgWG meeting minutes](#).

Requested Action: Decision – Approval of [June 2026 AgWG Minutes](#)

Speaker: Caitlin Grady, AgWG Chair
Materials: [June 2026 AgWG Minutes](#)

II. Review of New Chesapeake Bay Program Decision-Making Process 10:10-10:25 AM

Eric will review the section of the new Chesapeake Bay Program Governance and Management Framework, approved by the PSC on June 30, dedicated to decision rules. While consensus (unanimous full support for a decision) is still what the partnership strives to achieve for all decisions, we now employ a *consent*-based decision-making approach. The implications of this change will be explained.

Requested Action: None

Speaker: Eric Hughes, AgWG Coordinator

Materials: Coordinator Updates Slides; [Governance and Management Framework](#) (p.28-31)

III. Approval of Ag E3 Scenario Assumptions and Discussion of Scenario Base Year 10:25-11:10 AM

Eric will present the Draft Final Phase 7 Ag E3 Scenario Assumptions Spreadsheet, which includes the latest input on P7 Ag E3 assumptions from AgWG members (communicated through AgWG meetings and meetings of the Ag E3 Small Group). Further discussion of the E3 assumptions and scenario base year will take place as needed during this time; at the end of discussion, the AgWG will be asked to vote to approve and elevate the final set of E3 assumptions for Clean Water Goal Team review. While the AgWG is not making a formal decision on the scenario base year, details of the discussion on this topic will also be elevated to the Clean Water Goal Team.

Requested Action: Decision – Approval of the [draft Phase 7 Ag E3 Scenario](#)

Speaker: Eric Hughes, AgWG Coordinator

Materials: [Draft Final Phase 7 Ag E3 Scenario Assumptions Spreadsheet](#)

IV. AgWG Membership Under New Partnership Structure 11:10-11:55 AM

The new Chesapeake Bay Program [Governance and Management Framework](#) allows for the designation of up to 15 *voting members* (9 signatory, 6 at-large). The AgWG currently maintains a voting roster of 21 members (9 signatory, 12 at-large), all of whom have historically been eligible to participate in the past consensus-based decision-making process. The Clean Water Goal Team is requesting its workgroups provide feedback on how they will adhere to this new structure.

The AgWG will need to discuss potential paths forward for conforming to the partnership's new structure before a decision for how we will proceed can be formed and approved. Based on the discussion, the AgWG leadership team will draft a membership plan and a vote to approve that plan will be held at a later date. The plan would be elevated to the Clean Water Goal Team. Eric will present the context for this topic from the Governance and Management Framework and Clean Water Goal Team request, and Caitlin will facilitate discussion.

Requested Action: None

Speaker: Caitlin Grady, AgWG Chair; Eric Hughes, AgWG Coordinator

Materials: Coordinator Updates Slides

V. Wrap-Up

11:55 AM-12:00 PM

Eric will provide final updates before the meeting adjourns.

Requested Action: None

Speaker: Eric Hughes

Materials: Coordinator Updates Slides

VI. Adjourn

12:00 PM

- **Announcements**
 - **Agricultural Advisory Committee Meetings 2026**
 - The Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) has set their dates for quarterly meetings in 2026 (see below). Information will be posted on the [AAC page](#) as it becomes available.
 - 8/13 Virtual Meeting from 9:00-2:00
 - Agenda items will include discussion on opportunities for AAC members to engage & collaborate with other Bay Program partners such as STAC, Ag Workgroup, Goal Teams, and others; review of a draft AAC Work Plan; and initial discussions on 2026 recommendations to the Executive Council (EC).
 - 11/4 Virtual Meeting from 10:00-2:00
 - The AAC will tentatively meet again on 11/4 to finalize EC recommendations.
 - **Clean Water Goal Team Meetings 2026**
 - The Clean Water Goal team meets monthly on the 4th Monday from 1:00-4:00 PM. The Clean Water Goal Team calendar and additional information is available on their webpage, linked [here](#).
 - The next Clean Water Goal Team meeting is July 27th. Agenda and materials will be [posted](#) as they are available.
 - **Upcoming CRC Roundtable**
 - The next CRC roundtable, *Growing Resilience: Healthy Forests in the Chesapeake Watershed and Beyond*, will take place July 15th from 12-1 PM. This roundtable will explore the recommendations from the February STAC Workshop, titled *Healthy Forests: Proactive Strategies for Managing Threats and Promoting Conservation*. To learn more and to register, visit the following [link](#).
 - **Recently released STAC report: Advancing Market-Based Approaches in the Agricultural Sector to Support Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration.**
 - STAC recently released a [report](#) summarizing the STAC workshop Advancing Market-Based Approaches in the Agricultural Sector to Support Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration. The report “synthesizes workshop discussions on program design, financing, measurement and verification, and implementation, and presents recommendations to improve market-based approaches through adaptive management,

