Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Public Access Workgroup and Protected Lands Workgroup
Defining Greenspace Workshop

January 29, 2026
10:00am - 3:00pm

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Meeting ID: 215 749 631 548 16
Passcode: KV6Xv6PR

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 Daniel Koval [kovald@chesapeake.org]

To see updated meeting policies regarding meeting security, please navigate to the last page.

Agenda

Purpose: Generate a working definition of greenspace for the Protected Lands and Public Access Workgroups to review and approve following the workshop. The final definition should be scientifically defensible and enable the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership to guide conservation planning and consistently monitor and report greenspace trends over the next 15 years. This meeting is non-decisional and discussion only.

I. **Welcome and Introductions (10:00 - 10:10am)**

II. **Opening Whiteboard Activity (10:10 - 10:25am)**
Participants will be given an overview how to use Whiteboard and be asked to answer the following questions:
- *Where is your favorite greenspace in the watershed?*
- *How do YOU define greenspace?*

III.   **Connection to Bay Program Outcomes (10:25 - 10:45am)**
Participants will learn how tracking greenspace is connected to other Bay Program outcomes, with particular focus on the Public Access outcome.

IV.   **Defining Urban, Community, and Greenspace (10:45 - 11:20am)**
Participants will learn how greenspace is defined around the watershed and discuss what components should be included in a Bay Program definition of greenspace.

Break (11:20 - 11:25am)

V.   **Greenspace Programs and Tracking (11:25 - 12:25pm)**
Participants will explore programs that promote greenspaces and learn about organizations monitoring their impact.

Guest Speakers:
Maryland's Greenspace Equity Program: Stephanie Benavides, MD DNR
Trust for Public Land's 10-Minute Walk Program: Will Klein, Trust for Public Land

Lunch (12:25 - 1:00pm)

VI.   **Review of the Morning (1:00 - 1:15pm)**
Participants will get a review of what was discussed in the morning session in order to prepare them for the break out sessions

VII.   **Breakout Session (1:15 - 1:45pm)**
Participants will be put into breakout groups to discuss how the Bay Program should define greenspace in order to track it in the Watershed.

Probing Questions:
- How does your jurisdiction/organization define greenspace (aka open space)?

- What kinds of boundaries could be set for tracking within the workgroup? Possibilities that have been mentioned include:
  - Presence of recreation amenities (and if so, what kinds of amenities?)
  - Size of parcel
  - Characteristics of the the greenspace
    - Do athletic fields or parks that only have lawn grass count?
  - Extent of accessibility
    - Within 10 minute walk of a certain percentage of people (Trust for Public Land)

VIII. Report Out (1:45 - 2:15pm)
Each group will share what they discussed and how they thought about greenspace.

Break (2:15 - 2:20pm)

IX. Drafting a Definition of Greenspace for the Bay Program Partnership (2:20 - 2:50pm)
This draft will be presented to the Protected Lands Workgroup and the Public Access Workgroup for final approval. The draft must be scientifically defensible and enable the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership to guide conservation planning and consistently monitor and report greenspace trends over the next 15 years.

X. Closing Remarks (2:50 - 3:00pm)

XI. Adjourn (3:00pm)

Updated Meeting Policies

Please read the following information carefully, as our meeting policies have changed:

- 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.

Compromised Meeting Plan: If the meeting's privacy is compromised, the meeting staffer and coordinator will send an email to all Members, alternates, staffers, coordinators, and interested parties. Within the email, you will find a new meeting link, instructions on sharing this information with external partners, and any necessary adjustments to the meeting schedule. Please do NOT share this information publicly or post it to the Chesapeakebay.net webpage.