innovation, stronger public-private collaboration, streamlined program delivery, and continued research to support Chesapeake Bay restoration”. You can learn more and access the report [here](#).

- Preferred Report Citation: Palm-Forster, L., Wainger, L., Kuwayama, Y., Stephenson, D. A. Newburn, K., Brownson, M. Cole, J. Beckett, S. Knoche, and E. Campbell. (2026). *[Advancing Market-Based Approaches in the Agricultural Sector to Support Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration](#)*.
- **Nominations for Clean Water Goal Team At-Large Members and Monitoring/DAR Workgroup Chairs**
 - The Clean Water Goal Team is seeking nominations for the below positions. If you are interested, view the call for nominations in the links below, and submit all nominations to Jeremy Hanson (hansonj@chesapeake.org) and Petra Baldwin (Baldwin.Petra@epa.gov) by COB July 15th, 2026
 - At-Large Voting Members for Clean Water Goal Team - [link](#)
 - Chairs for Monitoring Workgroup - [link](#)
 - Chairs for Data, Analysis & Reporting Workgroup - [link](#)
- **Land Use Workgroup Office Hours on Land Change Forecasts**
 - The Land Use Workgroup will be hosting an office hours on July 15th at 3-4pm to learn more about the Chesapeake Bay Land Change Model (CBLCM) and Land Change Forecasts. Additional information will be posted to the [calendar page](#) when available.
 - Note: The Clean Water Goal Team will also receive a briefing on 2040 land change forecast for the Phase 7 model at their July meeting.
- **Upcoming Choose Clean Water Coalition/ Workforce Workgroup Conversation on Building the Chesapeake Environmental Workforce**
 - The Choose Clean Water Coalition, in partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Program Workforce Outcome Workgroup, is hosting a discussion titled *Building the Chesapeake Environmental Workforce: A Community Conversation*.
 - The event takes place Friday, July 24th from 11:00-12:00 and will include “conversation about workforce needs, challenges, and opportunities across the environmental sector. Participants will have the opportunity to share their perspectives and insights regarding workforce needs, challenges, and priorities.” If you are interested in attending, register using the following [link](#).

Next Meeting: August 20, 2026, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Acronym List

AgWG- [Agriculture Workgroup](#)

AMT- [Agricultural Modeling Team](#) (Phase 7)

BMP – Best Management Practice

CAST- [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#) (user interface for the CBP Watershed Model)

CBP- [Chesapeake Bay Program](#)

CBPO- Chesapeake Bay Program Office

CBW- Chesapeake Bay Watershed

CTIC – Conservation Technology Information Center

CVN – Conservation Validation Network
DLLC- Delmarva Land and Litter Collaborative
EPA - [United States] Environmental Protection Agency
FSA – Farm Service Agency
MLRI – Modeled Load Reduction Indicator
NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service
NFWF – National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
PADEP – Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
PSC – [Principals' Advisory Committee](#) (CBP)
PSU- Penn State University
SARE- Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education
SWCD – Soil and Water Conservation Districts
WQGIT- [Water Quality Goal Implementation Team](#)
UMD - University of Maryland
USDA – United States Department of Agriculture
USGS – United States Geological Survey
USFS – United States Forestry Service